

A formal application is required for consideration, and this application should outline the reasons for which you are seeking a remission. The application will be investigated and the applicant will receive written response about the outcome. The outcome will be notified within 10 working days. In the event whereby an applicant is not satisfied with the response, the applicant can request a further review in writing and the application will be referred to Council for its consideration.

The Maori Freehold Land Rates Remission Policy needs to be read prior to, and in conjunction with this application form. For a full copy of the Rates Remission Policy refer to www.waitomo.govt.nz or contact our customer services team on 0800 932 4357 for a paper copy to be sent.

Applications must be received by 30 April for the following rating year commencing 1 July.

This application is for the rating year 1 July **to 30 June**

Section A - Applicant Information

Name:

Postal Address:

Postcode:

Contact Number(s):

Daytime:

Mobile:

Email Address:

Section B - Property Information

Valuation Number:

Property Legal Description:

Property Location:

Annual Rates:

Current Balance:

Section C - Eligibility

The following land use categories will be considered for remission of rates:

- (a) Unoccupied or undeveloped Maori freehold land (meaning land that is unoccupied and where no income is derived from the use of that land):
- (i) that is better set aside and protected from use because:
- of its special cultural significance and unique natural features, or
 - to protect the indigenous flora and fauna under a formal protection arrangement and/or
- (ii) Has no legal or practicable road access available to the land or is inaccessible.

Eligible properties will receive:

- 100% of all rates set on these properties, except Targeted Rates set for water supply, sewage disposal or solid waste collection will be remitted.
- Where there are no services provided to the property and/or it is uneconomic to pursue rates, all rates will be remitted.

Section C - Eligibility

Definition of Unoccupied or Undeveloped land:

Land will be defined as unoccupied or undeveloped unless there is a person, whether with a beneficial interest in the land or not, who, alone or with others, carries out any of the following activities on the land:

- a) Leases the land and/or
- b) Does any of the following things on the land, with the intention of making a profit or for any other benefit: resides on the land; de-pastures or maintains livestock on the land; stores anything on the land, or uses the land in any other way.

Section D - Questions

To be eligible for remission you **MUST** answer all of the following questions.

If the application is incomplete, it will be returned to you.

Please indicate yes or no and provide further details where necessary.

- 1) **Does this application apply to the whole property?** YES NO

If only part, please define/describe the area:

- 2) **Is the land unoccupied or undeveloped?** YES NO

If yes, please describe:

- 3) **Does the land have any special cultural significance or unique natural features, significant vegetation and /or habitat?** YES NO

If yes, please describe:

- 4) **Is there any income derived from the land? (This includes beehives, rent, lease, licence to occupy or business operations),** YES NO

If yes, please describe:

- 5) **Are there any improvements on the land (eg; building structures of any kind)?** YES NO

If yes, please describe the improvements and their use:

- 6) **Are there any Dwellings on the Property?** YES NO

If yes, please define the area occupied:

Section D - Questions continued

Where there is one or more dwelling on the land, Council may establish and identify separately used or inhabited parts of the rating unit.

That separately used or inhabited portion of the rating unit will be defined based on the area occupied, and/or the area undeveloped and uneconomic, with the written consent of the Trustee or Occupier. Rates assessed on the separately used or inhabited portion of the property will remain payable.

7) **Are there any plans to use or lease the land in the future?** YES NO

If yes, please describe:

8) **Is the property fenced?** YES NO

9) **Is the property accessible?** YES NO

10) **Does the land have any indigenous flora and fauna?** YES NO

If yes, does the land meet one or more of the following criteria? YES NO

The land is unoccupied and:

- A traditional and important food source for Tangata Whenua.
- A traditional and important source for cultural, medicinal, symbolic and spiritual needs of Tangata Whenua.
- Includes important tribal landmarks significant to Tangata Whenua.
- Important water catchment system to Tangata Whenua for sustaining physical and spiritual values.

Please provide details to support the criteria ticked above:

Council will also take into consideration whether the land:

1. Has road access and/or access to other services.
2. Contains indigenous forest of high ecological value.
3. Is contiguous with forest reserves or National/Forest Parks
4. Is complementary with Marae Reserve Areas.
5. Contains remnants of interspersed indigenous vegetation that provide ecological value.
6. Offers significant or assessable benefits and protection of developed lower lying land and/or protection for the investment in public roads.
7. Complements the objectives of and quality of water achieved within formal established water catchment areas.
8. Enhances and complements the objectives and quality of formal established wildlife areas.

Please identify any other factors (such as those described above) that Council should take into consideration:

Where part of the land is deemed to be in indigenous vegetation, the following information must be provided:

1. Location and calculation of the area of the land in question.
2. Photographs and valuation data shall be provided where available.

Section E - Criteria

An annual application for a rate remission under Category A (Maori freehold land general remissions) must be made no later than **30 April for the following rating year commencing 1 July** (ie; applications must be made in advance of the beginning of the rating year). The application must be made on the prescribed form.

Note: it is the obligation of the applicant/s to advise Council of any change of use that may affect eligibility for rates remission, under this category.

When applying for a remission on Maori Freehold Land, the following information is required:

- Documentation that the land in question has been determined to be Maori Freehold Land by the Maori Land Court.
- A copy of the Certificate of Title if available.
- An identified owner, agent of owner, or occupier to be recorded on the rating records pursuant to Part 4 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.
- That identified owner, agent or owner or occupier must provide evidence that he or she has full control over the property.
- Details of the property size and use.
- Aerial Photographs if available.
- A description of the intended use of the land, and a statement as to how the objectives defined under this policy will be achieved by the granting of rates remission.
- Other documentation that Council may require to make a decision.

If you have any other relevant documentation in support of this application, please attach to this form.

Section F - Declaration

I/We do Solemnly and sincerely declare that the particulars details above are correct and that the conditions concerning the land detailed apply.

I/We do solemnly and sincerely declare that I/we have authority to act on behalf of the owners.

I/We make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and correct by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957.

Signature:

Declared at: (Place)

Date:

Check List:

1. Have you read the full policy to ascertain your eligibility?
2. Have you attached evidential documents supporting your eligibility?
3. Have you completed all the questions? Incomplete applications will be returned to you to complete
4. Have you signed the form?

Please note: Your Rates Remission Application must be in by 30 April for the following rating year beginning 1 July. All Rates must be paid by the due date regardless of the status of your rates remission application.