



# Feedback Form

Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu  
Ruapehu District Council  
**Draft Long Term Plan 2024/2034**



## Rates Remission Policy - 1#

Proposal to introduce a remission for a second SUIP to reduce UAC rating charges

Council is proposing changes to our Rates Remission Policy to allow the remission for a second SUIP (separately used or inhabitable part) on a property to reduce the level of fixed rating charges (Uniform Annual Charge - UAC) that properties may need to pay if they meet the criteria.

Council's Rates Remission Policy aims to provide ratepayers with some financial assistance, where they might otherwise have difficulty meeting their obligations to pay rates. It also addresses circumstances where the way we have decided to rate (the rating system) results in anomalies.

As this policy is a significant part of our funding and financial policies, and that all remissions shift the rate requirement to other ratepayers, it's important that we ask for community feedback regarding any proposed changes.

**We are proposing to introduce a remission for a second SUIP (separately used or inhabitable part) on a property to reduce the level of fixed (UAC) rating charges that properties may need to pay if they meet the following criteria:**

1. The rating unit is owned by the ratepayer and is the ratepayer's principal place of residence; and,
  - The relevant SUIP within that rating unit is recognised in the District Valuation Roll as a studio, sleepout, flat or dwelling; and
  - The relevant SUIP within that rating unit is not advertised for short-term accommodation, not rented or sublet, nor tenanted as part of an employment or remuneration package; and
  - The relevant SUIP within the rating unit is either not occupied or is occupied as an extension of the main household, and
  - The property has no outstanding rate arrears.
2. If a rating unit contains more than two habitable units that would qualify for a remission under this policy, only one unit is entitled to remission.
3. The ratepayer has applied for a rate remission on the prescribed form by 31 May each year.
4. Remissions must be applied for annually and cannot be backdated to previous rating years.

<b>Impact on rates</b>	The financial impact is estimated to be up to \$150,000 per annum that is equivalent to 0.5% in rates.
<b>Impact on debt</b>	None.
<b>Impact on Levels of Service</b>	None.

### Wellbeing Framework alignment

The 2024/34 Long Term Plan is informed by Council's Wellbeing Framework which includes the values, purpose, vision, and environmental outcomes we are aiming for on behalf of our communities.

**The proposal to introduce a remission for a second SUIP supports the following Wellbeing Framework objectives:**



#### Our values:

- Accountability, • Manaakitanga (care for others)



#### Our outcomes:

- Thriving communities, • Prosperous businesses



#### Our role as:

- Funder, • Regulator

# The options:

## 1. Maintain the status quo and do not provide a remission for a second SUIP to reduce the level of fixed (UAC) rating charges that qualifying properties may need to pay.

Maintaining the status quo will keep the fixed UAC rates requirement spread as it currently is across ratepayers. Ratepayers who may have a second SUIP for whanau for which they do not receive income or other financial benefit would need to pay a second UAC on this SUIP.

## 2. Introduce a remission for a second SUIP to reduce the level of fixed (UAC) rating charges that qualifying properties may need to pay.

Key qualifying criteria is that the ratepayer must reside in the rating unit, and the unit is not to be used for any commercial benefit - this qualification will exclude a number of rating units that are eligible for relief under this policy. The proposed changes to the Rates Remission Policy will provide opportunities to reduce the immediate burden of rates for some members of our community who are struggling. The remission provided would however shift this portion of the rate requirement to all ratepayers.

What option do you prefer?

Option 1

Option 2 is our preferred option

Option 2

Tell us why or any other option you prefer:

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Name:

Organisation (if applicable):

Postal address:

Best daytime contact number:

Email:

Keep me advised of future consultations

Would you like to support your feedback by speaking to Council during the Hearings? Yes  No

If you ticked 'yes' we will contact you to arrange a speaking date and time.

The Hearings are scheduled for Tue 14<sup>th</sup> May (Ohakune and Raetihi) and Wed 15<sup>th</sup> May (Taumarunui). You can choose to speak at either or online. A maximum of two speakers and ten (10) minutes of total speaking time per submission is permitted.

You can bring your feedback form into any Council office or submit via:



**Mail:**  
Freepost 492  
Ruapehu District Council  
Private Bag 1001  
Taumarunui 3946



**Email:**  
consultation@ruapehudc.govt.nz



**Please note - you can also provide feedback on-line:**

Use our on-line submission form on our consultation website: [submissions.ruapehudc.govt.nz](https://submissions.ruapehudc.govt.nz) or use your phone and the QR code

