



Contact details

Ruataniwha Street, PO Box 127,
Waipawa 4240, New Zealand
Telephone: (06) 857 8060, Fax: (06) 857 7179
Email: info@chbdc.govt.nz www.chbdc.govt.nz
Waipukurau Library and Service Centre (06) 858 8195
Waipawa Library (06) 857 8123

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER – JULY 08

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A RATES REBATE

Applications close on 30 June 2008 for 2007/08 Rating Year

What is The Rates Rebate Scheme?

If you are a low income earner living in the home you are paying rates on, at 1 July, **The Rates Income Scheme** may provide a rebate.

Your total rates include rates from local Council and Regional Council rates if applicable.

You are entitled to one rates rebate for the rating year.

Do I Qualify?

• Low income earners are eligible to apply

- You must pay rates for the address where you live.
- You were living there at 1 July, the beginning of the rating year.
- Your name is on the rates bill.
- You are the owner of an "owner/occupier flat" and your name is **NOT** on the bill but you pay some of the rates.
- You have a legal ownership interest in the property and are responsible for paying the rates but your name is **NOT** on the bill.

You CANNOT Apply for a Rates Rebate if:

- The property is a rental property.
- The property is a farm or is used mainly for commercial, industrial or business purposes.
- If you have already applied for a rebate in the current year.

If you are having difficulty understanding the qualification criteria please contact:

Karen Bray, Rates Department, Central Hawke's Bay District Council 06 8577738.

What Constitutes Income?

Extract from Department of Internal Affairs:

'Income' means money received, before tax, during the income tax year ended 1st April to 31st March, preceding the start of the rating year.

'Income' does not include:

- Cash grants/capital payments.
- Family support payments.
- War widows or war disablement payments.
- Medal or honour payments.

- Grants for funeral expenses.
- Prizes and winnings.
- Beneficiaries

If you were granted a benefit or pension (not New Zealand superannuation, Acc payments, sickness or unemployment benefits) during the last tax year:

- You do **NOT** need to declare money before the benefit or pension was granted.

BUT

- You **DO** need to declare the full amount of benefit/pension for the full year.

AND

- Any money you earned after the benefit/pension was granted.
- Self employed.
Declare income (as you would for your tax) for your most recent financial year.
- Long term hospital patients.
The house must not be rented out.
- Partner or joint home owner.
List the income for the last financial year of your partner or any joint home owner.



How Do I apply?

If you have received a Rates Rebate in previous years, an application form will automatically be sent to you for the new financial year.

OR

Application forms are available from:

Central Hawke's Bay District Council Office,
Ruataniwha Street Waipawa, or
Service Centre, Kitchener Street, Waipukurau.

They can also be down loaded from
Department of Internal Affairs web site
www.ratesrebates.govt.nz

What Do I Need to Provide?

- Accurate income information including income of your partner or joint home owner.

How is My Rebate Worked Out?

- Rebates are calculated based on income, rates and number of dependants.
- Income eligibility for a rebate is \$20,000.00.
- Your income may exceed this amount but you could still be entitled to a rebate depending on the total cost of your rates and number of dependants.



Although the rate payer's income might exceed the income threshold, a rates rebate could still be available, depending on the rates amount and the number of dependants.

How Can I Pay My Rates?

- Direct Debit
- Automatic payments
- Cheque
- Cash
- Eftpos (Not Credit Card)
- Internet Banking

VALUATION NUMBER MUST BE INCLUDED IN ALL INTERNET TRANSACTIONS.



**For further information concerning The Rates Rebate Scheme or any other rates enquiries contact:
Rates Department at Central Hawke's Bay District Council Ruataniwha Street, Waipawa,
Phone 8577738 or check the web site www.chbdc.govt.nz**

(Information in this article has been sourced from The Department of Internal Affairs)