





Property Rate Debt Management Policy Addendum E (2022/23 Payment Support)

<p>Context</p>	<p>This Addendum replaces previous Addendum's which were implemented as pandemic rate payment support and should be read in conjunction with the overarching Property Rate Debt Management Policy.</p>								
<p>Support Initiatives</p> 	<p>Ongoing options to provide financial support for ratepayers who commit to and comply with a payment plan that are experiencing changed financial circumstances.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="376 568 1469 857"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="376 568 922 607">Initiative</th> <th data-bbox="922 568 1469 607">Support</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 607 922 712">Payment Plan*</td> <td data-bbox="922 607 1469 712">Where a payment plan is entered into and complied with terms, interest hold will apply until 30 June 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 712 922 786">No capacity to pay</td> <td data-bbox="922 712 1469 786">Financial Hardship in accordance with overarching Policy</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 786 922 857">No engagement</td> <td data-bbox="922 786 1469 857">Interest will apply, referral to Debt Collection Agency where rate arrears</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* Payment plans can be entered into by contacting Council's Revenue Services Team or by completing an online application.</p>	Initiative	Support	Payment Plan*	Where a payment plan is entered into and complied with terms, interest hold will apply until 30 June 2023	No capacity to pay	Financial Hardship in accordance with overarching Policy	No engagement	Interest will apply, referral to Debt Collection Agency where rate arrears
Initiative	Support								
Payment Plan*	Where a payment plan is entered into and complied with terms, interest hold will apply until 30 June 2023								
No capacity to pay	Financial Hardship in accordance with overarching Policy								
No engagement	Interest will apply, referral to Debt Collection Agency where rate arrears								
<p>Purpose</p> 	<p>This Addendum has been developed to be applied in conjunction with Council's existing Property Rate Debt Management policy and retains a focus of ensuring financially responsible principles continue to apply to rate debt. It also recognises that some of our community will be experiencing changed financial circumstances due to cost of living pressures and aims to support those ratepayers who commit to entering into and maintain a payment plan to reduce their rate debt.</p>								
<p>Scope</p> 	<p>This addendum seeks to provide interest holds where a property owner and or ratepayer enter into a payment plan and maintain the payment through until 30 June 2023.</p> <p>Longer term financial challenges which impact a ratepayers capacity to reduce their municipal rate debt will be supported through existing financial hardship provisions within the Property Rate Debt Management Policy.</p> <p>Rate arrears where no engagement or payment plan has been entered into will have penalty interest applied in accordance with the legislative framework and overarching Property Rate Debt Management Policy.</p> <p>The referral of rate accounts, where the ratepayer has not engaged with Council and entered into a payment plan, or progressed with a formal Financial Hardship process, may be escalated to Council's Debt Collection provider.</p>								
<p>Requirements</p> 	<p>This addendum will be guided by the principles of transparency, efficiency, capacity to pay and equity by treating all account holders and ratepayers consistently and in a fair manner, whilst remaining flexible in our approach and responding to the rapidly changing environment.</p>								

Property Rate Debt Management Policy Addendum E (2022/23 Payment Support)

	<p>The Council's objective is to provide assistance to account holders and ratepayers who are experiencing changed financial circumstances whilst applying responsible financial management principles of not allowing debts to grow beyond manageable levels.</p>
<p>Definitions</p> 	<p>MSC or Council Moorabool Shire Council</p> <p>LGA Local Government Act 1989</p> <p>Account Holder Refers to a customer who has received a Sundry Debtor Account, Animal Registration renewal or penalty infringement.</p> <p>Ratepayer Is the owner and/or occupier of any rateable property who is liable to pay the rates and charges.</p>
<p>Reference Documents</p> 	<p>Payment Plan Application Form https://forms.office.com/r/CEuhxdy11u</p> <p>Property Rate Debt Management Policy https://bit.ly/3BACyzR</p>
<p>Approval</p> 	 <p>Derek Madden Chief Executive Officer</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: 15 December 2022</p>