



# RATEABLE PROPERTIES WITH ENVIRONMENT COVENANTS POLICY

DOCUMENT TYPE: Council policy

DOCUMENT STATUS: Approved

POLICY OWNER POSITION: Director Corporate Services

INTERNAL COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT: Not applicable

APPROVED BY: Council

DATE ADOPTED: 23/05/2017

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REVIEW DATE: 23/05/2021

DATE RESCINDED:

RELATED STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS, POLICIES OR PROCEDURES:

RELATED LEGISLATION: Local Government Act 1989  
Fire Services Property Act 2012  
Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972

EVIDENCE OF APPROVAL:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Bigney".

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Signed by Chief Executive Officer

FILE LOCATION: K:\EXECUTIVE\Strategies policies and procedures\Policies - adopted PDF and Word\POL Rateable properties with environment covenants policy v2.docx

**Policy documents are amended from time to time, therefore you should not rely on a printed copy being the current version. Please consult the policies on the Loddon Shire website (Council Policies) or Intranet (Organisational Policies) to ensure that the version you are using is up to date.**

**This document is available in alternative formats (e.g. larger font) if requested.**

## 1 PURPOSE

This policy documents Council's position in relation to rates rebates, waivers and reductions for properties that are not owned by Trust for Nature which have Trust for Nature or other conservation covenants over their title.

For properties owned by Trust for Nature, please refer to the relevant sections of the Local Government Act 1989.

## 2 SCOPE

The policy applies to all rateable land located in the municipality.

## 3 POLICY

Council does not apply rates rebates, waivers, or reductions to properties with Trust for Nature or other environmental covenants placed over their title.

Council does support and will arrange, upon application, having a supplementary valuation undertaken to ascertain whether the covenant impacts the value of the property, and subsequently the rates leviable.

## 4 DEFINITIONS OF TERMS OR ABBREVIATIONS USED

Term	Definition
Trust for Nature	A trust established under the Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972 to enable people to contribute permanently to nature conservation by donating land or money.
Conservation covenant	A conservation covenant that is a voluntary, permanent, legally-binding agreement placed on a property's title to ensure native vegetation on the property is protected forever.

## 5 HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT

It is considered that this policy does not impact negatively on any rights identified in the Charter of Human Rights Act. Loddon Shire Council is committed to consultation and cooperation between management and employees. The Council will formally involve elected employee Health and Safety Representatives in any workplace change that may affect the health and safety of any of its employees.

## 6 REVIEW

The Director Corporate Services will review this policy for any necessary amendments no later than 4 years after adoption of this current version.