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1. Statement

Ipswich City Council recognises the essential services provided by community organisations across the city and aims to support their efforts through infrastructure contribution relief. This policy standardises relief measures, offering eligible not-for-profit community organisations certainty regarding infrastructure charges while maintaining alignment with Council's strategic objectives.

This policy provides a standard approach to providing infrastructure contribution relief for eligible community development.

Where an applicant proposes a variation to this policy, the onus is on the applicant to demonstrate relevant facts and circumstances to justify the variation.

2. Purpose and Principles

This policy identifies not-for-profit community organisations and development that is eligible for infrastructure contribution relief, offering 100% infrastructure charges contribution relief up to a maximum of \$50,000 per development.

A 50% development application fee relief is also available for the establishment of eligible non-residential community developments by eligible not-for-profit community organisations.

3. Strategic Plan Links

This policy aligns with the following iFuture 2021-2026 Corporate Plan themes:

Vibrant and Growing

A Trusted and Leading Organisation

4. Regulatory Authority

Authority for Council to perform this function is determined by s.9 of the *Local Government Act (2009)* giving power to do anything that is necessary or convenient for the good rule and local government of its local government area.

5. Human Rights Commitment

Ipswich City Council (Council) has considered the human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019 (Qld)* (the Act) when adopting and/or amending this policy.

When applying this policy, Council will act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and give proper consideration to a human right relevant to the decision.

6. Scope

Application of this policy

This policy applies to eligible non-residential community developments undertaken by eligible not-for-profit community organisations, offering:

a) **Infrastructure contribution relief and deferral payment plan**

For the establishment of eligible non-residential community developments by eligible not-for-profit community organisations, a 100% reduction to the infrastructure contributions applicable for the development levied by Ipswich City Council to a maximum discount of \$50,000 per development.

The balance of any outstanding levied charges will also be eligible for the deferral of payment over a 5-year period subject to entering into an infrastructure agreement with Council.

The deferral payment plan will exclude indexation.

Water supply and sewerage trunk infrastructure networks are not Council infrastructure. This policy does not alter any applicable water supply and sewerage infrastructure charges levied by Urban Utilities.

b) **Application fee relief**

For the establishment of eligible non-residential community developments by eligible not-for-profit community organisations, the development application fee is discounted by 50% from the prescribed fee pursuant to the current Ipswich City Council Register of Fees & Charges.

7. Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for the infrastructure contribution and application fee relief offered by this policy, the proposal must satisfy the following criteria:

- (1) the proposal is by an eligible not-for-profit community organisation;
- (2) the proposal is for eligible non-residential community development; and
- (3) the proponent provides adequate information to satisfy compliance with the criteria above.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

This policy applies to all Council employees who are responsible for the assessment and determination of matters set out in Section 7 and recording as set out in Section 10.

9. Key Stakeholders

The following will be consulted during the review process:

- Planning and Regulatory Services Department in particular the City Design Branch and the Development Planning Branch
- Finance Branch

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

Register of Infrastructure Contributions and Credits

All discounted infrastructure contributions and the amount of the contribution relief shall be recorded in the Register of Infrastructure Contributions and Credits.

Fee Variations Register

All discounted application fees shall be recorded in the Fee Variation Register in accordance with the Variation of Development Applications Fees Procedure.

11. Infrastructure Agreement

Where a development is eligible for an infrastructure contribution discount and charges remain payable after the application of the maximum discount available, a deferral of the remaining charges is available subject to the proponent entering into an infrastructure agreement with Council prior to the commencement of the use using the Standard Deferral of Payments Infrastructure Agreement.

The deferral payment plan will provide for any remaining charges to be paid in five (5) equal amounts over a five (5) year period.

No indexation will be applied to these deferred payments.

12. Definitions

Definitions of contribution types and other terminology are found in the Ipswich planning scheme and Ipswich Adopted Infrastructure Charges Resolution.

Eligible non-residential community development means non-residential development, excluding a childcare centre, which:

- (a) provides facilities or services to the community and is not limited to members of the organisation; and
- (b) is not undertaken for commercial or retail purposes.

Eligible not-for-profit community organisation means:

- (a) a charitable organisation, including religious, community, sporting and educational organisation registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC); or
- (b) a not-for-profit organisation endorsed to access charity tax concessions from the Australian Tax Office.

Ipswich planning scheme / planning scheme means the Ipswich planning scheme, or as varied from time to time.

13. Policy Owner

The General Manager (Planning and Regulatory Services) is the policy owner and the Manager, City Design is responsible for authoring and reviewing this policy.