



BUSINESS SERVICES

DOCUMENT NUMBER

TED-02

DOCUMENT TITLE

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE POLICY

DATE	CHANGE	BY	APPROVED	REVIEW
5-Sept-2000	Initial	TEDM	5/9/00	
5-March-2004	Review	BS Co	6/4/04	
				31 March, 2006

Business Assistance Policy

Purpose

Business Assistance is tailored to the needs of a developer, and may include one or more of the following:

- **Business Services Assistance** – access to subsidised training programs and business initiatives managed by the Business Services Unit.
- **Development Facilitation Forum** – access to key statutory and relevant government authorities to aid development and provide expert advice.
- **Finance for Developers** – assistance for development projects in accordance with Council priorities and approved projects.
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- **Labour Assistance** – facilitate acquisition of labour in co-operation with relevant authorities and agencies.
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- **Permit Fees Waived** – Planning permit and building permit fees waived or reduced for approved projects.
- **Rate Rebates** – available on a sliding scale relative to the creation of new employment opportunities. New industries creating a minimum of 12* new full-time permanent positions will be eligible for a full rate rebate at the completion of the first year of operation, 70% rebate year 2, 40% rebate year 3. Full rates applicable in year 4.

Applications for rate rebates must be independently verified by the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate.

** New and existing developments creating in excess of 12 new full-time positions will be assessed on a case by case basis, to be determined by the Chief Executive Officer.*

- **Site Identification** – assistance with the identification of appropriate sites for a development, giving consideration to EPA and planning requirements.
- **Statistical Analysis** – access to market trend analysis data and demographic, psychographic and general census data for the Mitchell Shire.
- **Business networks** - introduction and referral to local business networks

Eligibility for assistance will be assessed via the following criteria:

- Proposal is consistent with Mitchell Shire Council's Council Plan.
- Proposal meets Mitchell Shire Council's planning, building and environmental health regulations.
- Proposal meets the Environmental Protection Agency requirements.
- Generation of new, permanent employment for the Mitchell Shire.
- Proposal demonstrates long term viability.
- The business is registered.

NOTES:

1. ***To apply for assistance, firms are required to provide a letter outlining assistance sought, proposed development and potential employment generated. Agreement to provide Mitchell Shire Council with information necessary to assess eligibility for assistance is also required.***
2. ***Mitchell Shire Council reserves the right to request Statutory Declarations to substantiate any claims for assistance.***
3. ***Final decisions shall be at the discretion of the Mitchell Shire Council.***
4. ***A new business is defined as a business proposed for establishment as a legal entity, with no trading history within the boundaries of the Mitchell Shire.***
5. ***Due to the varied nature of developments, all applications are treated on an individual basis within the guidelines of this Policy.***

Review:

This policy can be reviewed by Council at anytime, however, will be reviewed by 31 March, 2006.