

Corporate Services Committee

ITEM FOR DECISION

Report	Request to Write Off Rates Arrears on Abandoned Land
Meeting Date	8 October 2009
Item Number	4
Prepared By	Pauline Ellis – Rates/Property Officer
File Reference	SR 10/0001
Policy Reference	

REPORT SUMMARY

At the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 6 June 2002 it was resolved that rates on abandoned land not worth tendering be reviewed and written off annually.

Rates unrecoverable from the 2008/09 rating year amount to \$2,266.85.

The total for the 2007/08 year was \$544.70.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Corporate Services Committee:

- 1. Recommends that rates on abandoned land totaling \$2,266.85 from the 2008/09 rating year be recognized as unrecoverable and written off.**
- 2. Recommends that where abandoned land is passed in at tender, the land is offered to the adjoining landowner with some or all of the transfer costs being met by Council.**

REPORT

At the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 6 June 2002 it was resolved that rates on abandoned land not worth tendering be reviewed and written off annually.

Rates unrecoverable from the 2008/09 rating year are detailed below.

Valuation Reference	Property Owner	Property Situation	Arrears Total
28046/55000	Reginald McDonald	Clyde Terrace	\$108.70
28046/42100	Brian Beverley Burgess	26 Exmouth Street	\$497.70
28045/19501	Est M Brown	62 Elderlee Street	\$61.00
28761/02400	E R Brown and others	Miller Road	\$1554.55
28761/03200	Sydney Gorman	Miller Road	\$44.90
		TOTAL	\$2,266.85

Further information as to the above land is detailed below.

28046/55000: This is a wedge shaped parcel of land of 1138m² which appears to have buildings belonging to two adjoining landowners built on it and I am concerned about the implications to Council if the land was purchased by one or other of these owners or in fact someone else.

28046/42100: Has been publicly tendered twice and was passed in both times. Requires a lot of fill.

28045/19501: This is a small parcel of land (243m²) at the rear of another property and adjoining the railway tracks. There is no title to the land that I can locate and it requires further investigation as to how we proceed.

28761/02400: Passed in at tender.

28761/03200: Passed in at tender.

Some of the land we tender, especially in the rural areas, is offered to the adjoining landowner once passed in at tender. They are usually not interested as the cost of transferring the title to their name far exceeds the value of the land to them. It may facilitate the transfer if Council met some or all of the fees.