AMENDED MOTION BY COUNCILLOR PRICE

ITEM NUMBER: CSF282

ITEM TITLE: PROPOSED RATING SUBSIDY POLICY - SPORTING & COMMUNITY

GROUPS & RATING SUBSIDY 2016/17

CSF282: AMENDMENT BY COUNCILLOR PRICE VOTING REQUIREMENT: SIMPLE MAJORITY

THAT the Responsible Office Recommendation be AMENDED to read as follows:

- 1. The Rating Subsidy Sporting and Community Organisations Policy be adopted.
- 2. The policy is amended to specify a capped rating subsidy, limited to \$5000 per applicant, commencing in the 2017/2018 budget.
- 3. That Point 6. 'Special Exemptions' be amended to read "Council reserves the right to consider each application request for a rate subsidy on a case-by-case basis and may require additional conditions."
- 4. The rating subsidy to sporting and community organisations for 2016/2017 listed in the report be endorsed.
- 5. The policy document and rating subsidy percentage be reviewed each 4 years, with the next review due being conducted prior to the 2021/2022 budget deliberations.

Councillor's Reason:

There is no obligation for the City to provide rating subsidies to sporting and community groups.

By applying a (capped) maximum rating subsidy amount of \$5,000 per applicant, an extra \$61,895.84 in rate revenue is generated, based on the 2016/17 Rating Subsidy tabled amounts. This may increase annually depending on Rental Valuations. These funds can be redirected back into the community for other projects and services to be determined by Council.

The capped limit will provide equity by specifying a maximum limit available to ALL applicants, thus distributing the subsidy evenly. This will allow organisations to plan around their financial obligations as households, landholders and businesses are annually obliged to.

The current rating subsidies provided by Council are generous and unevenly distributed among recipients, resulting in an indiscriminate system and significant amounts of revenue not being realised by the City.

Officer Comment:

The amount of subsidy to be provided by Council is a decision of Council. Applying a cap of \$5,000 will add a minor administrative complexity to application of the subsidy but can be managed.