

**BITOU
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**



PROPERTY RATES BY-LAW

GENERAL INDEX

1. DEFINITIONS	3
2. OBJECTS	4
3. THE RATES POLICY	4
4. CATEGORIES OF RATEABLE	
5. CATEGORIES OF PROPERTIES AND CATEGORIES OF OWNERS OF PROPERTIES	4
6. ENFORCEMENT OF THE RATES POLICY	4
7. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT	4

BITOU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

PROPERTY RATES BY-LAW

WHEREAS section 156 (2) of the Constitution empowers a municipality to make and administer by-laws for the effective administration of matters which it has the right to administer;

AND WHEREAS section 229 (1) of the Constitution requires a municipality to impose rates on property and surcharges on fees for the services provided by or on behalf of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS section 13 of the Municipal Systems Act read with section 162 of the Constitution requires a municipality to promulgate municipal by-laws by publishing them in the gazette of the relevant province;

AND WHEREAS section 6 of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 requires a municipality to adopt By-Laws to give effect to the implementation of its Property Rates Policy; the by-laws may differentiate between the different categories of properties and different categories of owners of properties liable for the payment of rates;

Now therefore the Municipal Council of **Bitou Municipality** approves and adopts the following Property Rates By-Law.

1. **DEFINITIONS:**

For the purpose of this by-law any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (No. 6 of 2004) and the Rates Policy adopted and implemented in terms thereof shall bear the same meaning unless the context indicates otherwise-

“Act” means the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (No. 6 of 2004).

“Municipality” means the Bitou Municipality

“Municipal Property Rates Act” means the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004 (Act no 6 of 2004)

“Rates Policy” means the Bitou Municipality’s property rates policy adopted by the Council in terms of section 3 (1) of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 2004.

2. OBJECTS

The object of this By-Law is to give effect to the implementation of the Municipality’s Rates Policy as contemplated in section 6 of the Municipal Property Rates Act.

3. THE RATES POLICY

The municipality prepared and adopted a Rates Policy as contemplated in terms of the provisions of section 3(1) of the Municipal Property Rates Act. The Rates Policy outlines the municipality’s rating practices; therefore, it is not necessary for this By-Law to restate and repeat same.

The Rates Policy is hereby incorporated by reference in this By-Law. All amendments to the Rates Policy as the Council may approve from time to time, shall be deemed to be likewise incorporated.

The Municipality does not levy rates other than in terms of its Rates Policy and the annually promulgated resolution levying rates which reflects the cent amount in the Rand rate for each category of rateable property.

The Rates Policy is available at the Bitou Municipality’s Revenue Office and website at www.bitou.gov.za

4. CATEGORIES OF RATEABLE PROPERTIES

The Rates Policy provides for categories of rateable properties determined in terms of section 8 of the Act.

5. CATEGORIES OF PROPERTIES AND CATEGORIES OF OWNERS OF PROPERTIES

The Rates Policy provides for categories of properties and categories of owners of properties for the purposes of granting relief measures (exemptions, reductions and rebates) in terms of section 15 of the Act.

6. ENFORCEMENT OF THE RATES POLICY

The Municipality’s Rates Policy is enforced through the municipality’s Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy and any further enforcement mechanisms stipulated in the Act and the Municipality’s Rates Policy.

7. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

This By-Law is called the Bitou Municipality’s Municipal Property Rates By-law and takes effect on the date on which it is published in the Provincial Gazette.