

Rates Relief **Grant Scheme for **Community Based Facilities****

Applicable to Charities, Not for Profit Organisations, Sporting Bodies and other Community Facilities.

The Rates Relief Grant Scheme is intended to acknowledge the charitable and community contribution of worthy organisations throughout the county, whilst providing a fair trading situation for all rate paying businesses.

All organisations applying for the grant must first seek a determination by the Valuation Office on the applicability, or not, of an exemption under Section 4 of the Valuation Acts.

If the Valuation Office has then assigned a rateable value to the property, the relevant organisations can apply for the Rates Relief Grant Scheme.

The level of grant available is **100%** of the annual Rates Bill - but eligibility for this will be dependent on the trading location of the organisation.

Approved Community Based Facilities in rural locations will receive 100% grant. Any premises outside the town boundaries for Wexford, Enniscorthy, Gorey, and New Ross are deemed to be rural location for the purpose of this scheme.

The major retail districts for each urban centre in the county are highlighted on the maps attached. These areas are deemed to be fully commercial for the purpose of this scheme. Therefore regardless of the status of the facility as community based, if it is located in these designated areas, rates will be applied.

Organisations deemed to be eligible for such a grant include:

- Sporting groups (training facilities only, not bar/shop or where the premises can be rented out)
- Tourist Sites (no cafes/shops etc.)
- Chamber of Commerce offices
- Community groups (Men's Sheds etc.)
- Community Facilities (Swimming pools etc.)
- Religious Groups
- Counselling services (non charging)

Every organisation seeking a Rates Relief Grant for their Community Based facility will be required to make an annual application providing relevant data and certifications to allow Wexford Co Council determine the appropriateness of the approval of such a grant.

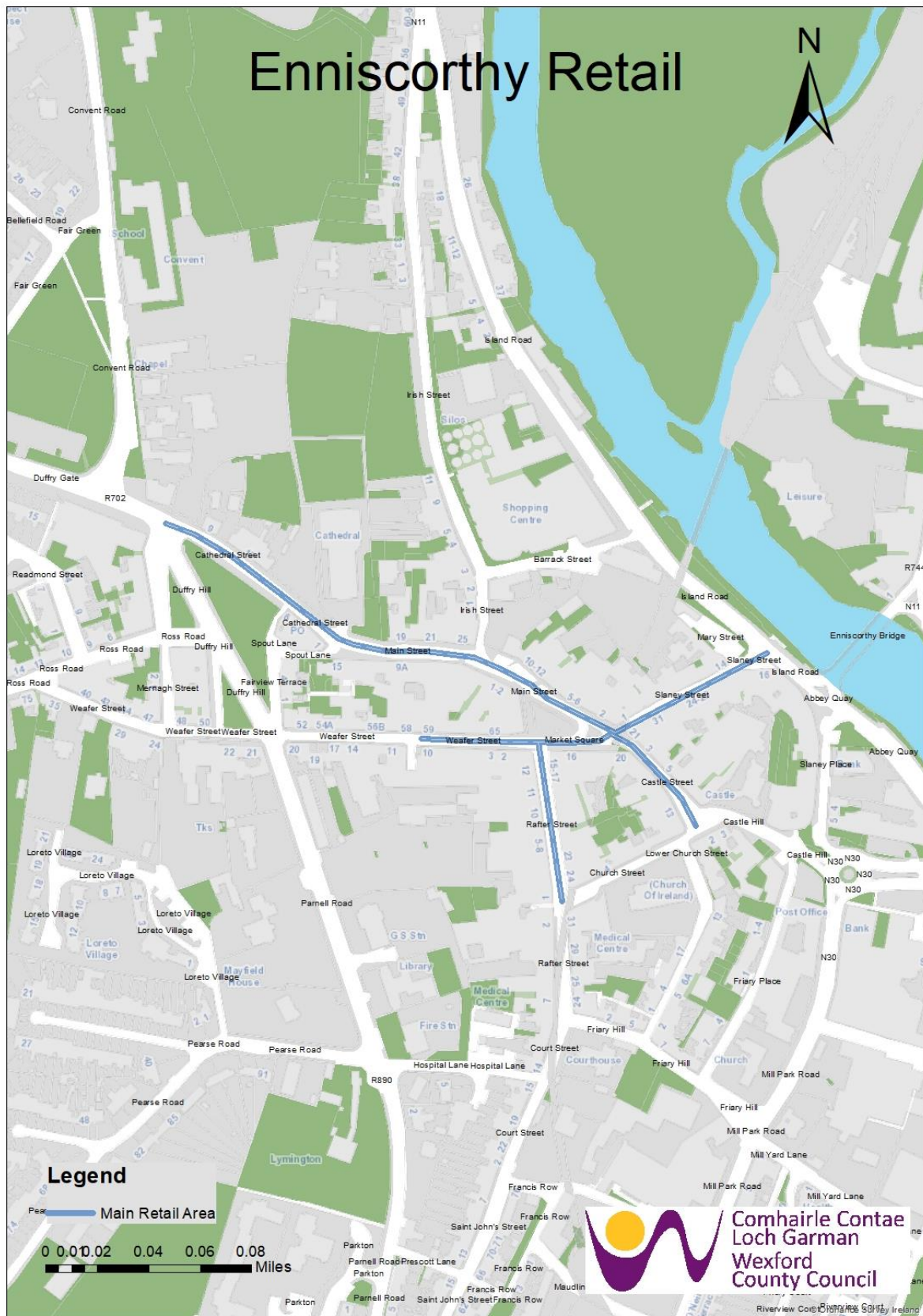
The time frame for receipt of applications is from when the annual Rates Bill is issued, to 30th April.



New Ross Retail

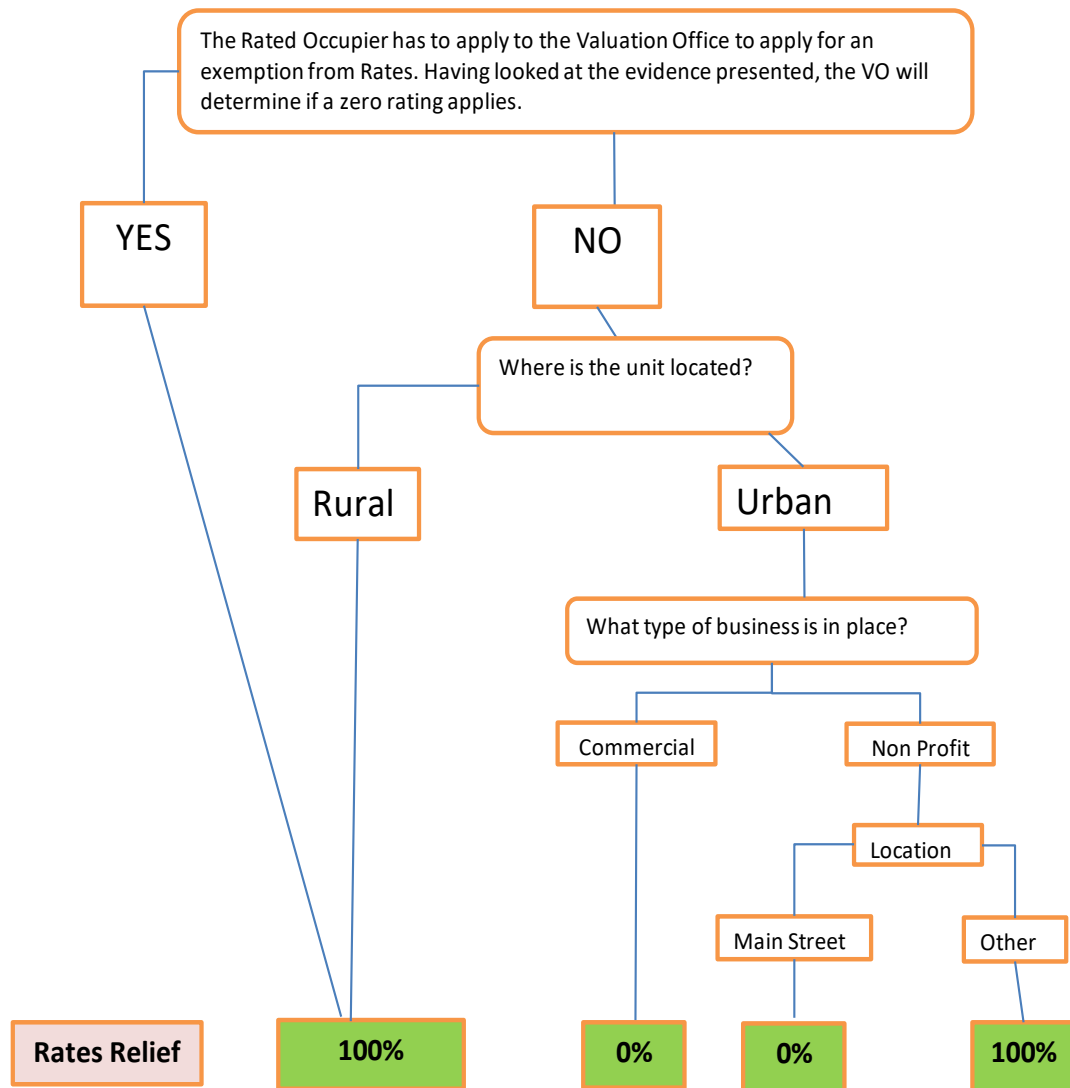


Enniscorthy Retail





What Rates relief is available to the Rated Occupier?



Step 1 – Has the premises been deemed exempt from Rates – Yes/No

Step 2 – If “No” Is the premises located in an urban or rural setting?

Step 3 – If “Urban” is the business commercial or not for profit/community based?

Step 4 – If “Not for Profit/Community based” where is it located, in a main retail area (as determined by the scheme) or in another urban location?

Step 5 – 100% Rates relief is applied to all rated premises deemed to be occupied by Community based organisations not located in an area designated as a main retail Centre under the terms of this grant scheme.