

# Media release

Thursday, 15 November 2018

## LOCAL VIEWS SOUGHT ON WATER PRICES

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) will hold a public hearing on the Central Coast on Tuesday 27 November to seek community views about the prices Central Coast Council is proposing to charge for its water, sewerage, stormwater and related services from 1 July 2019.

This is the first time these prices have been reviewed since the merger of the former Wyong and Gosford councils.

In preparation for the hearing, IPART has released its preliminary views on the Council's pricing proposals for discussion.

IPART Chair, Dr Peter Boxall, said the Tribunal is particularly interested in stakeholder views on the following areas of the Council's proposal:

- ▼ harmonising sewerage and stormwater prices between the Gosford and Wyong areas
- ▼ increasing stormwater prices for non-residential and rural customers
- ▼ charging retirement villages non-residential service prices, and
- ▼ service levels and expenditure.

These and other issues will be discussed at the public hearing, which will be held at the Mingara Recreation Club at Tumbi Umbi, from 10am on 27 November.

"The public forum at Tumbi Umbi is an opportunity for IPART to hear first-hand local community views about the Council's proposals so we can consider these views when making our decisions," Dr Boxall said.

"We know there is keen interest in the community about this review as we have received 127 submissions to the Council's proposal. We will again seek submissions to our Draft Report in April 2019."

Those wishing to attend the public forum are requested to register online in advance of the forum at [www.ipart.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au). Those attending will be given the opportunity to speak as time allows.

**Media note: Any media wishing to attend the forum are also asked to register online. To avoid interrupting proceedings, cameras are permitted at the back of the room only.**

**Media questions will not be taken as part of the forum to enable as many residents as possible to have their say. Please contact Julie Sheather on 0409 514 643 in advance to arrange a time to interview Dr Boxall.**

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More information is available at [ipart.nsw.gov.au](http://ipart.nsw.gov.au)