



Our reference: 6961866
Contact: Vicki O'Kelly
Telephone: [REDACTED]

11 December 2015

Mr Hugo Harmstorf
CEO IPART
localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Harmstorf

Intention to Apply for a Special Rate Variation

Penrith was recently deemed Fit for the Future by IPART. Council's Improvement Program and Long Term Financial Plan, which formed part of our submission, are modelled on the continuation of our existing Asset Renewal & Established Areas Strategy (AREAS) SRV which ends in 2016 and the additional SRV of 4.8%, 5%, 5.2% and 5.4% for 2016-17 to 2019-20 respectively. The AREAS SRV has allowed Council to address our identified infrastructure backlog directing vital funding to renewal of our roads, buildings and public spaces, public domain maintenance and programs in the City's older areas.

Council is currently consulting and seeking community feedback on three future rating proposals:

- a decrease in services (the discontinuation of AREAS)
- maintaining current services (continue AREAS), and
- improved services & infrastructure (AREAS plus additional SRV over 4 years).

The proposed SRV forms part of Council's steps to ensure we are in line with the NSW Government's Fit for the Future reforms and ensure we can provide the necessary infrastructure, continue to maintain our assets and services in line with our community's expectations and growth of the City. It will also enable us to fund some major infrastructure projects such as decked car parking in the City Centre or actions in the Our River Masterplan, as guided by our community. Accordingly, Penrith City Council is lodging its Intention to Apply for a 508(A) Special Rate Variation, with the increase to be a permanent increase, and also a potential application to increase our minimum rate.

If you would like to discuss any further details in relation to this proposal please feel free to contact:

Vicki O'Kelly
Executive Manager Corporate
[REDACTED]

Andrew Moore
Financial Services Manager
[REDACTED]

The formal resolution as to whether to apply will be considered by Council in early February 2016.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Alan Stoneham
General Manager