## **FEDERATION COUNCIL**

**REFERENCE:** 

CG:RH - 16/30687

CONTACT:

Kristy Kay

9 December 2016

The Director
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART)
PO Box Q290,
SYDNEY NSW 2000
localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

## RE: SPECIAL RATE VARIATION NOTIFICATION - FEDERATION COUNCIL

I would like to provide formal notification that Federation Council wishes to consider applying for a multi-year special rate variation (SRV) under section 508A.

As a newly created Council, we are aware that the guidelines do not currently permit us to apply for a special rate variation.

Federation Council does not support this current Policy of the NSW Government which prohibits special rate variations for newly amalgamated Councils and we are hopeful the Government's stance on this will change.

Federation Council was formed through the amalgamation of Corowa Shire Council, who had some of the lowest general rates in NSW and Urana Shire, who were previously the smallest Council in NSW (very small population but large area).

The purpose of our proposed SRV would be to fund the capital and ongoing running costs of a new Swimming Pool in Corowa. It is proposed that this SRV would only apply to residents located within the township of Corowa.

Council has recently completed extensive community consultation in respect to the future development options for the Corowa Swimming Pool. This included over 1,000 community surveys (phone and online) with strong feedback provided that the community wishes to support paying more in their rates in order for the desired facility to be built.

Subject to the release of new SRV guidelines which will allow our application, we will submit a formal application to proceed with this request.

If further information is required prior to this, please contact Council's Director Corporate and Community, Kristy Kay on

Yours faithfully

CHRIS GILLARD
GENERAL MANAGER

The former Corowa and Urana Shires were amalgamated on 12 May 2016. Federation Council is now legally responsible for all activities, assets and liabilities of the former Councils.

FEDERATION COUNCIL

ABN 30 762 048 084

All correspondence to be addressed to the General Manager

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