



HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL

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11 February 2019

Dr Peter J Boxall AO
The Chairman
Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box Q290
QVB POST OFFICE NSW 1230

Email: localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au

Dear Dr Boxall

Application for a Special Variation to Rates under Section 508(2)

I am writing to provide an Application for a Special Variation to Rates under Section 508(2) to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

Council's proposal is for a 9.74% special variation (SV), comprising the rate peg of 2.7% and an additional 7.04% increase. This additional increase comprises of 4.04% for a proposed term of 10 years to fund renewal of community facilities and 3.0% permanent operational increase to support the continuation of existing service levels.

The IPART worksheet (WK1) does not cater for both a permanent and temporary increase, within the one application. In discussion with an IPART representative, Council confirmed that it was acceptable to note the whole increase as 'Permanent' and, as IPART was aware of Council's proposal, IPART would consider Council's actual intention as part of its assessment of the application.

In accordance with the IPART's instruction, Council has discussed various matters with the Office of Local Government (OLG) prior to lodging this application. One of these matters was the value of the expiring SVs in years 2021/22 and 2022/23.

At the OLG's request Council provided the OLG with the 2019/20 value of both these SVs. The OLG indicated it would check these amounts but leave future years' estimates to Council (we have used IPART's). The figures quoted in the application (WK1) are based on Council's calculations and await verification by the OLG.

The value of catch up income and lost income from valuation objections was also discussed with the OLG. During this process Council identified that it needs to amend it's 2018/19 Special Schedule 2. The OLG and an IPART representative have both been advised of this.

Hunter's Hill Council wished to thank the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal for its consideration of this application and all supporting documents.

Should you require any further information I can be contacted via email: council@huntershill.nsw.gov.au or by phone 9879 9400.



Lisa Miscamble
General Manager