

JERILDERIE SHIRE COUNCIL

INFORMATION ON THE IMPACT OF

APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

During 2014 ratepayers were made aware of Council's proposal to seek a special rate variation (SV).

Ratepayers are advised that Council will be making its submission to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART) for a permanent special rate variation of 10% for 2015/16 and additional 10% in 2016/17.

A determination on the submission will be made by IPART, and the recommendation is then forwarded to the Minister for Local Government for his approval.

The following table of rating sub categories illustrates the impact on <u>average</u> rates for that category of a permanent special variation of 10% per annum for 2 years:

Residential rates (Category R2)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$ 249	\$ 255	\$ 263	5.45%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$ 249	\$ 274	\$ 301	19.98%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 19	\$ 38	\$ 57

Rural residential rates (Category RR8)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$ 571	\$ 585	\$ 602	5.40%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$ 571	\$ 628	\$ 691	20.00%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 43	\$ 89	\$ 132

Business rates (Category B4)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$ 447	\$ 457	\$ 481	5.40%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$ 447	\$ 491	\$ 540	19.99%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 34	\$ 59	\$ 93

General farmland rates (Category F1)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$ 836	\$ 855	\$ 579	5.07%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$ 836	\$ 919	\$1,011	19.96%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 64	\$ 132	\$ 196

Berriquin farmland rates (Category F10)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$2,624	\$2688	\$2,770	5.33%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$2,624	\$2,887	\$3,175	18.18%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 199	\$ 405	\$ 604

Berriquin large farmland rates (Category F13)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$5,982	\$6,129	\$6,317	5.53%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	%5,982	\$6,584	\$7,251	20.20%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 455	\$ 934	\$1,389

Coleambally farmland rates (Category F14)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$2,251	\$2,305	\$2,374	5.38%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$2,251	\$2,476	\$2,724	19.99%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 171	\$ 350	\$ 521

Corurgan farmland rates (Category F15)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$3,279	\$3,357	\$3,457	5.39%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$3,279	\$3,605	\$3,966	20.20%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 248	\$ 509	\$ 757

River & groundwater large farmland rates (Category F19)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$13,474	\$13,979	\$14,210	5.39%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$13,474	\$14,817	\$16,299	19.97%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 838	\$ 2,089	\$2,927

River & groundwater farmland rates (Category F20)

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Cumulative Increase
Average rate under an assumed rate peg	\$3,806	\$3,893	\$4,011	5.33%
Average rate with an SV of 10% pa	\$3,806	\$4,186	\$4,604	19.98%
Cumulative impact of SV above 2014/15 levels		\$ 293	\$593	\$ 886

Ratepayers are advised that the above figures are an average amount only, and individual assessments will vary based upon the property's land valuation. Your specific rate information is available by contacting Council's office on 03 5886 1200.

Residents and ratepayers can make submissions direct to IPART regarding the proposed permanent special rate variation.

IPART does not hold public hearings as part of the assessment of Council applications. Nor does IPART solicit public submissions. However individual ratepayers or interested groups can make submission direct to IPART regarding special variations for up to 4 weeks after the deadline for Council applications, which is 16 February 2015. Submissions will only be accepted by IPART if received by 16 March 2015.

It is IPART's preferred option for submissions to be lodged using the electronic submission facility available on the website during the submission period. This may be accessed alongside Council's application at:

http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Local_Govt/Special_Variation s_and_Minimum_Rates/Applications_Determinations
Postal submissions can be forwarded to:

Local Government Team Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW PO Box K35 Haymarket Post Shop NSW 1240

Email submissions can be made to: localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au

IPART can be contacted on telephone 02 9113 7710.

All non-confidential public submissions will be posted on the IPART website from 16 March 2015, showing only the author's name.

A public meeting is planned during March to further discuss this proposal, together with Councils submission for "Fit for the Future", the direction of Local Government in NSW.

Further information is available at Council's office, 35 Jerilderie Street, Jerilderie, telephone 03 5886 1200.

CRAIG MOFFITT GENERAL MANAGER



JERILDERIE SHIRE COUNCIL INVITATION TO ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING

PUBLIC MEETING-10 YEAR PLAN

A special public meeting has been convened in the lan Gilbert Room of the Civic Hall for *Wednesday 21st May commencing at 7.00 pm* to discuss draft Plans indicating proposals for the next ten years.

These Plans have been placed on public exhibition for your comment until Monday 16 June, with Plans to be finalised at Council's meeting of 24 June 2014.

All documents are available on Council's website, with hard copies available for viewing in the Council offices and the Jerilderie Library.

Significant proposals in the Plans to be discussed at the meeting include:

- Essentially balanced budget of \$9.4m annually for ten years
- A proposal to seek a 10% General Rate rise (7.5% over the current rate cap
 predicted) in 2015/16 and 2016/17. This will be preceded by a community
 consultation process before the Minister will approve its application. This
 proposed increase aligns levels of rates with regional Councils, and is
 required to meet the levels of service currently provided.
- A proposal to relinquish trusteeship of The Willows and the Jerilderie Court House, owned by the State Government
- Withdrawal of lifeguards at the swimming pool, while maintaining current opening hours. Parents and other responsible adults will be required to provide supervision
- Reduction in maintenance allocations for unused community assets such as the RSL Hall
- Maintained opening hours of the Library with reduction in staff costs by having one librarian on at any time
- Continued commitment to joint maintenance of Lake Jerilderie with the Aquatic Club
- Manning of the Jerilderie waste depot offset by user charges (postponed from previous years)
- Abandoned membership of the Newell Highway Promotion and the Kidman Way Promotion
- A number of capital works included are dependent on external grant funds such as Police Stables restoration and swimming pool refurbishment.
- The Water and Sewer Fund continue to be sustainable with significant reserves building up to replace assets in the future.
- An increase in 5% in water usage charges
- A 3% increase in other fees and charges

Council encourages your attendance at the public meeting, where we will be in a position to show the change to your rates the year after next (2015/16) when the proposed increase is predicted to commence.

Craig Moffitt General Manager



JERILDERIE SHIRE COUNCIL

INVITATION TO ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY EVENING 25 SEPTEMBER 2014

Ratepayers and residents are invited to attend a public meeting in the Ian Gilbert Room of the Jerilderie Civic Hall on Thursday evening 25 September 2014, commencing 7.00pm

The purpose of this meeting is to continue discussions regarding rate increases above the rate cap limit for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 years. As explained to ratepayers in various letters and media releases, these discussions form a part of the required process. Before a final decision is made on rate increases to commence on 1 July 2015, Council will need to have a clear record of the level of support for the proposal.

Discussion will also take place regarding the recently announced programme of initiatives associated with "Fit for the Future" and what this means to Council.

The questionnaire circulated with all rate notices, saw a total of 87 returned:

Agree with Rate Increase	Disagree with Rate Increase	No comment on Proposal
29	55	3

In addition, submissions have been received from ratepayers indicating their support or opposition to the proposal.

Councillors and staff have made themselves available to speak with various ratepayers regarding concerns raised should the proposed increase in rates go ahead.

Council encourages your attendance at the public meeting, as these meetings provide valuable feedback for Council.

Yours faithfully

Craig Moffitt
GENERAL MANAGER

