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17 November 2022

Edward Jenkins
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box K35
Haymarket Post Shop NSW 1240

Via IPART Council Portal

Dear Mr Jenkins

Notification for Special Rate Variation application.

This letter is to formally advise IPART of Bega Valley Shire Council's intention to submit an application for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) to be permanently retained in the rate base under s508 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The 16 November 2022 resolution of Council in relation to the SRV is as follows:

That Council:

1. Request the Chief Executive Officer notify the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) of its intent to apply under the *Local Government Act 1993* for a special variation to increase rates to be permanently retained within the rate base, for the purpose of enhancing financial sustainability, maintaining service levels and to fund the ongoing operation, maintenance and renewal of existing assets.
2. Confirm the quantum of the rate increase, should Council proceed with an SRV application, be determined after community engagement on the options modelled in the updated Long Term Financial Plan 2023-32 has been completed.
3. Note the updated Long Term Financial Plan 2023-32 provided to Councillors, noting the four options modelled, which will be the subject of community consultation:
 - A. 90% increase;
 - B. 45% increase in 2024 and 37.2% increase in 2025;
 - C. 43% increase;
 - D. No increase above rate peg.
4. Place the updated Long Term Financial Plan 2023-32 on public exhibition between 16 November and 16 January 2023.
5. Undertake further community engagement as required in the NSW Office of Local Government *Guidelines for the Preparation of an Application for a Special Variation to General Income 2020* and IPART's *Information Paper- Community Engagement and Awareness*.

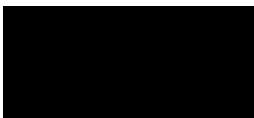
6. Note the community engagement period will run from 16 November 2022 to 16 January 2023.
7. Receive a report at the 1 February 2023 Council meeting on the community engagement outcomes, and determine at this meeting the rate of increase, if any, that will be included in the SRV application for submission to IPART by 3 February 2023.

Community engagement will be undertaken between 16 November 2022 and 16 January 2023. Council will review the outcomes of the community engagement prior to its Council meeting on 1 February 2023 where it will determine, what rates increase, if any, is applied for. More information on the Special Rate Variation, including the updated Long Term Financial Plan 2023-32 that is on public exhibition, is available on Council's website.

<https://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/community/special-rate-variation>

This notification has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the preparation of an application for a Special Variation. Council's key contacts for the Special Rate Variation application are myself and Kaliegh Smerdon, Corporate Planning and Improvement Manager and. In the meantime, if you require any further information, please contact me on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



Anthony McMahon
Chief Executive Officer