



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL SEEKING COMMUNITY FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

Junee Shire Council is considering applying to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) of 15% for the 2023-24 financial year and 10% for the 2024-25 financial year. The SRV will be in addition to the annual rate cap which is expected to be approximately 2.5% per annum.

The money from the SRV would be used to assure Council's long term financial sustainability while enabling it to maintain services and a robust capital works program.

The rate increase proposed is in response to significant cost pressures which Council has been facing recently.

In recent years Council has implemented a range of cost savings and will continue to do so, however additional measures need to be considered or further cuts to services will occur.

"If a special rates variation is adopted, it will give Council financial independence and ensure its viability into the future", said Cr Neil Smith who is the Mayor of Junee Shire.

"Junee Shire offers a very high level of service and without a special rate variation the levels of service will have to decrease so we need to talk to the community about a way forward. Any increase in rates is not a decision Council takes lightly." the mayor continued.

Council is holding a series of public meetings between 13 – 15 September to provide information and receive feedback on the proposal. Details of these meetings are on Council's website.

"I urge the residents of Junee Shire to attend these community meetings or provide feedback directly to Council. We are keen to hear residents have their say on this important issue", said Mayor Smith.

Depending on the outcome of the consultation, Council may inform IPART of its intention to apply for an SRV in November 2022 and make an application in February 2023.

Council invites the community to comment on the Long-Term Financial Plan and the proposed SRV application. Details can be obtained from Councils website www.junee.nsw.gov.au, by ringing Council on 02 6924 8100, or e-mailing jsc@junee.nsw.gov.au.

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Subject Location	Junee Shire Local Government Area
Photography supplied with media release	No
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