

**From:** Annie Talvé  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 3 March 2015 12:35 PM  
**To:** IPART Mailbox  
**Subject:** Support for Ashfield Council SPV

Dear IPART,

I am an Ashfield resident and rate payer. I've been recently informed that Ashfield Council has submitted a Special Rate Variation to IPART in order to implement the results of a community consultation exercise undertaken last year. I fully support Ashfield Council's submission.

My reasons include:

- I was very impressed with the scale and quality of Ashfield Council's community consultation and participatory decision-making exercise in 2014. It was one of the best I've ever seen. It stimulated a conversation across the municipality. I talked to people in my neighbourhood about the options presented. Even when we had different opinions about the options, we had a good conversation about the future of our community;
- I was upset and disturbed by a misinformation campaign that occurred at the time of the consultation and appears to be still extant. This misinformation campaign, consisting of posters and letterbox leaflets, was unattributed and inflammatory. I'm not opposed to people presenting different views, but they should at least be accurate and people should own up and say who they are;
- My favoured option was not chosen by the majority of Ashfield residents. Nevertheless, I fully support the decisions made by Council. If anything, Ashfield Council should be commended for an imaginative and democratic consultative process;
- I use Ashfield swimming pool; I walk my dog in local parks; I value the diverse nature of my community and recognise that a rate increase is an impost on me and my neighbours. I want to live in this community for the rest of my life. And I want it to change, improve and continue to be forward looking.

In conclusion, I fully support the special rate variation.

Annie Talvé

