

LG Submission Form 2021-2022 - Applications

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IPART Special Variation Submission Form - Applications

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| Industry | Local Government |
| Review | (LG) Special Variations & Minimum Rates 2021-2022 |
| Document Reference | |
| Council | Armidale Regional Council, Special Variation Application |

If you have any general feedback regarding your council's proposed SV, please leave your comments in the comment box below.

To whom it may concern

I am writing to express my concern in regards to Armidale Regional Council's (ARC) recent application to IPART for a special rate variation (SRV). I wish state my desire for no SRV (the discontinuation of the current SRV).

I have made this decision for two reasons

Firstly, the region is currently suffering from the economic impacts of drought, bushfire and the covid19 pandemic. An SRV will only add to these pressures.

The council has a demonstrated track record of chronic financial mismanagement. The provision of increased finds to ARC will only increase the mismanagement. It is my view that the council should reduce its operations to core responsibilities. Once it successfully handles those responsibilities the council will be deemed trustworthy to be responsible for a greater level of operations.

I understand that although I have not personally written this letter, this has been prepared by someone who shares the same views as myself. Due to constraints on my time available to write my own letter, I have chosen this template to represent my views. People who are time poor should be just as entitled to be heard as people with more time.

Yours Sincerely Graham Burke

Your comments on Criterion 1:

The senior ranking officers of the Armidale Regional Council have continually demonstrated that they are irresponsible in the allocation of ratepayers funds, leading to a situation where they cry broke and call on the ratepayers to bale them out.

Why should the ratepayers foot the bill so that they can continue on their merry way with little or no accountability.

Your comments on Criterion 2:

This information has been scratchy at best, with the all inclusive percentage rise for me and my wife as ratepayers completely hidden.

We have not received any information which lists "ALL" the rate increases that will impact on us.

Your comments on Criterion 3:

What is reasonable?

We were asked to conserve water through the drought, which we did, and because the Council are now not selling enough water with the drought over, they have doubled the water rate charges per KL.

I understand that the standing charges are going to increase as well but have not been informed as to what that will be.

Same, same with waste disposal charges.

Tip gate fees are haphazard at best, with the cost of disposing a mattress at around \$70. No wonder people are dumping them in bush locations, or filling up trade skip bins when no one is around.

Your comments on Criterion 4:

Not sure where they are exhibited ?

Your comments on Criterion 5:

If there are any improvements in performance, it has not been visible at all.

The continued spending on yuppy, faddy, useless projects that will never be of benefit to the ratepayers, the community, or the region, continues unabated.

In addition, it is the culture of the senior ranking staff that need to change.

They are inefficient, obstructionist in some cases, and have little regard for how they spend our money.

I don't see any real changes whilst those people are not held accountable in real terms, or are sacked.

If you have attachments you would like to include with your feedback, please attach them below.

Your Details

Are you an individual or organisation?

Individual

If you would like your submission or your name to remain confidential please indicate below.

Anonymous - my submission can be published but my name should remain anonymous

First Name

Last Name

Organisation Name

Position

Email

[REDACTED]

IPART's Submission Policy

I have read & accept IPART's Submission Policy