

LG Submission Form 2020-2021

Submission date: 23 February 2020, 12:36PM

Receipt number: 67

Related form version: 9

Question	Response
IPART Special Variation Submission Form	
Industry	Local Government
Review	(LG) Special Variations & Minimum Rates 2020-2021
Document Reference	
Select Council	Lismore City Council

<p>If you have any general feedback regarding your council's proposed SV, please leave your comments in the comment box below.</p>	<p>I believe that the proposed SRV if successful will be a huge impost on a large percentage of Lismore City Council ratepayers. It is no secret that Lismore LGA contains many ratepayers that fall into the low socio-economic category. Many are already challenged financially when trying to meet basic expenses including healthcare and food, often relying on fixed social security incomes. The SRV will place unnecessary pressure on them and others potentially forcing them into a default situation on rates or other expenses such as mortgages , personal loans, etc. Add to that the fact that property owners who own investment properties will be forced to pass on any extra expenses attributable to their investments to their tenants. Again many of these tenants, often single parent households with dependent children, are stretched financially without the added burden of rental increases to cover rate increases over the standard rate peg.</p> <p>LCC have stated that the reason they are applying for the SRV is to catch up on the backlog of road repairs. The general feeling coming through in local media and on social media is that this is not the full story. There is the question of the \$6m financial hole that council announced in 2019. To my knowledge Council has not been transparent in explaining in full financial detail, how they managed to be in this position. Ratepayers should be made aware of how this occurred, what checks and balances have been put in place to avoid a re-occurrence and a detailed budget forecast setting out exactly how future funds will be spent. Without this level of detail ratepayers are unable to make an informed decision or have confidence in the plan for the future.</p>
Your comments on Criterion 1:	
Your comments on Criterion 2:	
Your comments on Criterion 3:	
Your comments on Criterion 4:	
Your comments on Criterion 5:	
<p>If you have attachments you would like to include with your feedback, please attach them below.</p>	
<p>Your Details</p>	
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	
IPART's Submission Policy	I have read & accept IPART's Submission Policy