

# LG Submission Form 2020-2021

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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
If you have any general feedback regarding your council's proposed SV, please leave your comments in the comment box below.	<p>The SRV that Lismore city council is proposing is absolutely disgraceful, this town is suffering enough and the council is completely out of touch with their rate payers.</p> <p>The community consultation has been completely deceptive and dishonest. The pamphlet they mailed us stated the average urban house in Lismore pays \$1200. We pay \$2400 for one property and \$3000+ for the other. When we purchased the first one 7 years ago we only paid \$1600 p/y. It seems to have already increased quite significantly. I am yet to meet anyone in this town who pays on average \$1200.</p> <p>This is the same council who charges waste and water on a vacant blocks of land, I know right. I looked into it and being a rural council they have a loop hole. Something that wouldn't happen elsewhere.</p> <p>Lismore's completely mismanaged and out of touch council seem to have got themselves into approximately 160 million dollars worth of debt. At what point in their efforts to rack up such a hefty debt did they think they need to rethink their approach to spending? We now suffer from their mismanaged business.</p> <p>Neighboring councils Ballina, Byron and Richmond Valley have far more attractive and</p>

	<p>fair rates.</p> <p>Why does our council keep spending money on things literally no one I know wants, art galleries, art, beautification projects, etc. All we want is the basic amenities done right.</p> <p>If you take a walk down the main street in the CBD its the most vacant I've ever seen it. You can nearly count more vacant signs than actual businesses. Now, how will local businesses be able to afford their rates? how is this going to be good for the region? I know businesses that have moved to Ballina as its cheaper to run their business there. How does it figure? Ballina is a coastal town.</p> <p>Lismore council needs to be sacked. Why are we paying all this money to them?</p> <p>Councils were initially formed to assist in the provision of physical infrastructure such as roads, bridges and sewerage. Yes, this has changed. However, it should still remain the key focus. How have they spent so much money they didn't have? how is it possible to be in such debt and only now think they need to make changes.</p> <p>There spending should be transparent, we should should all be able to see where the money is going.</p>
Your comments on Criterion 1:	<p>I believe the community should be consulted by a third party. The councils evidence and justification is absolutely unjust.</p> <p>Community need cheaper rates, businesses need cheaper rates. Council needs to find alternative means to raise revenue. They only took a 10% cut.</p> <p>Send in an assessor to assesses where they could save, spend less. Re evaluate their business. Any other business would shut its doors.</p>
Your comments on Criterion 2:	<p>No, we have no trust in councils needs. They don't have a clear track record. They have been absolutely dishonest in their community consultation.</p>

Your comments on Criterion 3:	The rate increase is absolutely unreasonable. Disgusting, not even close to inflation. We are not on city wages. We cannot afford this.
Your comments on Criterion 4:	Their exhibition of information is misleading and dishonest.
Your comments on Criterion 5:	Someone needs to do an external audit on their finances. The truth needs to come out.
If you have attachments you would like to include with your feedback, please attach them below.	
<b>Your Details</b>	
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	
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IPART's Submission Policy	I have read & accept IPART's Submission Policy