

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.	As a ratepayer in Lismore City Council area, I have already expressed my views directly to Lismore Council - without reply. My main concerns are: rates are already exceedingly high in Lismore and businesses, especially in the CBD are struggling to cope with the financial burden imposed by LCC - straight after the catastrophic Flooding of 2017. LCC already have enough money - but their mismanagement of funds is the problem. The Proposed rate increase of 24% if enacted, will have a massive negative impact and will likely kill Lismore and it's CBD. I believe 90% + of the community voted against an rate increase during a local consultation process, but LCC totally ignored the community's concerns and wishes by going ahead with the rate rise proposal. There are already sufficient funds for Lismore Council if they concentrated on being more efficient and stopped wasting money. The proposed increase is totally unnecessary for the above reason - as well as being an unsustainable financial strain on Lismore's ratepayers.

Your comments on Criterion 1:	LCC rates I believe are already the second highest in NSW - but the "services" provided to ratepayers are substandard at best. Basic services: such as good roads are not being implemented - because Council is too lazy and/or too inefficient to do the required work. Alt Funding (if required) should be applied for via grants from the Federal or State Governments - not by slugging the ratepayer continually. Also, The collation of "evidence" for community desire for projects was very misleading and loaded: survey questions that listed council projects to be listed in order of preference, did not have the option to exclude all proposals / something had to be listed as first priority, even if you didn't like any of the projects = unrealistic results.
Your comments on Criterion 2:	I believe the community was made aware of the request (not a need) for a rate rise by LCC .. via a community consultation process / feedback form. The community resoundingly voted NO to this, by more than 90% against.
Your comments on Criterion 3:	The impact will be extremely unreasonable! Current rates are already exorbitantly high / in Direct comparison to other nearby local Councils, Lismore rates are already 2 to 3 x times higher .. and the services provided are worse. The purpose of the rate rise is unclear to me. If it is to bankroll Councillors pay-rises which go up every year, way above the CPI, that would be the only reason I see. There is no justification for a rate rise in my opinion. They should be going down.
Your comments on Criterion 4:	I believe the document items were available online, however they were buried on Council's website, the site was hard to navigate and as a result the documentation was not easy to find.
Your comments on Criterion 5:	I am not aware of any cost containment strategies proposed by LCC - or any productivity improvements past, present or future by Council.
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	
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IPART's Submission Policy	I have read & accept IPART's Submission Policy