

LG Submission Form 2021-2022 - Applications

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IPART Special Variation Submission Form - Applications

Industry	Local Government
Review	(LG) Special Variations & Minimum Rates 2021-2022
Document Reference	
Council	Central Coast 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.	<p>I would like to comment on the shabby, unprofessional second 'survey' (the first one was awful) presented to the residents of Central Coast Council. I am appalled to think that any valid conclusions can be drawn or believed from this sham. We were undemocratically forced to decide whether we wanted a 10% or 15% rate rise in Question 7. If we did not complete this question, we were not permitted to complete the survey. An analysis of this would reveal that a certain percentage of people would prefer a 10% rise or a 15% rise which would be totally incorrect. This is not community consultation, this is third world stuff. Take this and shut up!</p> <p>To quote your letter to Council 20.12.20: "Community consultation is an important part of the Special Variation (SV) process. Effective community consultation enables members of the public to have adequate opportunities to consider the proposed SV, provide feedback to the Council, and for the Council to then consider this feedback. " (Ref. 20/566-4)</p>

Central Coast Council is making a mockery of your suggestion.

I have asked who devised the faulty survey and I was told that it was done 'in house': I also asked why Question 7 was compulsory, and I received the following reply: "Regarding the survey options, the Administrator resolved to consult the community on two options, 10% and 15%, which is why those two options are presented in the survey and remain at Question 7. The survey was designed in line with the Administrator's resolution." (4.2.21, Council, unsigned)

This really concerns me.

I have also written about the deceptive way the rate table has been presented. The median rate for residential in the former Wyong Council is stated to be \$1,194 and I have lived and paid rates in Wyong Council for 52 years and I have always had to pay a lot more than what is stated, even 52 years ago! It is worrying to me that the Administrator stoops to this level to achieve his objectives. Surely, he should be made to be honest.

██████████ the Finance Officer, has written and told me that there will be harmonisation. This has never been explained to the community, or me. There is something TERRIBLY WRONG with communication and this Council.

I would also like to know why the State Government cannot help Council financially. Why the big bank loan? Hornsby Council did not have to amalgamate two huge council areas and received a grant of \$90 million; Central Coast received \$10 million with an almighty job ahead. Why has the Council not applied for a grant?

I needed to know who the auditors were and who appointed them. I haven't received an answer from Council. Surely, the financial problems should have been picked up immediately. Will Council be changing the auditors? I'd love to know, but I doubt I will.

There is something wrong with communication at Central Coast Council.

No, I do not approve of a 10% or 15% rate rise, even though I was forced to say that I did on the community survey.

**Yours sincerely,
Mrs Caroline Baker**

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:

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.

Publish - my submission and name can be published (not contact details or email address) on the IPART website

First Name

Caroline

Last Name

Baker

Organisation Name

Position

Email

[REDACTED]

IPART's Submission Policy

I have read & accept IPART's Submission Policy