

LG Submission Form 2020-2021

Submission date: 17 February 2020, 11:17AM

Receipt number: 29

Related form version: 9

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

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| <p>If you have any general feedback regarding your council's proposed SV, please leave your comments in the comment box below.</p> | <p>Lismore City Council held a poll to gauge ratepayer opinion to a 27% increase in rates. This option of a special rate increase was soundly defeated by ratepayers. The Lismore City Council area is one of the lowest socio-economic areas in the state, but already has one of the highest rate levy in country New South Wales. The rural rate appears to be the highest, for example adjoining council Ballina Shire Council has a rural rate of base rate \$549.00 plus 0.001578 cents in the dollar of land valuation. whereas Lismore City Council has a base rate of \$405.00 plus 0.49610000 in the dollar. Also in comparison Lismore has an average rural rate of \$2040.00 while Ballina is \$1216.00 and Casino is \$1053.00. Lismore City Council spent over \$6 Million over budget last financial and has not advised ratepayers of how this was spent and what action was taken to fix this situation, and even though they have said they have fixed this years budget, how have they accounted for the \$6 million, has it been added to the debt? This Council has shown no ability to manage its budget, has underspent on roads, spent money to every whim of the Councillors. The Council has offered no assistance to drought stricken farmers and at present only wants to increase our rates and make us even less competitive than our neighbours. The Council needs to undertake an efficiency audit of all its undertakings both in its Administration and outdoor work areas. The Council appears to be top heavy in its admin area, and observation of its outdoor seems to show a level of low efficiency in the use of staff numbers. The Council's managing of recent events such as the 2017 flood shows a lack of planning for such events. The ratepayers of Lismore City Council cannot afford this massive increase in rates, and the large percentage of the rise on an already inflated rates base will have a detrimental effect on the central business district, urban ratepayers, rental tenants and rural ratepayers. I hereby request that lpart reject this application in full and only approve the statutory increase.</p> <p>Regards Ian Rucker</p> |
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| 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 | Ian |
| Last Name | Rucker |
| Organisation Name | |
| Position | |
| Email | |
| IPART's Submission Policy | I have read & accept IPART's Submission Policy |