

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

<p>If you have any general feedback regarding your council's proposed SV, please leave your comments in the comment box below.</p>	<p>In 2014 (reported 16 July 2014) \$300,000 (\$291,500) for boat sculpture (Alternating Current), nearly double (\$176,688) the budget that was allowed (https://www.northernstar.com.au/news/council-deep-water-residents-over-300000-sculpture/2320482/, Northern star, visited 26 Aug 19).</p> <p>June 2018 – rates were set to stabilise (https://www.nbnnews.com.au/2018/06/26/financial-pressure-mounting-on-lismore-city-council/, NBN News, visited 26 Aug 19), now you want an increase of nearly 25% (17% in 2019 and 6.9% in 2020). Why?</p> <p>Mar 2019 (reported 27 Feb 2019) - %6.1 million debt and scrapping 33 projects including deferring flood plain management programs, upgrades to Lismore transit centre, updating crime prevention plan (https://www.echo.net.au/2019/02/lismore-council-admits-6-million-budget-deficit/ Echo Netdaily, visited 26 Aug 19). Debt was found by an independent study which is “deeply concerning” [REDACTED] and raises the point of honesty within the local council. Rate increase over 10 years by other councils was 20-30%, so why are you doing this in 2 years?</p> <p>This council is negligent in it's spending and with the recent floods (2017), drought, and bushfires, the people of the Lismore shire cannot afford this rate increase. Already the shops in Lismore CBD have started to shutdown and move away or just close down altogether.</p>
<p>Your comments on Criterion 1:</p>	<p>The council already receives enough funding from the people of Lismore shire, they just need to manage it better and not squander it away on different projects that are not a priority. I.e. multi million dollar art projects when roads need fixing.</p>
<p>Your comments on Criterion 2:</p>	<p>The full terms of the rate rise and their full effect were not completely disclosed until after the start of February 2020. The councils terms were based on just the rate rise and not the increase in land valuations.</p>

Your comments on Criterion 3:	The amount of cost to the people of the Lismore shire due to the natural disasters in the last 2 - 3 years has closed businesses, reduced rental affordability and increased homeless rates in Lismore.
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	Paul
Last Name	Dennis
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