

Instrument Under Section 508(2) of the Local Government Act 1993

Special Variation for Central Coast Council for 2026-27

29 May 2026

This instrument is made by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (**IPART**) as delegate for the Minister administering the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)* (delegation of 6 September 2010).

IPART determines under section 508(2) of the Act that:

1. The percentage by which Central Coast Council (**Council**) may increase its general income for Year 2026-27 is 12.8%.

[Note: The Council is required to reduce its income in accordance with the conditions of any previous special variation instrument before it increases its general income in accordance with clause 1.]

2. The percentage increase set out in clause 1 is subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The Council use the Additional Income for the purpose of funding the Proposed Program.
 - b. The Council report in its annual report for each year from Year 2026-27 to Year 2031-32 (inclusive):
 - i the program of expenditure that was actually funded by the Additional Income, and any differences between this program and the Proposed Program;
 - ii any significant differences between the Council's actual revenues, expenses and operating balance and the projected revenues, expenses and operating balance as outlined in the Long-Term Financial Plan, and the reasons for those differences;
 - iii the outcomes achieved as a result of the Additional Income;
 - iv whether or not the council has implemented the Productivity Improvements, and
 - (1) if so, the annual savings achieved through these measures, and what these equate to as a proportion of the Council's total annual expenditure, and
 - (2) if not, the rationale for not implementing them; and
 - v any other productivity and cost containment measures the Council has in place, the annual savings achieved through these measures, and what these savings equate to as a proportion of the Council's total annual expenditure.
 - c. The primary purpose of the percentage increase set out in clause 1 is to enable the council to fund Stormwater Management Services.

[Note: Section 125A(3) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* provides that a council may not make or levy an annual charge for the provision of stormwater management services under section 496A of the Act if the council has received an instrument from the Minister under section 508 of the Act that imposes a condition to the effect that the primary purpose of the variation is to fund stormwater management services.]

3. In this instrument:
- a. **Additional Income** means:
 - i the additional general income raised in accordance with clause 1, less
 - ii the additional general income that would otherwise have been available to the Council under section 506 of the Act.
 - b. **Long-Term Financial Plan** means the long term financial plan of the Council summarised in Appendix B of the Report.
 - c. **Productivity Improvements** means the productivity improvements and cost containment strategies summarised in Appendix B of the Report.
 - d. **Proposed Program** means the proposed program of expenditure set out in Appendix B of the Report.
 - e. **Report** means IPART's report entitled 'Central Coast Council – Special Variation Application 2026-27 – Final Report'.
 - f. **Stormwater Management Services** has the same meaning given to the term in the Act.
 - g. **Year** means the period from 1 July to the following 30 June.

29/05/2026


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Signed by: carmel.donnelly@ipart.nsw.gov.au

**Carmel Donnelly PSM
Chair**On behalf of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
As delegate for the Minister administering the *Local Government Act 1993*