

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO BE PART OF A REFERENCE GROUP ON THIS SUBJECT?

If you would like to be involved in the ongoing consultation for the Special Rates Variation please complete this form and return to Council.

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Comments:

158 Bradley Street, GUYRA NSW 2365

 (02) 6770 7100  (02) 6779 1221

 council@guyra.nsw.gov.au

 www.guyra.nsw.gov.au

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

To meet the needs of our communities, now and into the future, we must have the discussion with our community on an agreed way forward.



myGUYRA.com



02 6770 7100



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or Mail

PO 207, GUYRA NSW 2365



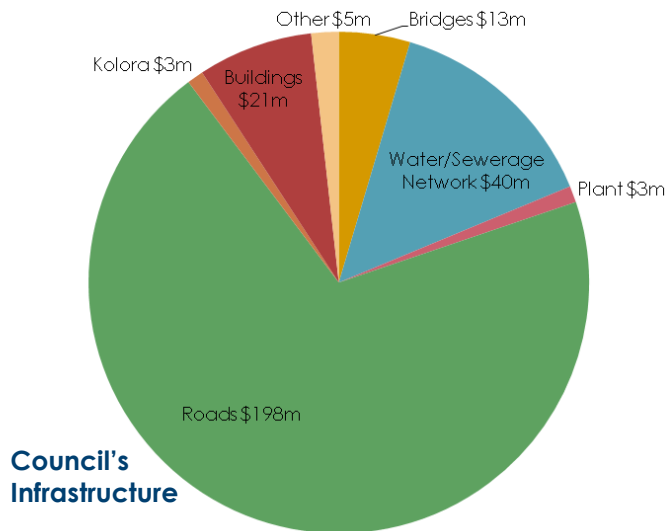
SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

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WHY DO WE NEED A SPECIAL RATE VARIATION?

Council has developed a ten year financial plan and identified a large gap in the funds we need to maintain things like roads, buildings, stormwater drains, and parks. You can take a closer look at the state and the future of our infrastructure at www.myguyra.com.

NSW is the only state in Australia where the State Government controls Local Government rate increases. It's called rate pegging. The State usually approves a general council rate increase of between 3% and 4%. Unfortunately these rate increases haven't kept pace with the real cost of delivering services. Like you, we're paying more for materials and services.



With an annual rate income of under \$3m and a total operational budget of \$12m, it is a **big challenge** to service and maintain this infrastructure and remain sustainable.

SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

Council in 2009/10 received a special rate variation of 8.43% (including 3.5% rate pegging). This special rate variation equates to approximately \$180,000 per year for Council to provide ongoing services to our community.

The special rate variation was approved for a period of 5 years and runs out in June 2014. Council believes that in order to maintain our assets and provide a reasonable level of service it will need to retain this additional rates base. Council has therefore resolved to apply for this variation to remain permanently.

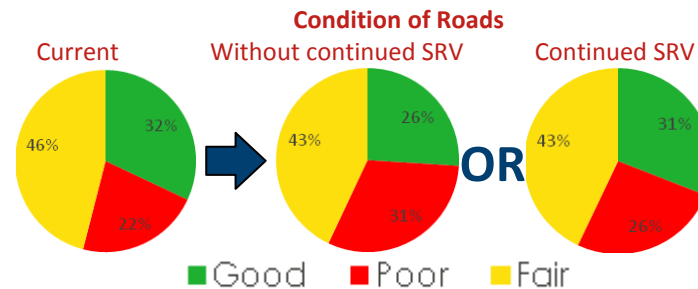
The application however requires community support. To meet the needs of our communities, now and into the future, we must have the discussion with our community on an agreed way forward. We may require further rate variations and / or service level adjustments.

What have we spent it on previously?

\$100,000 on resealing roads, \$50,000 on drainage throughout the Shire, and \$30,000 on the community village plans each year of the current rate variation.

What we will spend it on?

It is proposed to continue utilising the additional revenue in accordance with previous years to assist with asset maintenance requirements.



QUICK POLL

1. Would you be prepared to continue the current rate variation to maintain current service levels?
 - Yes
 - No

2. Would you be prepared to have rates reduced by the amount of the current rate variation and have service levels reduced accordingly?
 - Yes
 - No

3. Would you be prepared to pay higher rates to renew roads and other community infrastructure? This option would involve further consultation throughout 2014/2015.
 - Yes
 - No

Please place this survey in a collection box at the following locations, or complete a comprehensive survey at:

Online: www.myguyra.com
 Guyra: Council Administration Building
 Tingha: Tingha Newsagent
 Ebor: Fusspots Café

Or by post on request, phone 6770 7100.