

From: Raymond Carter [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 14 October 2016 2:07 PM
To: IPART Mailbox; 'Westpoint Newsagency'
Subject: Submission to IPART Review of Local Government Rating System

SUBMISSION

It is unfortunate that IPART has interpreted the Premier's request for a review of **rates** as made by NSW Councils in a literal sense, to the exclusion of **charges** which equally form part of Councils' fiscal equation, both being taxes by common reference in the Australian Constitution and both in equal need of review. The report as currently formulated is incomplete as any **review of the current rating system** that would fairly and effectively enhance a **councils' ability to implement sustainable and equitable fiscal policy**, would logically include Council **taxes** of every description.

The IPART acknowledgement of the Premier's request - "We have been asked to undertake the review under section 9 of the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal Act 1992 in accordance with the terms of reference (ToR) provided by the Premier. These ToR ask us to: **review the current rating system** and recommend reforms that aim to enhance **councils' ability to implement sustainable and equitable fiscal policy**, and **recommend a legislative or regulatory approach to achieve the Government's policy that there will "be no change to the existing rate paths for newly merged councils for four years"**."

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