

KR:ah:25052015

25 May 2015

Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box K35
HAYMARKET POST SHOP NSW 1240

Dear Chairman

RE: METHODOLOGY PRICING AND REGULATORY TRIBUNAL

Wellington Council would like to comment on the current Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal methodology and process for assessing Council's fitness against the State Government Fit for the Future Criteria.

Council requests that the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal and State Government reconsider the following:

1. The intention not to give any weighting or score to the scale and capacity criteria.
2. How Councils will be measured on meeting the benchmarks. Quantitative measures, not discretion, or arbitrary benchmarks that may not reconcile with the current Office of Local Government benchmarks should be used.
3. That findings made by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal will not be provided to the individual Councils or be made publicly available. Wellington Council has submitted an Improvement Plan that demonstrates ongoing financial sustainability. This Plan is well supported by the community after extensive community consultation. Council and the community should be provided with feedback on the submission.
4. That an appeals process be introduced.

Council looks forward to favourable consideration of its submission.

Yours faithfully


Karen Roberts
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER