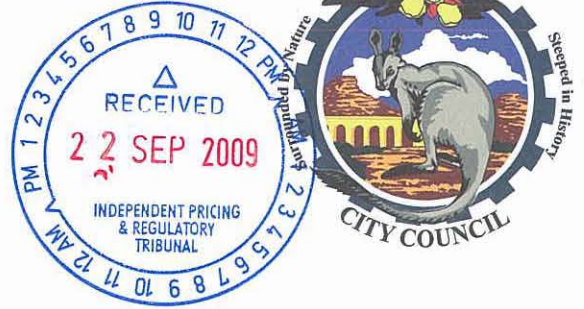


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17 September 2009

IPART
PO Box Q290
QVB
Level 22 44 Market St
SYDNEY NSW 1230



Dear Sir

RE: IPART REVIEW – REVENUE FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Council considered a report on the IPART review on the 'Revenue Framework for Local Government' at its meeting of 14 September 2009 and wishes the IPART review committee to consider the following points prior to final determination:

- i) Has IPART considered an option to dismiss rate pegging from the current revenue framework?
- ii) The length of approved special rate variations to be restricted to four years is considered short when compared to iii)
- iii) The Department of Local Government guidelines for 'Integrated Management Plans' require councils to prepare long term; ten, twenty or twenty five years plans, but IPART recommend a special rate variation will only be approved for four years making long term planning difficult
- iv) IPART have considered metropolitan and regional councils similar when it may be argued that major differences are evident due to area covered and the age, quantity and condition of infrastructure
- v) Current demands on infrastructure improvements are not aligned to rate pegging increases and increase associated with wages and raw materials

Should additional information be required please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Carol Farnsworth on 02 63549939 or email Carol.Farnsworth@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely


Mrs Carol FARNSWORTH
INTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER

(02) 6354 9999
(02) 6351 4259

www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au
council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE
TO GENERAL MANAGER
PO BOX 19, LITHGOW NSW 2790