

Reference: 20/46716
Admin Contact: Ermawaty Tai [REDACTED]

26 November 2020

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

Dear Ms Livingstone,

FEDERATION COUNCIL – Notification of Intent to Apply for a Special Rate Variation

The purpose of this correspondence is to notify the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) that Federation Council will be seeking to apply for a Special Rate Variation for 2021/22. Council will be applying for a permanent, single year variation under the NSW Local Government Act 1993 (section 508(2)). The application will be for:

General rate income increase : 8%
Commencing : 1 July 2021

The appropriate Council resolution was passed on 17 November 2020 on the intention to submit a Special Rate Variation application for the operational funding of Council's the new Corowa Aquatic Centre facility, that is expected to open to the community in the last quarter of financial year 2020/2021.

The Special Rate Variation has been included in the Long Term Financial Plan 2020 – 2030, adopted by Council in July 2020. Further engagement with the local community is being undertaken to better inform the decision on whether the rate increase will be applied evenly across all properties (through the base rate) or through the ad valorem rate or a combination thereof.

The Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028 was prepared under Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework and developed in collaboration with the community. A new swimming pool for Corowa was ranked second against all infrastructure priorities. The Community Strategic Plan directly references the redevelopment of the swimming pool as a community priority and the new Corowa Aquatic Centre facility aligns with the following objectives:

- Objective 1.2.1 *Progressing the development of a new swimming pool in Corowa in the near term.*
- Objective 4.3.1 *Encouraging young people to participate in and contribute to all aspects of community life, including through sport and recreation, arts and culture, volunteering, and involvement in decision making.*
- Objective 4.6.1 *Align sport and recreational opportunities to meet community expectations.*
- Objective 4.1.1 *Provision of ageing well initiatives.*

This notification has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Office of Local Government's Guidelines for the preparation of an application for a Special Variation.

Council's key contacts for the Special Variation application are Jo Shannon, Director Corporate and Community Services, at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

General Manager