

enquiries refer

Special Rate Variation

in reply please quote

16/108302



6 January 2017

Dear Ratepayer

Re: Possible Special Rate Variation for the three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/20

Council is currently consulting with the community to determine whether we should apply to the State Government for a permanent increase in our general rate income, above the standard rate pegging limit, which is set by the State Government each year. The increase we are seeking is 4.9% for 2017/18, 5.9% for 2018/19 and 5.9% for 2019/20. These increases include the rate peg. The reason for this increase is as follows.

The Proposal

1. *Asset Renewal and Fit for the Future (an extra 1.9% in 2017/18 and 3.4% in 2018/19 and 2019/20)*

The NSW State Government established its Fit for the Future Program in 2014, whereby they asked all councils in NSW to identify how they would comply with a range of financial criteria to demonstrate that the council was financially sustainable.

Ballina Shire Council, in responding to this program, as well as identifying a range of efficiency measures and revenue opportunities, included in our submission a proposal to increase our general rate income by 2.9% each year, on top of the standard rate pegging limit, for the three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/20, with this income being a permanent increase.

This proposal was submitted to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) and Ballina Shire was confirmed as a Fit for the Future Council by the State Government. Many councils submitted rate increases as part of their Fit for the Future submissions.

A large number of councils that were not confirmed as Fit for the Future have subsequently been amalgamated. The message from the State Government is that if you do not become financially sustainable, amalgamation remains a possible option. Information on the State Government's Fit for the Future Program is available at the following website: fitforthefuture.nsw.gov.au

The additional revenue generated by Council from this proposal is to be spent on the renewal of core infrastructure assets, such as road reconstruction works, stormwater and drainage reconstruction, and the replacement of playground equipment and sports grounds facilities.

Council has an extensive asset renewal program and this additional revenue, as well as ensuring that Council is financially sustainable, will also mean that our existing infrastructure is renewed in a more-timely manner.

In considering this proposal, the newly elected Council has resolved to amend our Fit for the Future submission slightly and apply for a 1.9% increase in 2017/18 and 3.4% increases in 2018/19 and 2019/20 on top of the rate pegging limit. This still represents an average of 2.9% over the three years however the Council is seeking the community's feedback on an option to also improve the health of our waterways.

2. Healthy Waterways (an extra 1.5% in 2017/18)

During the recent Council election, one of the key messages Councillors received was concern in respect to the health of the Richmond River and other key water bodies such as Lake Ainsworth, Shaws Bay and our coastline.

It is unfortunate that the Richmond River continues to be rated as one of the unhealthiest rivers in NSW and all levels of government, the business community and all of us as residents, need to work together to see what we can do to improve this.

Council has had very limited funds to undertake works in respect of the river and its waterways and we have relied heavily on grants to undertake projects. The water bodies mentioned are actually not under the direct control of Council however we need to show leadership, and a commitment of funding, to help leverage State and Federal Government support to ensure that we rectify the health problems that currently exist.

Council has therefore decided to include in our consultation for the Fit for the Future Program, a 1.5% additional increase from 2017/18, to create a funding stream for what we are calling our Healthy Waterways Program. This is a permanent increase.

This program will implement actions that are identified in management plans that have been adopted for these waterways. The types of works will include addressing the impacts of rural and urban runoff, reinstating riverbank vegetation, and helping our farmers with floodplain management including improved tidal flushing.

We have received support for this proposal from OzFish Unlimited, which recognises the benefits of a healthy river system. OzFish consists of a number of local residents who are passionate about improving the Richmond River, recognising the positive social, economic and environmental benefits that it can bring to our community. OzFish has provided a letter of support for this proposal, a copy of which is located on our website. An extract from that letter is as follows:

"...being able to partner with Ballina Shire Council and combine funding to third party organisations on a \$1 : \$1 basis, will allow a greater range of restoration projects to be scheduled with each one bringing further improvement to the health of the Richmond River." John Larsson – Chair OzFish

Financial impact on our ratepayers

When we talk about rates, or our general rate income, we don't mean increases to your water, wastewater (sewer), stormwater and domestic waste collection charges. These are separate charges and they apply only to properties that receive, or can receive those services. Income collected from water, wastewater, stormwater and domestic waste collection charges must be spent on the provision of those services.

Income from rates is spent on the many other services delivered by Council, such as roads and bridges, footpaths, foreshore and canal maintenance, street signage, street lighting, parks and playground equipment, stormwater drainage, swimming pools, libraries, sporting fields, public amenities, surf lifesaving, environmental projects, tourism, economic development and strategic planning. Rate revenue is a critical part of any council's income.

When we submitted our Fit for the Future submission, we assumed that the standard rate pegging increase per annum would be 3% for 2017/18 to 2019/20. IPART has recently advised that the standard rate pegging increase for 2017/18 is 1.5%.

IPART has also verbally advised that NSW councils should assume that the standard rate pegging increase for 2018/19 onwards is an estimated 2.5%.

This means that if we proceed with this special rate variation (SRV), we will be applying for a:

- 4.9% permanent increase in 2017/18 (i.e. 1.5% rate peg plus 1.9% Fit for the Future plus 1.5% Healthy Waterways)
- 5.9% permanent increase for 2018/19 (i.e. 2.5% rate peg plus 3.4% Fit for the Future)
- 5.9% permanent increase for 2019/20 (same as 2018/19).

The impact of this proposal on your rates is shown in the following two tables. Table One is based on the standard rate pegging increase. Table Two is based on the proposed SRV.

Table One - Standard increase based on a rate peg of 1.5% for 2017/18 and 2.5% for 2018/19 and 2019/20

Item	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Cumulative
Standard Percentage Rate Increase	N/A	1.5%	2.5%	2.5%	(1) 6.6%
Average Residential Rate Levied (\$)	943	957	981	1,006	63
Average Business Rate Levied (\$)	3,160	3,207	3,288	3,370	210
Average Farmland Rate Levied (\$)	1,448	1,470	1,506	1,544	96

Table Two - Proposed SRV increase based on 4.9% in 2017/18 and 5.9% for 2018/19 and 2019/20

Item	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Cumulative
SRV Percentage Rate Increase	N/A	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%	(1) 17.6%
Average Residential Rate Levied (\$)	943	989	1,048	1,109	166
Average Business Rate Levied (\$)	3,160	3,315	3,510	3,718	558
Average Farmland Rate Levied (\$)	1,448	1,519	1,609	1,703	255

(1) This figure represents the compounded increase of the percentage increases for the three years

The cumulative figure represents the change from 2016/17 to 2019/20.

What are we doing to help lessen the financial impact?

To help lessen the impact of this proposal we have decided to remove our Waste Operations Charge, which is currently levied on all residential and farmland properties in the Shire. This charge for 2016/17 was \$73.

We have also reviewed our long term financial plans for other charges such as water and wastewater to minimise any increases during the three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/20. Based on this review, the overall change in the total rates and charges payable for an average residential property for the next three years will be:

Table Three – Total Rates and Charges for the Average Residential Property

Item	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Cumulative
Average Residential Rate	943	989	1,048	1,109	166
Domestic Waste Management Charge	367	374	383	393	26
Waste Operations Charge	73	0	0	0	(73)
Stormwater Charge	25	25	25	25	0
Water Access Charge	200	204	210	215	15
Water Consumption Charge (2)	368	375	385	394	26
Wastewater Access Charge	925	953	977	1,001	76
Total Annual Rates and Charges	2,901	2,920	3,028	3,137	236
Total Dollar Change Per Annum		19	108	109	N/A
Total Percentage Change Per Annum		0.65%	3.70%	3.60%	8.14%

(2) Assumes a water consumption figure of 172 kilolitres per annum.

As per these figures the estimated change in your total annual rates and charges bill is anticipated to be less than 1% in 2017/18 and approximately 3.7% for 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The consultation process

Council is required to advise IPART by 20 February 2017 as to whether we will be proceeding with the SRV application. This due date has made it necessary to undertake this community consultation process during January and February, and we apologise for this occurring during the school holidays.

Prior to making the decision to proceed, or otherwise, which will be made at an Extraordinary Council meeting scheduled for 4pm Friday 10 February 2017, Council is seeking feedback from residents and ratepayers. This letter has been mailed to all our ratepayers to ensure every ratepayer is informed of this proposal.

If you are interested in this proposal you can visit Council's website at ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal for further details and supporting documents.

We would like to see as much feedback as possible and this can be provided in the following ways:

- Complete the online **SURVEY** at our website ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal – This is the easiest and quickest way to provide feedback.
- Make a **WRITTEN SUBMISSION** and post it to Ballina Shire Council, PO Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478 or email srvproposal@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Attend a **PUBLIC MEETING**:
 - Monday 23 January – 7 pm - Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre
 - Tuesday 24 January – 7 pm - Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre
 - Wednesday 25 January – 7 pm - Ballina Shire Council Chambers
 - Monday 30 January – 7 pm - Wardell Memorial Hall

Submissions close Monday 6 February 2017.

The attachment to this letter provides a comprehensive overview of this proposal.

In closing, as Councillors we feel it is essential that Ballina Shire Council stands alone as a financially sustainable Council and we look forward to your interest and feedback on this proposal. If you wish to discuss this further you can contact Council staff on 6686 4444 or contact your local Councillor, with the Councillor contact details located on our website at ballina.nsw.gov.au/councillors.

Yours sincerely



Cr David Wright
Mayor

Swimming Pool Redevelopment - Update

Many of you will be interested in the redevelopment of the Alstonville and Ballina swimming pools, with that project also funded from additional rate revenue, raised through a special rate variation in 2015/16 and 2016/17.

We are pleased to report that Woollam Constructions has been appointed to undertake this contract. The works will commence during the 2017 swimming pool closure period and it is anticipated that the redeveloped pools will be re-opened in October. Further information on this project is available by contacting our Strategic and Community Facilities Group on 6686 1284.



JANUARY 2017

asset renewal and healthy waterways

possible special rate variation

asset renewal

The NSW Government established its Fit for the Future Program in 2014/15, where all councils in NSW needed to identify how they would comply with a range of financial criteria to demonstrate that they were financially sustainable.

Ballina Shire Council, in responding to this program, included in our submission a proposal to increase our general rate income above the standard rate pegging limit for the three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/20. This will allow us to renew our key infrastructure such as roads, stormwater, playgrounds and sports fields in a more timely manner.

This proposal was submitted to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) and Ballina Shire Council was identified as Fit for the Future by the State Government.

The total proposed special rate variation is as follows:

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Rate peg limit	1.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Asset renewal	1.9%	3.4%	3.4%
Healthy waterways	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Rate Increase	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%

healthy waterways

The Richmond River continues to be rated as one of the unhealthiest rivers on the east coast of NSW and all levels of government, the business community, and all of us as residents, need to work together to improve this.

Council has had very limited funds to undertake works in respect to our waterways and we have had to rely heavily on Government grants to undertake projects.

In response to this, Council has decided to include in our consultation for the Fit for the Future Program, a 1.5% per annum additional increase for 2017/18 to create a funding stream for what we are calling our Healthy Waterways Program.

The focus of this funding, which will be approximately \$300,000 per annum, will be on the Richmond River and its tributaries, along with Lake Ainsworth and Shaws Bay.

Our Healthy Waterways Program priorities will include:

- Improving recreational amenity of Lake Ainsworth and Shaws Bay
- Reinstating riverbank vegetation
- Improving floodplain wetlands



Why is Council considering an increase in rates?

The NSW State Government's Fit for the Future Program requires all councils in NSW to identify how they will comply with a range of financial criteria to demonstrate that the council is financially sustainable.

Ballina Shire Council, in responding to this program in 2015, along with a number of other measures, included in our submission a proposal to permanently increase our general rate income by 2.9% each year, on top of the standard rate pegging limit, for the three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Ballina Shire Council was subsequently only one of 52 councils in NSW that the State Government declared Fit for the Future based on the actions we included in our submission.

The State Government wants councils to be financially sustainable to ensure that they are proactively managing the assets under their control, along with providing adequate services to the community.

Information on the State Government's Fit for the Future Program is available at the following website:

fitforthefuture.nsw.gov.au

Council's submission was based on all of the additional revenue generated from the proposed extra rate increase being spent on the renewal of core infrastructure assets, such as road reconstruction works, stormwater and drainage reconstruction, community buildings, and the replacement of playground equipment and sports grounds facilities.

In considering Council's Fit for the Future submission, the newly elected Council has decided to amend the proposal slightly by also including an additional 1.5% rate increase to secure funding for a healthy waterways program. The reason for this is that Council has traditionally had limited funding for works related to the Richmond River and its tributaries, along with other key water bodies such as Lake Ainsworth and Shaws Bay. The Council recognises that our waterways are a critical component of the community in which we live.

Based on this amendment Council is now seeking community feedback on a proposal for rate increases above the standard rate pegging limit, where we are seeking 1.5% for healthy waterways and 1.9% for asset renewal in 2017/18, along with 3.4% for asset renewal in 2018/19 and 2019/20. Based on the IPART approved standard rate pegging limit of 1.5% for 2017/18 and an estimated 2.5% rate pegging limit for 2018/19 and 2019/20, this now equates to a total increase of 4.9% in 2017/18, 5.9% in 2018/19 and 5.9% in 2019/20.

Why doesn't Council look at other funding options?

Council's submission to the Fit for the Future Program included a number of other measures such as reducing our annual budgets in real terms for certain services, reducing service levels for some programs, applying improved technology to increase efficiencies and reviewing all of our fees and charges. All of these actions are being implemented, however the magnitude of funding required to ensure our assets are renewed in a timely manner, which is estimated at approximately \$2 million extra per annum, can only be resolved through a permanent increase to our rate income.

Importantly we have ensured that any additional rate increase is the minimum needed for adequate asset renewal, along with ensuring that we are generating an annual operating surplus, which then confirms we are financially sustainable. When IPART reviewed Ballina Shire Council's Fit for the Future submission, it made mention that Council was only targeting very small operating surpluses, which leaves very little room for a deterioration in the forecasts. This also means we have little room to change existing service levels.

What does asset renewal mean?

Council is responsible for the management of over \$1 billion worth of assets. These assets deteriorate at varying rates dependent on their use and construction type.

If assets are not renewed in a timely manner we are faced with increased maintenance expenditure and the service level we provide to the community can also decrease.

For example, we all prefer to drive on newly constructed smooth roads rather than ones full of potholes.

For the purposes of this special variation we are aiming to improve the rate at which we renew our key infrastructure classes of roads, stormwater, community buildings, open spaces, playgrounds and sports fields.

We currently have annual budgets for the renewal of these items but unfortunately the rate of renewal is proving to be insufficient to allow us to maintain or improve current standards.

The additional revenue from this special rate variation will help us to maintain current standards and improve those standards over time.



What happens if this proposal does not proceed?

The major disadvantage if this proposal does not proceed is that over time the current condition of our key classes of infrastructure, such as roads, stormwater, community buildings, playgrounds and sports fields, will deteriorate resulting in increased maintenance expenditure, poorer levels of service and eventually, as a community, we will be faced with a backlog of work to improve our assets.

This may take a number of years, as infrastructure assets age slowly, however unless we proactively increase our funding now, we will be leaving our future generations with significant liabilities. Many other councils are pursuing rate increases, much higher than being proposed in this special rate variation, as they have let their existing assets deteriorate to the point where substantial rate increases are needed to fund their asset renewals. Ballina Shire Council has always focused our resources on the careful management of our assets and we want to ensure this continues into the future by having an adequate revenue base to fund the required level of asset renewal.

The other disadvantage is that the State Government's Fit for the Future Program requires councils to be financially sustainable and to meet the Fit for the Future benchmarks. Without this special rate variation proceeding, we will struggle to meet those benchmarks. As a worst scenario this could lead to Ballina Shire Council being amalgamated with one of our neighbouring councils, which would greatly reduce the local representation currently provided to our community.

What dollar increase in my rates are we talking about?

For rating purposes, properties are classified as residential, farmland or business. This classification is based on the dominant use of the property.

The charts opposite provide the average rates payable in the Ballina Shire for the three property categories for 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20. These figures are based on the proposed additional increase being 4.9% for 2017/18, 5.9% for 2018/19 and 5.9% for 2019/20.

These charts represent averages only and you will need to check your own rate bill to determine the estimated increase for your property.

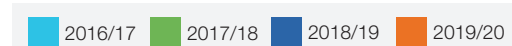
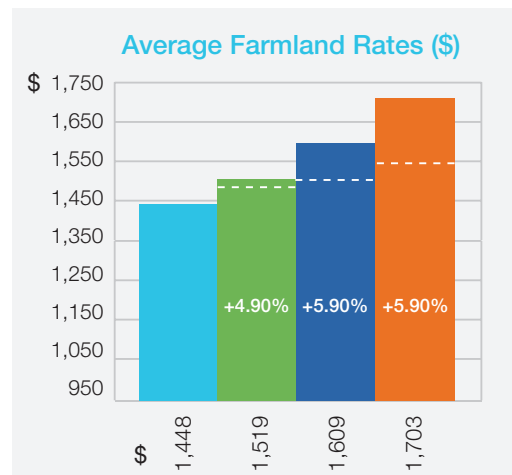
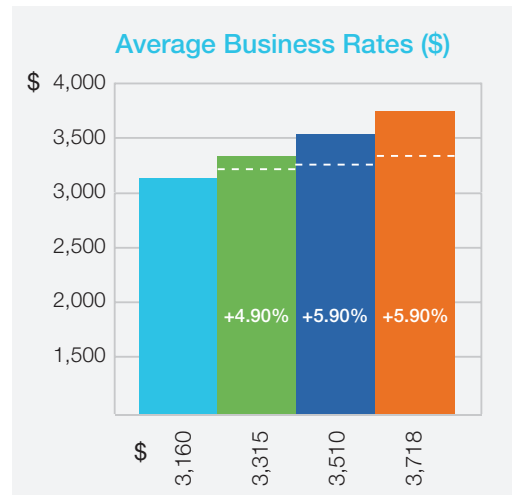
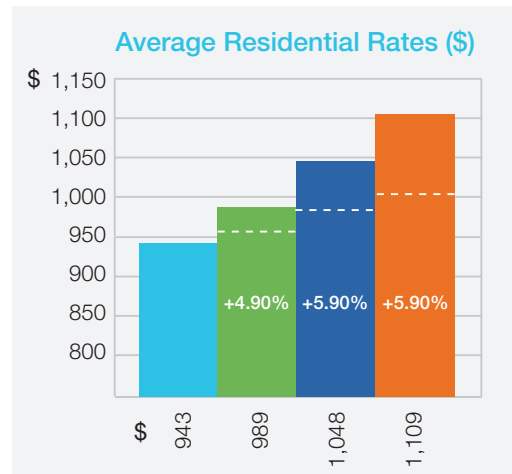
Remember, this increase only applies to your rates and not to other charges such as water, wastewater, stormwater and waste.

The first chart highlights that the additional rates payable for an average **residential** property will be \$46 in 2017/18, \$105 in 2018/19 and \$166 in 2019/20. The cumulative percentage increase is 17.6%.

The second chart demonstrates the average **business** rates and how they will increase over the three year period.

The third chart shows the average **farmland** rates and how they will increase over the same period.

These graphs also show the average rates without the special rate variation which is identified by a perforated line.



----- without special rate variation

* Please note the residential rate is based on 2014 land valuations. New land valuations are due in January 2017, and do not affect the total income available to Council.



What percentage rate increase are we talking about?


Councils in NSW are subject to rate pegging. This means that the NSW Government only allows councils to increase rates by a set percentage every year. This is determined by the NSW Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) on behalf of the State Government. If a council wants to increase the total rate income by more than the set percentage it must apply to IPART. IPART then determines whether an application should be approved. IPART has advised that the standard rate peg for all councils is 1.5% for 2017/18 and 2.5% is estimated for the following years. We are considering a proposal to apply for a 3.4% increase on top of the standard 1.5% and 2.5% rate peg over three years to fund the asset renewal and healthy waterways programs. This represents a total rate increase of 4.9% for 2017/18, 5.9% for 2018/19 and 5.9% for 2019/20. This income would be a permanent increase.

From 2020/21 onwards normal rate increases would then apply to our total increased rate income.

But my rates are much higher than the average shown in the graphs?

When we talk about rates we do not mean increases to your water, wastewater (sewer) and domestic waste charges. These items are separate charges and apply only to properties that receive or can receive those services. This revenue must, by legislation, be spent on the provision of those services. See below for an example of a rates notice and the charge that will be affected if the increase is approved.

Council will revoke the waste operations charge from 2017/18 onwards. The increase in rates will be partly offset by the removal of this charge, which will result in an annual saving of \$73.00.



rates & charges notice

40 cherry street, p.o. box 450, ballina nsw 2478
rating team ph - 02 6686 1299
 ph - 02 6686 4444 fax + 02 6686 7035
 email - council@ballina.nsw.gov.au abn 53 929 887 369
 website - www.ballina.nsw.gov.au

Mr & Mrs CP Citizen
 120 Peters Street
 BALLINA NSW 2478

Notice is given that the below mentioned instalment is due and payable as shown hereunder by virtue of S66(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993.

assessment number	106018
issue date	15/07/16
rating category	Residential Urban
valuation amount	\$260,000
DUE DATE	31/08/16
first instalment amount due	\$715.50

property details

120 Peters Street BALLINA NSW 2478
 Lot 2 DP 884666

area
485.100
Square Metres

messages

Interest at 8.0% pa on arrears (if listed calculated up to 30/06/16) or any future overdue amounts.

Deduct payments since 04/07/2016

Instalments 2, 3 & 4 do NOT include future water based charges

	Rateable Value	Rates in \$ or charge	Amount
Residential Rate	260000	0.0180828	\$470.15
Residential Base Amount	1.00	470.00	\$470.00
Waste Operations Charge	1.00	73.00	\$73.00
Domestic Waste Collection Charge Urban	1.00	367.00	\$367.00
Water Consumption Charges	0.00	0.00	\$45.84
Stormwater Charge Residential	1.00	25.00	\$25.00
Water Access Residential 20mm	1.00	200.00	\$200.00
Wastewater Charge Residential	1.00	925.00	\$925.00

first	second	third	fourth	total
31/08/14	30/11/14	28/02/15	31/05/15	\$2,272.00

proposed increase affects these two amounts

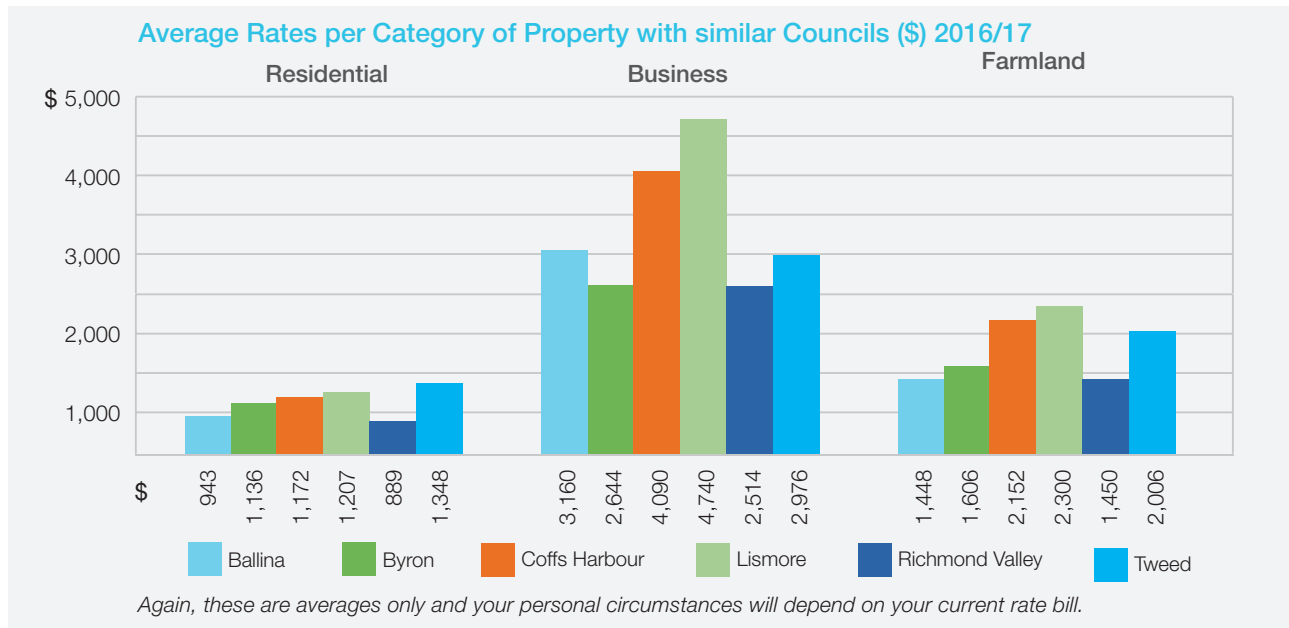
this charge is being deleted from 2017/18



How do our rates compare to similar councils?

Ballina Shire Council has very competitive rates when compared to similar councils, even with the proposed increases factored in. One of the main reasons we are considering a rate increase for this proposal is that on a comparative basis, the average rates in Ballina Shire on the whole, remain competitive when compared to similar councils in this region.

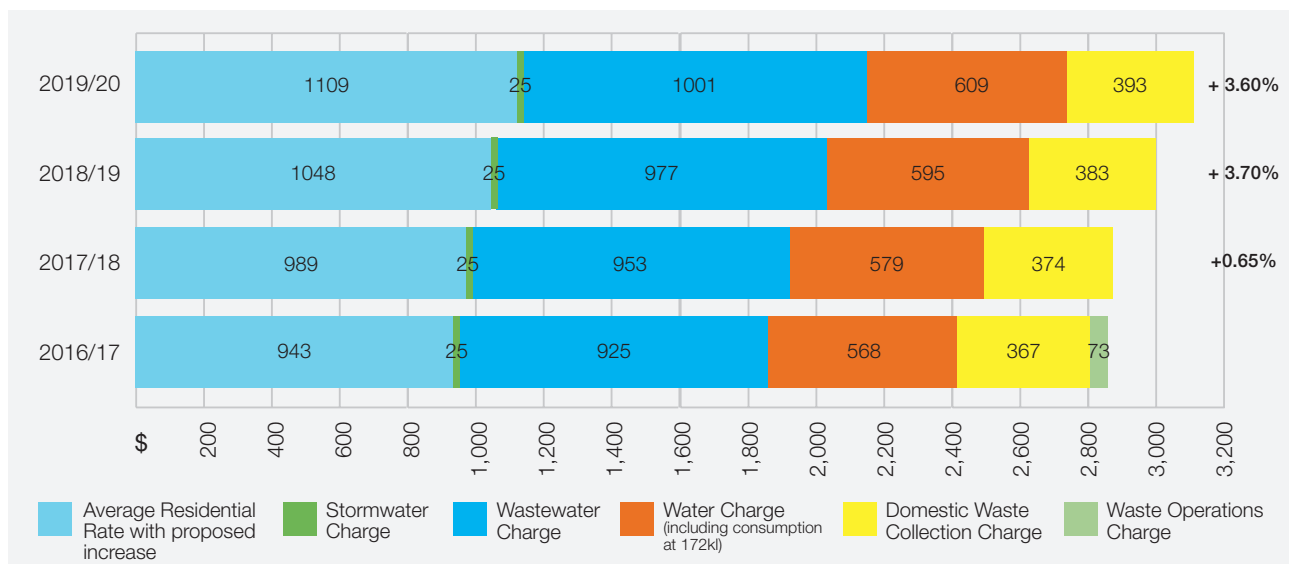
The following chart outlines the **average 2016/17 rates** payable per category of property for similar councils.



Importantly, even if the increase is approved for 2017/18, 2018/19, and 2019/20, the average rates payable per property in Ballina Shire, for residential and farmland properties, will still remain lower than all of the 2016/17 rates for the listed councils excluding Richmond Valley.

What are we doing to help lessen the financial impact?

Council will revoke the waste operations charge from 2017/18 onwards. This is a permanent change. A breakdown of the average residential rates and charges bill is below:





What are the times and the actual process for the consideration of this special rate variation?

There are five steps in this process:

ACTION	COMMENT	DATE
Council resolves to consult with the community	This decision was made at the December 2016 Ordinary Council meeting.	Completed
Consultation process	Actions taken include writing to all ratepayers, and an online survey, 400 person telephone survey undertaken by an independent organisation, public meetings and advertising.	9 January to 6 February 2017
Report on consultation feedback	All the feedback received through the consultation process is reported to the elected Council at the February 2017 Extraordinary Council meeting – Council then determines whether it will make a formal application to IPART.	10 February 2017
IPART application	If Council has resolved to apply for a special rate variation a comprehensive application must then be submitted to IPART.	February 2017
IPART determination	IPART undertakes its formal assessment of the application with notification to Council in May 2017.	May 2017

How to provide feedback?

This is an important consultation project and we encourage feedback from all property owners and residents:

- **ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING:**

Monday 23 January 2017 – 7 pm
Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre

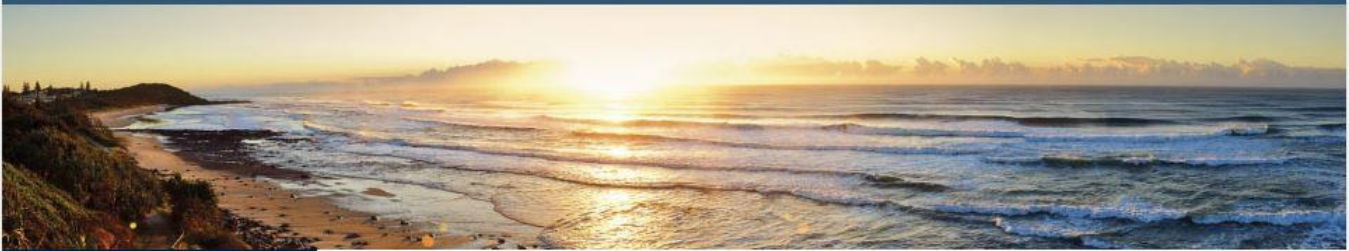
Tuesday 24 January 2017 – 7 pm
Lennox Head Community Centre
(Meeting Rooms 1 and 2)

Wednesday 25 January 2017 – 7 pm
Ballina Shire Council Chambers

Monday 30 January 2017 – 7 pm
Wardell Memorial Hall

- **EMAIL** srvproposal@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Complete the online **SURVEY** at ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal
- Make a **WRITTEN SUBMISSION** to Ballina Shire Council, PO Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION** telephone Council's Customer Service Centre on 6686 4444 or visit ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE Monday 6 February 2017.



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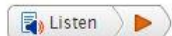
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Special Rate Variation - Public Consultation



Council is currently consulting with the community to determine whether to apply to the State Government for a permanent increase in general rate income, above the standard rate pegging limit.

The income raised from this rate increase will fund two programs, an asset renewal program and a healthy waterways program. The additional income generated for the asset renewal program will ensure Council is financially sustainable as well as ensuring existing infrastructure is renewed in a timely manner. The healthy waterways program will address concerns in respect to the health of the Richmond River and other key water bodies such as Lake Ainsworth, Shaws Bay and our coastline.

The increase Council is seeking is 4.9% for 2017/18, 5.9% for 2018/19 and 5.9% for 2019/20. For more detailed information, please review the links below.

- + Mayor's Letter to Ratepayers
- + Special Rate Variation Fact Sheet
- + Letter of Support - OzFish

Financial and Operational Documents

- + Delivery Program and Operational Plan - adopted by Council on 23 June 2016
- + Long Term Financial Plan Overview - adopted by Council on 23 June 2016
- + Long Term Financial Plan Overview - updated 15 December 2016
- + Long Term Financial Plan - adopted by Council on 23 June 2016 (30mb)
- + Long Term Financial Plan - updated 15 December 2016 (17mb)

Fit For The Future

The NSW Government established its Fit for the Future Program in 2014 where all Councils in NSW needed to identify how they would comply with a range of financial criteria to demonstrate that they were financially sustainable. In responding to this program, Ballina Shire Council submitted a proposal to increase the general rate income above the standard rate pegging limit for a three year period from 2017/18 to 2019/2020. The proposal was submitted to IPART and Ballina Shire Council was identified as Fit for the Future. Both submission and determination documents are available below :

- + Council's Fit For The Future Submission
- + Fit for the Future Determination

We Want Your Feedback

Submissions close: Monday 6 February 2017.

If you would like to provide feedback on this proposal, you can do so in the following ways:





[Email Your Submission](#)



[Attend A Public Meeting](#)

Like To Know More ?

If you have further questions regarding this Special Rate Variation Proposal, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions.

Related Pages

[Special Rate Variation - FAQs](#)

[Read more](#)

1. Do you feel you have a reasonable understanding of this proposal based on the information provided by Council, such as the letter to all ratepayers and the information included on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au?*

-- Please Select -- ▼

2. To better understand the interest in this proposal across the Ballina Shire please nominate your usual place of residence.*

- Ballina
- Alstonville
- Wollongbar
- Lennox Head / Skennars Head
- Wardell
- Other (eg. rural)

There are two components to this community consultation. The first component is our Healthy Waterways Program. This program is focused on raising extra revenue that will fund works to improve the health and amenity of our key water bodies such as the Richmond River, Lake Ainsworth and Shaws Bay.

The next three questions seek your feedback on this proposal.

3. If Council was to spend more on improving our waterways, where do you think the priority should be?

Please rank each item from one to five, with one being the lowest priority and five the highest.

	1	2	3	4	5
Shaws Bay	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lake Ainsworth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Richmond River	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Richmond River Tributaries (North Creek, Emigrant Creek etc)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ballina Shire Coastline	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please provide details in the text box in question five)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. In respect to the Healthy Waterways Program how supportive are you of an extra 1.5% rate increase on top of the 1.5% standard rate peg increase in 2017/18, to fund increased expenditure to improve the health and amenity of our waterways?*

- Strongly supportive
- Supportive
- Somewhat supportive
- Not very supportive
- Not at all supportive

5. If you wish to provide additional feedback on the Healthy Waterways Program please provide your comments in the following text box.

The second component to this community consultation is our Asset Renewal Program. This program is focused on raising extra revenue to undertake additional asset renewal works and to assist Council in complying with the State Government's Fit for the Future Program.

The next three questions seek your feedback on this proposal

6. If Council was to spend more on asset renewal related works , where do you think the priority should be?
Please rank each item from one to five, with one being the lowest priority and five the highest.

	1	2	3	4	5
Road reconstruction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stormwater drainage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community buildings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open spaces and playground equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports fields facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Footpath and cycleway network	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please provide details in the text box in question eight)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. In respect to the Asset Renewal Program, how supportive are you of an extra 1.9% rate increase on top of the 1.5% standard rate increase in 2017/18, and extra 3.4% increases on top of the estimated 2.5% standard rate peg increases in 2018/19 and 2019/20, to fund increased asset renewal works and to assist Council in complying with the State Government's Fit for the Future Program? *
- Strongly supportive
 - Supportive
 - Somewhat supportive
 - Not very supportive
 - Not at all supportive

8. If you wish to provide comments on your ideas for the asset renewal program please provide your comments in the following text box.

Council has the option of also applying for both the Healthy Waterways Program and the Asset Renewal Program. This would result in rate increases of 4.9% in 2017/18, 5.9% in 2018/19 and 5.9% in 2019/20.

The 4.9% is based on an extra 1.5% for Healthy Waterways and 1.9% for Asset Renewal on top of the standard rate peg increase of 1.5% for 2017/18.

The 5.9% is based on an extra 3.4% for Asset Renewal on top of the standard rate peg increase of 2.5% for 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The next question seeks your feedback on this proposal.

9. How supportive are you of Council applying for both the Healthy Waterways and Asset Renewal Programs?*

- Strongly supportive
- Supportive
- Somewhat supportive
- Not very supportive
- Not all all supportive

10. Do you have any other comments in respect to the proposed special rate variation?

For example you may have a different rating structure or increase that you would like Council to consider.

11. Can you please confirm whether you are a property or business owner who would be required to pay any increase in the Council rates?*

- Yes (Property or business owner - Individually or in joint ownership)
- No (Resident)

12. If you answered yes to question 11 please clarify the type of property rates you are required to pay.

The category of your rateable property is based on the dominant use of that property. The three categories of property for rating purposes are residential, business and farmland.

- Residential (urban or rural residential property or both)
- Business
- Farmland
- Multiple categories of properties (eg residential and business)

13. Do you have any other feedback in respect to this consultation process? For example, you may have ideas as to how the consultation process could be improved, or additional information that could be made available to assist in understanding the proposal.

14. Your name and address (email or post) (this information is optional)

Only provide your contact details if you wish to receive a written response on the outcomes from Council's consultation. Council will be notifying all residents of our decision to proceed or not proceed, with an application to the NSW State Government, through our normal communication channels such as the Ballina Shire Advocate and our Community Connect magazine.

15. If you provided your contact details in question 14, would you like to have your details added to a database to allow Council to forward you information on future consultation processes? The contact details will only be retained by Council and the information remains confidential.

Thank you for your feedback. Please click 'Done' to submit your comments.

Note: the survey can only be completed once per device (i.e. personal computer, notebook, smart phone or tablet).

Done

Cancel



OzFish Unlimited
Richmond River Chapter
ABN 29602 568 696
ozfish.rich.chap@gmail.com

6 January 2017

Dear Ratepayer

The Richmond River Chapter of OzFish Unlimited congratulates Ballina Shire Council and Councillors on their foresight in resolving to adopt a special rate variation, pending IPART acceptance. This is of particular importance to OzFish given our intense interest in the health of the Richmond River and our restoration objectives.

Ballina Shire Council is not unique in requesting a rate variation for environmental work, given the large number of coastal councils that have similar rate variations in place to fund their local river rehabilitation and water quality improvement programs.

The Richmond River is arguably the worst performing system currently in New South Wales with the UNE Health Card Report and NSW State of the Environment report both supporting this unenviable status.

The estuary's oyster population (both wild and aquaculture) are also non-existent due to disease outbreaks.

While OzFish will continue to attract some funding via various environmental avenues, being able to partner with Ballina Shire Council and combine funding to third party organisations on a \$1 : \$1 basis, will allow a greater range of restoration projects to be scheduled with each one bringing further improvement to the health of the Richmond River.

The local Chapter of OzFish Unlimited has no hesitation in supporting Ballina Shire Councils proposal for a rate variation to benefit 'Healthy Waterways' budgeting within Council.

Yours faithfully

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of John Larsson.

John Larsson

Chair – OzFish Unlimited Richmond River Chapter

For further information on OzFish visit our website at ozfish.org.au



Media Release

Monday 9 January 2017

Consultation on proposed special rate variation (SRV)

Ballina Shire Council wants to hear from the community to determine if we should apply for a permanent increase to our general rate income, known as a special rate variation (SRV), above the rate peg limit set by the NSW Government each year.

Like many councils across the state, Council faces the challenge of how to best maintain services and ageing infrastructure – the cost of which is rising faster than Council's income.

The proposed rate increase, if approved by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), will commence in 2017/18 and continue for three years until 2019/20. The income from the rate increase will allow Council to renew key infrastructure such as roads, stormwater, playgrounds, sports fields and open spaces in a more timely manner. It will also fund a Healthy Waterways Program which will improve the health and amenity of water bodies such as the Richmond River, Lake Ainsworth and Shaws Bay. The total proposed special rate variation is as follows:

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Rate peg limit	1.5% (actual)	2.5% (estimated)	2.5% (estimated)
Asset renewal program	1.9%	3.4%	3.4%
Healthy waterways program	1.5%	0%	0%
Total rate increase	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%

Information about the proposed special rate variation has been mailed to each ratepayer and we encourage feedback from all property owners and residents in the Ballina Shire. There are many ways to provide feedback, including:

- Attend a public meeting at Alstonville, Lennox Head, Ballina, or Wardell
- Email srvproposal@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Complete the online survey at ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal
- Make a written submission to Ballina Shire Council, P O Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478
- Visit our website ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal

Submissions to the proposal close on **Monday 6 February 2017**. Council is required to advise IPART by 20 February 2017 as to whether we will be proceeding with the proposed rate increase. This due date has made it necessary to undertake this community consultation process during January and February.

Further information is available on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au

Authorised By	Paul Hickey General Manager	Media Spokesperson	David Wright Mayor 0415965403 Paul Hickey General Manager 6686 4444
Distribution	Media Outlets		

Lake Ainsworth South Eastern Precinct

Work to improve Lake Ainsworth's South Eastern precinct will commence on Monday 13 February. From this date, there will be no vehicle access along the current eastern road except for emergency vehicles. The Eastern Road area will however remain open for pedestrians during the construction of this project.

During the construction period, dog owners are encouraged to access the dog off-leash area on Seven Mile Beach at the Lennox Head - Alstonville Surf Life Saving Club and head north along the sand.

Vehicles accessing the Sport and Recreation Centre will need to use Camp Drewe Road on the western side of Lake Ainsworth.

The \$1.7M project and road closure was resolved by Council at the Wednesday 25 January Council meeting. The project will be carried out across 2017 in three stages:

Stage 1: eastern road precinct

Timeline: Monday 13 February 2017 with substantial completion by 7 April 2017

Will commence following the road closure on Monday 13 February along the eastern road precinct, and will comprise water main relocation followed by path construction and landscaping. The path will be completed in sections to ensure the space is still accessible and usable for pedestrians. The additional amenities will include:

- closure of the Lake Ainsworth eastern road to vehicles
- 3m wide accessible pathway
- BBQ facilities and picnic areas
- sandstone block seats amongst some open spaces
- increased grassed areas
- improved stormwater quality management systems
- restoring and revegetating of the eroded foreshore areas

Budget: \$800,000 including Stage 3

Stage 2: southern road precinct

Timeline: Wednesday 26 April 2017 with substantial completion by 23 June 2017

- formalisation of the carpark to create additional parking
- restoration and revegetation of the eroded foreshore areas

Budget: \$900,000

Stage 3: roundabout construction

Timeline: 26 June 2017 with substantial completion by early August 2017

- roundabout construction adjacent to the Lennox Head- Alstonville Surf Club
- architectural features for road and path surfacing.

Budget: Included with Stage 1

The full concept plans can be viewed on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au (search Lake Ainsworth).

Enquiries: Civil Services Group, Ph: 6686 4444.

Notice of Extraordinary Meeting

An Extraordinary Meeting will be held on Friday 10 February 2017 at 4.00 pm

The business to be transacted is:

1. Acknowledgement of Country
2. Apologies
3. Deputations
4. Declarations of Interest
5. Proposed Special Rate Variation - Consultation

Notice of Meetings

The following meetings are scheduled to be held at the Council Chambers:

Wednesday 8 February	10.00 am	Local Traffic Committee
Thursday 9 February	5.00 pm	Aboriginal Community Committee
Friday 10 February	4.00 pm	Extraordinary Meeting (refer separate advertisement)
Thursday 23 February	9.00 am	Ordinary meeting

Development Proposal (Integrated) – Joint Regional Planning Panel Council File Reference DA 2016/746

Notice is hereby given that the following amended development application has been lodged for Council's consideration.

► **submissions close: 4.30pm Friday 10 March 2017.**

development application	applicant	determining authority	property
2016/746	Ringtank Pty Ltd	Joint Regional Planning Panel JRPP No. 2017NTH003	Lot 113 DP 755626, Lots 118-119 DP 1154233, Lot 91 DP 755626 & Lot 4 DP 701566, Carrs Ln, Keith Hall, Empire Vale Rd Empire Vale & Reedy Creek Rd Empire Vale

details of the amended proposal

Erection of dwelling houses, rural worker's dwelling, tourist and visitor accommodation, 10 site caravan park, polo training field and equestrian exercise area, equine building including stables, veterinary facility, quarantine stalls and horse float and equipment shelters, private helipad and hanger, outdoor recreation facilities including go-kart track, shooting range, motocross track, associated buildings, roadworks, earthworks including dams and landscaping.

The amended development application and documents accompanying the application may be inspected at Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street, Ballina between 8.30am and 4.30pm from Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). Alternatively, you can view the development application details by visiting council's DA On-line website: <http://da.ballina.nsw.gov.au>.

Please Note: the Joint Regional Planning Panel is the Determining Authority for this Development Application. Should you make any submission in relation to this application that submission will be made available to the Joint Regional Planning Panel for their consideration and may be viewed by other interested persons.

Any person may make a submission in writing to Council. All submissions will be forwarded on to the Joint Regional Planning Panel for their consideration. Where a submission is by way of objection, the grounds of objection must be specified in the submission. All submissions, including any personal information contained therein, will become publicly available documents and will be made available to the applicant and any other interested members of the public. They may also be included in the assessment report prepared by Council and submitted to the Joint Regional Planning Panel. If you do not wish your submission to be publicly available you must provide Council with written reasons for this. Alternatively, you may wish to provide an anonymous submission. However, anonymous submissions may be given less (or no) weight in the overall consideration of the proposal.

This Development Application will be reported to a meeting of the Joint Regional Planning Panel for determination. Notification of the Regional Panel meeting is to be given by the Panel Secretariat, Department of Planning.

The development also comprises "integrated development" for the purposes of Section 91 of the EP & A Act 1979 as it requires approval from the NSW Rural Fire Service under Section 100B of the Rural Fires Act 1997 and the NSW Office of Water under the Water Management Act (WMA) 2000.

Customer Service Centre / Chambers 40 Cherry Street, PO Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478 Office Hours 8.15am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays)

Email council@ballina.nsw.gov.au
Web ballina.nsw.gov.au
Telephone 02 6686 4444
Facsimile 02 6686 7035

Emergency After Hours 02 6626 6954
Wet Weather Information
Ground Closures 02 6686 1499
Road Closures 02 6686 1498

Community Access Points Business papers and documents on exhibition can be viewed at Council's Customer Service Centre; Alstonville, Ballina and Lennox Head Libraries.

Submissions Submissions are publicly available documents. For details on how Council manages submissions refer to our website ballina.nsw.gov.au >> your council >> council documents >> your privacy.

Proposed Special Rate Variation

Ballina Shire Council is proposing to apply for a permanent increase to our general rate income above the standard rate peg limit. This is referred to as a special rate variation (SRV).

The income from the additional rate increase will allow Council to renew key infrastructure such as roads, stormwater, playgrounds, sports fields and open spaces in a more timely manner.

It will also fund a Healthy Waterways Program which will improve the amenity and health of water bodies such as the Richmond River, Lake Ainsworth and Shaws Bay.

The proposed rate increase will commence in 2017/18 and continue for three years until 2019/20. The total proposed special rate variation is as follows:

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Rate peg limit	1.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Asset renewal program	1.9%	3.4%	3.4%
Healthy waterways program	1.5%	0%	0%
Total rate increase	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%

To assist with reducing the impact of this increase Council is also proposing to cease levying its Waste Operations Charge.

This charge, which is levied on all residential and farmland properties, was \$73 for 2016/17.

Further information on this SRV proposal is available on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au

Council is seeking feedback from all property owners and residents in the Ballina Shire. There are many ways to provide feedback, including:

- Attend a public meeting from 7pm at the following locations:
 - Monday 23 January Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre
 - Tuesday 24 January Lennox Head Community Centre
 - Wednesday 25 January Ballina Shire Council Chambers
 - Monday 30 January Wardell Memorial Hall
- Email srvproposal@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Complete the online survey at ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal
- Make a written submission to Ballina Shire Council, P O Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478
- Visit our website ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal

▶ **submissions close: Monday 6 February 2017.**

Development Proposal

Notice is hereby given that the following development applications have been lodged for Council's assessment and determination.

▶ **submissions close: 3 February 2017.**

da no	applicant	property	proposal
2016/741	Newton Denny Chapelle	Lot 54 DP 1222919 Hutley Dr Lennox Head	Subdivision of Land Comprising 121 Residential Allotments
2016/731	Ardill Payne & Partners	Lot 5 DP 258095 45 Greenfield Rd Lennox Head	Two Lot Subdivision to create 1 x 1705 and 1 x 1180m2 lots

Development applications and associated documents may be viewed by visiting Council's DAs (Development Applications) Online website <http://da.ballina.nsw.gov.au>, and clicking on **currently on exhibition**. Alternatively DAs Online can be accessed at Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street Ballina between 8.15am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Persons making a submission may need to disclose political donations/gifts provided to a Councillor or Council employee. Significant penalties apply for non-disclosure. For further information visit the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's website www.planning.nsw.gov.au

Development Proposal

Notice is hereby given that the following development applications have been lodged for Council's assessment and determination.

▶ **submissions close: 27 January 2017.**

da no	applicant	property	proposal
2016/690	Ardill Payne & Partners	Lot 71 DP 628164 Quays Dr West Ballina	To undertake a 38 lot residential subdivision, construction of road and associated works
2016/704	Ardill Payne & Partners	Lots 1 and 2 DP 581247, Lot 1 DP 621126, Lots 46 -51 Sec: 1 DP 4536 and Lot 56 Sec: 1 DP 4536 9-19 The Avenue Alstonville	Staged Seniors Housing Development Comprising the Re-Development of Alstonville Maranoa pursuant to S.83B of the EP&A Act with consent also sought for Stage 1 comprising 12 self-contained dwellings, tree removal, new driveway and associated works
2016/745	Ardill Payne & Partners	Lots 11 - 14 DP 1213684, Lot 3 DP 1034816 520 Newrybar Swamp Rd and 462 Newrybar Swamp Rd Broken Head	Subdivision by way of boundary adjustment of five existing lots to create 5 new lots
2016/739	Newton Denny Chapelle	Lot 5 DP 255992 48 Glenross Dr Kinvara	Conversion of Existing Shed for Tourist and Visitor Accommodation

Development applications and associated documents may be viewed by visiting Council's DAs (Development Applications) Online website <http://da.ballina.nsw.gov.au>, and clicking on **currently on exhibition**. Alternatively DAs Online can be accessed at Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street Ballina between 8.15am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

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Need Transport for Australia Day?

Travel in air conditioned comfort and attend the official Australia Day Ceremony at the Lennox Head Community Centre. The **free** low level wheel chair accessible bus departs from various locations in Alstonville and Ballina from 7.30am.

Seats are limited, to book telephone the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on 1800 777 666 or to find out more visit ballina.nsw.gov.au

Customer Service Centre / Chambers 40 Cherry Street, PO Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478 Office Hours 8.15am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays)

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Description	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Rate peg limit	1.5%	2.5%	2.5%
Asset renewal program	1.9%	3.4%	3.4%
Healthy waterways program	1.5%	0%	0%
Total rate increase	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%

To assist with reducing the impact of this increase Council is also proposing to cease levying its Waste Operations Charge.

This charge, which is levied on all residential and farmland properties, was \$73 for 2016/17.

Further information on this SRV proposal is available on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au

Council is seeking feedback from all property owners and residents in the Ballina Shire. There are many ways to provide feedback, including:

- Attend a public meeting from 7pm at the following locations:
 - Monday 23 January Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre
 - Tuesday 24 January Lennox Head Community Centre
 - Wednesday 25 January Ballina Shire Council Chambers
 - Monday 30 January Wardell Memorial Hall
- Email srvproposal@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Complete the online survey at ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal
- Make a written submission to Ballina Shire Council, P O Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478
- Visit our website ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal

▶ **submissions close: Monday 6 February 2017.**

Tender

Transportation and Disposal of Aggregate Containing Friable Asbestos: RFT923

Council is calling tenders from suitably experienced and licenced contractors to undertake the transportation and disposal of aggregate containing friable asbestos.

Tender documentation is available online at <http://tenders.ballina.nsw.gov.au/eTendering/> (new providers will need to register to access documentation) or in hardcopy from Council's Customer Service Centre 40 Cherry Street Ballina

▶ **tenders close: 2pm (AEDT) 7 February 2017. Late tenders will not be accepted.**

Enquiries: Christine Pitman, Strategic Waste Management Officer, Ph 6686 4444.

Council Closures – Australia Day Thursday 26 January

Customer Service Centre Northern Rivers Community Gallery Alstonville, Ballina and Lennox Head Libraries Waste Management Centre **Administration Office Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre **Kentwell Community Centre and Ballina Surf Club may still be hired by members of the public for use on the public holidays by prior arrangement with Council staff.	Closed
Kerbside Waste Collection Services	As Normal
Visitor Information Centre	Open (usual hours)
Ballina Swimming Pool	Open 9am – 5pm
Alstonville Swimming Pool	Open 10am – 6pm
Burns Point Ferry	Open (usual hours)

Emergency calls concerning water, sewerage, roads, stormwater and health matters should be directed to the after-hours number PH 6626 6954.

Help Us Plan For for Ballina Shire's Future



The newly elected Council is now reviewing the Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The CSP is a 10-year plan that provides a broad overview of what is important us and where we wish to head as a community. Help Council prepare this new CSP by completing the survey online at www.ballina.nsw.gov.au. You can also enter into the draw to win an Apple iPad.* If you don't have web access and would like to complete the survey please contact Tracy Lister, Council's Communication Liaison Officer on telephone 6686 1257

▶ **survey closes: Monday 30 January 2017**

* Terms and Conditions apply. Entry is open to all residents, regardless of age. Authorised under NSW Permit No LTPS/16/09931.

Notice of Meetings

The following meeting is scheduled to be held at the Council Chambers:

Wednesday 25 January	9.00 am	Ordinary meeting
Wednesday 25 January	12 noon	Reserve Trust

The Ordinary meeting has been rescheduled from Thursday 26 January due to Australia Day celebrations.

Development Proposal

Notice is hereby given that the following development application has been lodged for Council's assessment and determination.

▶ **submissions close: 2 February 2017.**

da no	applicant	property
2017/7	RPS Group	RPS Group West Ballina

Proposal Construction of a service station with convenience store, car parking, signage and associated works.

Development applications and associated documents may be viewed by visiting Council's DAs (Development Applications) Online website <http://da.ballina.nsw.gov.au> and clicking on **currently on exhibition**. Alternatively DAs Online can be accessed at Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street Ballina between 8.15am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Persons making a submission may need to disclose political donations/gifts provided to a Councillor or Council employee. Significant penalties apply for non-disclosure. For further information visit the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's website www.planning.nsw.gov.au

2017 Australia Day Celebrations
Lennox Head Community Centre 9am – 11am



Australia's first female Winter Olympic Gold Medallist, Alisa Camplin, will be our guest speaker this Australia Day. The full program includes a Welcome to Country, Citizenship Ceremony, music performances and the announcement of the highly anticipated Australia Day Awards. Proceedings commence 9am, Thursday 26 January at the Lennox Community Centre. All community members are warmly invited to attend this special event. To book your seat on the free bus, telephone the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on 1800 777 666 or to find out more visit www.ballina.nsw.gov.au

Proposed Special Rate Variation

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Total rate increase	4.9%	5.9%	5.9%

To assist with reducing the impact of this increase Council is also proposing to cease levying its Waste Operations Charge. This charge, which is levied on all residential and farmland properties, was \$73 for 2016/17.

Further information on this SRV proposal is available on Council's website ballina.nsw.gov.au

Council is seeking feedback from all property owners and residents in the Ballina Shire. There are many ways to provide feedback, including:

- Attend a public meeting from 7pm at the following locations:
 - Wednesday 25 January Ballina Shire Council Chambers (NOTE: Ballina meeting is not 25 February as printed on the back page of the factsheet distributed to ratepayers).
 - Monday 30 January Wardell Memorial Hall
- Email srvproposal@ballina.nsw.gov.au
- Complete the online survey at ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal
- Make a written submission to Ballina Shire Council, P O Box 450, Ballina NSW 2478
- Visit our website ballina.nsw.gov.au/srvproposal

▶ submissions close: Monday 6 February 2017.

Australia Day Celebrations Thursday 26 January 2017 Lennox Head Cultural and Community Centre



Australia's first female Winter Olympic Gold Medalist, Alisa Camplin, will be our guest speaker this Australia Day. Alisa didn't learn to ski until she was 19 years of age and broke nearly every bone in her body as she climbed through the ranks, brought home back-to-back Olympic medals and dominated the sport of Freestyle Aerial Skiing. As well as competing, Alisa built a global career with corporate giant IBM, leading \$200M+ businesses as a senior executive working across brand strategy, sales, business development and service delivery.

Proving that success is a choice, Alisa then turned heart-wrenching personal adversity into an opportunity to improve the lives of others, raising more than \$1M through her charity Finnan's Gift.

The full program includes a Welcome to Country, Citizenship Ceremony, music performances and the announcement of the highly anticipated Australia Day Awards. This Australia Day we will recognise and celebrate the achievements and contributions that our unsung heroes make to our community. Forty-two nominations have been received across the categories of Sports, Arts Cultural, Young Citizen, Senior Citizen, Community Event and Local Hero.

The Awards will recognise all nominees as well as the winner for each category before announcing the Ballina Shire Citizen of the Year.

Proceedings commence 9am, Thursday 26 January at the Lennox Community Centre, Mackney Lane.

Take the Free Bus this Australia Day

Leave the car at home and catch the bus to the official Australia Day Ceremony at the Lennox Head Community Centre.

Bookings are essential. Contact the Ballina Visitor Information Centre on free call 1800 777 666 or email balinfo@ballina.nsw.gov.au to secure your seat.

Help us plan for Ballina Shire's Future



Council is now reviewing the Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

The CSP is a 10-year plan that provides a broad overview of what is important to our community and sets the direction for the future of Ballina Shire.

Help Council prepare this new CSP by completing the survey online at www.ballina.nsw.gov.au. You can also enter into the draw to win an Apple iPad.*

If you don't have web access and would like to complete the survey please contact Tracy Lister, Council's Communication Liaison Officer, on telephone 6686 1257

▶ survey closes: Monday 30 January 2017

* Terms and Conditions apply. Entry is open to all residents, regardless of age. Authorised under NSW Permit No LTPS/16/09931.

Council Closures – Australia Day Thursday 26 January

Customer Service Centre Northern Rivers Community Gallery Alstonville, Ballina and Lennox Head Libraries Waste Management Centre The Lennox Community Centre, Kentwell Community Centre and Ballina Surf Club may be hired for use on the public holidays by prior arrangement.	Closed
Kerbside Waste Collection Services	As Normal
Visitor Information Centre	Open (usual hours)
Ballina Swimming Pool	Open 9am – 5pm
Alstonville Swimming Pool	Open 10am – 6pm
Burns Point Ferry	Open (usual hours)

Emergency calls concerning water, sewerage, roads, stormwater and health matters should be directed to the after-hours number PH 6626 6954.

Development Proposal

Notice is hereby given that the following development application has been lodged for Council's assessment and determination.

▶ submissions close: 9 February 2017.

da no	applicant	property
2017/15	Ardill Payne & Partners	Lot 10 DP 1001995 62 Horizon Dr, West Ballina
Proposal Construction of multi-purpose playing court at Emmanuel Anglican College.		

Development applications and associated documents may be viewed by visiting Council's DAs (Development Applications) Online website <http://da.ballina.nsw.gov.au> and clicking on **currently on exhibition**. Alternatively DAs Online can be accessed at Council's Customer Service Centre, 40 Cherry Street Ballina between 8.15am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).

Persons making a submission may need to disclose political donations/gifts provided to a Councillor or Council employee. Significant penalties apply for non-disclosure. For further information visit the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's website www.planning.nsw.gov.au

Notice of Development Consents Issued

In accordance with Section 101 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 the following development consents have been granted.

da no	subject property	proposal
2016/298	L18 S2 DP11687 86 Ballina St Lennox Head	Demolition of an existing dwelling house, removal of vegetation and the subsequent erection of a two storey commercial development comprising three x ground floor tenancies (two cafes with external/alfresco dining on private land and one business premises) and three x first floor business premises tenancies and associated works

Continued on page 11