

Summary of Submissions for the Revised Long Term Financial Plan and Draft Hardship Policy

Revised Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP)

A total of 24 submissions were received during the exhibition of the Revised LTFP. A summary of those submissions and staff recommendations on changes and responses to the submissions is as follows.

Total Received	Page No.	Summary of Submission	Staff Recommendation
1	N/A	Support for the Special Rate Variation and comments on assuring this doesn't occur again in the future	No change to the Revised LTFP. Thank you for your submission to the Revised Long Term Financial Plan. Your support for the Special Rate Variation is noted and will be provided to IPART. For up to date information on the background of the financial situation, the Administrator's findings and what initiatives are underway to reduce expenditure or source additional income please refer to Council's website: https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/councils-financial-situation
11	N/A	Various questions and comments on the financial situation	No change to the Revised LTFP. Thank you for your submission to the Revised Long Term Financial Plan. Your feedback is noted. For up to date information on the background of the financial situation, the Administrator's findings and what initiatives are underway to reduce expenditure or source additional income please refer to Council's website: https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/councils-financial-situation
11	N/A	Objection to the Special Rate Variation	No change to the Revised LTFP. Thank you for your submission to the Revised Long Term Financial Plan. Your objection to the Special Rate Variation is noted and will be provided to IPART.
1	N/A	Questions on the pensioner rebate	No change to the Revised LTFP. Thank for your submission to the Revised Long Term Financial Plan. Council provides rebates and hardship assistance for those having trouble paying their rates – please refer to the Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy, which includes pensioner rebates as well as personalised payment plans.

Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy

A total of 9 submissions were received during the exhibition of the Draft Debt Recover and Hardship Policy. A summary of those submissions and staff recommendations on changes and responses to the submissions is as follows.

Total Received	Page No.	Summary of Submission	Staff Recommendation
1	N/A	Comments on the pensioner rebate	<p>No change to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy.</p> <p>Thank for your submission to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy. Your feedback is noted and will be provided to IPART.</p>
3	N/A	Objection to the Special Rate Variation	<p>No change to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy.</p> <p>Thank for your submission to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy. Your objection to the Special Rate Variation is noted and will be provided to IPART.</p>
2	3, 4, 5 and 6	Various questions and comments on the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy	<p>No change to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy.</p> <p>Thank for your submission to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy. In response to the points raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clause 29) The sale of a property is legislatively one of the very last resorts a Council can employ for rates recovery. Under the <i>Local Government Act 1933</i> vacant land can be sold where rates and charges remain unpaid for 1 year and with respect to any other land a council cannot proceed to sell a property until rates and charges have not been paid for 5 years • Clause 34) While there is provision for Council to restrict (reduce) water supply, this is not a measure often utilised by Central Coast Council • Clause 42) Council relies on payments for rates and water to fund essential services for the community. Council understands that people experience periods of hardship and will work with rate payers to offer payment arrangements that suit individual circumstances • Rate payers have several notice delivery options 1) direct to the property, 2) Bpay View, 3) email, 4) to a managing agent • It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure that Council has their most up to date information, however, Council uses a number of strategies to locate ratepayers to avoid unnecessary penalties. If Council is unable to locate a ratepayer then the account may be referred to an external agent who has access to additional search functionality and strategies

Total Received	Page No.	Summary of Submission	Staff Recommendation
3	N/A	Various questions and comments on the financial situation	<p>No change to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy.</p> <p>Thank for your submission to the Draft Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy. Your feedback is noted. For up to date information on the background of the financial situation, the Administrator's findings and what initiatives are underway to reduce expenditure or source additional income please refer to Council's website: https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/councils-financial-situation</p>