

7 February 2022

Contact Telephone Tony Chahine

The Independent Pricing & Arbitrary Tribunal (IPART) Level 16, 2-24 Rawson Place SYDNEY NSW 2000

Attention: Albert Jean & Sheridan Rapmund

Dear Sir/Madam

## IPART Application to Increase Cumberland Council's Residential Minimum Rate

Please find attached Cumberland City Council's application to increase Residential Ordinary Minimum for the 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 period.

As an amalgamated council, Cumberland City Council was required to harmonise its rates from three different rates structures (Holroyd, Auburn and part Parramatta Councils) to a single rating structure as of 1 July 2021. Through this harmonisation process, Council identified ratepayers who owned high density housing or paid the residential minimum rate did not contribute to Council services equitably. By increasing the residential minimum rate, this will allow Council to transition to an equitable rates structure to ensure ratepayers are contributing to Council services in a fair manner.

At its meeting on 21 October 2020, Council resolved that:

"The residential minimum will commence at \$650, increase by 10% for four years"

The Council report appended to this Council resolution outlined that the Residential Ordinary Minimum rate was to increase to \$715 for 2022/2023, \$785 for 2023/2024 and \$860 for the 2024/2025 years. The "four years" outlined in the Council resolution was inclusive of the first year of the harmonised Residential Ordinary Minimum rate of \$650.

Council will not increase rates above the approved rate peg each year and our purpose is to ensure that we provide a fair and equitable rating structure for our whole community.

As requested, IPART's Application Form Part A & Application Form Part B is attached for your review. If you have any questions, please contact Council's Chief Financial Officer, Tony Chahine of

Yours faithfully

Per Fitzgerald

GENERAL MANAGER

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