

LG Submission Form 2020-2021

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Question	Response
IPART Special Variation Submission Form	
Industry	Local Government
Review	(LG) Special Variations & Minimum Rates 2020-2021
Document Reference	
Select Council	Lismore City Council
If you have any general feedback regarding your council's proposed SV, please leave your comments in the comment box below.	<p>I am writing to strongly object to the proposed 24% rate increase over a 4 year period by Lismore City Council.</p> <p>My name is [REDACTED] and I have been a rate payer in the Lismore area for over 35 years.</p> <p>Lismore is currently what I would describe as a city in economic decline. There are many people struggling to meet their financial commitments who would be described as economic disadvantaged. About two years ago the area, including the Lismore CBD, suffered a significant flood. Many retail businesses did not reopen after that event so there are numerous empty shops. Parts of the area also recently were drought affected. The retail businesses, the farmers and the residents are on the whole battling to make ends meet.</p> <p>It would appear to me that the members of Council are divided on the issue of such a high rate increase. It was only, as I understand it, with the Mayor's casting vote that the motion to proceed was passed. It is also my understanding that the Mayor used his casting vote in the knowledge that a member of Council who was absent at the meeting would have voted against the increase had he been in attendance.</p> <p>It is common talk amongst the community that Council has seemingly mismanaged the Council budget and wasted valuable</p>

	<p>resources. It appears that the Council has neglected maintenance of basic infrastructure including road repair. The roads in and around Lismore are a disgrace. Prudent management of current rate monies would be a high priority rather than a further influx of monies to squander.</p> <p>Also, it seems to me that Council in their submission has used the land valuations of 2016 which are considerably lower than more updated data which should have been used. Even a modest increase in land values would have a considerable impact on the local rate payers such that a 24% increase over 4 years would increase the economic burden on an already depressed area.</p> <p>Lismore residents, businesses and farmers need recompense not economic punishment. I reiterate that I strongly object to the proposed rate increase.</p>
Your comments on Criterion 1:	
Your comments on Criterion 2:	
Your comments on Criterion 3:	
Your comments on Criterion 4:	
Your comments on Criterion 5:	
If you have attachments you would like to include with your feedback, please attach them below.	
Your Details	
Are you an individual or organisation?	Individual
If you would like your submission or your name to remain confidential please indicate below.	Anonymous - my submission can be published but my name should remain anonymous
First Name	
Last Name	
Organisation Name	
Position	
Email	
IPART's Submission Policy	I have read & accept IPART's Submission Policy