

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.	I feel the Councils proposal to increase rates to be unrealistic considering the current economic conditions in Lismore. Local retail business is struggling to rebuild after flooding in 2017. The current figures given by council is not an accurate reflection of the true costs that is suggested to be imposed. The approximate 25% increase over the four year period will be dire for small business trying to survive let alone compete in the area. I also feel for the owners of the empty shops since the flood for which rates are still being paid with no income. Wages growth is stagnant yet I don't see any wage restraint at council level. I feel the council is not listening to Lismore rate payers on truly how tight it is.
Your comments on Criterion 1:	The council has not looked at reducing costs increasing productivity ,containing wages reducing wasteful practices.
Your comments on Criterion 2:	The council has communicated the need for a rate rise. This is on top of increased expenditure over the last eight years. The figures which the council has used in its calculations as I read are not current for the period from 1st July 2020 from which the the rate increases will be calculated. The full extent of the rate increase appears to be under estimated.

Your comments on Criterion 3:	The increases to rate payers is in reality not reasonable. The CBD currently has the highest rates in the region, yet the importance as a regional shopping destination is diminishing particularly since the 2017 flood. The rate increase will in effect squeeze more business away from Lismore.
Your comments on Criterion 4:	
Your comments on Criterion 5:	I would like to see something that I can understand. I have not seen any cost containing strategies. What is of concern is the of staff from closed facilities and the CEO employing extra staff to assist with administration.
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