

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission Re Lismore City Council SBVRL Application
Date: Friday, 9 March 2018 10:32:48 AM

PLEASE NOTE:

I have attempted to lodge this submission through the IPART website for the past five days without any success.

I am happy for the submission to be shown however would ask that my name be withheld from being visible.

Thank you very much

To Executive and Members of IPART,

The Premier of New South Wales the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, Tribunal Executives and Sitting Members,

I would ask most solemnly that IPART consider denying the Lismore City Council any form of ongoing SBVRL in the foreseeable future.

Lismores business community is facing extremely arduous and difficult times.

The manner in which the SBVRL has been used and distributed in the past has not been prudent or supportive of the business community. Surely such funds should be utilised in a manner which sees them invested into programs and initiatives which build the strength and stability of the city's business community moving into the future and show a return on the funds being spent back into growing the community.

In Lismores case the unfortunate truth is that these funds have been squandered time and again on events and programs which in truth have lost substantial monies rather than building and bolstering the stability of the local business sector or looking to the future.

Whilst it is all well and good to win a tourism award for an event such as Lismore's Eat The Street, the financial realities of such events must be scrutinized and bear up to examination.

In the case of Lismore's Eat The Street festival the losses have by far and away outweighed any benefits which have been brought to the town or it's business sector.

Likewise the position of a city centre manager who's salary is drawn directly from the monies garnered by the SBVRL is considered by the vast majority of the city's business owners and public as a poor and inefficient use of funds.

In the less than twelve months Lismore has seen the permanent closure of the following businesses;

Three newsagencies, (Lismore City, South Lismore and North Lismore) there is no longer a proper newsagency in the city. Another small newsagency is about to close up at Lismore Square.

[REDACTED]. No branch in Lismore at all any longer. Nearest branch Ballina.

[REDACTED]. Considered the most successful dining establishment in

Lismore. Closed it's doors permanently last October.

[REDACTED]. Central City Block. Closed July Last Year.

[REDACTED] Central City Block. Closed it's doors two weeks ago.

[REDACTED]. Central City Block. Closed it's doors August last year.

[REDACTED]. Central City Block. Closed it's doors early February.

[REDACTED]. Central City Block. Closed it's doors October last year.

[REDACTED]. Closed it's doors last November.

Numerous other businesses which were well established and had been operating for five years plus have also closed their doors and ceased to exist.

Whilst it is fair and reasonable to say that some of these businesses may have closed as a result of difficulties stemming from the devastating floods of 12 months ago. The stark reality is that many of them had reopened and were trading after the floods.

Lismores rates structure is already higher than its neighbouring municipalities and as I have stated the local business sector is facing truly testing times.

The encumbrance of an additional Rate Levee is something which I believe this town neither needs or can sustain.

I thank you for your time in considering these matters.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]