



FACT SHEET

March 2009

NORTH ARM COVE

Land at North Arm Cove, on the foreshore of Port Stephens, was subdivided speculatively before the 1920s and the introduction of planning controls (these are now known as 'paper subdivisions'). The area contains up to 2,700 small lots – urban in size though rural in zoning – that have never been able to have a house constructed on them.

These lots have been sold to many purchasers without having any building rights.

In 2007, the Department of Planning included the land, together with adjoining land owned by developers, in draft growth area maps to be investigated to determine definitively whether potential existed for future urban development. Information accompanying the draft maps indicated the site had significant environmental and infrastructure constraints which would need to be overcome if any potential for development were to occur.

As part of this subsequent investigation, the Department has found a number of issues that preclude urban development on the land, including:

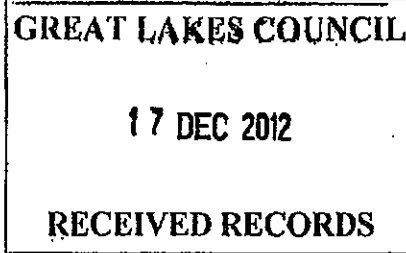
- **Transport:** The area is isolated from existing settlements, infrastructure and services, being situated around 22km from Tea Gardens and 33km from the closest regional centre of Raymond Terrace. Development at this site would require considerable investment in public transport to adequately service the population.
- **Infrastructure:** The isolated location of the site was also found to be a significant issue in regard to the availability of basic urban infrastructure such as water, sewerage, adequate roads and drainage. The cost of extending and providing services to the area was estimated at approximately \$160,000 per lot, which would make the lots unaffordable.
- **Environmental sensitivity:** The site is heavily vegetated with State significant vegetation communities, including 150 hectares of endangered ecological communities comprising of several threatened species. Urban development has the potential to destroy the site's environmental value.

For these reasons a significant proposed release area at North Arm Cove has been excluded from the final Mid North Coast Regional Strategy.

The Mid North Coast Regional Strategy identifies more than adequate supply of unconstrained land for housing in more accessible locations where infrastructure, transport and services can be more economically provided.

14 December 2012

Mr Glenn Handford
General Manager
Great Lakes Council
Breeze Parade
FORSTER NSW 2428



Dear Mr Handford,

I am writing on behalf of the Wallis Lake Oyster Farmers in support of Council's proposal to seek an extension of the Environmental Levy that is presently attached to the General Rate levied each year by Council. I understand that the approval for the Levy initially imposed for five years will expire next year and that Council is considering requesting the State Government to extend it for a further ten years.

The oyster industry in the Wallis Lake has been seriously impacted over recent years by the build up of sand within the Lake and the effects of urban pollution during rain events. The work that Council has undertaken using funds from the Levy and grants from government has greatly assisted in controlling some of the problems affecting our industry and we believe it is vital for the initiatives that Council has undertaken in the catchment to be continued. We have no doubt that the initiatives such as runoff detention and filtering; bio-filtration systems, acid sulphate remediation, property buy back, public awareness programs etc. are all making a difference and must be allowed to be continued and further developed.

Most recently a group of the oyster farmers I have been representing joined with Council and the State Government in funding the dredging of the channels and leases in the section of Wallis Lake known as the Paddock. This work has enabled one of the most productive areas within Wallis Lake to be re-established as a prime area for the maturing of the famous Sydney Rock Oyster. We are extremely grateful for the support Council has given to this project, but it has also highlighted the need for similar projects to be undertaken in other channels and leases if our industry is to be restored to its previous pre-eminent position in the oyster industry of NSW.

It is obvious with the financial constraints upon Council to maintain and develop its social and physical infrastructure, the excellent work it has been doing to improve the water quality in our wonderful lake system will be seriously impeded unless additional funding such as that provided by the Environmental and Dredging Levies is approved for a further period of at least ten years.

The Wallis Lake Oyster Farmers strongly support your Council's application to extend the Levies.

Yours sincerely,

GREAT LAKES COUNCIL
Received Over Counter

14 DEC 2012

Sign..

Name of Policy: Hardship Assistance

Policy Code: PL-FIN-009

Date Originally Adopted: 14/04/2009 **Minute No.:** 032
SC

Date Last Reviewed: **Minute No.:**

Date Last Amended: **Minute No.:**

Responsible Division: Corporate & Community Services

Responsible Section: Finance

Related Council Documents: Policy (PL-FIN-002) - Pensioner
Rate Rebates - Extension of
Procedure (PR-FIN-006) - Debt
Recovery

Relevant Legislation : Local Government Act 1993
Local Government General
Regulations (2005)

Objective:

1. To provide assistance to ratepayers suffering substantial financial difficulties with the payment of rates and charges.
2. To provide an administrative process to determine applications for financial assistance.

Legislative Options/Hardship Provisions:

The Local Government Act 1993 provides Council with the following options to assist ratepayers with financial hardship:

1. Arrangements (Section 564)

The Local Government Act 1993 permits Council to accept payment of rates and charges by a person in accordance with an agreement made with that person.

Council's Debt Recovery Procedure includes the following:

“Arrangements to Pay Overdue Amounts:

- 1. Ratepayers or debtors experiencing difficulties in paying overdue amounts are encouraged to enter into an arrangement with Council.*
- 2. Council will not enter into an arrangement involving an extension of time greater than three (3) months without a substantial payment being received.*
- 3. Council will consider any reasonable offer to finalise overdue amounts within a twelve month period. Arrangements must include weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments.*
- 4. Council may consider longer term arrangements if in its opinion the ratepayers or debtors financial circumstances warrant such arrangement. Any longer term arrangement will include regular reviews of the ratepayers or debtors financial circumstances.*
- 5. An arrangement is considered terminated if payments are not maintained.*
- 6. Interest charges in accordance with the Local Government Act will be charged on all overdue rate assessments.”*

The above arrangements are available in accordance with Council's Debt Recovery Procedures however the Local Government Act 1993 (Section 564) is very open, and as such Council could consider enhancing arrangements for ratepayers suffering from extreme financial hardship.

These enhanced arrangements could include but are not limited to:

- Writing off or reducing accrued interest if the ratepayer complies with the arrangement.
- Defer the payment of outstanding rates, charges or property related debt for extended periods of time.
- Defer payment of all or part of outstanding rates, charges or property related debts until the property is sold or to be paid out of a ratepayer's estate.

2. Writing Off of Accrued Interest (Section 567 (c))

The council may write off accrued interest on rates and charges payable if in its opinion payment of the accrued interest would cause the person hardship.

3. Extension of Concession to Avoid Hardship (Section 577)

Council currently has an existing policy regarding the extension of the Pensioner Rate Rebate (concession) and it is not proposed to alter such policy.

4. Abandonment of Rates and Charges – Pensioners (Section 582)

Council may waive or reduce rates, charges and interest due by any person prescribed by the regulations who is in receipt of pension, allowance under the Social Security Act.

5. Hardship Resulting from Certain Valuation Changes (Section 601)

Every three years the Department of Lands will provide Council with a general revaluation of all properties for rating purposes.

General revaluations usually include large swings in value from one property to another. In this Council area it is not uncommon for properties with significant water views to increase in value at a substantially greater rate than properties without water views.

This resulting disparity in the increase in property values can have a dramatic impact on the level of rates payable by ratepayers.

The Local Government Act provides council's with the ability to provide assistance to ratepayers in such circumstances.

Section 601 provides:

- (1) A ratepayer who, as a consequence of the making and levying of a rate on a valuation having a later base date than any valuation previously used by a council for the making and levying of a rate, suffers substantial hardship, may apply to the council for relief under this section.

(2) The council has **discretion** to waive, reduce or defer the payment of the whole or any part of the increase in the amount of the rate payable by the ratepayer in such circumstances, for such period and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit.

(3) An applicant who is dissatisfied with a council's decision under this section may request the council to review its decision and the council, at its discretion, may do so.

Impact of Options Available to Council

It is not possible to determine the number of applications for financial assistance that Council would receive in any given year.

Any option provided in Council's Hardship Policy that involves the writing off of interest or rates will have a direct impact on Council's revenue.

Any option included in Council's Hardship Policy that involves the deferral of amounts payable will not (unless there are large volumes of applications) have a direct financial impact on Council or adversely affect Council's outstanding balance ratio.

Hardship Policy

Part 1 – Hardship Committee

All applications for hardship will be reviewed by a hardship committee. The hardship committee will comprise Council's Director Corporate & Community Services, Revenue Accountant, Senior Revenue Co-Ordinator and the Recovery Officer.

Applicants dissatisfied with the decision of the Committee may request a review by Council's General Manager.

Part 2 – Deferral of Rates

Council will permit the deferral of payment of part of the ordinary rates levied on the following basis:

- Ordinary rates in excess of the average rate for the category or sub category may be deferred.
- Vacant land zoned rural 1a and rated within the farmland category are to be excluded from the calculation of the average ordinary farmland rate.
- Service charges such as Domestic Waste cannot be deferred.
- All payments received will be allocated in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act.

- Interest charges will continue to accrue on ordinary rates deferred.
- All amounts deferred must be paid on either the sale or transfer of the property or from the estate of the ratepayer.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Available to ratepayers of land categorised for rating purposes within the residential category or the farmland category.
2. Ratepayers applying to defer rates must be of an age to qualify for the age pension.
3. The property subject to the deferral must be the sole or principal place of abode of the ratepayer.
4. Ratepayers will be required to submit an application form each year.
5. The ratepayer will be required to submit details of income, expenses and assets.
6. The applicant must have been a ratepayer for a minimum of five years.

Part 3 – Increase in Rates Due To Valuation Increases

Any ratepayer satisfying the eligibility criteria set out below may apply to Council for assistance in payment of the current rates.

Council will provide assistance in the form of an extended arrangement for the payment of rates and charges and provided payments are maintained in accordance with such arrangement Council will waive/write off interest charges in respect to such rates.

Eligibility Criteria

- The rated property must be the sole or principal place of abode of the ratepayer.
- The percentage change in valuation for the property must be ten percent (10%) greater than the average percentage change for properties subject to that rate. (Example: Average increase in valuation for properties subject to the Residential Pacific Palms Rate is 15% the increase on a single property will need to be 25% to be eligible.)

Part 4 – Arrangements

Whilst Council's Debt Recovery Procedure includes various options in regard to arrangements, ratepayers may apply for further assistance in respect to rates levied on their principal place of abode.

Ratepayers suffering from Financial Hardship may apply to Council to have interest charges written off if they maintain payments in accordance with such arrangement.

Council will only write off interest charges raised from the date of the arrangement. Interest charges previously raised will not be written off and must be paid in accordance with the arrangement.

Ratepayers seeking such assistance will be required to complete the appropriate application form and supply information as requested. All applications will be considered by Council's Hardship Committee on a case by case basis.



Department of Local Government
 5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541
 Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

OUR REFERENCE
 YOUR REFERENCE
 CONTACT

A178604

Mark Hely
 02 4428 4176

Mr Keith O'Leary
 General Manager
 Great Lakes Council
 PO Box 450
 FORSTER NSW 2428

Dear Mr O'Leary

I refer to Great Lakes Council's application of 23 April 2009 seeking Ministerial approval for an increase in general income of 10.69% for 2009/2010 to assist with funding costs associated with environmental projects and tourism as defined by Council.

Council's application has been given careful consideration. However, there are concerns regarding the proposed Tourism Levy, particularly in terms of its impact on business ratepayers and the apparent lack of support among these affected ratepayers. It is also of concern that the additional funds raised through the levy would be used to partially offset Council's tourism budget, rather than provide for additional services. Council should therefore look to achieving efficiencies in its operations to fund this activity, if it is deemed a high priority.

The Minister has, however, approved of Council increasing its general income by 9.51% in 2009/2010 for the renewal and expansion of its environmental levy, for a period of five years. The approved increase comprises:

| | \$ | % |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| 2008/2009 Notional General Income | 22,017,667 | |
| Expiring Special Variation | -754,554 | |
| 2008/2009 Adjusted Notional General Income | 21,263,113 | |
| 2009/2010 General Variation | 744,209 | 3.50 |
| Catch up/(Excess) | 2,719 | 0.01 |
| Valuation Objections | - | - |
| Special Variation | 1,275,302 | 6.00 |
| Total | 23,285,343 | 9.51 |

The Minister's approval is on the basis that Council will reduce its general income for the 2014/2015 rating year by \$1,275,302 plus the equivalent cumulative proportion of this increase from any general variation increases or any special variation increases approved for the 2010/2011 to 2013/2014 rating years inclusive.

In addition, the approval is on the understanding that Council makes and levies its rates according to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It should be noted that this approval is not an endorsement of Council's rating structure.

Council should continue to review its operations to identify where further efficiencies and tangible savings can be achieved. By applying this special variation, any prior period shortfall or excess is eliminated.

A copy of the instrument of approval is attached. It is important to appreciate that Council must comply with the conditions of approval set out in the instrument. Failure to comply with these conditions may impact on any future special variation applications made by Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ross Woodward" followed by the date "7/7/09".

Ross Woodward
Acting Director General

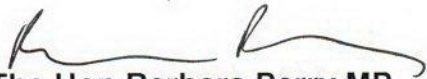
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993
INSTRUMENT UNDER SECTION 508(2)

I, **BARBARA PERRY MP**, Minister for Local Government, in pursuance of section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* determine that the percentage by which the Great Lakes Council may increase its general income for 2009/2010 is 9.51% above that for 2008/2009 subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Council will raise \$1,275,302 of the increase by additional rates for the costs associated with environmental projects, as defined by Council in its special variation five year works program, for a period of five years; and
- (ii) Council will reduce its general income for the 2014/2015 rating year by \$1,275,302 plus the equivalent cumulative proportion of this increase from any general variation increases or any special variation increases approved for the 2010/2011 to 2013/2014 rating years inclusive; and
- (iii) Council clearly reports in its annual report for the period 2009/2010 to 2013/2014 information on the total income received, expenditure per project/program and outcomes achieved.

This approval is on the understanding that Great Lakes Council makes and levies its rates according to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Dated this 3rd day of July, 2009.


The Hon Barbara Perry MP
Minister for Local Government

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993
INSTRUMENT UNDER SECTION 508A(1)
GREAT LAKES COUNCIL

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), delegate of the Minister for Local Government, pursuant to the delegation dated 6 September 2010, by this Order:

1. Under section 508A(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) determines that the percentage by which Great Lakes Council may increase its general income for the period 2011/2012 to 2013/2014 is 25.97%, consisting of the following annual increases:

| | Year | Annual increase in general income (%) | Cumulative increase in general income (%) |
|----|---------|---|---|
| Y1 | 2011/12 | 8.00 | 8.00 |
| Y2 | 2012/13 | 8.00 | 16.64 |
| Y3 | 2013/14 | 8.00 | 25.97 |

2. The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- I. The council uses the Additional Income for the purposes of:
 - a) improving its financial sustainability; and
 - b) funding the projects,
consistent with the council's application. The projects are listed in Appendix A of IPART's determination dated June 2011 of the council's application under section 508A(1) of the Act (IPART's Determination).

Additional Income means:

- a) the additional general income raised in accordance with clause 1 of this Order, less
 - b) the additional general income that would otherwise be available to the council under section 506 of the Act.
- II. The council reports in its annual report for each rating year over the period from 2011/2012 to 2016/2017 on:
 - a) expenditure on the projects listed in Appendix A of IPART's Determination;
 - b) the outcomes achieved as a result of the special variation;
 - c) its asset renewal and maintenance expenditure;
 - d) its actual productivity savings achieved; and

- e) any significant variations from its financial results as forecast in its Long Term Financial Plan and any corrective action taken or to be taken.

Dated this *24th* day of *June*, 2011



Rod Sims

Chairperson, Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal

A Great Lakes Council – special variation funded works program

HOW WILL THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS BE SPENT?

Infrastructure Maintenance & Renewals Allocation - \$1 million in 2011/12 increasing to \$3.3 million in 2016/17

| Project | 2011/2012 | 2012/2013 | 2013/2014 | 2014/2015 | 2015/2016 | 2016/2017 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Community Buildings - eg Halls, Libraries, Aquatic Centre, Council Offices | 200,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 |
| Parks & Recreation Buildings - eg Toilet Blocks, Shelters etc | 30,000 | 40,000 | 50,000 | 70,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Floodlight Maintenance & Replacement | 40,000 | 60,000 | 70,000 | 100,000 | 130,000 | 180,000 |
| Recreation Infrastructure Replacement - eg BBQ's, fences, irrigation etc | 30,000 | 90,000 | 50,000 | 160,000 | 200,000 | 240,000 |
| Playground Maintenance | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 30,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Playground Replacement | 50,000 | 50,000 | 70,000 | 80,000 | 80,000 | 80,000 |
| Pontoon, Wharf & Jetty Replacement | 30,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 50,000 | 110,000 |
| Rural Road Rehabilitation / Reseals (per Asset Mgt Plans) - Yr 1 Markwell Rd | 300,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 250,000 | 450,000 | 760,000 |
| Rural Bridge Construction (Funding added to existing allocation - priority list detailed below) | 100,000 | 450,000 | 450,000 | 520,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 |
| Rural Road Resheeting (Additional funding allocated to existing schedule of works) | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 150,000 |
| Rural Road Maintenance Grading (Additional funding allocated to existing schedule of works) | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Urban Road Rehabilitation / Reseals (Address backlog of Damaged Pavement) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250,000 | 450,000 | 740,000 |
| Total Allocation | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 | 2,500,000 | 3,300,000 |

Urban Roads Construction Program

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| Bede St, Stroud Nairn St to Community Boundary | Eastlope Way, North Arm Cove Cove to Water | Cowper St, Nabisac Hoskins to UF seg 20 | Ansett Ave, Smiths Lake Full length | Cove Ave, Bundabah Pleasant View to Second |
| Morantes St, Pindimar Koree to end | Pleasant View Pde, Bundabah End to Bundabah | Farnell St, Nabisac Hoskins North | Central Ave, Bundabah Second to Pleasant View | Warri St, Pindimar Koree to Water |
| Phillip Rd, Smiths Lake Third Ridge to Fourth Ridge | Warramutty St, Coomba Park Full length | Lyn Cres, Smiths Lake Third Ridge to end | Church St, Carrington Start to Bridge | Wharf St, Nabisac Donaldson to end |
| Valley Rd, Smiths Lake Amaroo to Fourth Ridge | Wombo St, Pindimar Koree to end | Pleasant View Pde, Bundabah Bundabah to Cove | Cook St, Pindimar Curlew to end | Wood St, Pindimar Morantes to end |
| | | | The Esplanade, North Arm Cove #16-#61 | |

Rural Roads Construction Program

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| Bundabah Rd, Bundabah Final section | Seal Rocks Rd, Seal Rocks Final section | Bombah Point Rd, Bulahdelah Ongoing | The Branch Ln, The Branch Ongoing |
| | | Wattley Hill Rd, Bungwahl Ongoing | Willina Rd, Bunyah Ongoing |

Rural Bridge Construction Program

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Booral Creek Bridge, Booral Rd | Mill Creek Rd - over Mill Creek | Reidsdale Rd - over Karuah River | Markwell Rd - Battles Bridge | Booral Rd - Pongs Bridge |
| | Reidsdale Rd - over Barnes Creek | Willina Rd - over Bunyah Creek | | Terreel Rd - over Wards River |

Cycleway Construction Program

| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 |
|--|--|---|
| Coupland Ave, Tea Gardens Budgaree to Port Stephens | Boomerang Dr, Boomerang Beach No. 127 to Karnang Dr | Helen St, Forster McIntosh St to Breckenridge St |
| | Clarkson St, Nabic Nabic St to Pacific Highway | Lombard St, Coolongolook King St to School |
| | The Bucketts Way, Stroud Rd Reidsdale Rd to Public School | Manning St, Tuncurry Lake St to Wallis St |
| | The Lakes Way, Tuncurry Grandis Dr to Chapmans Rd | Manning St, Tuncurry Taree St to South St |
| | | The Bucketts Way, Stroud Broadway St to Lamans Ck Bridge |

Other Proposed Capital Works Program

Council has identified the following additional projects, including timeframes, that could be undertaken with the proceeds of a six year special rate variation.

| Project | 2011/2012 | 2012/2013 | 2013/2014 | 2014/2015 | 2015/2016 | 2016/2017 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Forster - Memorial Drive Boardwalk - Stage 2 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Forster - Breckenridge Channel Redevelopment | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Forster - Upgrade Ocean Baths Changerooms | | | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Tuncurry - CBD Redevelopment | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| Tuncurry - Nth Tuncurry No 2 Sportsfield Lighting | | | | | ✓ | |
| Bulahdelah - Town Improvements (per post by-pass plan) | ✓ | | | | | |
| Bulahdelah - Upgrade Flood Lighting at Sport Complex | | | | ✓ | | |
| Bulahdelah - Replace Skate Park | | | | ✓ | | |
| Bulahdelah - Construct RFS Control Centre | ✓ | | | | | |
| Nabic - Pool Supervision & Operation | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Nerong - Replace Pontoon | ✓ | | | | | |
| Coomba - Replace Skate Park | | | | | ✓ | |
| Coomba - Projects per Strategic Plan | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Hawks Nest - CBD Redevelopment | | | | ✓ | | |
| North Arm Cove - Recreation Facilities Development | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Pacific Palms - Upgrade Flood Lighting | | | | ✓ | | |
| Smiths Lakes - Foreshore Redevelopment | | | | | | ✓ |
| Smiths Lake - Footpath from shops to sports facility | | | | ✓ | | |
| Stroud - Replace Skate Park | | | | | ✓ | |
| Stroud - Showground Improvements | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Allworth - Replace Boat Ramp | | | | | | ✓ |
| Tea Gardens - Marine Drive Foreshore Upgrade | | | | | | ✓ |
| Tea Gardens - Myall Street Footpath / Cycleway | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |

Our reference: 12/126
Your reference:

PO Box Q290, QVB Post Office NSW 1230
Level 8, 1 Market Street Sydney NSW 2000
T (02) 9290 8400 F (02) 9290 2061
ABN 49 202 260 878

15 May 2012

www.ipart.nsw.gov.au

Mr Glenn Handford
General Manager
Great Lakes Council
PO Box 450
Forster NSW 2428

Contact Alison Milne
T (02) 9290 8443
E alison_milne@ipart.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Handford

AMENDED SPECIAL VARIATION INSTRUMENT TO INCLUDE THE CARBON PRICE ADVANCE AND WITHDRAWAL

I refer to your letter dated 20 April 2012 requesting that we vary Great Lakes Council's existing special variation under section 508A(9) of the *Local Government Act 1993*. This application is in accordance with the *Addendum to the Guidelines for the Preparation of an Application for a Special Variation to General Income in 2012/13* circulated by the Division of Local Government in March.

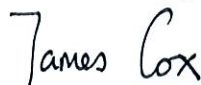
Please find attached a signed instrument which provides for a variation to clause 1 of the instrument issued to your council on 24 June 2011. This decision enables your council to bring its existing special variation into line with the way we have set the rate peg for 2012/13 and proposed adjustments to the rate peg in subsequent years, and reflects the equitable treatment that we have offered to all councils. Please note that the other clauses of the initial instrument still apply.

We note that your council has taken steps to inform the community that it is taking up the arrangement relating to the carbon price advance and withdrawal. This should include a statement in the council's draft operating plan and Statement of Revenue Policy.

We will be shortly publishing a fact sheet on our website which lists the approved changes for all councils that have been issued with a variation.

If you have any queries please contact Alison Milne on (02) 9290 8443.

Yours sincerely



James Cox PSM
Chief Executive Officer
and Full Time Member

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993
INSTRUMENT UNDER SECTION 508A(1)
GREAT LAKES COUNCIL

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal, delegate of the Minister for Local Government, pursuant to the delegation dated 6 September 2010, by this Order under section 508A(9) varies clause 1 of the Order issued to the Council on 24 June 2011 as follows:

1. Under section 508A(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) determines that the percentage by which Great Lakes Council may increase its general income for the period 2011/2012 to 2013/2014 is 26.32%, consisting of the following annual increases:

| | Year | Increase in annual general income (%) | Cumulative increase in general income (%) |
|----|---------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Y1 | 2011/12 | 8.00 | 8.00 |
| Y2 | 2012/13 | 8.40 | 17.07 |
| Y3 | 2013/14 | 7.90 | 26.32 |

Dated this

15th

day of

May

, 2012



Peter J. Boxall AO

Chairman, Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal

RECOMMENDATION:

That the 6 monthly review of the 2011/2015 Delivery Program and 2012/2013 Operational Plan be received and noted.

230 RESOLUTION

(Moved L Gill/Seconded C McCaskie)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

32 CCS - Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 December 2012

Index: Quarterly Reports
Author: Manager Finance - Gary Collins
Ordinary Meeting: 26 February 2013

RECOMMENDATION:

Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 December 2012 be received and the Budget variations be adopted.

231 RESOLUTION

(Moved J Weate/Seconded K Hutchinson)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

33 CCS - IPART Application - Environmental & Dredging Levy

Index: Special Rate Variation - Environmental Levy 2012-2013
Author: Manager Corporate Planning & Governance - Phil Brennan
Ordinary Meeting: 26 February 2013

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council make an application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) under section 508(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 for a special variation to its general income with the structure of the variation as set out in the report, being:

- A request for the IPART to revoke the final year of its existing section 508A approval, that being an increase in general income of 7.9% for 2013/2014;
- A permanent increase in Council's general income of 7.9% issued under section 508(2) and based on the purposes set out in Council's section 508A application previously approved by the IPART for 2013/2014; and
- The extension of the environmental and dredging special levy, being an amount equivalent to 6%, for 6 years commencing in 2014/2015 (ie moving the termination date of the existing levy (approved under section 508(2)) from 30 June 2014 to 30 June 2020).

232 RESOLUTION

(Moved K Hutchinson/Seconded L Gill)

That the above recommendation be adopted.

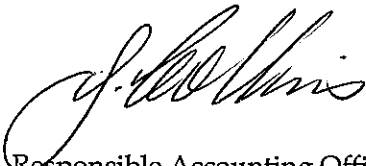
11 Certification by the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in this application is correct and complete.



General Manager (name): GLENN HANDFORD

Signature Date: 7/3/2013.



Responsible Accounting Officer (name): GARY COLLINS

Signature Date: 7/3/2013

Once signed, this certification must be scanned and submitted with the council's application.