

INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL
NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

3 February, 2017

A Special Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers, Administrative Centre, 144 Otho Street, Inverell on Wednesday, 8 February, 2017, commencing at **12.00pm**.

Your attendance at this Special Meeting of Council would be appreciated.

P J HENRY PSM

GENERAL MANAGER

A G E N D A

**SECTION A APOLOGIES
DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS/PECUNIARY AND
NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**






SECTION D DESTINATION REPORTS

- 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ARMIDALE REGIONAL COUNCIL**
- 2. DETERMINATION OF COURSE OF ACTION (SPECIAL RATE VARIATION)**

Quick Reference Guide

Below is a legend that is common between the:

- Inverell Shire Council Strategic Plan
- Inverell Shire Council Delivery Plan
- Inverell Shire Council Management Plan.

<i>Destinations</i>	<i>Icon</i>	<i>Code</i>
<p>1. A recognised leader in a broader context.</p> <p>Giving priority to the recognition of the Shire as a vital component of the New England North West Region through Regional Leadership.</p>		R
<p>2. A community that is healthy, educated and sustained.</p> <p>Giving priority to the Shire as a sustainable and equitable place that promotes health, well being, life long learning and lifestyle diversity.</p>		C
<p>3. An environment that is protected and sustained.</p> <p>Giving priority to sustainable agriculture, the protection and conservation of rivers, waterways bio diversity and the built environment.</p>		E
<p>4. A strong local economy.</p> <p>Giving priority to economic and employment growth and the attraction of visitors.</p>		B
<p>5. The Communities are served by sustainable services and infrastructure.</p> <p>Giving priority to the provision of community focused services and the maintenance, enhancement and upgrade of infrastructure.</p>		S

TO SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 08/02/2017

ITEM NO:	1.	FILE NO: S13.1.1
DESTINATION 1:	A recognised leader in a broader context	R
SUBJECT:	BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT - ARMIDALE REGIONAL COUNCIL	
PREPARED BY:	Paul Henry, General Manager	

SUMMARY:

The Tingha Citizens Association Incorporated (TCA) lobbied the Administrator of Armidale Dumaresq Council to transfer the 'Tingha Area' to Inverell Shire Council. As a result, the Administrator for the Armidale Regional Council has proposed a footprint for a boundary adjustment between Armidale Regional Council and Inverell Shire Council. The Committee is requested to determine a position in respect of this proposal.

COMMENTARY:A. MEETING WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR

As Council would be aware, the TCA have been pursuing the transfer of the 'Tingha Area' from Armidale Dumaresq Council to Inverell Shire Council. As a result, Council representatives have held discussions with the Administrator of Armidale Regional Council, Dr Ian Tiley, regarding the possibility of the 'Tingha Area' becoming part of Inverell Shire. Dr Tiley indicated that he is prepared to agree to the 'Tingha Area' being transferred to Inverell on the condition that any assets located in the 'Tingha Area' purchased with loan funds that still have an outstanding balance, then the liability is transferred together with the asset.

This condition is a 'standard condition' associated with either mergers or boundary adjustments, and therefore is a reasonable expectation by the Administrator. This codicil to any boundary adjustment is recommended for acceptance. However an initial examination of the accounts of Armidale Dumaresq Council doesn't indicate any outstanding loans specific to 'Tingha Assets'.

Dr Tiley indicated that at the Armidale Regional Council meeting to be held on 8 February, 2017, he will consider a report that proposes the transfer of this area to Inverell Shire Council. The proposal will then be placed on public display for 28 days and comment invited.

The matters raised during discussions with the Administrator were:

1. The 'Tingha Area'

The question of critical importance is: What area represents the 'Tingha Area'? Dr Tiley proposed a 393.6 km² area be transferred to Inverell Shire. A map of this area is shown at Appendix 1 (D10).

This area has the following features:

- Number of rateable assessments – 472,
- Total Land Value - \$20,874,000,
- Total Rates (General, Water & Sewerage) - \$547,375pa,
- Local Roads - 6.8km sealed and 36.8km unsealed,
- Bridges – 9 (all concrete)

The issue that your representatives couldn't resolve was: Is the area proposed by Dr Tiley a fair representation of the community of interest for the village of Tingha?

To gain some insight as to how to answer this question, contact was made with the TCA for comment. The Association's response was that a boundary adjustment utilising the Moredun Creek as a guide would fairly approximate the Tingha community of interest.

While the area proposed by Dr Tiley to be transferred to Inverell Shire Council is less than the 'Moredun Creek Option', it represents the option than can be achieved by consensus. Any other option would require a determination by a third party (eg Minister for Local Government and/or Boundaries Commission) and result in a delay of consideration of the request from the TCA ie for the Tingha Area to be part of Inverell Shire.

It is suggested that the boundary proposed by Dr Tiley be agreed to and that an option highlighted later in this report notified to the Minister for her consideration.

2. Due Diligence

In order to gain a greater insight into the issues associated with the area proposed for transfer, a series of questions were submitted to Armidale Regional Council. The response to these questions are shown at Appendix 2 (D11 – D16).

While there are a number of matters contained in the response that require further explanation, there does not appear to be any major items of concern from this initial due diligence.

During discussion with Dr Tiley the staffing numbers operating out of the Tingha Works Depot were discussed. A commitment was provided to Dr Tiley that the permanent staff operating from this Depot would be offered positions with Inverell Shire Council on the same terms and conditions as their current appointment.

On the proviso that the boundary adjustment proceeds, Council is requested to authorise the amendment of Council's organisational chart to include four (4) additional positions in the Civil & Environmental Services Division.

3. Merger Transition Fund and Strong Community/Regions Fund

When the merger of Guyra Shire and Armidale Dumaresq Councils occurred, the State Government provided the merged entity with \$5M from the Merger Transition Fund and \$10M from the Strong Community/Regions Fund.

Cr Harmon asked if any projects are planned to be implemented in Tingha and funded from these grant programs.

Dr Tiley advised that all communities of the Shire were invited to submit projects that could be considered for funding from this program, however at the close of the application period, no nominated projects were received from the Tingha community.

B. AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL

Another option for defining the 'Tingha Area' would be the area shown in Appendix 3 (D17). During the meeting with the Administrator, Inverell Shire Council proposed that this area be transferred to the Inverell Shire.

The rationale for putting forward this option is the area to the south west of Armidale Regional Council's proposal creates service difficulties for that Council – access to this area requires a significant amount of travel for their Guyra Depot, through either Uralla Shire or Inverell Shire to access the area.

The Administrator rejected this alternative and raised the possibility of Inverell Council servicing this area, under contract.

In the absence of any consensus between the Councils, the likelihood of this extended area being approved may be difficult to have accepted by the Minister.

C. THE PROCESS

The process governing the alteration of a Council's boundaries are set out in Chapter 9, Part 1, Division 2B of the *Local Government Act, 1993* (The Act). In summary, the process is:

- a) A proposal is submitted to the Minister for Local Government,
- b) The Minister may then refer the proposal to either the Boundaries Commission or the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Local Government for examination,
- c) The Boundaries Commission/Chief Executive Officer conducts the examination of the proposal in the manner set out in s.263-65 of the Act,
- d) The Minister considers the report from the Boundaries Commission/Chief Executive Officer and then determines the proposal. If the Minister determines that the proposal is to proceed a 'metes and bounds' description is required to be prepared by Land and Property Information (LPI) describing the proposed new boundaries. There is a cost associated with this task. An indicative fee quote of approximately \$500 has been provided by LPI for carrying out this task.

In order to expedite the process (at the appropriate time) Inverell Shire Council could consider meeting these costs.

D. RECOMMENDED APPROACH

The following actions are recommended for Council's consideration:

1. That the boundary alteration, as proposed by Armidale Dumaresq Council, be supported,
2. That any assets involved in the transfer, that have an undischarged liability, then the asset and liability be accepted by Inverell Shire Council,
3. That Inverell Shire Council meet the costs associated with obtaining a 'metes and bounds' description for this area,
4. That the Minister for Local Government be advised of the alternative proposal (as per Appendix 3, D17) suggested by Inverell Shire Council.
5. That if the proposed boundary adjustment proceeds, that Council authorise an amendment to the organisational structure to accommodate the four (4) staff positions domiciled at the Tingha Works Depot.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PLAN AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Strategy: R.08 Council leads the community by influencing and participating in policy development to the benefit of the Shire through partnerships and alliances with government, regional interests, shire groups and communities.

Term Achievement: R.08.01 A targeted program of advocacy and policy discussion is being conducted with the active cooperation of others benefiting interests around social, environmental, economic and infrastructure priorities.

Operational Objective: R.08.01.01 To facilitate intergovernmental relations to ensure maximum cooperation between the Council and the Federal and State Governments to achieve the optimum support for the Inverell Shire

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:

Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION:

A matter for Council.

ITEM NO:	2.	FILE NO: S25.11.3
DESTINATION 1:	A recognised leader in a broader context	R
SUBJECT:	PROPOSED SPECIAL RATE VARIATION (SRV) APPLICATION TO IPART	
PREPARED BY:	Paul Henry, General Manager	

SUMMARY:

This report provides Council with summarised detail on the matters that led to consideration of a Special Rate Variation and details of the community feedback from the community engagement process undertaken during the initial stages of preparing a SRV application. Council is now requested to determine if an application for a Special Rate Variation is to be submitted to IPART by the deadline of 14 February, 2017.

COMMENTARY:

At the November Council Meeting, it was resolved that IPART be advised of Council's intention to undertake preparatory work for a SRV application. A key component of this work is to seek community feedback on the basis of Council's approved FFF Roadmap – a 14.25% SRV phased in over three (3) years.

A program of community engagement activities was undertaken and the feedback from this program is included in this report.

1. Background

In 2014 the NSW Government introduced its Fit for the Future (FFF) program. This program required Councils to meet seven (7) asset and financial benchmarks in the areas of sustainability, infrastructure and service management/efficiency.

If a Council did not meet all these benchmarks, it was required to set out a plan that demonstrated how to meet these benchmarks by 30 June, 2020 and achieve long term sustainability.

Council did not meet all seven (7) benchmarks, so Council's plan was prepared that proposed:

- a) Utilising Council reserves to fund works to remove the 'infrastructure backlog',
- b) Continue with the 'best practice' / continuous improvement actions in order to contain expenditure growth, where possible,
- c) Seek a 14.25% SRV increase to ensure rate income was at a level that would meet the expenditure levels required to deliver services at current levels.

In May 2015, this plan was advertised for 14 days and community comment invited. A total of two (2) submissions were received. Following the closure of the exhibition period, this plan, or 'roadmap', was submitted and subsequently approved by IPART in October 2015.

2. Special Rate Variation

A key component of Council's improvement plan and the meeting of the benchmarks set by the State Government was to make an application to fund asset maintenance and renewal by way of a Special Rate Variation.

a) **The Improvement Plan**

The IPART approved Improvement Plan proposed that Council's general rate income be increased by 14.25% over three (3) years from 2017/2018 to 2019/2020. This increase would yield an additional \$16.24M over the period 2017/2018 to 2026/2027.

This plan proposed that all these additional funds be expended on Council's Regional and Shire road assets.

The stated intention of Council would see the following funds allocated, largely to the maintenance and renewal of road assets:

- \$5.10 million on roads infrastructure backlog;
- \$4.08 million to ensuring the General Fund remains in balance and all service levels across all Council's functions are maintained;
- \$2.76 million to additional maintenance of the rural road network (drainage, patching, roadside slashing, bitumen maintenance);
- \$1.67 million to bitumen reseals and gravel re-sheeting;
- \$1.11 million to road grading;
- \$0.40 million for urban asset renewals on urban streets;
- \$0.44 million allocated to culverts, drainage and footpath renewals; and
- \$0.68 million to maintaining Council's Industry Assistance/Joint Promotions Budget Allocation at a level as close to \$150K p.a. as possible.

Council's website contained all the background material that informed the FFF Roadmap including:

- Special Rate Variation Briefing Paper,
- Asset Plans,
- Long Term Financial Plan, and
- Four (4) Year Delivery Plan.

All these documents have been provided to Council previously.

b) **Community Engagement**

Beginning in May 2015, Council firstly notified the community of this proposed FFF Improvement Plan, then advertised the Draft Assets Management Plan and the Forward Financial Plan which informed the detail of a possible SRV application.

At its November 2016 Meeting, Council authorised the continuation of the Community Engagement process associated with the FFF Roadmap, Assets Management Plans / Forward Financial Plans and the SRV process. Each of these steps are integrated. The November 2016 decision by Council resulted in the following additional actions being undertaken to inform the Community of Council's intentions:

- Residents Newsletter,
- Dedicated webpage established,
- Kiosks set up at the Library and Council Chambers,
- Phone survey (conducted by Galaxy Research),
- UTS Deliberative Panel, and

- o Media Release to print, voice and web outlets.

Details on each of these activities are now provided for Councillors information/consideration.

i) Residents Newsletter

A four (4) page newsletter was prepared and distributed to all households in the Shire. A copy of the newsletter is attached as Appendix 4 (D18 – D21).

The method of distribution for this newsletter was by Australia Post.

The distribution of the newsletter generated approximately 25 personal visits to Council to discuss a variety of matters associated with the SRV process and what will be the impact on the rates of an individual property.

ii) Webpage on Council Website

A dedicated 'Special Rate Variation' webpage was established. This page contained all material associated with the SRV process. The information included:

- o Newsletter,
- o Frequently Asked Questions,
- o Financial Information,
- o Fit for the Future Fact Sheet (SRV),
- o Special Rate Variation – Briefing Paper,
- o Rate Comparison Table,
- o Rate Impact Table,
- o Road Asset Management Plan,
- o Path Asset Management Plan,
- o Drainage Asset Management Plan,
- o Long Term Financial Plan 2017 – 2027,
- o Four (4) Year Delivery Plan 2016 – 2020, and
- o Media Release – Council asks for Community Feedback.

The page also included a link to the 'Have Your Say' survey. This voluntary survey provided an opportunity for community members to express their views on the SRV. The format of the survey and an aggregated summary of the residents responses is shown as Appendix 5 (D22 – D52).

A total of 200 residents completed the survey. Councillors will note that not all questions were completed by the respondents. The survey format permitted participants to opt out of a particular question if they wished.

iii) Kiosks – Library and Council Chambers

The kiosks established at these locations provided an opportunity to view all the documents associated with the SRV application. The users of the kiosks could then proceed to complete the survey on the 'Have Your Say' portal.

A total of 19 residents accessed the SRV information at the Library, however the only access to the SRV information through the Kiosks in the Council Chambers foyer were the 'hits' carried out by staff when testing the kiosk.

17 residents accessing the site at the Library proceeded to the survey. Their responses are included in the aggregated responses detailed in Appendix 5 (D22 – D52).

iv) Phone Survey

The market research company, Galaxy Research, conducted a telephone survey of 400 residents. These residents were randomly selected from all geographic areas across the Shire.

The report provided by UTS, summarises the views of the residents canvased by this method, in the following manner:

"Inverell Shire residents consider Council to have an important role in providing both basic (i.e. essential) and non-essential services in the area. Revenue raised through land rates should be put towards both essential and non-essential services.

The services provided by Council should contribute to a healthier and fairer community, and the community should be involved in making decisions about them. When making decisions about services, value for money should be an important, though not the only, consideration.

Inverell Shire residents consider the services in their area to be at least adequate, if not excellent; though there are slight concerns over value for money. Most are not prepared to accept a decrease in services, even if this makes land rates cheaper; though there are mixed views on paying higher rates for an increase in services. Despite this, almost all Inverell Shire residents want Council to continue spending the same amount on services, if not more.

Essential services provided by Council such as roads and bridges; emergency and disaster management; and water, sewage, stormwater and drainage, are highly valued by the community. Further, the community thinks Council should invest more in most of these services.

Other services, such as economic development; youth services; and sporting and recreation facilities are not valued as highly as essential services but remain very important services to the community. The community thinks Council should maintain the current level of investment in most of these services."

A complete summary of this aspect of the Community Engagement process is included as part of the UTS Report which is attached as a separate document (Refer Attached - Section 2).

v) Deliberative Panel

The University of Technology (Sydney) invited 25 residents to be part of a Panel to consider background information on the need for a SRV and to provide comment on this information. The Panel met over 1.5 days.

At the end of the Panel's deliberations, two (2) members of the Panel were selected (by the Panel members) to make a presentation to Councillors. Councillors Harmon, Michael, Baker, Berryman and Watts were available to attend this briefing. Councillors Dight, King and McCosker apologised due to previous commitments.

The Councillors were not present during the deliberations by the panel.

A report of the Panel's deliberations is included in the UTS report which is attached as a separate document (Refer Attached – Section 3). In summary, the Panel found as follows:

"The role of Council in providing essential and non-essential services in the area is highly valued by the community, and the community should be involved in making decisions about these. Value for money should be an important, though not the only, consideration when making these decisions.

Council services are found to be adequate by the community, and the community is not prepared to accept a decrease in these. As a result, the community want Council to continue to spend the same amount, if not more, on services in the area.

When presented with Council's financial sustainability issue:

- *Existing service levels cannot be maintained in the future without an increase in revenue;*

And then:

- *Given options to address this - either 1) increasing rates above the rate peg via a SRV, or 2) reducing service levels*

And following detailed consideration of the same financial and service delivery evidence and information that is made available to elected representatives, everyday community members identify increasing rates as the preferred mechanism for addressing Council's financial sustainability issue.

This holds true for community members who, prior to considering this evidence and information, prefer cutting spending or services in some areas. After considering this, these community members shift their preference to increasing rates as the mechanism to address financial sustainability issues.

After considering the background evidence and information on Council's financial sustainability and service levels, the need for and extent of Council's SRV application is generally accepted by the community. However, there are some qualifications - principally, that Council consider phasing in the SRV over a longer time period (6 years) than is currently proposed."

vi) Media Releases

During the period, media releases were prepared and provided to local and regional media outlets. The releases were prepared to promote the opportunities for the community to comment (on the SRV information).

vii) Letters

Since November 2016, 17 letters regarding the SRV have been received.

A summary of the content of these letters is attached as Appendix 6 (D53).

It will be noted that six (6) of the correspondent's express opposition to a SRV application and four (4) correspondents express support for the SRV application.

c) Variation to the Timing of a SRV Increase

During the Deliberative Panel session, some members suggested that perhaps the 14.25% rate increase be introduced over six (6) years, rather than three (3) years.

The implication of this suggested six (6) year strategy would be a negative impact on Council's FFF Benchmarks. The negative impacts can be summarised as:

- o Council's revenues would be reduced for each financial year e.g. \$0.51M in 2017/2018, \$1.06M in 2018/2019 and \$1.6M in 2019/2020,
- o Expenditure on Council services will therefore be reduced by a corresponding amount,
- o The Infrastructure Backlog will not be reduced to the required levels by 2020, the rate of improvement will plateau and then start to increase.

As a result, Council will not meet all the FFF benchmarks by the 30 June, 2020 deadline imposed by the State Government. At 30 June, 2020 the 'Fitness' of all Councils will be again assessed by the Office of Local Government.

If all the benchmarks are not achieved, Council will be deemed 'Not Fit for the Future'. The course of action that the Government will take has not been announced, however possible actions are:

- a) The Minister issues Council with an 'Improvement Notice', and/or
- b) The Minister appoints a Financial Controller to take charge of all financial matters on behalf of the Council.

The recent announcement that the National Party will oppose any forced mergers of Council, it would be reasonable to assume that 'Council Mergers' is not a part of the suite of options available to the Minister for Local Government. However the 30/6/2020 review date is after the 2019 State Election.

d) Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) Documents

At the November 2016 Council Meeting, it was resolved that all the IP&R documents be updated to reflect the 2015/2016 audited financial results, the three (3) budget impacts that occurred since adoption of the Long Term Financial Plan in June, 2016 increased Government Charges (increased emergency service levy, increased maintenance charges for river gauges and increased Audit Charges) the less than adequate 1.5% IPART 2017/2018 Rate Peg announcement and the changes in Land Valuations caused by the Valuer General's 2016 valuation.

The impacts of these changes were included in the briefing paper provided to Councillors on 9 November, 2016. These documents were amended and placed on public exhibition. Based on the 25 personal visits by Ratepayers to Council and their comments to staff, it is evident that these updated documents have been considered.

No specific comments from the community on these amended documents have been received.

Council is requested to now formally adopt the amended IP&R documents.

e) Council Determination

Council is now requested to determine if a SRV application is to be submitted to IPART.

If Council determines to submit an application, the application is required to be lodged by 13 February, 2017.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PLAN AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:

Strategy: R.06 Council ensures it is able to provide resources to effectively deliver its Strategy and Programs.

Term Achievement: R.06.02 Council's financial sustainability is being managed through best practices, diverse investment strategies and asset management control.

Operational Objective: R.06.02.01 Management of Council's assets achieves the highest order of effectiveness and efficiency.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICERS COMMENT:

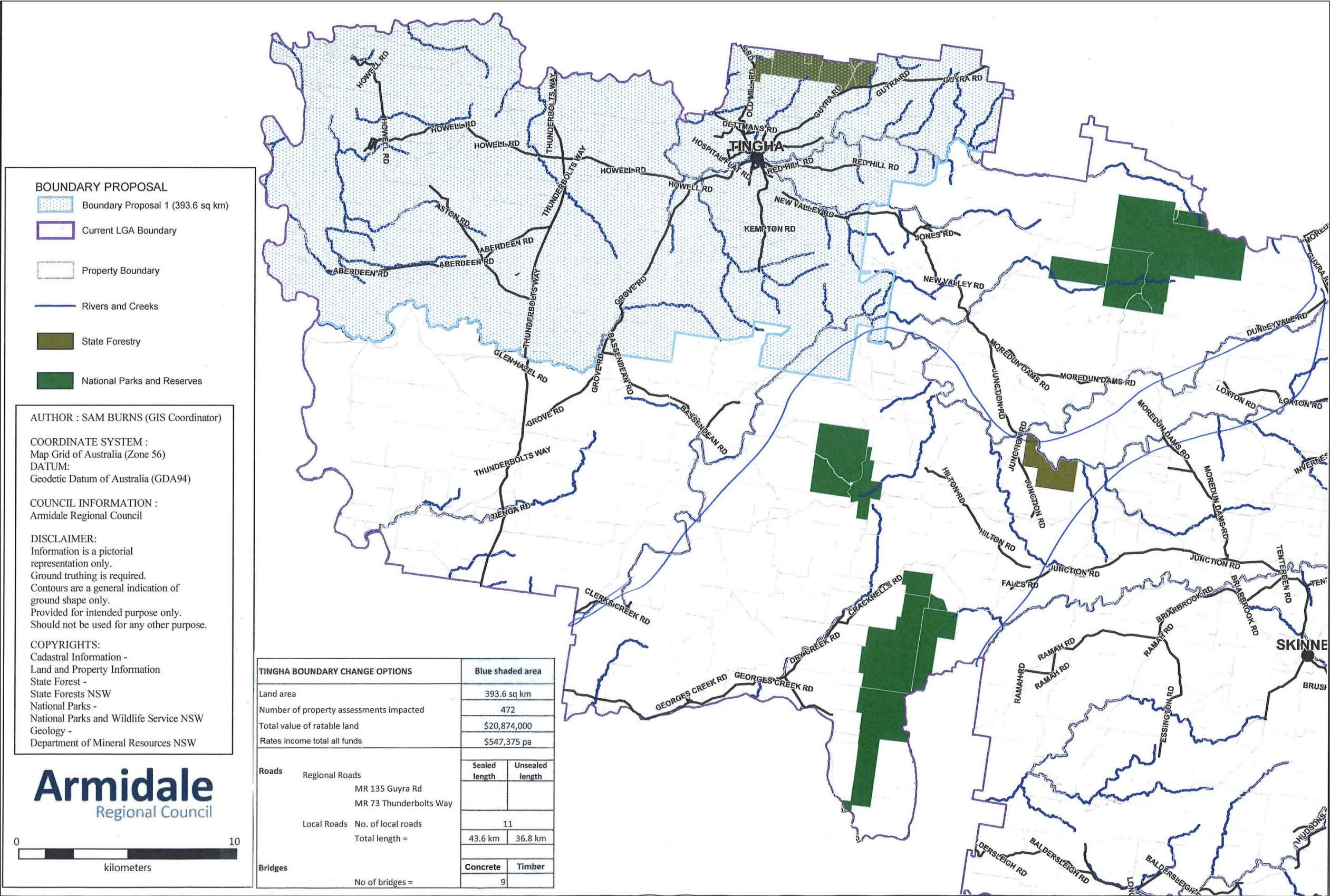
Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION:

A matter for Council.



APPENDIX 2



135 Rusden Street
PO Box 75A Armidale NSW 2350
P: 1300 136 833
council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
ABN 39 642 954 203

Memo

☐ Action Required

☐ Notation Only

File Number: ARC16/0002

Date: 20 December 2016

Attention: Mayor Paul Harmon, Inverell Shire Council
Mr Paul Henry, General Manager Inverell Shire Council

Copy: Dr Ian Tiley, Administrator Armidale Regional Council

Possible Boundary Adjustment – Tingha Location

The following matters to be addressed were noted during the meeting between Armidale Regional Council and Inverell Shire Council on 8 December 2016.

Human Resources

How many Staff operate out of the Tingha Depot? What are their roles and responsibilities?

One staff member, Tingha Town Operator is based out of Tingha. One Speedie Staff worker assists.

Two additional employees, and are based at the Tingha depot because they live in Tingha but their primary role is to carry out maintenance grading on all roads west of Guyra and south to Bundarra. They are currently doing construction work in Ben Lomond.

Are there any enterprise agreements covering these staff? Are there any proposed changes to their conditions as a result of the application of the salary system?

There are no enterprise agreements and no proposed changes to conditions.

Engineering

What assets are housed at the Tingha Depot?

- A grader, roller, backhoe, utility, and a small truck along with small plant (mowers, chainsaw, pressure cleaner etc).
- Approximately one dozen E1 pressure sewer pumps for sewer system.
- One 20 foot and 40 foot container and the depot shed.
- One 10kl bitumen emulsion tank.
- One 1800 litre portable fuel tank and one 1100 litre portable fuel tank.

Are there any liabilities associated specifically with these assets?

No.

Are there any assets due for renewal? Are there any internally restricted assets established to meet these replacement costs?

General Plant fund.

DESTINATION REPORTS TO SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 08/02/2017

Armidale
Regional Council

335 Rusden Street
PO Box 75A Armidale NSW 2350
P: 1300 136 833
council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
ABN 39 642 954 203

TINGHA INSURED ASSETS

Council Asset No.	Asset Site	Description	Street No.	Address	Estimated Value of Liability	Contents Insurance Value	Other Value \$	Total Insurance Value \$	Ownership	Occupant	Floors	Ext Walls	Secondary Walls	Roof	BA	HR	E	SD	ES	H	S	FA	EL	Security Fencing
95	1	Town Hall	15-16	Ruby St	\$ 1,970,000	\$ 23,000		\$ 1,993,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Brick	Timber	Galvanised Iron			Y		Y					
96	9	Sanitary Depot		Inverell Rd	\$ 23,000	\$ -		\$ 23,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Galvanised Iron		Galvanised Iron			Y							Yes
101	10	Bushfire Equipment Shed	20-22	Ruby St	\$ 75,000	\$ 15,000		\$ 90,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Galvanised Iron		Galvanised Iron										Yes
103	10	Bushfire Equipment Shed		Ruby Street	\$ 160,000	\$ 20,000		\$ 200,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Galvanised Iron		Galvanised Iron										
112.11	3	Works Depot Building/Fencing/First Aid Room/Store/Lunch Room/Dog Pound	101	New Valley Rd	\$ 94,000	\$ 8,000		\$ 102,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Galvanised Iron		Galvanised Iron										Yes
112.12	3	Emaleum tank	101	New Valley Rd			\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Other												Yes
125	21	Shire Bushfire 2-way Radio Repeater Station incl. Power supply, repeater, diplexer, antennae, coaxial cable, backup battery		Appro x. 50kms east of Guyra			\$ 31,000	\$ 31,000	Council															Yes
126		Wing Hing Long Store - Historical Museum	14	Ruby St	\$ 960,000	\$ 12,000		\$ 972,000	Council		Timber	Timber	Timber	Galvanised Iron			Y	Y	Y					
128	21	Shire Bushfire 2-way Radio Repeater Station incl. Power supply, repeater, diplexer, antennae, coaxial cable, backup battery			\$ 5,600		\$ 18,000	\$ 23,600	Council															Yes
129	21	Shire Bushfire 2-way Radio Repeater Station incl. Power supply, repeater, diplexer, antennae, coaxial cable, backup battery					\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000	Council															Yes
131.3	22	Ruby Street		Ruby Street	\$ 35,000	\$ -		\$ 35,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Brick		Galvanised Iron										
131.4	17	Symas Park Shelter Shed-Toilets		Sapphire Street	\$ 121,000			\$ 121,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Brick		Galvanised Iron										
132.4	17	Grahams Park		Ruby Street	\$ 40,000			\$ 40,000	Council															
133.2	17	Symas Park Shelter Shed		Sapphire Street	\$ 2,000			\$ 2,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Galvanised Iron		Galvanised Iron										
136	3	Shed & fencing	156	Kempson Rd	\$ 16,000	\$ -		\$ 16,000	Council								Y							Yes
137	10	SCS Equipment Shed		Off Ruby St	\$ 180,000	\$ 10,000		\$ 190,000	Council		Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Galvanised Iron		Galvanised Iron			Y							Yes
139	13	Home Units	2-4	Sapphire Street	\$ 500,000			\$ 500,000	Council	Domestic	Reinforced Concrete/Concrete	Brick	Timber	Galvanised Iron			Y	Y	Y	Y				
					\$ 4,125,800	\$ 88,000	\$ 88,000	\$ 4,299,800																

The insured assets summary table above is indicative only, depending on final boundary location. Based on 2016/17 renewal costs, Inverell Shire Council would face approximately \$9000.00 in premium per year for the assets.



135 Rusden Street
PO Box 75A Armidale NSW 2350
P: 1300 136 833
council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
ABN 39 642 954 203

Roads Maintenance

Tingha roads (proposed for IRC)		Length of road (m)		
Road Name	Class**	Bitumen	Gravel	Annual cost
MR 135 Inverell to Guyra Rd		12.5	km @ \$5,000* /km	
MR 73 Thunderbolts Way (50%)		12.32	km @ \$5,000* /km	
Aberdeen Rd	D		9,780	12323
Aston Rd	D		2,120	2671
Dettmans Rd	C	300		600
Grove Rd (60% of length)	C	4,000	4,400	13544
Hospital Flat Rd	C	1,500	100	3126
Howell Rd	C	20,000		40000
Kempton Rd	D	2,200	4,000	9440
New Valley Rd (50% of length)	C	5,000		10000
Old Mill Rd	C	4,000		8000
Red Hill Rd	D	3,000	4,521	11696
Cost of maintenance		40,025	24,921	\$235,500

Note * \$5000 = approx value of rds component of block grant per km

Note ** Class refers to freq of grading

The above table summarises the roads impacted by Armidale Regional Council's proposed boundary change. The area (394.4 sq km) has 40 km of sealed roads and 25 km of unsealed roads, which costs approximately \$235,500 per year to maintain.

Are any projects planned for Tingha that will be funded from the Stronger Community Fund? When will they be undertaken?

No projects identified.

Are water and sewer activities operated as a stand alone fund? Are there any outstanding liabilities for these activities?

Guyra and Tingha are in the same water fund and sewer fund.

What is the status of the Tingha Waste facility? What are the waste collection arrangement/ contracts?

Unlicensed landfill disposal site

Henry Brown is the contractor for the landfill. Contract expires 1 Jan 2017, but he has agreed to a month by month extension. He also collects recyclables with a house to house service weekly.

Cleanaway has the household collection contract.

How many quarries/ gravel pits are there in the area? Are any required to be restored? Are there any IRA established for this purpose?

The Mt Topper Pit (inactive for at least three years). No further restoration required.

Armidale

Regional Council

135 Rusden Street
PO Box 75A Armidale NSW 2350
P: 1300 136 833
council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
ABN 39 642 954 203



Environmental

Are there any environmental issues that have been identified and are required to be addressed?
No.

Legal

Are there any legal actions pending/commenced?
No, aside from normal unpaid rates process.

Service Contracts for the Tingha Area

In addition to waste and landfill, the following additional contracts are in place:

- Trevor Masterton – street sweeping, cleaning of toilets and clearing of rubbish from Tingha foreshore. Expires 31 Dec 2016 – has agreed to a 1 month extension to the end of Jan 2017.
- Buffalo Lodge – agreement to lock and unlock public toilets in main street on a daily basis – started 3 Dec 2011 – no end date (until further notice).

Leases or Licences

- Symes Aged Units (approximately five).
- 50% ownership of the Tingha Town Hall (Anaiwan being the other party to that arrangement).
- NBN Co – Albion Flat Road Tingha – to 2033.

Description	Lands Classification	Formatted Address	Comments	Income	Expenditure	Action List
Symes Park and Aged Units	Community Land	Lot 4 DP 704 Sapphire Street TINGHA NSW 2369				
Village	Operational Land	29 Diamond Street TINGHA NSW 2369	Salvos			Feasibility report
Hall, RFS Shed, Toilets	Operational Land	16-18 Ruby Street TINGHA NSW 2369	Managed by Anaiwan LALC	731	9308	Development of Management Plan
Tingha Water	Operational	32 Albion Flat Road TINGHA				



135 Rusden Street
PO Box 75A Armidale NSW 2350
P: 1300 136 833
council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
ABN 39 642 954 203

Description	Lands Classification	Formatted Address	Comments	Income	Expenditure	Action List
Reservoir	Land	NSW 2369				
Vacant Land	Operational Land	50 Old Mill Road TINGHA NSW 2369				
Symes Park/ Tingha Aged Units	Community Land	2-4 Sapphire Street TINGHA NSW 2369				
Tingha Public Toilets	Operational Land	20-22 Ruby Street TINGHA NSW 2369				
Bushfire Brigade Shed	Operational Land	2472 Thunderbolts Way STANBOROUGH NSW 2360				
Tingha Rubbish Tip	Operational Land	156 Kempton Road TINGHA NSW 2369				
Mrangalli Aboriginal Centre	Operational Land	209 New Valley Road TINGHA NSW 2369				
Wing Hing Long - Museum	Operational Land	14 Ruby Street TINGHA NSW 2369	Managed by committee			Review Management Plan
Tingha Cemetery	Community Land	23 Garnet Street TINGHA NSW 2369				
Sewer Ponds	Operational Land	Lot 1 DP 1120941 Guyra Road TINGHA NSW 2369				
Waste Cell - Tingha Rubbish Tip	Operational Land	Lot 123 DP 42110 Kempton Road TINGHA NSW 2369				
Impound Yards	Operational Land	224 Howell Road TINGHA NSW 2369				

What policies/practices exist regarding donations, sponsorship, self help etc...?

Tingha was allocated \$20,000 annually through the Grants and Sponsorship Policy, and specifically nominated in the budget and operational plan each year.

Finance

What is the status of outstanding rates and debtors (attached to property)?

- Total rates levied for the year are \$547,374.71 the second instalment should now be paid so we would expect total outstanding rates to be approximately \$273,687.36.
- Total outstanding rates as at 15/12/2016 are \$465,610.93.
- Total outstanding water usage is \$42,532.56.
- Total outstanding property related debtors are \$19,167.27.

Total outstanding as at 15/12/2016 across all assessments identified is \$527,310.76.

All Emergency service levy requirements are currently being implemented across all Armidale Regional Council ready for the start date 1/7/2017

In regards to Tingha projects, Armidale Regional Council does not recognise all Tingha as separate projects. Where practicable historical costs of Tingha projects is below.

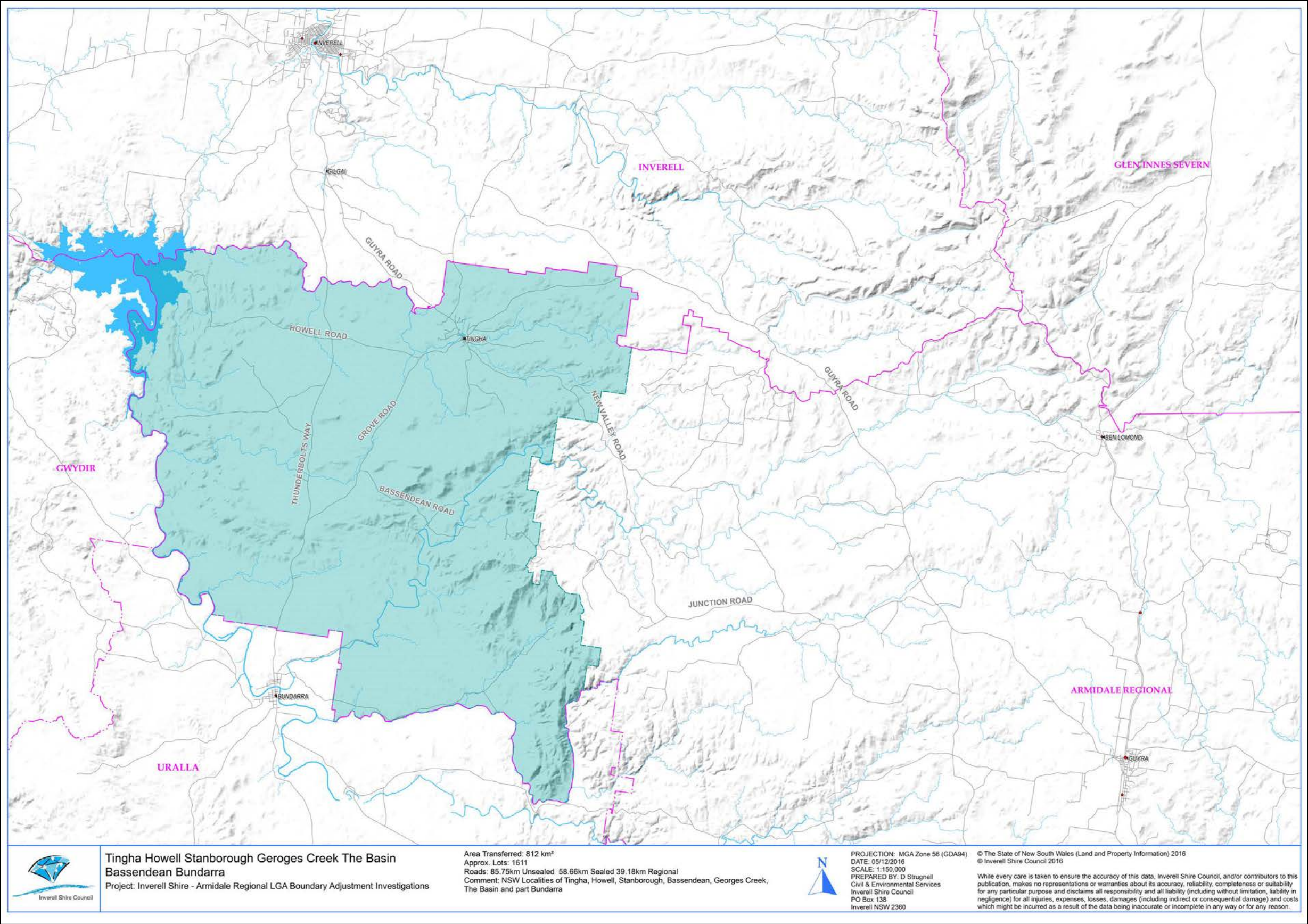


135 Rusden Street
PO Box 75A Armidale NSW 2350
P: 1300 136 833
council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
ABN 39 642 954 203

Description	2010/2011 Actual	2011/2012 Actual	2012/2013 Actual	2013/2014 Actual	2014/2015 Actual	2015/2016 Actual	Actual Year To Date
300158 - GSC - Tingha Aged Units	(17,164.32)	(3,159.24)	(12,732.13)	(19,650.14)	2,838.12	(18,514.37)	(9,165.44)
300162 - GSC - Tingha Cemetery	5,398.55	13,809.19	6,872.19	9,578.61	4,190.92	(488.41)	7,631.91
300168 - GSC - Tingha Tip	43,319.79	59,434.90	59,638.57	61,178.55	61,709.96	50,328.70	38,919.95
300169 - GSC - Tingha Town Hall	8,669.09	9,191.53	5,689.83	8,720.26	11,794.88	8,872.86	3,734.67
Total	40,223.11	79,276.38	59,468.46	59,827.28	80,533.88	40,198.78	41,121.09

This is not inclusive of any work on roads, parks and gardens, and other functions conducted in the Tingha area.

APPENDIX 3



APPENDIX 4

Newsletter

Special Rate Variation

December 2016


INVERELL
SHIRE COUNCIL

Message from the Mayor

We need your help to make some important decisions. Like many other NSW councils, our roads, footpaths, drainage and other community assets require ongoing maintenance and upgrades to ensure they meet the needs of the community.

As things currently stand, Council's revenue is regulated under 'rate pegging'. The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) sets a rate peg which limits the amount by which councils can increase their rate revenue from one year to the next. For many years, the rate peg has not kept pace with the cost to provide services to the community.

We are seeking your feedback on a proposal to apply to IPART for a Special Rate Variation (SRV). Council has identified a 14.25% SRV is required. Without this, Council will not be able to meet the community service delivery and infrastructure needs and will not be Fit for the Future.

While we understand a rate rise is never welcome, we believe a SRV is necessary to meet the needs of the community.

In November 2016, Council engaged the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) to conduct independent community consultation regarding a SRV. We will also be seeking community feedback through a range of media, including online and hardcopy formats, with details on page 4.

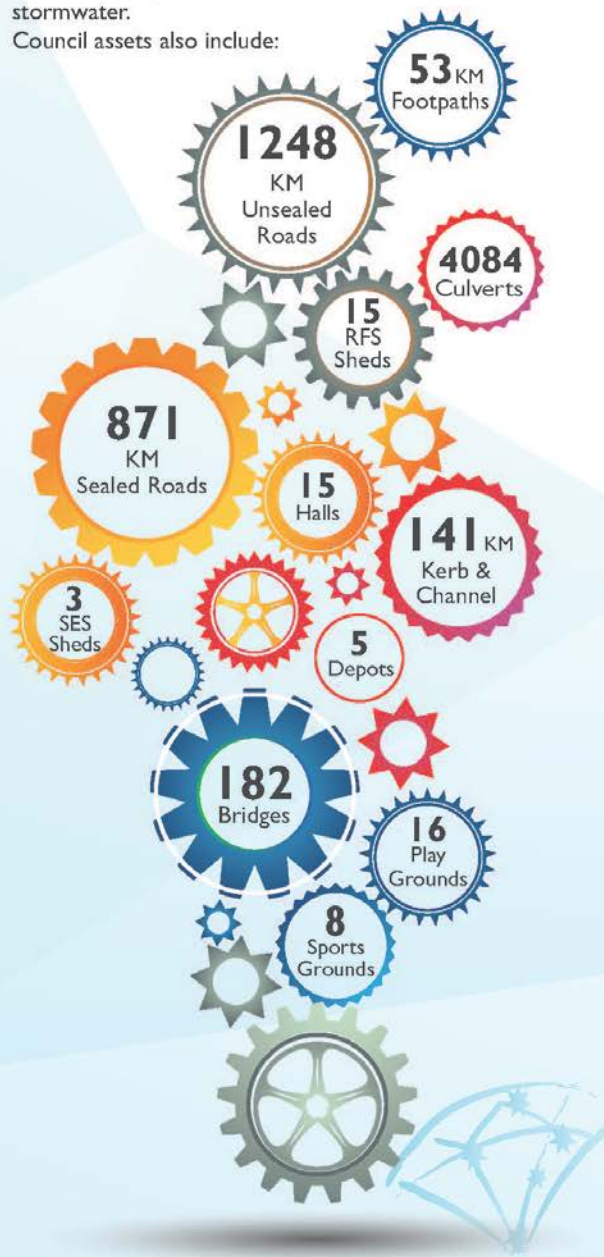
Our priority is to ensure a vibrant future for our community, so I encourage you to take the time to read this newsletter. More in-depth information is also available at our website www.inverell.nsw.gov.au and at the locations listed on page 4.

- Mayor Paul Harmon.

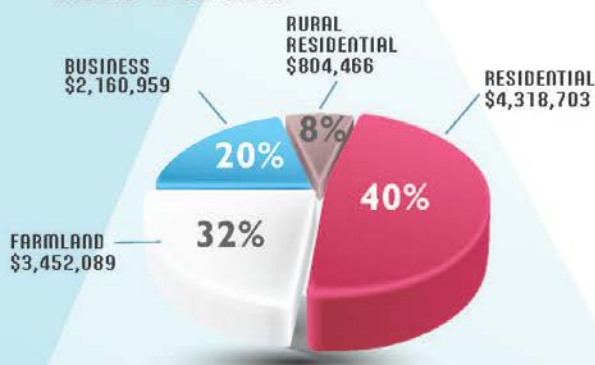
Did you know?

The main types of assets paid by your general rates include roads, bridges, parks and recreation, building and stormwater.

Council assets also include:



Current Distribution of Rate Burden



Since 2011, 128 councils in NSW have received a Special Rate Variation (SRV).

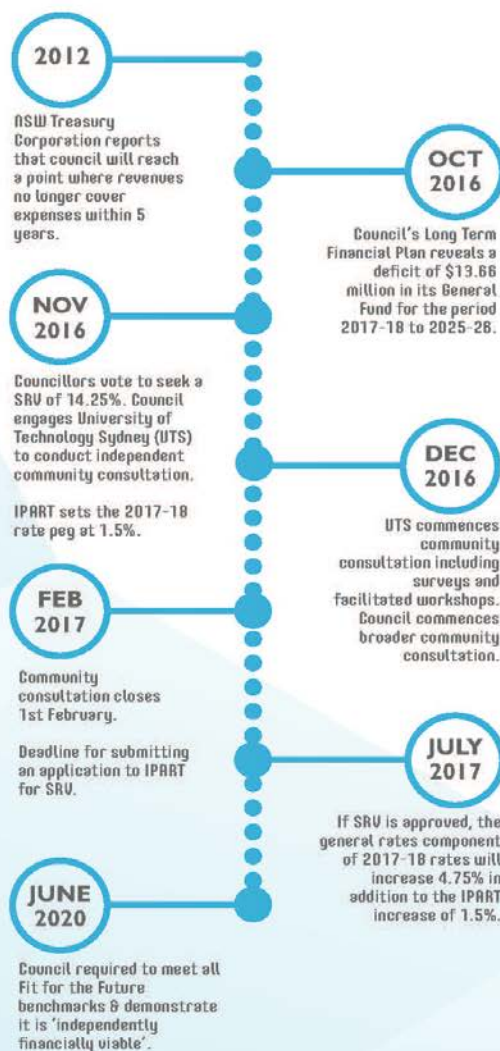
The average SRV during this time is over 20%.

In the New England-North West, SRV levels include:

- > Tamworth 20.6%
- > Glen Innes 26.8%
- > Gwydir 30.0%
- > Tenterfield 45.0%
- > Armidale 12.36%
- > Moree 27.75%

Local government costs have increased 7.3% p.a. 'year on year' for the last 20 years (McKell Institute 2016).

Timeline for the SRV





How do our current rates compare with others?

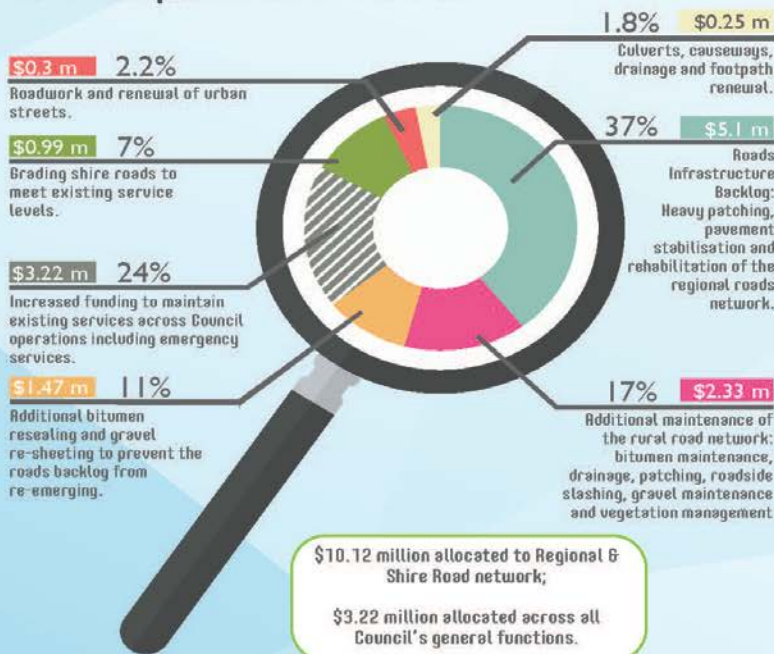
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FARMLAND RATES	RESIDENTIAL RATES	MINING RATES	BUSINESS RATES	TOTAL GENERAL RATE INCOME
Tamworth Regional	5,325,636	20,663,321	16,458	5,656,776	31,662,191
Moree Plains	14,056,808	4,200,878	-	2,423,784	20,681,470
Armidale Dumaresq	2,570,910	9,190,362	23,798	2,250,900	14,035,970
Narrabri	5,898,596	4,041,235	690,337	1,281,941	11,912,109
Inverell	3,290,612	4,889,543	-	2,077,008	10,257,163
Gwydir	4,818,253	755,808	-	130,010	5,704,071
Glen Innes Severn	2,361,290	2,640,433	290	47,421	5,549,434
Uralla	1,938,781	1,475,831	-	98,989	3,513,601
Guyra	874,328	705,611	2,949	98,778	2,681,666

NOTE: The above 2014-15 figures are the most recent available audited figures available for all councils. All of the councils listed have increased their rates by at least the rate peg amount since 2014-15.

Phase in period for the SRV

- 1** The SRV applies to your General Rates only and does not apply to the Waste Management, Water and Sewerage charges on your Rates Notice. 
- 2** The 14.25% SRV will be phased in at 4.75% p.a. over 3 years, commencing from 1st July 2017 and will be in addition to the IPART approved Rate Peg of 1.5% in 2017-18 and 2.5% for the following two years ending 30 June 2020.
- 3** During this 3 year period, Waste, Water and Sewerage charges will increase less than 1% per annum.
- 4** The 14.25% SRV will generate \$13.66 million over a 9 year period from 2017-18 to 2025-26. See below for where this will be spent. 

Where will the \$13.66 million SRV be spent over the period to 2025-26?



To see how the Special Rate Variation impacts on your rates, a sample Rate Comparison Table is provided on page 4.

Improving our Operational Efficiency

In recent years, Council has focused on making significant savings and efficiencies, including:

- ✓ Annual electricity cost savings of \$445,000 per annum due to installation of solar energy and LED street lighting;
- ✓ Achieving Workers Compensation premiums of \$1.67 per \$100 of wages paid against an industry average of \$3.61 per \$100 of wages paid.
- ✓ Governance and administration costs of \$165.85 per capita, which is 55% below similar sized NSW councils.
- ✓ Council has achieved a 21% (3% per annum) organisational wide efficiency gain in the last 7 years.
- ✓ Gravel road re-sheeting costs 49% less than NSW regional road average rates.
- ✓ Bitumen reseal rates of \$3.70 per square metre; 25% below industry cost benchmarks.
- ✓ NSW Treasury's assessment of service and infrastructure delivery benchmarks found Council to be well managed (2013).



How will the Rate Peg + 14.25% SRV Impact on My Rates?

RATING CATEGORY	2016-17 Average Rate \$	2017-18 Avg Rate with 4.75% SRV + 1.5% Rate Peg (6.25%)	2018-19 Avg Rate with 4.75% SRV + 2.5% Rate Peg (7.25%)	2019-20 Avg Rate with 4.75% SRV + 2.5% Rate (7.25%)	Cumulative impact over 3 years (annual) \$	Cumulative impact after 3 years (weekly) \$
Residential Inverell	935.94	994.41	1,066.50	1,143.82	207.87	4.00
Residential General	603.59	641.32	687.82	737.66	134.07	2.58
Residential Ashford	449.38	477.47	512.09	549.23	99.84	1.92
Residential Delungra	472.72	502.27	538.68	577.74	105.03	2.02
Residential Gilgai	532.94	566.24	607.30	651.34	118.40	2.28
Residential Yetman	464.67	493.72	529.51	567.95	103.28	1.99
Rural Residential	870.85	925.35	992.51	1,064.52	193.68	3.72
Farmland	2,586.49	2,747.82	2,946.93	3,160.59	574.11	11.04
Business Inverell	4,712.61	5,007.10	5,370.10	5,759.38	1,046.76	20.13
Business other	1,348.71	1,433.01	1,536.90	1,648.35	299.64	5.76

The cumulative increase in rates (SRV + Rate Peg) is 22.2%.

Further information & how to provide Feedback:

We are providing a number of ways for the community to obtain further information about the SRV and provide feedback. For more information, call 02 6728 8288 or visit www.myinverellmysay.com.au.

Printed Fact Sheets on the SRV are also available at:

- > Council Administration Centre;
- > Inverell Shire Library;
- > Ashford Rural Transaction Centre;
- > Gilgai Store;
- > Delungra Post Office; and
- > Yetman General Store.

Consultation closes 1st February 2017

Galaxy Research will also be conducting an independent survey of residents during December.

Online Survey

Complete the survey developed by Galaxy Research at www.myinverellmysay.com.au

Free Internet Kiosk

Complete the survey developed by Galaxy Research at our free internet kiosk at Inverell Shire Library.

Public Display

Information displays are in place at Inverell Shire Library and Council's Administration Centre.
Printed materials are also available at locations listed above.

Post

Send your feedback to Inverell Shire Council, PO Box 138 Inverell 2360 or yoursay@inverell.nsw.gov.au

Please note, while we endeavour to avoid posting more than one newsletter to each household, some residents who own multiple properties or hold land under different titles may receive more than one newsletter. If you receive more than one newsletter to your address, please advise council by email - council@inverell.nsw.gov.au or phone 67288288.



CONTACT US:
Inverell Shire Council
144 Otho Street, Inverell NSW 2360
www.inverell.nsw.gov.au
yoursay@inverell.nsw.gov.au
02 67288288

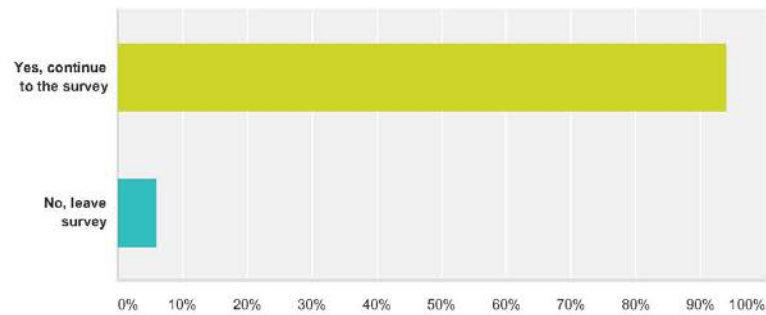
APPENDIX 5

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q1 Would you like to continue with this survey?

Answered: 200 Skipped: 0



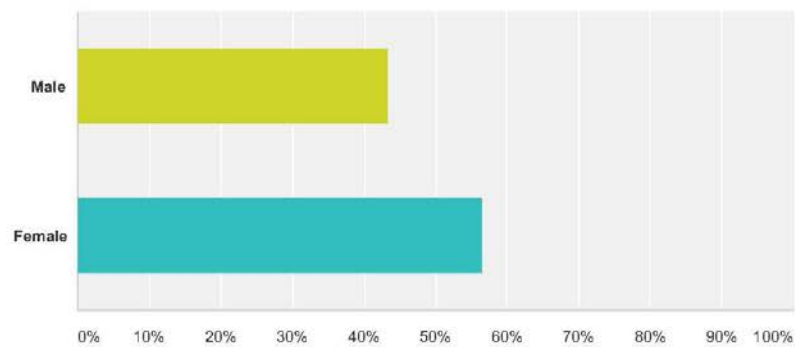
Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, continue to the survey	94.00% 188
No, leave survey	6.00% 12
Total	200

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q2 Are you:

Answered: 161 Skipped: 39



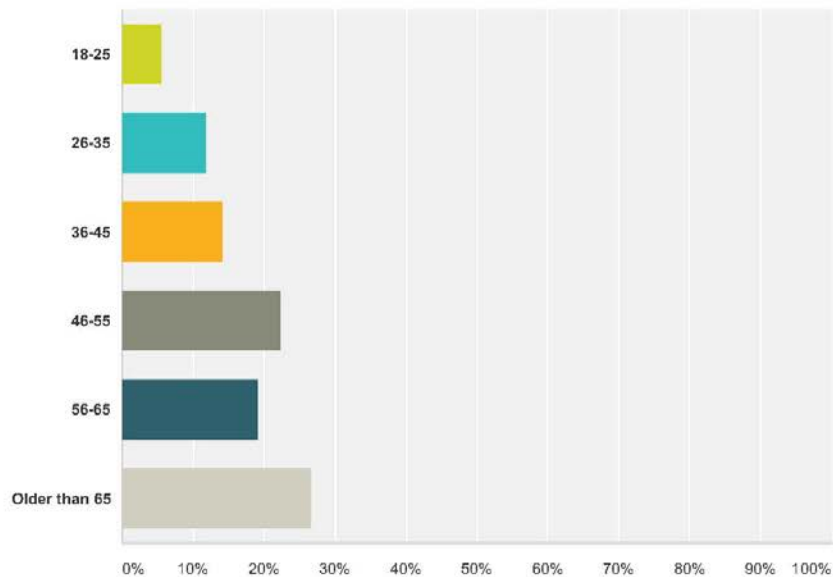
Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	43.48%	70
Female	56.52%	91
Total		161

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q3 How old are you?

Answered: 161 Skipped: 39



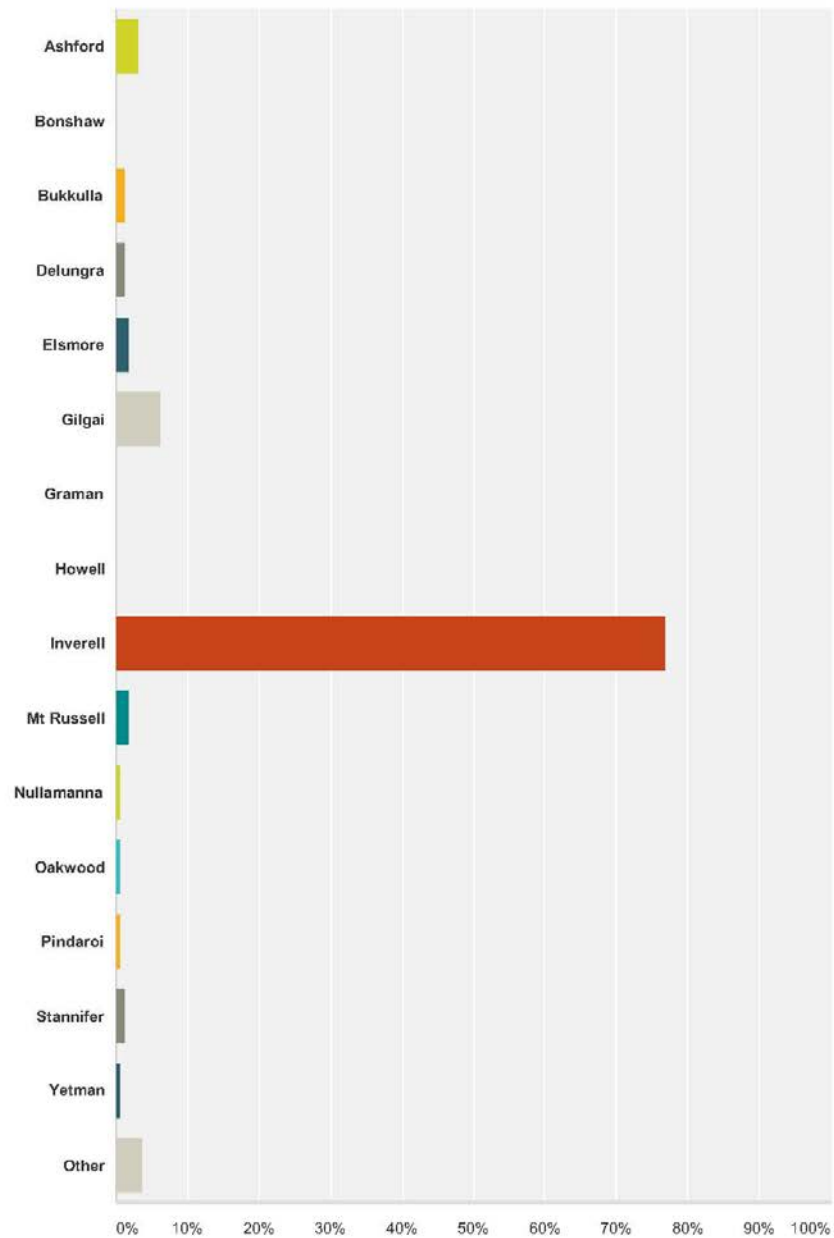
Answer Choices	Responses
18-25	5.59% 9
26-35	11.80% 19
36-45	14.29% 23
46-55	22.36% 36
56-65	19.25% 31
Older than 65	26.71% 43
Total	161

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q4 What suburb do you live in

Answered: 159 Skipped: 41



Answer Choices	Responses
Ashford	3.14% 5

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

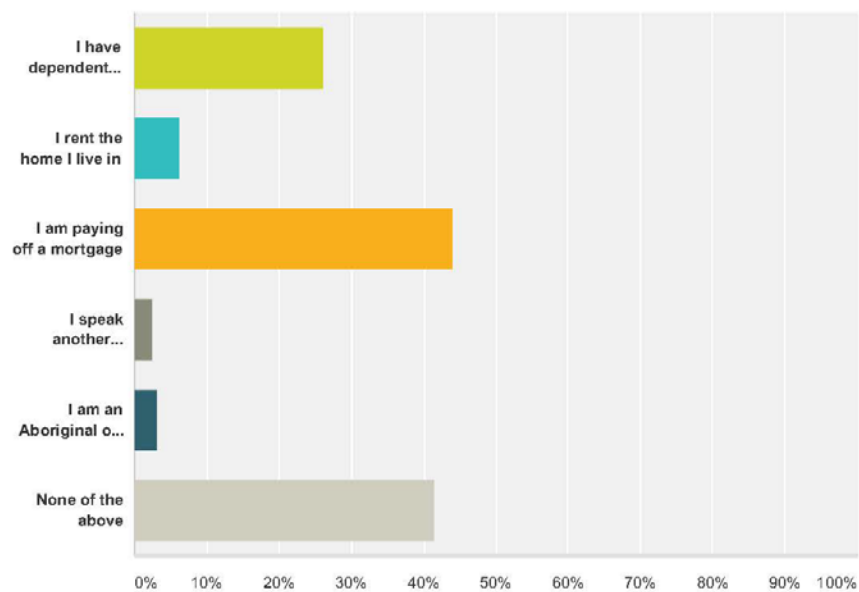
Bonshaw	0.00%	0
Bukkulla	1.26%	2
Delungra	1.26%	2
Elsmore	1.89%	3
Gilgai	6.29%	10
Graman	0.00%	0
Howell	0.00%	0
Inverell	76.73%	122
Mt Russell	1.89%	3
Nullamanna	0.63%	1
Oakwood	0.63%	1
Pindaroi	0.63%	1
Stannifer	1.26%	2
Yetman	0.63%	1
Other	3.77%	6
Total		159

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

**Q5 Which of the following applies to you
and your household (Select all that apply to
you)**

Answered: 161 Skipped: 39



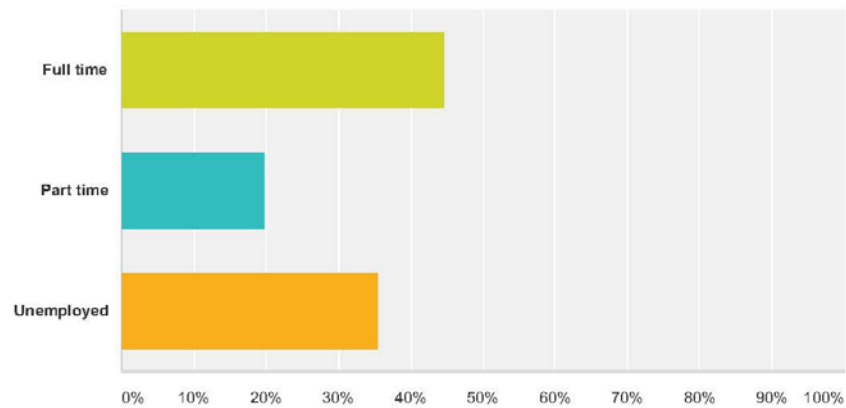
Answer Choices	Responses	
I have dependent children under the age of 18	26.09%	42
I rent the home I live in	6.21%	10
I am paying off a mortgage	44.10%	71
I speak another language other than English at home	2.48%	4
I am an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	3.11%	5
None of the above	41.61%	67
Total Respondents: 161		

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q6 What is your employment status?

Answered: 161 Skipped: 39



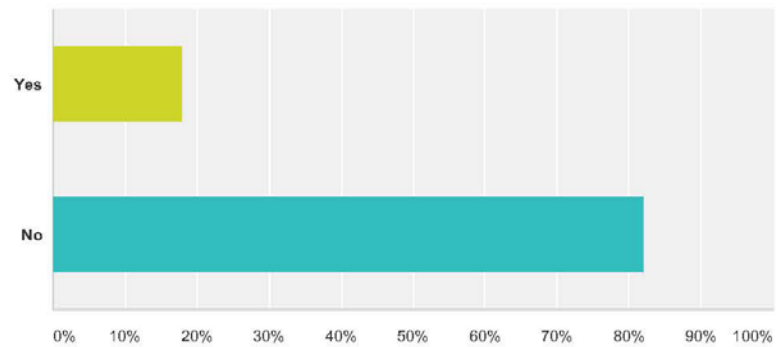
Answer Choices	Responses	
Full time	44.72%	72
Part time	19.88%	32
Unemployed	35.40%	57
Total		161

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q7 Are you a local business owner?

Answered: 161 Skipped: 39



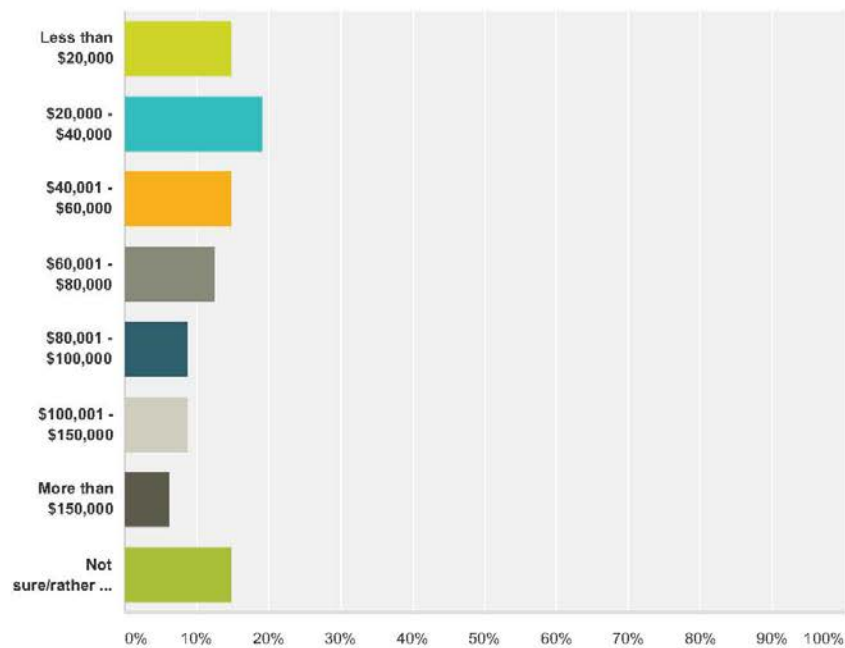
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	18.01%	29
No	81.99%	132
Total		161

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q8 Which best describes your annual household income before tax? (Please make your best estimate)

Answered: 161 Skipped: 39



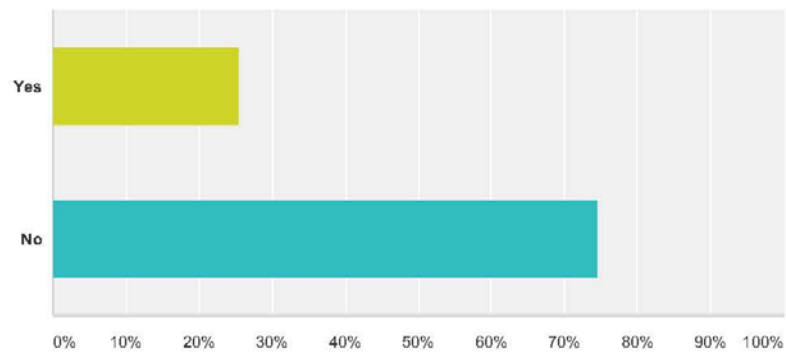
Answer Choices	Responses
Less than \$20,000	14.91% 24
\$20,000 - \$40,000	19.25% 31
\$40,001 - \$60,000	14.91% 24
\$60,001 - \$80,000	12.42% 20
\$80,001 - \$100,000	8.70% 14
\$100,001 - \$150,000	8.70% 14
More than \$150,000	6.21% 10
Not sure/rather not say	14.91% 24
Total	161

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q9 Are you currently working for the government, a public institution or a non-profit organisation in your area?

Answered: 161 Skipped: 39



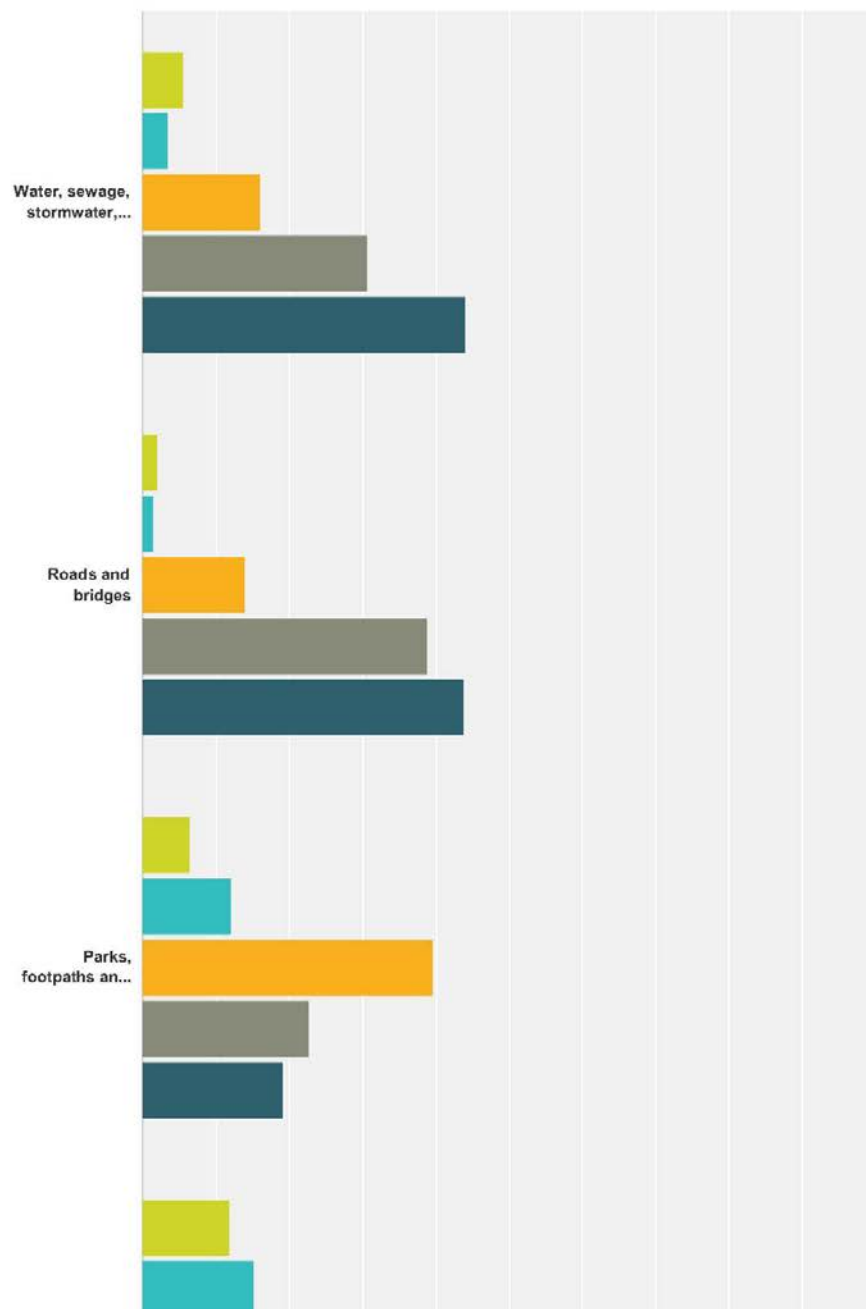
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	25.47%	41
No	74.53%	120
Total		161

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

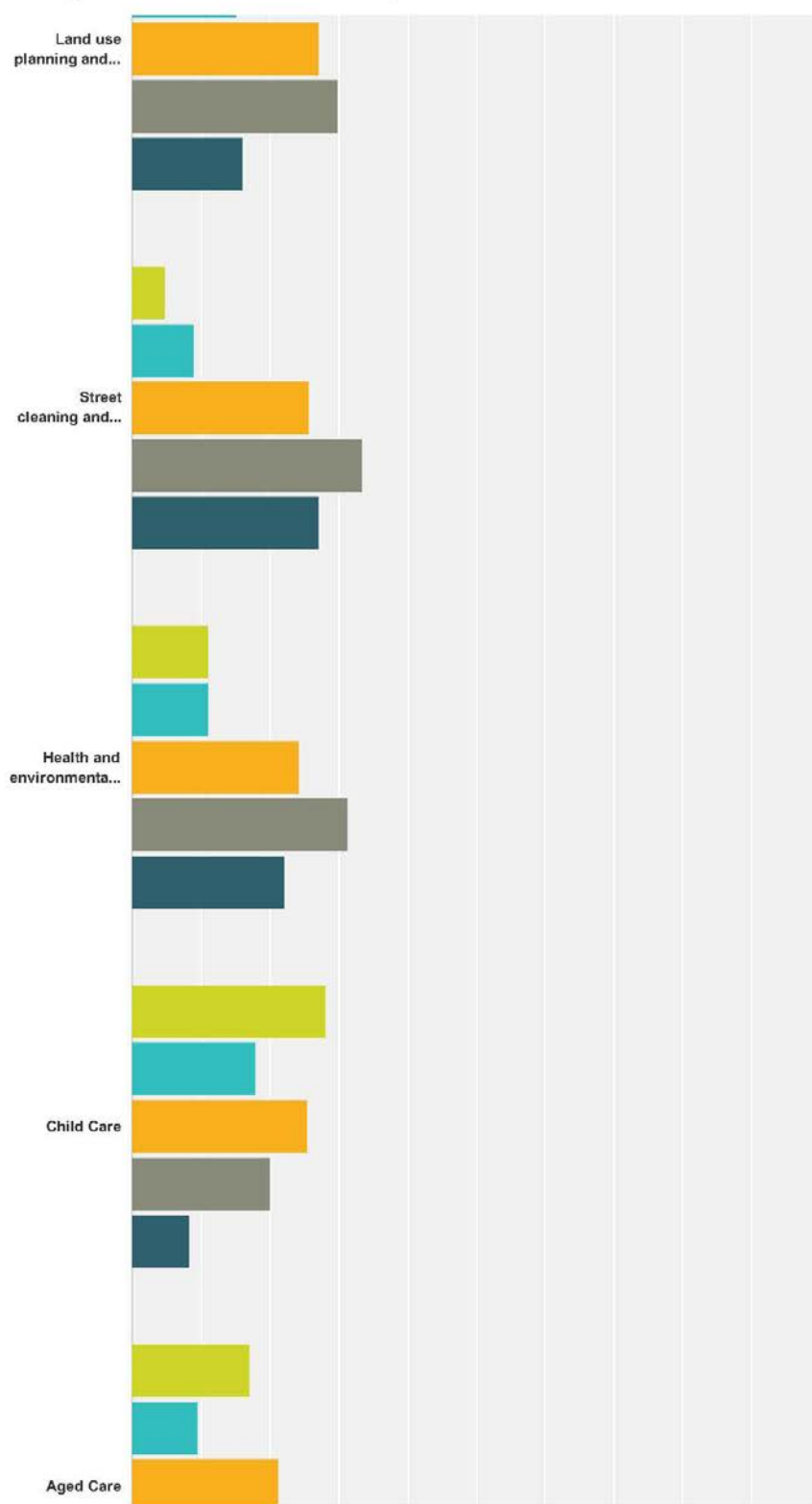
Q10 Thinking about the different things that local governments can do, is it important or not important to you that local government provides and/or maintains each of the following

Answered: 146 Skipped: 54



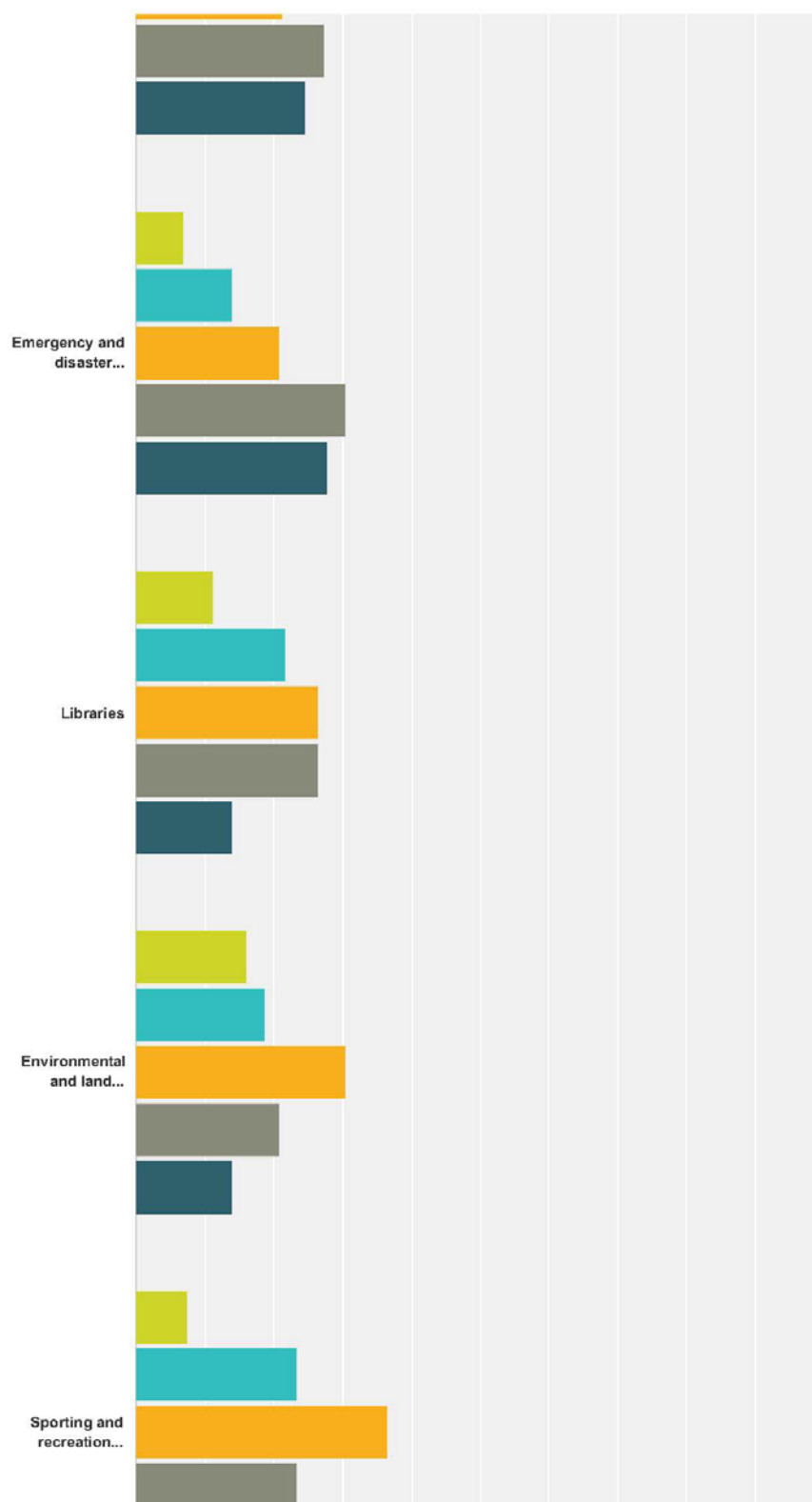
Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



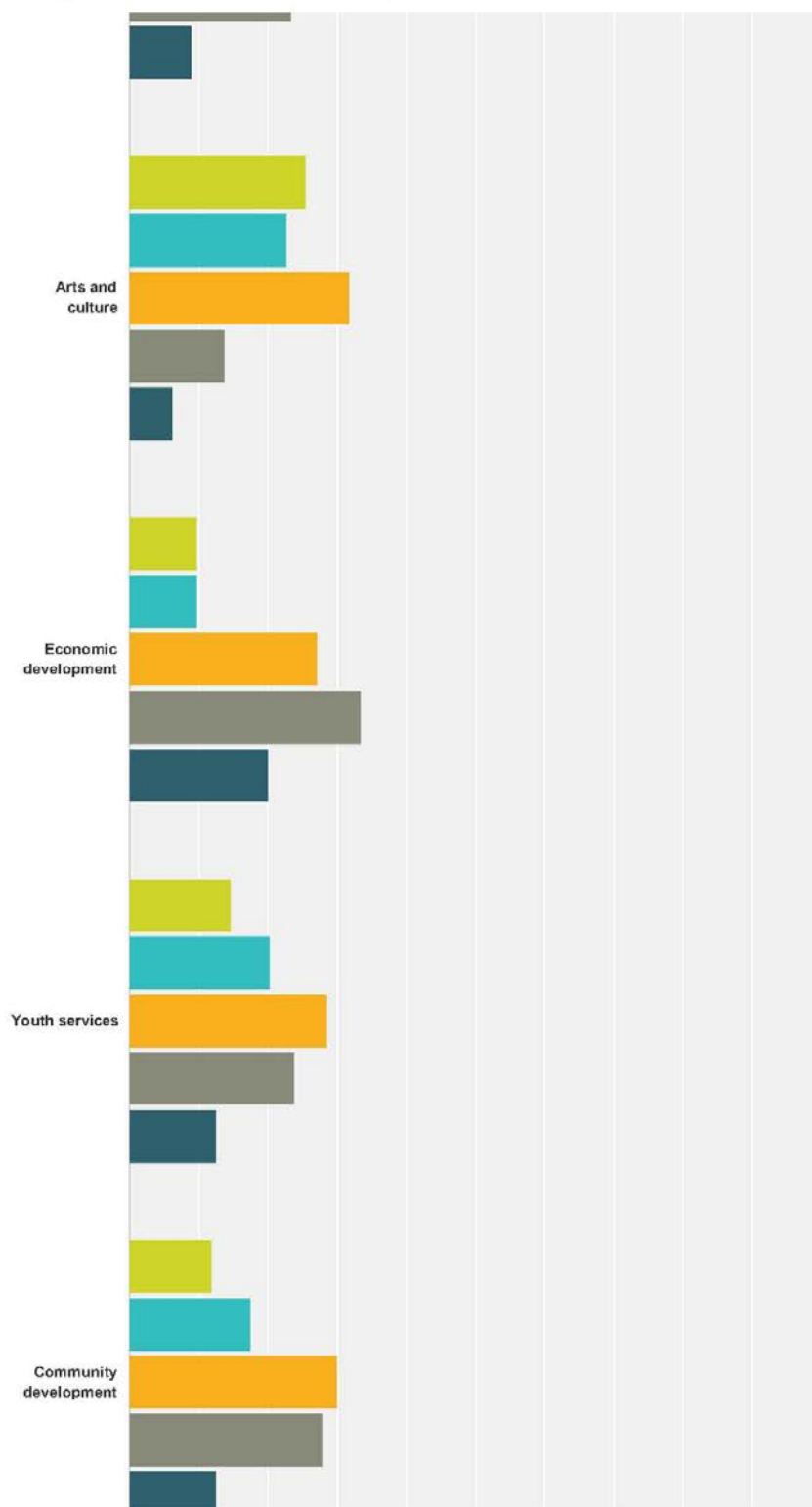
Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



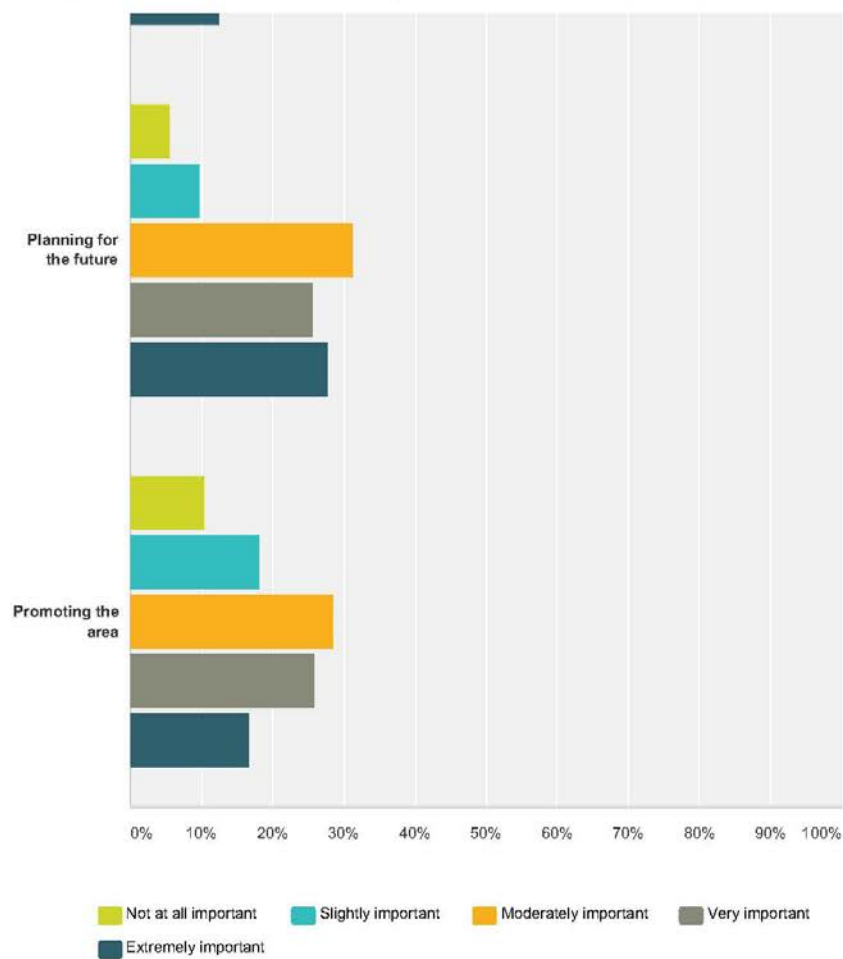
Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



	Not at all important	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important	Total
Water, sewage, stormwater, drainage	5.59% 8	3.50% 5	16.08% 23	30.77% 44	44.06% 63	143
Roads and bridges	2.08% 3	1.39% 2	13.89% 20	38.89% 56	43.75% 63	144
Parks, footpaths and cycleways	6.38% 9	12.06% 17	39.72% 56	22.70% 32	19.15% 27	141
Land use planning and development applications	11.81% 17	15.28% 22	27.08% 39	29.86% 43	15.97% 23	144
Street cleaning and waste management	4.86% 7	9.03% 13	25.69% 37	33.33% 48	27.08% 39	144
Health and environmental management	11.11% 16	11.11% 16	24.31% 35	31.25% 45	22.22% 32	144
Child Care	28.28% 41	17.93% 26	25.52% 37	20.00% 29	8.28% 12	145

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

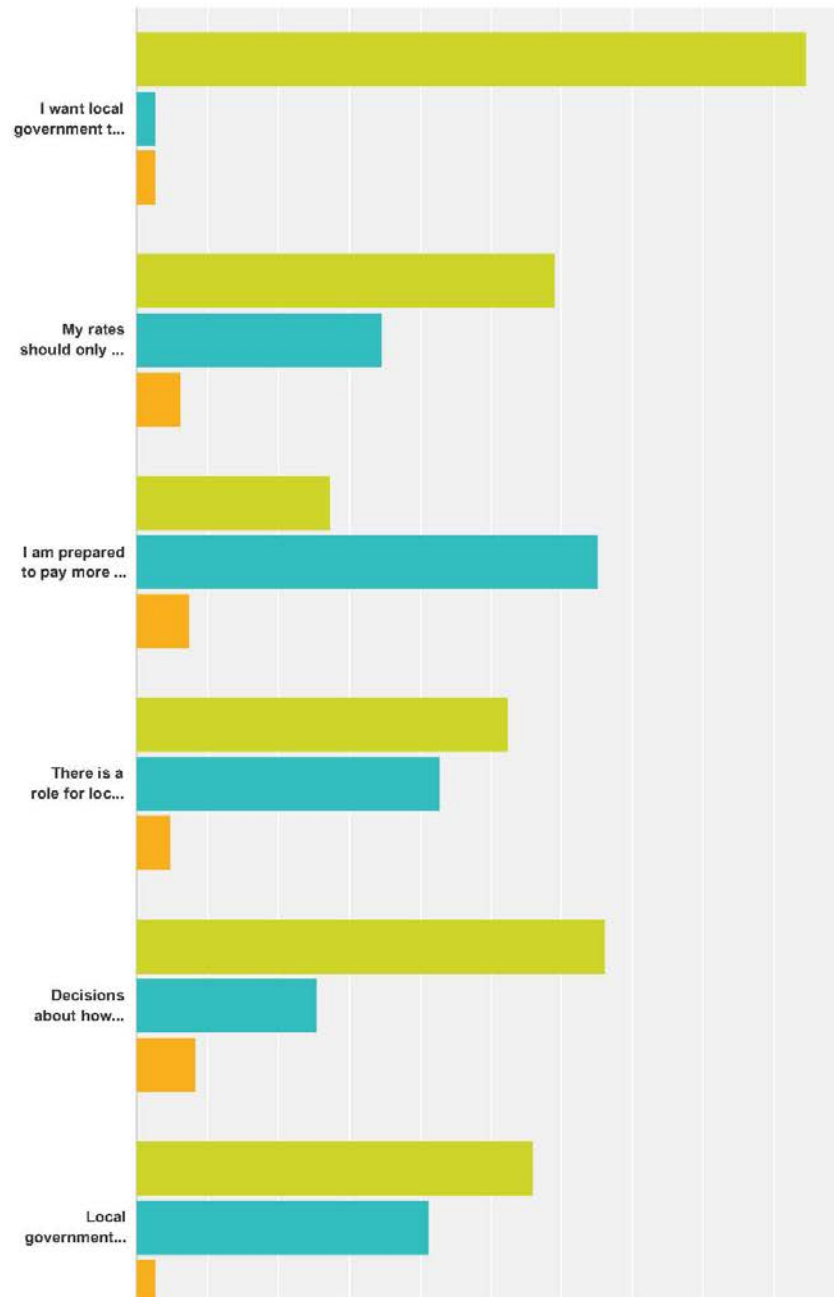
Aged Care	17.12% 25	9.59% 14	21.23% 31	27.40% 40	24.66% 36	146
Emergency and disaster management	6.94% 10	13.89% 20	20.83% 30	30.56% 44	27.78% 40	144
Libraries	11.19% 16	21.68% 31	26.57% 38	26.57% 38	13.99% 20	143
Environmental and land management	15.97% 23	18.75% 27	30.56% 44	20.83% 30	13.89% 20	144
Sporting and recreation facilities	7.59% 11	23.45% 34	36.55% 53	23.45% 34	8.97% 13	145
Arts and culture	25.52% 37	22.76% 33	31.72% 46	13.79% 20	6.21% 9	145
Economic development	9.72% 14	9.72% 14	27.08% 39	33.33% 48	20.14% 29	144
Youth services	14.69% 21	20.28% 29	28.67% 41	23.78% 34	12.59% 18	143
Community development	11.89% 17	17.48% 25	30.07% 43	27.97% 40	12.59% 18	143
Planning for the future	5.56% 8	9.72% 14	31.25% 45	25.69% 37	27.78% 40	144
Promoting the area	10.49% 15	18.18% 26	28.67% 41	25.87% 37	16.78% 24	143

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

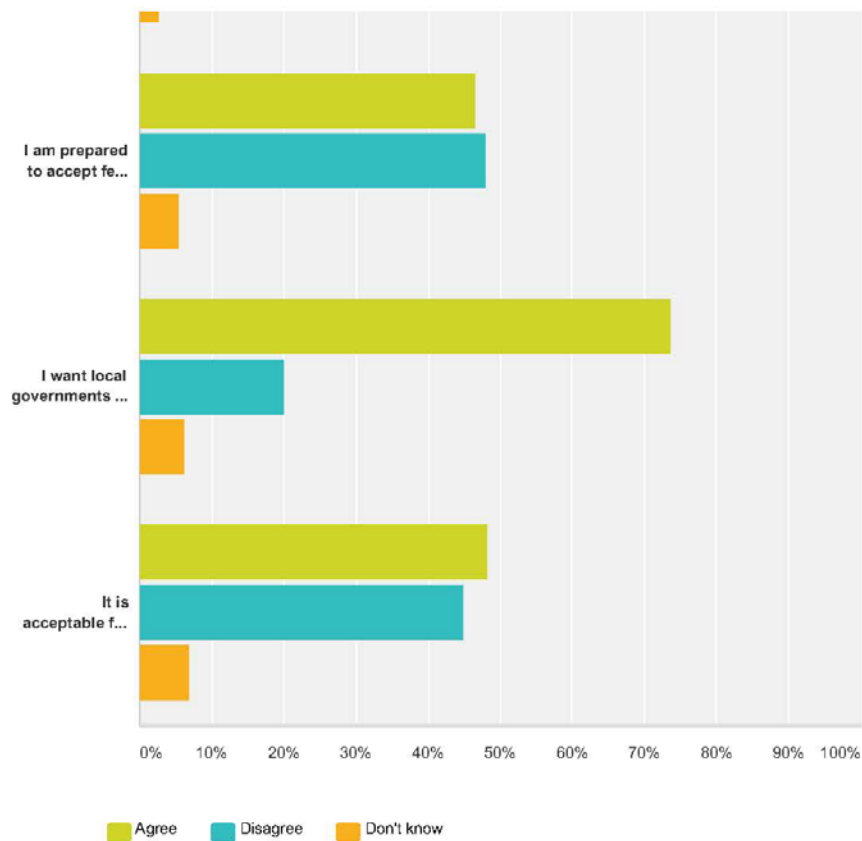
Q11 Thinking about the role of local government in providing services to the community, please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each of the following

Answered: 146 Skipped: 54



Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



	Agree	Disagree	Don't know	Total
I want local government to involve me in making decisions about what services are delivered in my area	94.48% 137	2.76% 4	2.76% 4	145
My rates should only pay for basic services	59.03% 85	34.72% 50	6.25% 9	144
I am prepared to pay more to get a broader range of services	27.40% 40	65.07% 95	7.53% 11	146
There is a role for local government in providing any services the community needs	52.41% 76	42.76% 62	4.83% 7	145
Decisions about how services are delivered in my area should be made primarily on value for money	66.21% 96	25.52% 37	8.28% 12	145
Local government should focus on providing only basic services	55.86% 81	41.38% 60	2.76% 4	145
I am prepared to accept fewer services in exchange for paying less rates	46.58% 68	47.95% 70	5.48% 8	146
I want local governments to deliver services that contribute to a healthier and fairer society	73.61% 106	20.14% 29	6.25% 9	144
It is acceptable for services in one area to be delivered differently than in other areas	48.28% 70	44.83% 65	6.90% 10	145

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

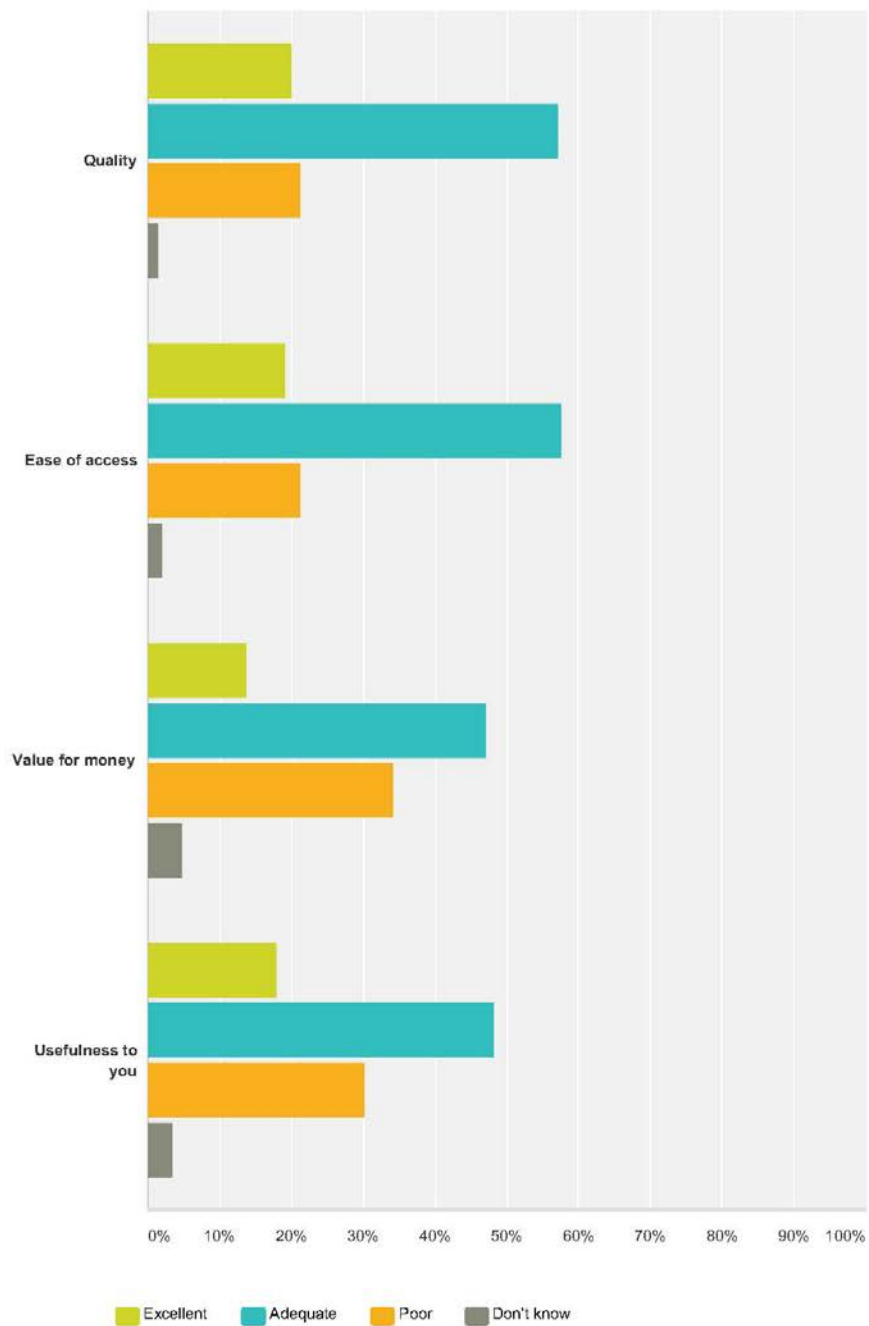
SurveyMonkey

Q12 Thinking broadly about all of the services provided by local government in your area, would you rate them as excellent, adequate or poor according to each of the following criteria:

Answered: 146 Skipped: 54

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



	Excellent	Adequate	Poor	Don't know	Total
Quality	20.00% 29	57.24% 83	21.38% 31	1.38% 2	145
Ease of access	19.18% 28	57.53% 84	21.23% 31	2.05% 3	146

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

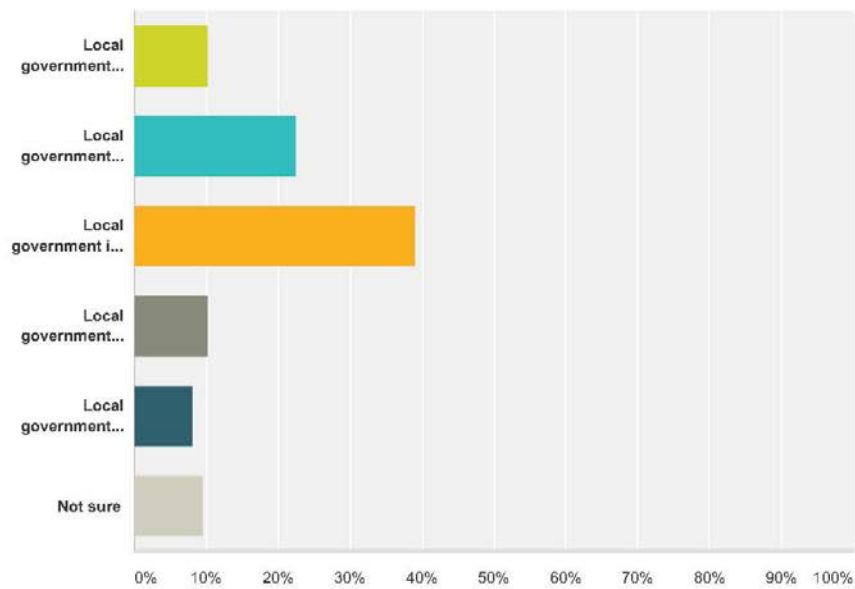
Value for money	13.70% 20	47.26% 69	34.25% 50	4.79% 7	146
Usefulness to you	17.93% 26	48.28% 70	30.34% 44	3.45% 5	145

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

**Q13 Which of the following best describes
your views on local government spending
on services in your area?**

Answered: 146 Skipped: 54



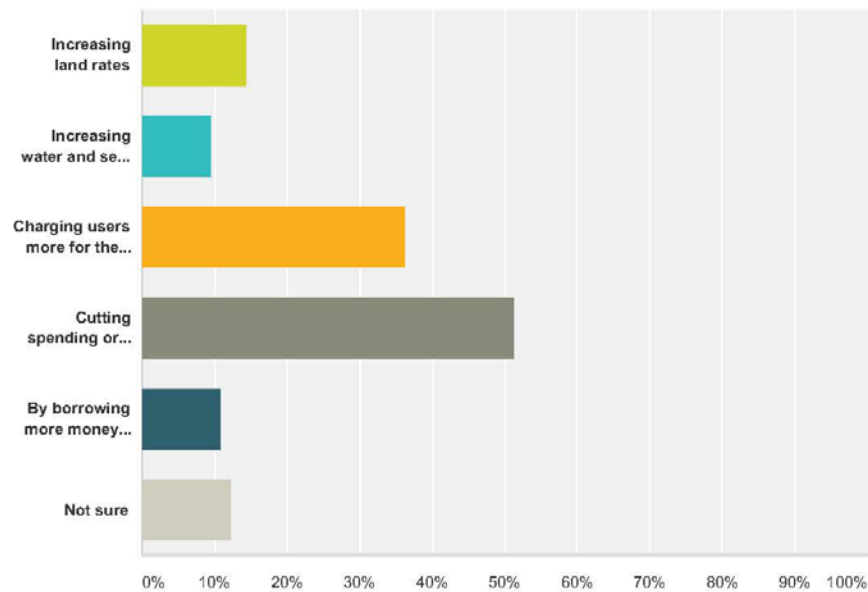
Answer Choices	Responses
Local government should spend a lot more on services	10.27% 15
Local government should spend a little more on services	22.60% 33
Local government is spending about the right amount on services	39.04% 57
Local government should spend a little less on services	10.27% 15
Local government should spend a lot less on services	8.22% 12
Not sure	9.59% 14
Total	146

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

**Q14 If local government should spend more
on services, how do you think this money
should be raised? (Select all that apply)**

Answered: 146 Skipped: 54



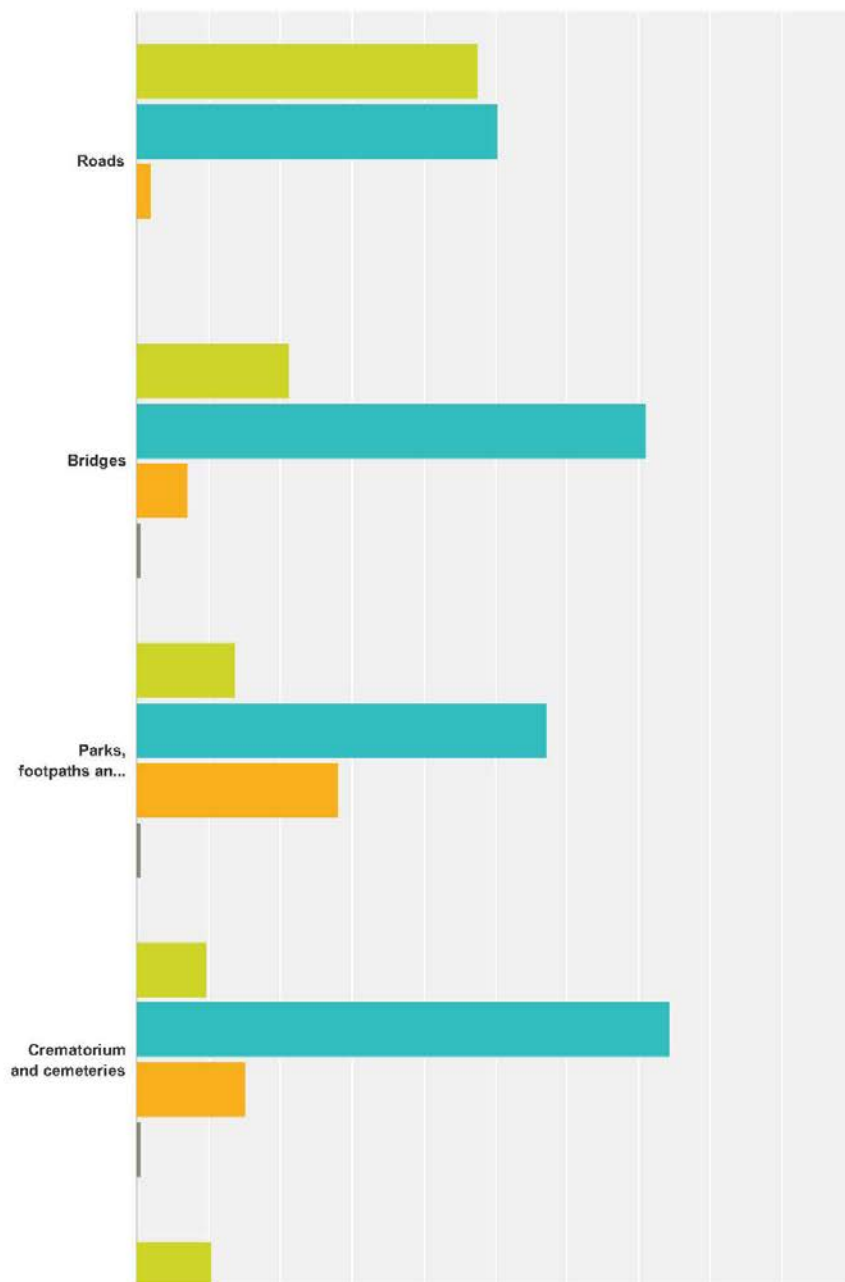
Answer Choices	Responses	
Increasing land rates	14.38%	21
Increasing water and sewer rates	9.59%	14
Charging users more for the services they use	36.30%	53
Cutting spending or services in some areas	51.37%	75
By borrowing more money (loans)	10.96%	16
Not sure	12.33%	18
Total Respondents: 146		

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

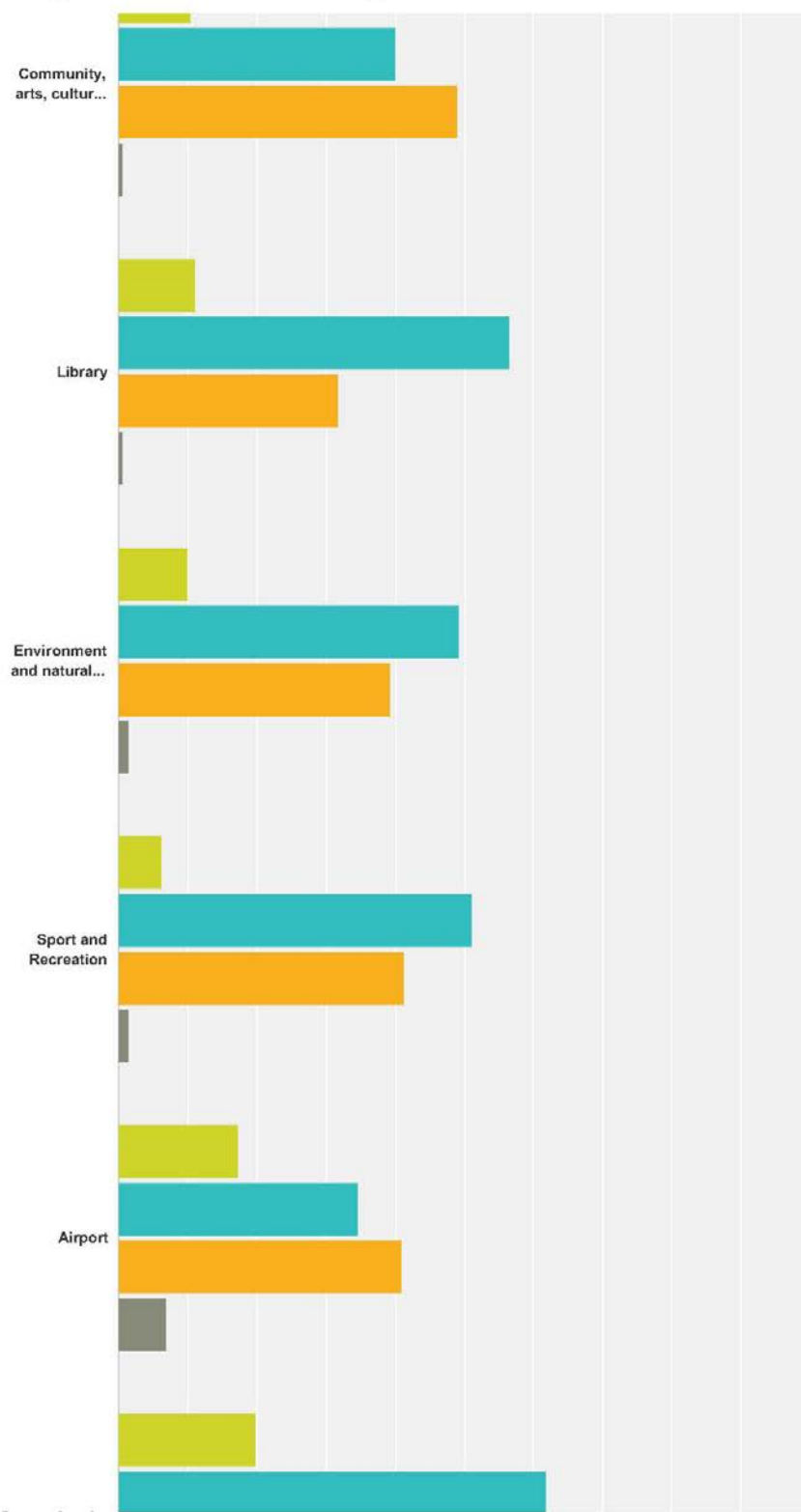
Q15 Below is a list of different services council currently provides or maintains. What do you think council's investment in these areas should be – more than it is now, less, about the same or not sure?

Answered: 146 Skipped: 54



Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

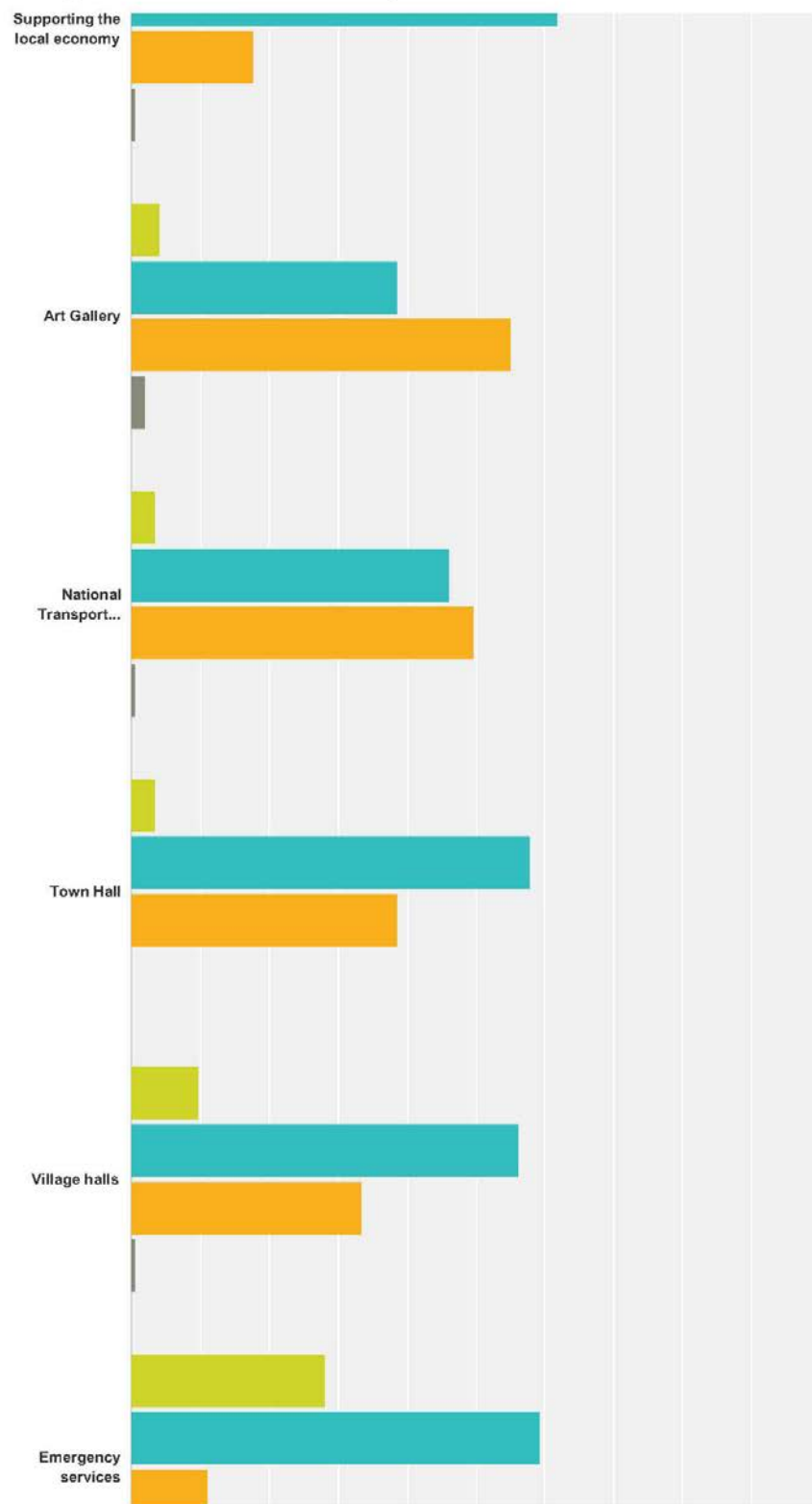
SurveyMonkey



25 / 31

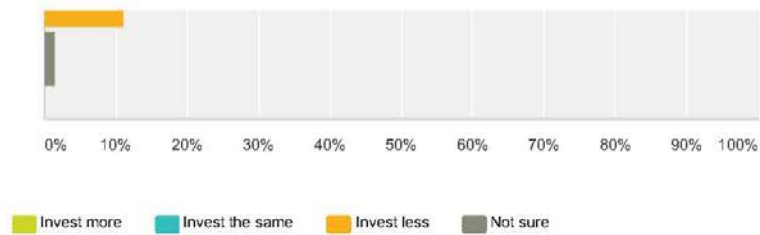
Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey



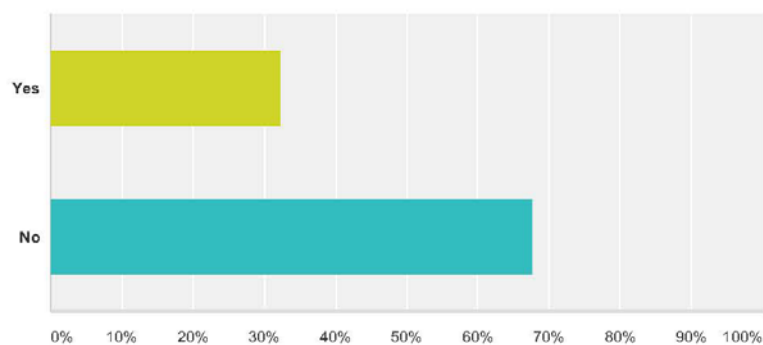
	Invest more	Invest the same	Invest less	Not sure	Total
Roads	47.59% 69	50.34% 73	2.07% 3	0.00% 0	145
Bridges	21.28% 30	70.92% 100	7.09% 10	0.71% 1	141
Parks, footpaths and cycle ways	13.79% 20	57.24% 83	28.28% 41	0.69% 1	145
Crematorium and cemeteries	9.72% 14	74.31% 107	15.28% 22	0.69% 1	144
Community, arts, culture and heritage	10.34% 15	40.00% 58	48.97% 71	0.69% 1	145
Library	11.03% 16	56.55% 82	31.72% 46	0.69% 1	145
Environment and natural resources	10.00% 14	49.29% 69	39.29% 55	1.43% 2	140
Sport and Recreation	6.29% 9	51.05% 73	41.26% 59	1.40% 2	143
Airport	17.36% 25	34.72% 50	40.97% 59	6.94% 10	144
Supporting the local economy	19.86% 28	61.70% 87	17.73% 25	0.71% 1	141
Art Gallery	4.14% 6	38.62% 56	55.17% 80	2.07% 3	145
National Transport Museum	3.50% 5	46.15% 66	49.65% 71	0.70% 1	143
Town Hall	3.45% 5	57.93% 84	38.62% 56	0.00% 0	145
Village halls	9.72% 14	56.25% 81	33.33% 48	0.69% 1	144
Emergency services	28.28% 41	59.31% 86	11.03% 16	1.38% 2	145

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q16 As part of this research, we may do some focus groups with community members. Local residents would come together face to face and asked some questions and have a discussion with trained researchers. The groups are friendly, informal and held at a venue in your local area. Participants receive an incentive, usually cash, to compensate them for giving up their time. Participants will be selected by UTS, not Council. The groups may be held on the 13th or 14th January from 2pm on the 13th to 5pm on the 14th. If you meet the criteria for selection, would you like to be contacted in relation to these focus groups?

Answered: 142 Skipped: 58



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	32.39%	46
No	67.61%	96
Total		142

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q17 Your contact information

Answered: 48 Skipped: 152

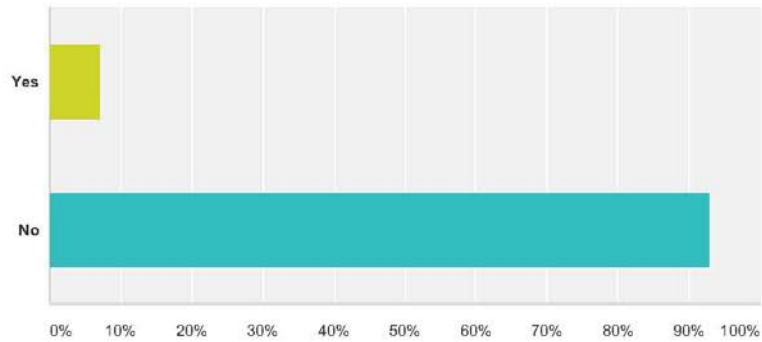
Answer Choices	Responses	
Name	100.00%	48
Phone Number or Email Address	100.00%	48

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

**Q18 Are you currently on or employed by
your local council?**

Answered: 141 Skipped: 59



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	7.09%10
No	92.91%131
Total	141

Inverell Shire Council - Special Rate Variation Community Consultation

SurveyMonkey

Q19 Your details:

Answered: 124 Skipped: 76

Answer Choices	Responses	
Name	100.00%	124
Street Address	99.19%	123
Suburb	100.00%	124
Postcode	100.00%	124

APPENDIX 6

Name	Content
1 Mr D R	Opposed to SRV; Millions invested; Stop using consultants; Don't buy plastic Christmas trees use a real one; Local Government is not a lawful institution - it is not a Government.
2 Mr R & Mrs A M	Opposed to SRV; Work staff & machinery 7 days a week; Do time & motion study on staff; \$52M in reserves; A rate rise is unaffordable; Lobby for a better hospital system.
3 Mr L & Mrs F C	Sympathetic to the need for additional funds; Cut waste through better work practices; Over staffing; Poor supervision of staff; questionable road rehabilitation methods; abuse of Council plant.
4 Mr R T	How will the SRV impact my rates.
5 Mr B & Mrs K H	Opposed to SRV; Don't spend money on Christmas trees or ugly structures or beautification of roundabouts or planting flowers or by supporting Opera in the Paddock or sport or business; Pull the belt in.
6 Mr I & Mrs K S	Opposed; Cut staff numbers; Don't plant flowers or put signs on roads.
7 Ms H W & Ms J M	Opposed to rate increase.
8 Mr N K	Written response to survey.
9 Ms J B	Concerned at ability to pay. Will pension rebate increase?
10 Mr A B	What specific projects will the extra money be spent on?
11 Mr M W	Need maintenance on Nullamanna Road; Levy on light plane owners; Transport companies should pay a percentage of road maintenance costs.
12 Mr B N	Support the reasoning for SRV; Needs action on untidy residence in his neighbourhood.
13 Mr L & Mrs J M	If 'Fit for the Future', why is SRV needed.
14 Mrs K R	Supports SRV; Seeking more detailed information on cost of repairs for carparks, the mosaic footpath, town hall; Written to Minister for Roads requesting the State Government contribute more for Council roads.
15 Mrs R M	Opposed to SRV; Cost of living pressures on household budgets; Unpaid rates have a high interest charge; Rate increase is a job creation scheme; Council rates are exacted in an unfair manner.
16 Mr R B	Support SRV; More maintenance on roads in Nullamanna area needed.
17 Mrs J B	Support SRV; Required to provide upkeep of infrastructure to accommodate a growing population.