



IPART announce their special rate variation decision

Special Rates Variation IPART Decision

IPART has announced its determination of Council's Special Rate Variation application and decided to allow the special variation, in part, on a one year temporary basis.

This allows Council to increase its general rate income by 13.2% in 2017/18. "The decision allows Council to continue to execute its Delivery Program in 2017/18 while updating its Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documentation and reapplying to IPART in future years if it wishes for a rate increase to be permanently incorporated in its general income base".

IPART stated, "The Council did not update its IP&R documents to include the full Special Rate Variation increase sought prior to applying to IPART. Therefore, we have not approved a permanent increase in general income. However, the Council did demonstrate a clear need for additional revenue to ensure its financial sustainability and to fund increased infrastructure maintenance and renewal".



If Council decides to adopt the full amount determined by IPART, 67% of ratepayers will pay less than \$150 per annum increase in their rates.

The additional rate revenue of \$7.1m is earmarked to improve Council's financial sustainability (\$1.8M) and for additional maintenance and asset renewals:

- for additional maintenance on roads (\$600,000), parks (\$200,000) and buildings (\$200,000); and
- for additional Capital Works - Roads (\$3.8m) & Streetscapes (\$500,000).

[Read more](#)



Have your say

Council's draft Delivery Program, Operational Plan, Budget and Fees and Charges for 2017/18 is currently on [public exhibition](#).



The Delivery Program and Operational Plan explains to the community the goals that have been drafted by Council for the next four years and the actions that will be undertaken for the next year that will meet the community priorities.

This plan sets the direction for Council into the future and provides ways in which progress can be measured.

View the plan [here](#). The plan links to other [documents](#) on exhibition and you can fill out the feedback survey on the bottom of the main document page. Documents on exhibition until 26 May 2017 include:

Fees and Charges Council's Fees and Charges Schedule sets the maximum price payable for any particular activity or service, determined on the basis of the pricing methodologies. Feedback can be provided [here](#)

Budget and Capital Works Shoalhaven City Council's Budget & Capital Works program sets out the resources allocated to carry out the actions in the Operational Plan. Complete your feedback [here](#)

Pools, Aquatics and Leisure Centres Council is faced with six options to manage winter swimming in the northern Shoalhaven and wants your input. Have your say [here](#)

Shoalhaven Family Day Care is a Council sponsored home-based education and care service that provides childcare in the homes of qualified educators. Council is seeking community input to help determine the future of the service. Provide your input [here](#)



Do you know someone in the Shoalhaven who is inspiring? Nominate them for the Queen's Baton Relay which will be in Nowra next February 2018. Nominations must be submitted by 15 May 2017 and can be made by visiting the Queen's Baton Relay [website](#)

Berry School of Arts

Berry has celebrated the reopening of the School of Arts building, after the completion of a refurbishment enabling the historic space to



now include a commercial kitchen to cater for large community functions, festivals and events.

The Berry School of Arts building has had a rich history since its opening in 1906, serving the local community as a prominent gathering space for balls, parties and community events.

Mayor Amanda Findley joined Federal Member for Gilmore Ann Sudmalis, in opening the Berry School of Arts.

The refurbishment included upgrading the kitchen to a commercial grade kitchen, restoring the roof at the front section of the building, painting, polishing of floors and the refurbishing the arts rooms.

This project was jointly funded by the Federal Government (\$300,000), and Shoalhaven City Council (\$50,000). [Read more](#)



Recycling problem wastes

The West Nowra Waste and Recycling Depot at 120 Flatrock Road, West Nowra has opened its new Community Recycling Centre. The centre is open 7 days a week 8am-5pm and accepts problem wastes at no charge including:

- water-based and oil-based paints
- used motor oils and other oils
- lead-acid and hand-held batteries
- gas cylinders and fire extinguishers
- conventional tube and compact fluorescent lamps, and
- smoke detectors

[Read More](#)



Calendar Dates



12-14 May - Burradise Festival at Culburra Beach. The Burradise Festival will offer reggae, blues and rock music, handmade markets, multicultural food fair, high tea for mum on Mother's Day, Burra Bash Surf Tournament, cultural tours, and the launch of our skate park. Check out the Burra Bash surf finals and rock out to the Young Coasties Music Festival live on the beach on Sunday, 14 May from 10am-4pm. More information [here](#)



10 - 12 June - Shoalhaven Coast Winter Wine Festival. Wineries across the Shoalhaven Coast Wine Region will open their cellar doors on the 10-12 June for a three-day extravaganza of wine tasting, fine food and entertainment. Entry is \$15 entry at the first winery they visit, which includes a Festival Glass and enables visitors to enjoy tastings at participating wineries from Gerringong in the North to Bawley Point in the South. Drink responsibly. [Read more](#)

These events are supported by Council.

Nominations open for NAIDOC awards

Council is calling for nominations for the 2017 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards. Covering Wollongong, Shellharbour, Kiama and Shoalhaven local government areas, the 2017 Local Government Regional NAIDOC Awards will be announced and celebrated on 22 July.

The categories include:

- Aboriginal Elder of the Year (male and female)
- Aboriginal Community Representative of the Year
- Aboriginal Young Achiever of the Year (male and female)
- Aboriginal Community Volunteer of the Year
- Aboriginal Organisation of the Year
- Outstanding Contribution to Reconciliation (Aboriginal or Non-Aboriginal)



The awards recognise the achievement of Aboriginal people from the four local government areas. There will also be an award for Aboriginal or Non-Aboriginal people in the Outstanding Contribution to Reconciliation award.

Nominate [here](#)



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