

<b>Circular Details</b>	Circular No 17-35 / 9 November 2017 / A566474
<b>Previous Circular</b>	<i>Circular No 16-48</i>
<b>Who should read this</b>	Councillors / General Managers / Council Finance and IP&R staff
<b>Contact</b>	Policy Team - 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>Action required</b>	Information

## Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation Guidelines and Process for 2018/19

### What's new or changing

- The timetables for 2018/19 Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation applications have been released.
- The Guidelines that apply to 2018/19 Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation applications have been published.

### What this will mean for your council

- New councils (except for Mid-Coast Council) will not be eligible to apply for a special or minimum rate variation for the 2018/19 rating year.
- The Guidelines outline the process for all other councils seeking to apply for a special or minimum rate variation for 2018/19.

### Key points

- Councils should assume the rate peg for 2019/20 and in future years is 2.5%. IPART has advised that the rate peg for 2018/19 may be below 2.5% based on current information. When IPART releases the rate peg for 2018/19, councils should update their applications to reflect the actual 2018/19 rate peg.
- New councils (except for Mid-Coast Council) are not eligible for a special or minimum rate variation.
- Councils are to submit a request for a Crown Land Adjustment to the Office of Local Government.
- The timetable published in the Guidelines applies to Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation applications for 2017-18. In future years this timetable will not be included in the Guidelines and will only be communicated via circular.

## 2018/19 Application Timetable

Date	Outcome
15 December 2017	Notifications for Special Variation or Minimum Rate variation applications due to IPART
12 February 2018	Special Variation applications due to IPART
12 March 2018	Minimum Rate Variation applications due to IPART
15 May 2018	Determinations announced for Special Variations and Minimum Rate Variations

### Where to go for further information

- The Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation Guidelines are available on the Office's website at Rating and Special Variations.
- All eligible councils intending to apply for a Special Variation or Minimum Rate Variation in 2018/19 should contact IPART well in advance of submitting an application.
- Any inquiries regarding the application process should be directed to an IPART staff member:
  - Anthony Rush (02) 9113 7790
  - Derek Francis (02) 9290 8421or by email to [localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au](mailto:localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au)



**Tim Hurst**  
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