

Circular Details	Circular No 18-31 / 8 October 2018 / A618017
Previous Circular	<i>Circular No 17-35</i>
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council Finance and IP&R staff
Contact	Policy Team - 02 4428 4100 / olg@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Information

Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation Guidelines and Process for 2019-20

What's new or changing

- The timetable for 2019-20 Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation applications has been released.
- The Guidelines that apply to 2019-20 Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation applications have been published.

What this will mean for your council

- All eligible councils intending to apply for a Special Variation or Minimum Rate Variation in 2019-20 should contact IPART well in advance of submitting an application.
- The Guidelines outline the process for all eligible councils seeking to apply for a special or minimum rate variation for 2019-20.

Key points

- IPART has set the 2019-20 rate peg at 2.7%. Council applications need to reflect the actual 2019-20 rate peg. Councils should assume the rate peg for 2020-21 and in future years is 2.5%.
- New councils (except for MidCoast Council) are not eligible for a special or minimum rate variation for the 2019-20 rating year.
- Councils are to submit requests for a Crown Land Adjustment to the Office of Local Government.
- The timetable for the 2019-20 Special Variation and Minimum Rate Variation applications is outlined within this circular. Please note, this timetable is not included in the Guidelines and will only be communicated via this circular.

2019-20 Application Timetable

Date	Outcome
30 November 2018	Notifications for Special Variation or Minimum Rate variation applications due to IPART
11 February 2019	Special Variation applications due to IPART
11 March 2019	Minimum Rate Variation applications due to IPART
14 May 2019	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 under Rating and Special Variations in the Directory of Policy advice.
<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/strengthening-local-government/supporting-and-advising-councils/directory-of-policy-advice/rating-and-special-variations>
- Any enquiries regarding the application process should be directed to one of the following IPART staff:
 - Scott Chapman (02) 9290 8449
 - Matthew Edgerton (02) 9290 8414or by email to localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au



Tim Hurst
Chief Executive