



Memo to: Mayor Watton and All Councillors

Copy to: General Manager, Directors, Senior Leadership Group and Communications & Engagement Team

From: Robert Maginnity, Director Corporate and Community Services

Subject: Special Variation Application Update

Date: 13 February 2026

Reference: DOC2026/030025

Councillors are advised that Council has received correspondence from the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) regarding Cessnock City Council's Special Variation application.

IPART has confirmed that Special Variation and Minimum Rate (SV/MR) applications will be published on Monday 16 February 2026, with community consultation to occur from the 17 February to 9 March 2026. Consultation will be undertaken directly by IPART via survey and/or written submissions.

IPART has requested that any enquiries received by Council during this period be directed to the IPART [website](#).

Further information will be provided to Councillors as it becomes available.

Please note a copy of this memo will be uploaded to the Council website.