



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

### ***COUNCIL SUBMITS APPLICATION FOR SRV***

Mayor Leigh Byron said today

"That Balranald Shire Council will submit an application to IPART on Monday 12th February 2018 seeking approval for a SRV on the General Rate to apply for the 18/19 financial year. The SRV does not apply to Water, Sewer or Waste Management rates and charges.

The variation Council is seeking is a permanent SRV of 10% including the rate cap each year for seven years.

Council arrived at this decision following 12 months of consideration, public consultation and review of its business operation following the Minister of Local Government's Performance Improvement Order. Subsequently Council adopted a 39 point Improvement Plan.

Council understood the community expressed concerns about the proposed SRV but at the end of the day had to take the decision to ensure the long term sustainability of the council and service delivery to the community.

We propose in the year 19/20 to undertake a rating structure review that will ensure each land use category is paying its equitable share of the rate, this was an important issue in the submissions from our rural ratepayers.

Council recognises that it must improve its governance and business operations and it has made progress to this end in addressing the 39 actions in the Improvement Plan.

Council's amended Delivery Plan has been placed on exhibition for public comment that shows how Council will spend the additional income.

I am confident that we now have a sustainable Long Term Financial Plan (10 years) backed by our Asset Management Plan that we can go forward.

We are currently recruiting a new General Manager and will shortly advertise for a new Director Corporate and Community Development. These appointments will put in place a new Management team that will work with council to deliver our services.

I would encourage all to make a submission on the Draft Amended Delivery Plan."

Submissions close on Monday 12th March 2018.

Cr Leigh Byron  
**MAYOR**  
0438 201301