

## 14 REVIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT RATING SYSTEM REPORT - Councillor Peter Kim

File Number: CLM/18/1/1/6 - BP18/434

### MOTION:

(a) That Council note:

- (i) That Fiscal health is a key consideration for councils looking to measure and improve their financial sustainability and their ability to pay for services and infrastructure.
- (ii) That, in 2016, the NSW Government has asked the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to review the local government rating system in NSW.

IPART submitted the Report, *“Review of the Local Government Rating System” Report*, with a list of key recommendations to improve the equity and efficiency of the rating system.

The purpose of the Report was to enhance councils’ ability to implement sustainable fiscal policies over the long term. This report is critical as it explores a range of new rating possibilities for local government, including:

- Implementing the rating concept of Capital Improved Value System;
  - Replace the current pensioner rebates and other concessions with Rate Deferral System;
  - Modify eligibility for rate exemptions so they are better and more equitably targeted; and
  - Approaches that will reduce the need for councils to apply for Special Variations.
- (iii) That the recommendations contained in the Report are critical in “reforming” the current rating system with the aim to improving the adequacy and flexibility of Ryde Council’s most important source of revenue.
  - (iv) That, despite the importance and the significance of the recommendations contained in this Report, the State government kept the report secret and failed to release it to the public.

(b) That the Council write to:

- the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP;
- and the Premier of NSW, the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP; and
- and the Ryde Local MP, the Hon Victor Dominello MP.

requesting the **release of the “Review of the Local Government Rating System” Report** as a matter of priority.