

Author name: Anonymous

Date of submission: Thursday, 6 March 2014

Submission:

It is unfortunate that I have to write this submission. This is because council has wasted money in consulting the community and then chosen to ignore the very clear wishes of the community.

IPART should not approve Warringah Council's application. The community's desire for services will always exceed the community's ability to provide these services particularly when the services are provided free. After taking into account the community's capacity to pay, consultations by the council has provided council with the community's answer loud and clearly that the community considers council's application to be unreasonable and not affordable. With wage increases running at 2.5% and significant rate increases already imposed last year as a result of land revaluations we the residents of Warringah cannot afford such large rate increases over many years. The community is clear that whilst the services that can be provided may be desirable, after taking into account the cost the community has decided that it does not want these services.

Approval by IPART would result in encouraging councils to ignore results from community consultations and does not encourage councils to improve their economic efficiency. It would also result in residents losing the trust of the council, in councils sham consultations with the community and build up resentment against not only the council but with all levels of government which are increasing charges and taxes as can be seen from the CPI index which are rising with the main culprit being government controlled charges.

SIMPLY ASKING MORE MONEY FROM RATEPAYERS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. COUNCIL SHOULD LOOK AT ELIMINATING WASTE AND CONTROLLING ITS EXPENDITURE TO CORE ACTIVITIES. WARRINGAH COUNCIL HAS SHOWN CLEARLY THAT IT HAS LOST TOUCH WITH ITS RESIDENTS. IT IS SPEND, SPEND SPEND AT THE COUNCIL WHILST THE RESIDENTS ARE CRYING SAVE, SAVE, SAVE. AS A RATEPAYER I WILL BE HAPPY WITH LOWER RATES AND LESS SERVICES. LESS GOVERNMENT IS BETTER GOVERNMENT.