

[REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 2 March 2015 9:00 PM

To: IPART Mailbox

Subject: Ashfield Council

Hi IPART,

I am writing in relation to Ashfield Council's proposal to increase rates.

I strongly oppose the proposed rate hikes of approx 7-10% per year for the next few years.

As a long term resident of Ashfield, I would love for my local infrastructure to be improved. However, the proposed rate increases are cost prohibitive. Infrastructure improvement should be funded over the long term by existing rates and pegged increases. I ask IPART not to set a precedent of allowing local councils to ask for large handouts from the local community whenever council identifies a pet project.

In this case, the pet project will be the Ashfield aquatic centre. I go to the pool and am quite satisfied the existing facilities. Most of my neighbours never use the pool. We struggle to understand why council is proposing to plunge millions into a facility used only by a small proportion of residents and which is operating well already. Even if there are worthy causes, the financial burden placed on residents must be considered.

I hope IPART give weight to the significant opposition against Ashfield council's proposal.

Best regards,
[REDACTED]