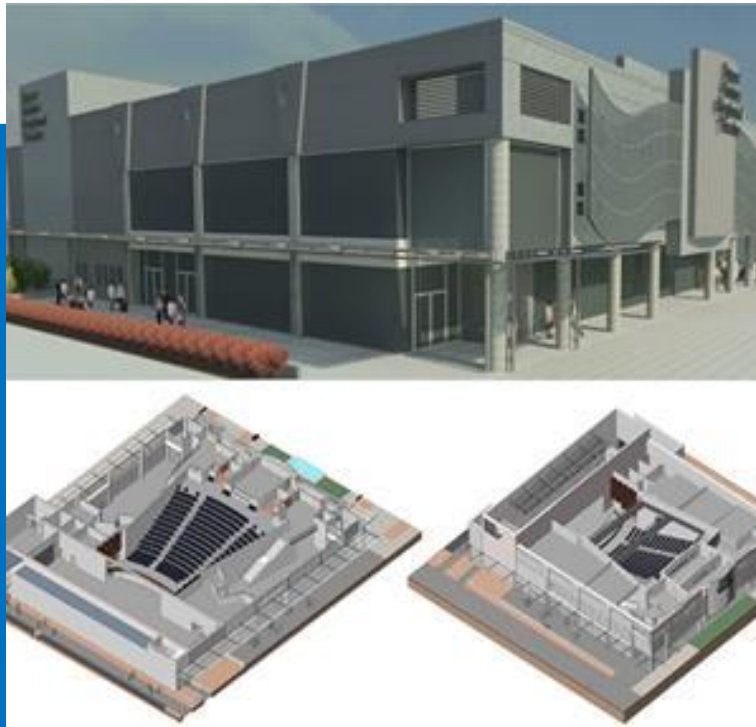


A poll of Muswellbrook Shire residents to measure support for a proposed Special Rate Variation



Results from a random and representative telephone survey of 550 adult residents, conducted by Jetty Research for **Muswellbrook Shire Council**

Dated:

7th February 2017



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Front cover: Proposed Muswellbrook Regional Convention and Performance Centre (from Council's Facebook page)



Disclaimer

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Executive summary

In December 2016, Muswellbrook Shire Council commissioned Jetty Research to conduct a random and representative telephone survey of its adult residents to measure knowledge of, and support for a proposed Special Rate Variation (SRV).

Muswellbrook Shire Council residents were contacted randomly by phone and asked to participate in a telephone survey regarding an “important local issue”. Apart from ensuring at least 20% of interviews were conducted within the 2328 postcode, no other formal quotas were applied. However, we did attempt to ensure an adequate mix of respondents across age groups and genders.

Based on the number of adult residents within the Muswellbrook Shire, a random sample of 550 adult residents implies a margin for error of approximately $\pm 4.1\%$ at the 95% confidence level. This essentially means that if we conducted a similar poll 20 times, results should reflect the views and behaviour of the overall survey population – in this case “all adult residents excluding council employees and councillors” – to within a $\pm 4.1\%$ margin in 19 of those 20 surveys.

For more information on survey methodology, sampling error and sample characteristics, see pages 8-9. For more detailed information on the demographic breakdown of survey respondents, see pages 10-13.

Among the survey’s major conclusions:

1. Knowledge of Council’s proposal to deliver three new facilities was high among residents, with 84% claiming to having read, heard or seen information regarding the proposal prior to our call.
2. Three-quarters of ratepayers recalled receiving a letter from Council regarding the SRV. Of these, 80% said they had read it.
3. Support for, and opposition to the special rate variation was evenly split: 44% of respondents supported the SRV while 45% were opposed (and 11% unsure).
4. Those who supported the SRV tended to do so as they saw value in the projects targeted for funding via the SRV: 22% of all respondents agreed to the need for all three projects, 17% felt the need to progress and/or upgrade facilities generally, 8% agreed to at least some of the proposed projects, and 5% felt the projects may result in increased tourism or employment for the region.
5. Those who opposed the SRV did so either because they opposed one or more of the proposed facilities (15% of all respondents), or because they felt that they or other community members would struggle to pay it (14%). Some also felt that Council should find another way to fund the projects (9%) or had other more important priorities (9%). Five per cent simply felt the rate proposed was too high.

6. When asked specifically whether their opposition was based mainly on: (a) concern about the rate; or (b) a belief that the projects were not necessary, 40% of those opposed to the SRV said this was because they felt it was too high, while 21% didn't believe Muswellbrook needed the facilities being sought. A further 18% felt it was both factors equally, while 8% argued it was principally because the facilities were not of value to them. (As a proportion of *all* respondents, this equates to 18% saying the amount was too high while 10% believed the proposed facilities were not necessary and 8% claimed both objections equally.)



James Parker, **QPMR, B. Ec, Grad Cert Applied Science (Statistics), AMSRS**
Managing Director
February 7th 2017

Introduction

Background and Objectives

In December 2016, Muswellbrook Shire Council commissioned Jetty Research to conduct a random and representative telephone survey of local residents to determine attitudes towards a proposed Special Rate Variation (SRV). The proposed SRV is targeted towards:

1. A regional quality water park at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre and the replacement of the 84-year old 50 metre pool;
2. Delivery of the Denman town centre revitalisation; and
3. A regional convention and performance venue in Muswellbrook's town centre.

Specifically, the research sought to:

- Measure knowledge of proposed SRV;
- Measure awareness/reading of background materials;
- Measure support for the proposed SRV, and reasons for support/opposition
- See how results vary by factors such as urban/rural, age, gender, postcode etc.

Methodology

The survey was conducted using a random fixed line and mobile telephone poll of Muswellbrook adult residents. Respondents were initially selected at random from a verified and random telephone database of 3,486 residential fixed line and mobile telephone numbers within the LGA.¹

Quotas were applied by region, with a minimum of 20% of the sample sought within the 2328 postcode (incorporating the town of Denman) and a maximum of 80% in the 2333 postcode (in which Muswellbrook is situated). This was designed to reflect differences in population size while still maintaining an adequate sample size for cross analysis. No other formal quotas were applied, although attempts were made to ensure an adequate mix of respondents across age groups and sub-regions.

No mention of the survey subject matter was made in the survey pre-amble, to avoid response/non-response bias². Instead, residents were merely asked if they would assist Council by completing a research survey on "an important local issue".

Respondents were screened to ensure they were aged 18 or over, residents of the Muswellbrook shire, and were not councillors or permanent Council employees.

¹ Numbers were provided by SamplePages, a respected supplier of random valid numbers to the market and social research industry

² That is, participation biased towards those with a pre-existing interest in the survey's subject matter

A survey form was constructed collaboratively between Muswellbrook Shire Council and Jetty Research (see Appendix 1), based on satisfying the above objectives.

Telephone polling was conducted between January 17th and 23rd from Jetty Research's Coffs Harbour CATI³ call centre. A team of 12 researchers called residents on weekday evenings (excluding Friday) from 3.30 to 8pm. Where phones went unanswered, were engaged or diverted to answering machines, researchers phoned on up to five occasions at different times of the afternoon or evening.

In all, 550 residents completed a telephone survey. Interview duration varied from 4 to 12 minutes, with an average of 6.1 minutes. Response rate was good, with 56% of those reached and potentially eligible agreeing to take part.

Please note that due to the nature of the survey, not all respondents answered every question. The number of respondents answering each question is marked as "n = XXX" in the graph accompanying that question.

Cleaned data was entered into statistical database SPSS for analysis. Where differences in this report are classed as significant, this implies they are statistically significant based on independent sample t-scores, Chi-square or other analysis of variation (ANOVA) calculations. In statistical terms, significant differences are unlikely to have been caused by chance alone. Unless indicated otherwise, significant differences are typically highlighted in blue (above mean) and pink (below mean).

Results have been post-weighted by age and gender to match the adult population profile of the Muswellbrook Shire in the 2011 ABS census. (See Appendix 2 for weighting calculation.)

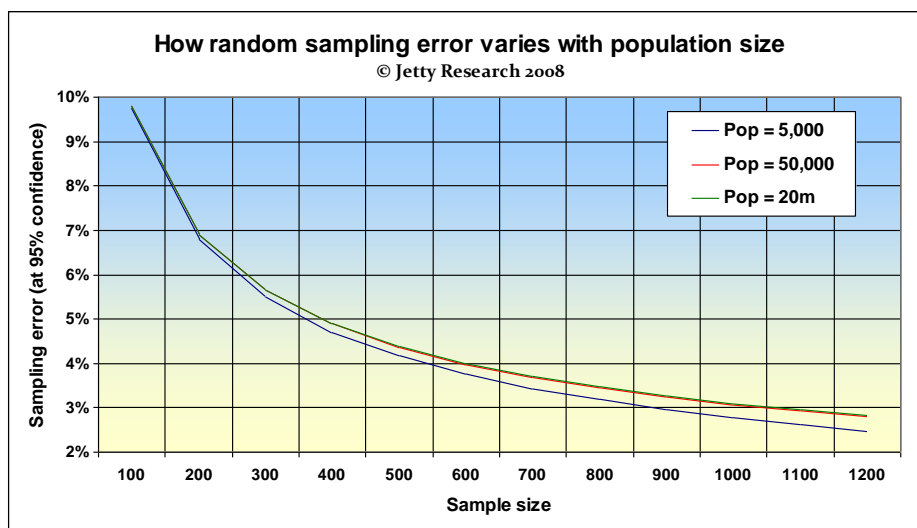
Sampling error

According to the 2011 ABS Census (Usual Resident profile) the total adult (18+) population of the Muswellbrook Shire was 11,497. Hence the sampling error of an n=550 sample is +/- 4.1%. (This means in effect that if we conducted a similar poll 20 times, results should reflect the views and behaviour of the overall survey population to within a +/- 4.1% margin in 19 of those 20 surveys.)

As Graph i, over page, shows, margin for error falls as sample size rises. Hence cross-tabulations or sub-groups within the overall sample will typically create much higher margins for error than the overall sample. For example, using the above population sizes, a sample size of 100 exhibits a margin for error of +/- 9.8% (again at the 95% confidence level).

³ Computer-aided telephone interviewing

Graph i: How sampling error varies with sample and population size



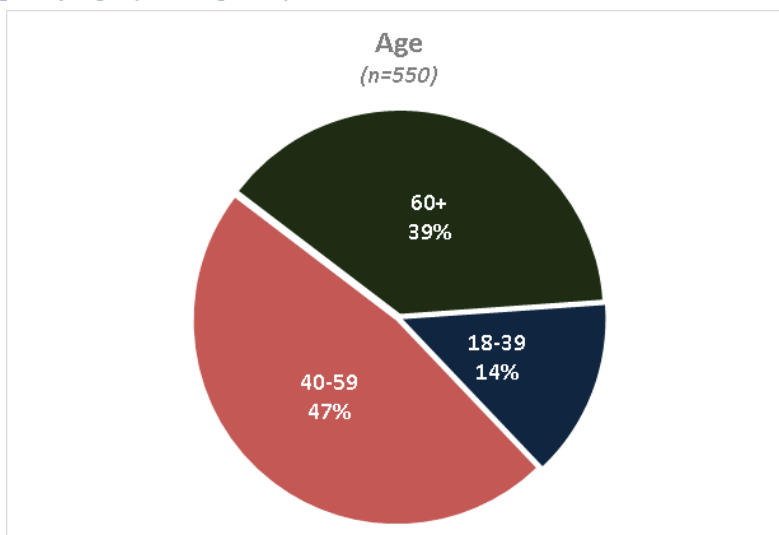
In addition to the random sampling error, above, there may also be some forms of non-random sampling error which may have affected results. These include respondents without fixed line phones, the proportion of non-respondents (refusals, no answers etc.), social desirability bias⁴ and/or imperfections in the questionnaire. However, steps have been taken at each stage of the research process to minimise non-random error wherever possible.

⁴ By which respondents provide answers that present themselves in a more favourable light

Sample characteristics

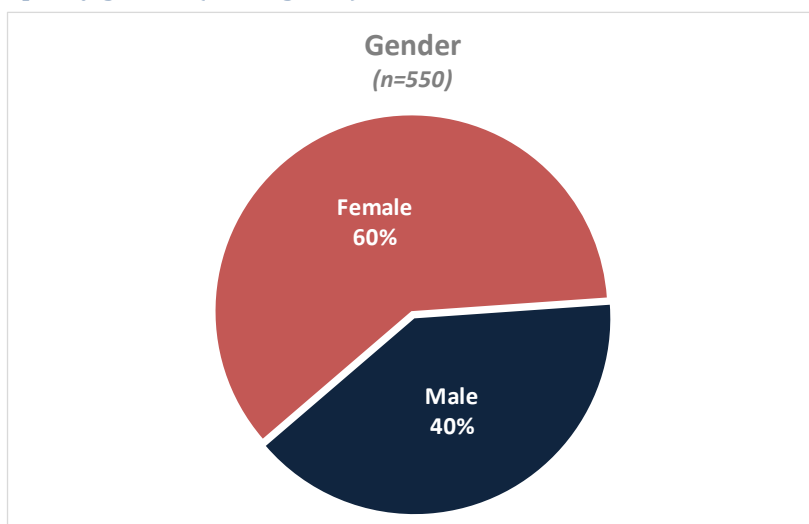
The following breaks down the CATI (telephone) survey sample by demographic characteristics:

Graph i: Survey sample by age (unweighted)



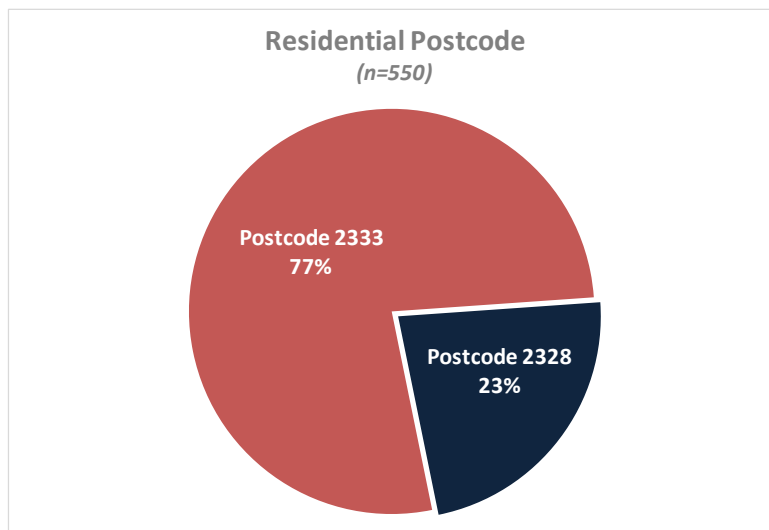
The sample shows a spread across the three age groups, but skewed (as is common in random telephone polling) to older residents. As previously mentioned, results were post-weighted by age and gender to match the profile of the LGA according to 2011 Census data.

Graph ii: Survey sample by gender (unweighted)



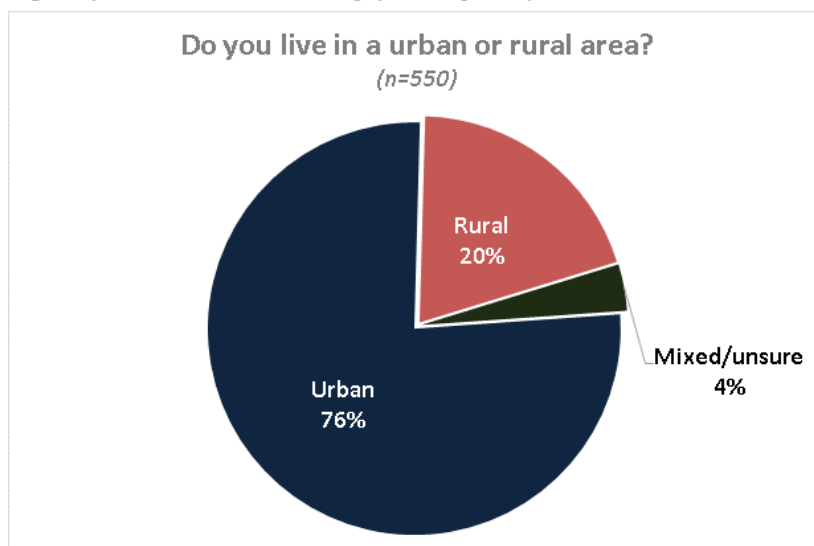
The random sample was slightly skewed towards females. However again this was corrected through post-weighting the sample to 2011 Census data.

Graph iii: Survey sample by region (unweighted)



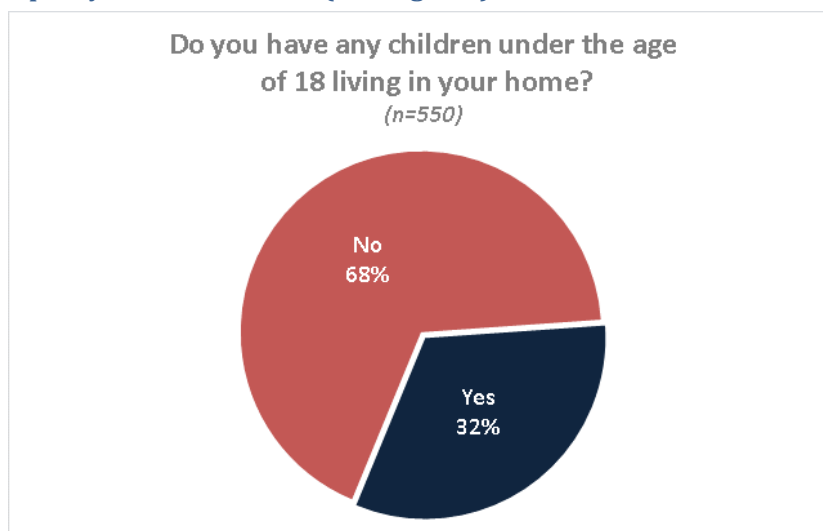
Just over three-quarters of the sample lived in the 2333 postcode, with the balance in 2328. This means the sample was slightly biased towards residents of Denman and others within the 2328 postcode, who comprised 16% of the LGA's population at the time of the 2011 Census.

Graph iv: Survey sample by urban v rural setting (unweighted)



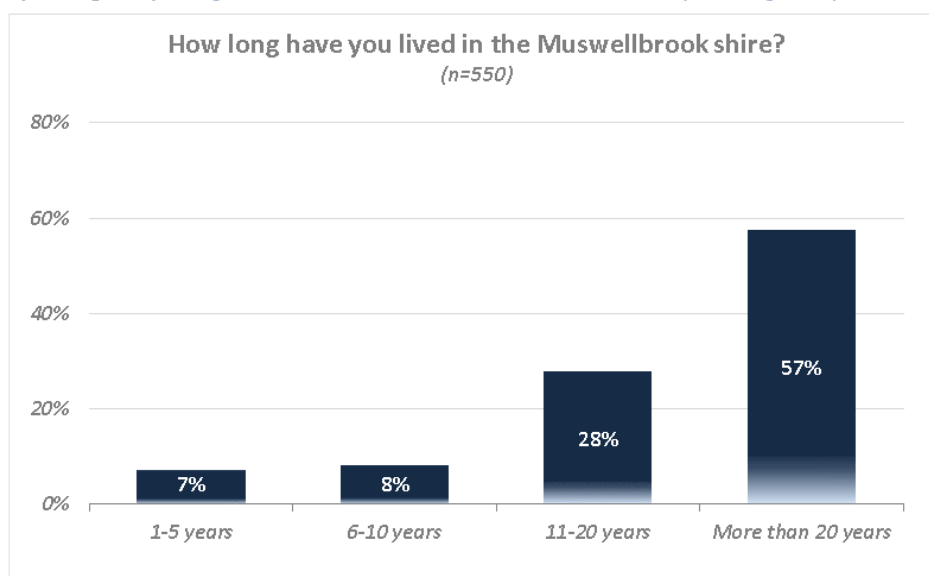
Three-quarters of the sample (76%) resided in urban areas, with 24% being rurally-based or in a mixed area.

Graph v: Survey sample by children at home (unweighted)



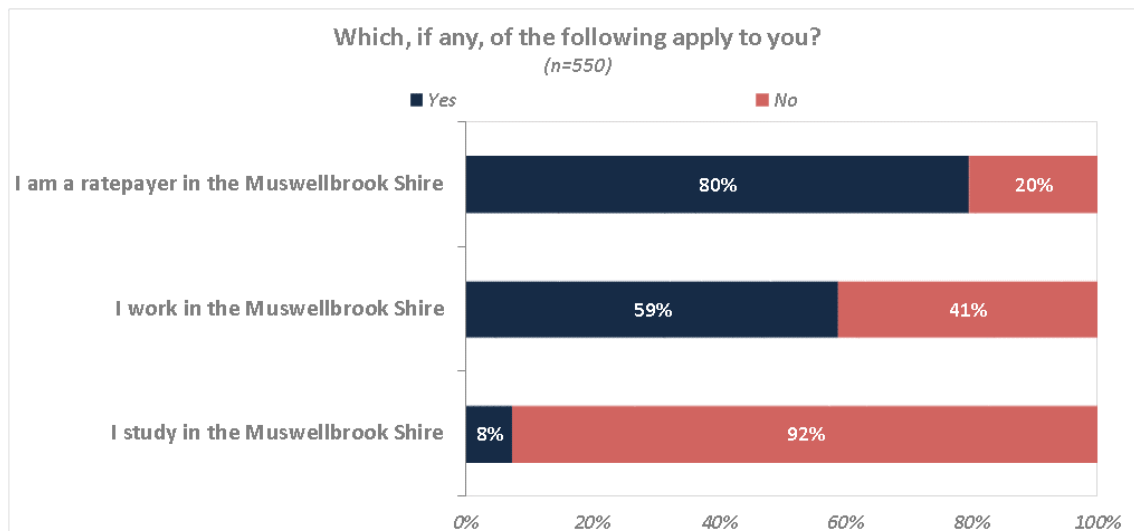
Just over one-third of those surveyed had children living at home (32%).

Graph vi: Survey sample by length of time in the Muswellbrook Shire (unweighted)



Over half of the sample (57%) had lived in the Muswellbrook Shire for more than 20 years, while 28% had lived within the LGA between 11 and 20 years and 15% for 10 years or less.

Graph vii: Which, if any of the following apply to you?



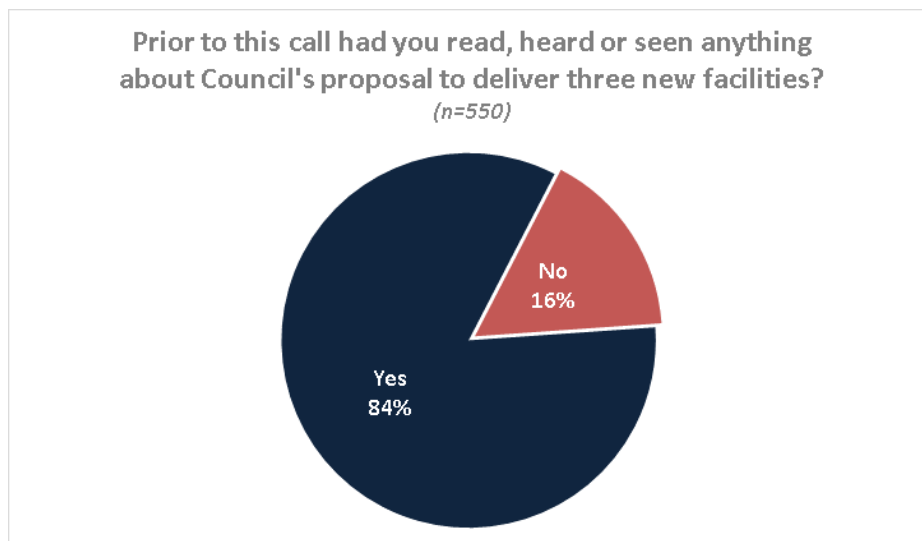
Four in five respondents were ratepayers in the Muswellbrook Shire (80%), while three in five worked locally. Just under one in ten (8%) studied within the shire.

Part 1: Awareness of, and knowledge regarding the proposed SRV

The survey proper began with a series of questions designed to determine residents' awareness of the proposed special rate variation and understanding of what it entailed.

Respondents were first asked whether they had read, heard or seen anything about Council's proposal to deliver three new facilities prior to being contacted for this research:

Graph 1.1: Awareness of proposed new facilities prior to call

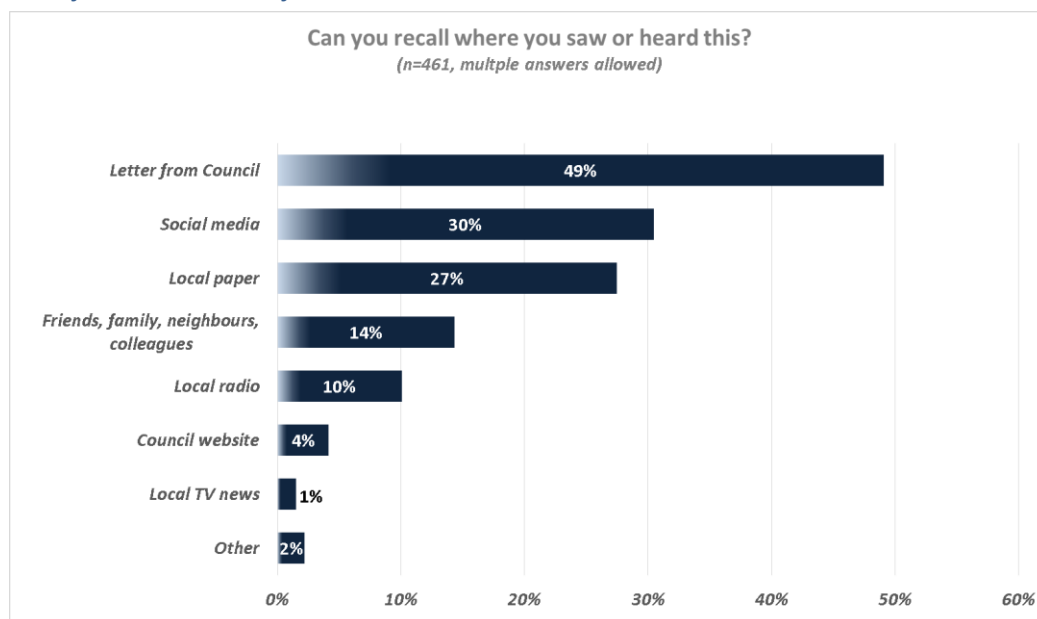


Knowledge of Council's proposal to deliver three new facilities was high among residents, with 84% claiming to having read, heard or seen information regarding the proposal.

Those who were aware of the proposal were then asked where they had seen or heard about it:

(Continued over page...)

Graph 1.2: Can you recall where you saw or heard this?



Almost half of those respondents with previous awareness recalled receiving a letter from Council – higher among those aged 60 years and over (60%), and those with children at home (56%).

Almost one-third heard about Council proposal via social media (30%), 27% via the local paper, 14% from word-of-mouth and 10% the local radio.

As outlined in table 1.1, below, information sources differed by demographic characteristics:

Table 1.1: Information source by age, gender, urban vs. rural and children at home

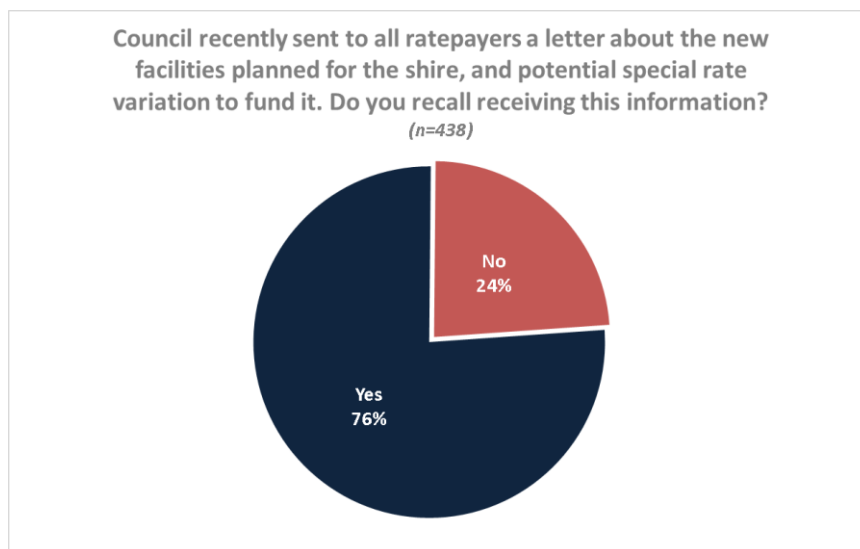
Source of information regarding proposed SRV	Age			Gender		Urban/rural		Children at home	
	18-39	40-59	60+	Male	Female	Urban	Rural	Yes	No
Local paper	17.3%	29.7%	42.5%	32.4%	22.4%	25.9%	33.6%	21.5%	32.7%
Local radio	5.3%	12.8%	14.4%	12.5%	7.7%	9.3%	13.2%	4.3%	15.2%
Local TV news	0.0%	2.2%	3.1%	1.9%	1.1%	1.1%	2.9%	.9%	2.0%
Council website	3.3%	6.3%	2.0%	3.7%	4.6%	5.1%	.5%	5.7%	2.7%
Letter from Council	39.7%	53.1%	59.5%	51.1%	46.9%	47.4%	55.4%	41.5%	55.7%
Friends, family, neighbours, colleagues	14.5%	16.4%	10.8%	13.2%	15.6%	14.9%	12.3%	17.8%	11.3%
Social media	52.2%	22.3%	4.3%	21.6%	39.6%	32.6%	22.3%	44.7%	18.0%
OTHER	0.0%	2.8%	5.4%	2.9%	1.5%	2.0%	3.2%	.3%	3.9%
TOTAL	188	169	103	234	226	366	95	215	246

Older residents, men and those with children at home were significantly more likely to see the information in the local paper, while social media awareness was highest among younger residents, women, urban residents and those with children still at home.

Other sources included the library, at the pool, at the information centre, at the men's shed and through a Council meeting.

Muswellbrook Shire ratepayers⁵ were then asked whether they recalled receiving the letter from Council regarding the new facilities planned for the shire, and potential special rate variation to fund it:

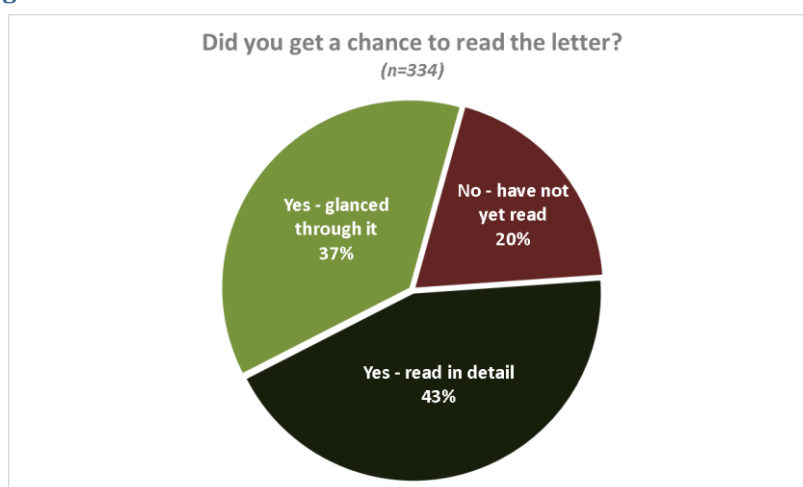
Graph 1.3: Do you recall receiving Council's letter about the proposed new facilities and related SRV?



Three-quarters of ratepayers recalled receiving the information from Council regarding the SRV – higher among those without children living at home (at 82%, against 70% among those with children at home).

Ratepayers who recalled receiving the letter were then asked whether they had read it:

Graph 1.4: Did you get a chance to read the letter?



⁵ As per those who had declared themselves as such earlier in the survey – see Graph vii

Four in five respondents who recalled receiving the letter claimed to have read it – 43% in detail and 37% glancing through it.

Older residents, those residing in rural areas and those without children were the most likely to say they had reviewed Council letter in detail (at 52%, 59% and 48% respectively).

Part 2: Support for the proposed SRV

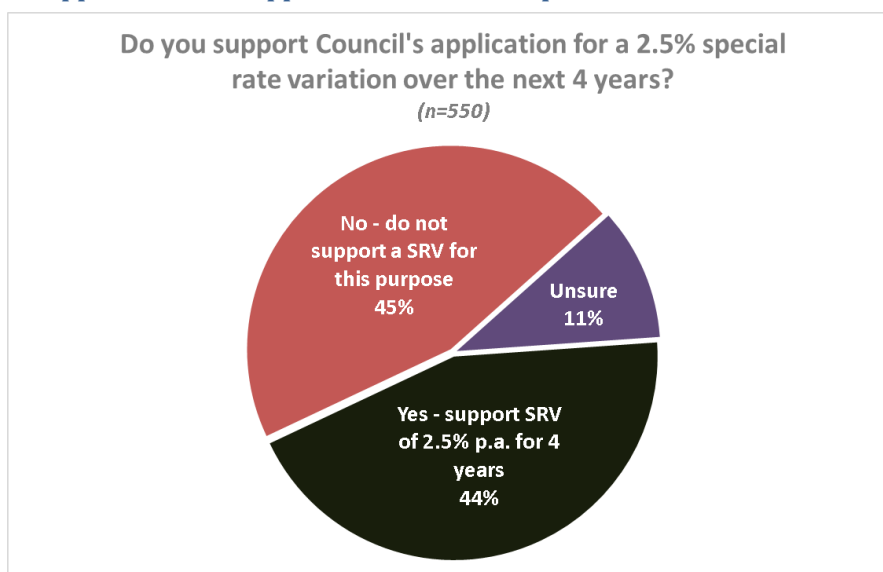
Residents were next asked a series of questions designed to determine their support for the SRV, and reasons why they either supported or opposed the proposal.

Respondents were first offered some information regarding the proposed SRV and its purpose:

Council is proposing a 2.5% special rate variation each year over the next four years. This rate increase would enable Council to deliver the following three new facilities: a regional quality water park at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre and the replacement of the 84-year old 50 metre pool; delivery of the Denman town centre revitalisation; and a regional convention and performance venue in Muswellbrook's town centre. The cumulative impact on rates over the next four years would range from \$29 per annum in year 1 for an average ratepayer to \$147 per annum in year 4. If the rate variation were not to occur, Council would still be able to replace the 50 metre pool, but without the water park. Only stage 1 of the Denman town centre revitalisation could proceed, and there would be a limited upgrade of the Muswellbrook town centre, but with no regional convention and performance venue.

Residents were then asked, given the above information, whether they supported Council's application for a 2.5% special rate variation over the next four years:

Graph 2.1: Do you support Council's application for a 2.5% special rate variation over the next 4 years?

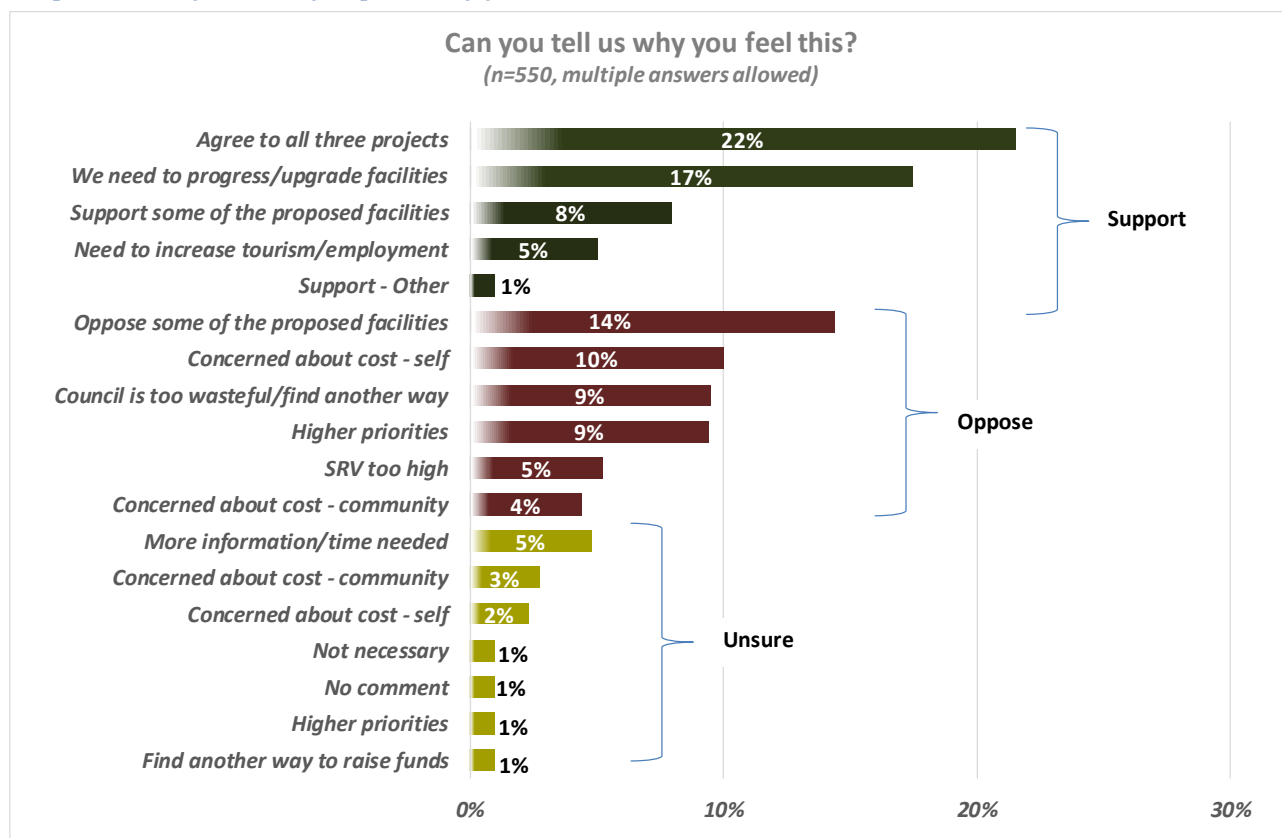


Opinion was evenly split, with 44% of those surveyed supporting the proposed SRV and 45% rejecting it. The balance of 11% were unsure.

Those residing in urban areas were more likely to support the SRV than those in rural areas (46% vs. 38%). There were no other differences in levels of support by demographic characteristics. (However it should be noted that within the 2333 postcode there was 46% support against 45% opposition. In the 2328 postcode, however, 38% were supportive against 49% opposed.)

In an unprompted follow-up question, residents were asked why they supported or opposed the SRV. These responses have been coded, with major themes shown in green (support), red (oppose) or yellow (unsure):

Graph 2.2: Can you briefly explain why you think this?



Those who supported the SRV tended to do so as they valued the projects targeted for funding: 22% of all respondents said they agreed to all three projects, while 17% felt the need to progress and/or upgrade the facilities, 8% agreed to at least some of the proposal and 5% felt the projects may result in increased tourism or employment for the region.

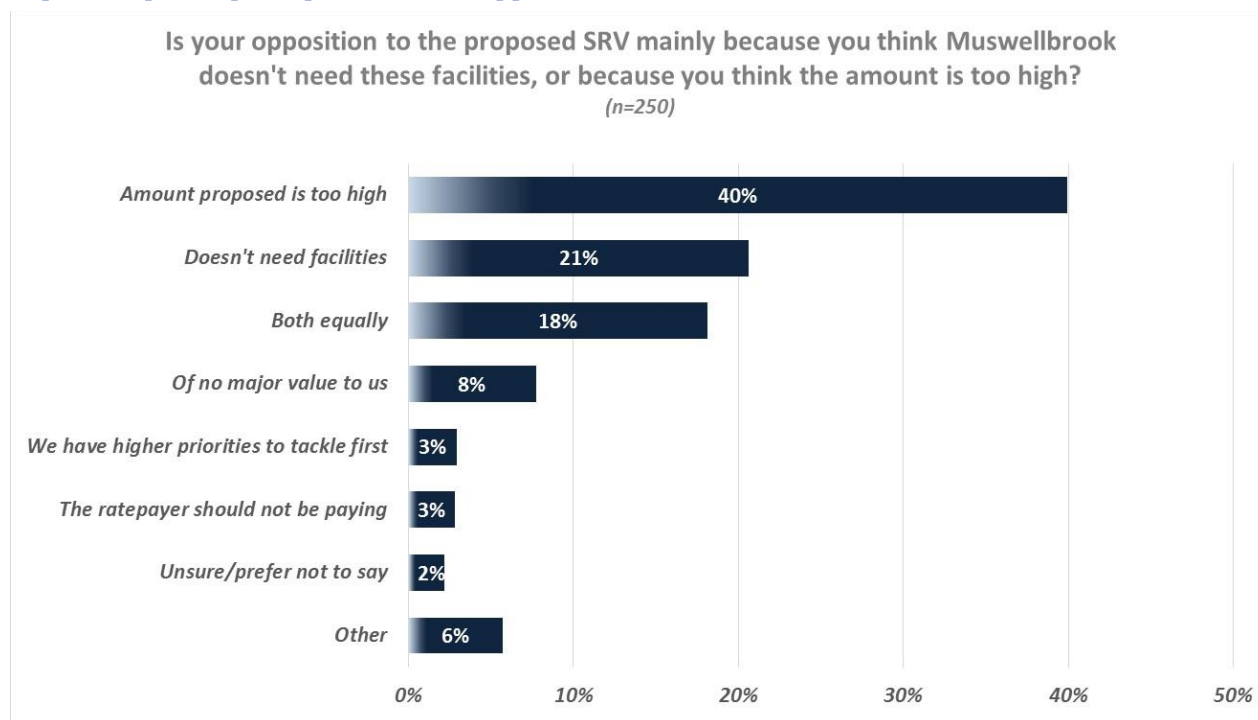
Those who opposed the SRV did so either because they opposed one or more of the proposed facilities, or because they felt that they or other community members would struggle to pay it. Some also felt that Council should find another way to fund the projects (9%) or had other more important priorities for projects within the community (9%). Five per cent simply felt the rate was too high.

Those classing themselves as uncertain regarding with position towards the SRV felt they needed more information or time (5% of all respondents) and/or had concerns regarding the cost to themselves (2%) or the community (3%).

The full list of verbatim comments is available in Appendix 3.

Those who were opposed to the SRV were then asked specifically whether this was mainly because (a) they thought Muswellbrook didn't need these facilities; or (b) because they thought the amount being asked was too high.

Graph 2.3: Specific principal reason for opposition



Of those who did not support the SRV, 40% said this was because they felt it was too high, and 21% didn't believe Muswellbrook needed the facilities being sought. A further 18% felt it was both factors equally, while 8% argued it was principally because the facilities were not of value to them.

Perception among opponents that the SRV rate proposed was too high was greatest among females (45% vs. 36% among males) and those residing in Muswellbrook (43% vs. 30% among Denman residents).

Of *all* respondents, 18% said the amount was too high while 10% believed the proposed facilities were not necessary and 8% claimed both objections equally.

Appendix 1: Survey questionnaire

Version 1

Muswellbrook_Council_RV_2017

Last modified:23/01/2017 7:36:32 PM

- Q1. Good afternoon/evening, my name is (name) and I'm calling from Jetty Research on behalf of Muswellbrook Shire Council. We need to briefly speak with residents aged between 18-59, would you be in that age group? YES - Council has asked us to call residents at random to conduct a short survey about an important local issue. The survey only takes around 5 minutes, all answers are confidential, and we're not trying to sell anything. Would you be willing to assist Council by completing a short survey? .
..NO MORE 60+

Offer a CALL BACK or check if anyone else in the home might like to take part. Contact at council is Amanda King 6549 3707. Mention we had a high response from the 60+ age group and now need to get a good mix of other ages

Yes	1
No	555

Answer If Attribute "No" from Q1 is SELECTED

Q1

- Q2. Thank you for your time. Have a great afternoon/evening. . .If not in shire or a councillor/permanent council employee: I'm sorry in that case you don't qualify for this survey. Thank you for your time and have a great afternoon/evening.

End

- Q3. Thanks so much. I just have a few quick questions to ensure you qualify for the survey. Firstly can you confirm that you live in the Muswellbrook Shire?

Must live in the shire

Yes	1	
No	555	Go to Q2

Q3

- Q4. Are you or any immediate members of your family a Councillor or a permanent Council employee?

Casual or contractor qualify for survey.Immediate is husband/wife

Yes	1	Go to Q2
No	555	

Q4

Q5. And would your age be between?

PROMPTED

18-39	1
40-59	2
60+	3

Q5

Q6. Gender?

Dont ask

Male	1
Female	2

Q6

Q7. And your postcode please?

UNPROMPTED

2328	1
2333	2
OTHER	

Q7
Q7

Q8. May I have your first name for the survey?

Only so we can refer to you by name

Q8

Q9. Thanks [Q8]. To kick things off, can you tell me which if any of the following apply to you by answering yes or no?

PROMPTED

	Yes	No
I work in the Muswellbrook Shire	1	555
I study in the Muswellbrook Shire	1	555
I am a ratepayer in the Muswellbrook Shire	1	555

Q9_1
Q9_2
Q9_3

Q10. [Q8] prior to this call had you read, heard or seen anything about Council's proposal to deliver three new facilities - a water park, Denman town centre revitalisation, and a regional convention and performance venue in Muswellbrook, and Council's plan to fund them through a special rate variation?

Before our phone call

Yes	1
No	555

Q10

Q11. Can you recall where you saw or heard this?

Answer If Attribute "Yes" from Q10 is SELECTED

UNPROMPTED - probe and tick any that apply

Local paper	1
Local radio	2
Local TV news	3
Council website	4
Letter from Council	5
Friends, family, neighbours, colleagues etc.	6
OTHER	

Q11_1
Q11_2
Q11_3
Q11_4
Q11_5
Q11_6
Q11_O

Q12. Muswellbrook Shire Council recently sent to all ratepayers a letter about the new facilities planned for the shire, and potential special rate variation to fund it. Do you recall receiving this information?

Answer If Attribute "I am a ratepayer in the Muswellbrook Shire" from Q9 is Yes

Yes	1
No	555

Q12

Q13. Did you get a chance to read the letter?

Answer If Attribute "Yes" from Q12 is SELECTED

PROMPTED

Yes - read in detail	1
Yes - glanced through it	2
No - have not yet read	3

Q13

- Q14. Now [Q8], Council is proposing a 2.5% special rate variation each year over the next four years. This rate increase would enable Council to deliver the following three new facilities: A regional quality water park at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre and the replacement of the 84-year old 50 metre pool; delivery of the Denman town centre revitalisation; and a regional convention and performance venue in Muswellbrook's town centre. The cumulative impact on rates over the next four years would range from \$29 per annum in year 1 for an average ratepayer to \$147 per annum in year 4. If the rate variation were not to occur, Council would still be able to replace the 50 metre pool, but without the water park. Only stage 1 of the Denman town centre revitalisation could proceed, and there would be a limited upgrade of the Muswellbrook town centre, but with no regional convention and performance venue. With all that in mind, do you support Council's application for a 2.5% special rate variation over the next 4 years?**

UNPROMPTED. The dollar amounts listed are only an average e.g. average household in the shire

Yes - support option 1 (SRV of 2.5% p.a. for 4 years)	1
No - do not support a SRV for this purpose	2
Unsure	666

Q14

- Q15. Can you briefly explain why you think this?**

Record response

Q15

- Q16. And is your opposition to the proposed Special Rate Variation mainly because you think Muswellbrook doesn't need these facilities, or because you think the amount being asked is too high?**

Answer If Attribute "No - do not support a SRV for this purpose" from Q14 is SELECTED

UNPROMPTED

Doesn't need facilities	1
Amount proposed is too high	2
Both equally	3
Unsure/prefer not to say	4
OTHER	

Q16

Q17. Thanks so much [Q8], we're almost done. Can you tell me if you live in a urban or rural area?

UNPROMPTED

Urban	1
Rural	2
Mixed/unsure	3

Q17

Q18. And do you have any children under the age of 18 living in your home?

Yes	1
No	555

Q18

Q19. And finally, how many years have you lived in the Muswellbrook Shire?

Enter years, as number only. (E.g. if respondent says 'more than 20', just enter 20).

Years	1
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Q19_1_1

Q20. Thanks so much [Q8], that's the end of the survey. Muswellbrook Shire Council greatly appreciates your views. Did you have any questions about the survey? Thanks again and have a great afternoon/evening.

End

Appendix 2: Weighting method and calculation

It is common in random surveys such as this to weight results by age and gender. This avoids the need to sample by quota (which is far more expensive than purely random sampling), and ensures the data from under- and over-represented groups is adjusted to meet the demographic profile of the survey population.

In this case, the 2017 survey sample has been post-weighted to match the age and gender profile of the 2011 ABS census for the Muswellbrook Shire (Usual Resident profile). To do this we divide the 2011 Census results by gender (male/female) and across three age groups (in this case 18-39, 40-59 and 60-plus.) This divides respondents into one of six and gender categories, as shown below:

Muswellbrook adult population by age and gender (ABS data 2011)		
Age	Male	Female
18-39	22.0%	20.1%
40-59	19.6%	17.0%
60+	10.3%	11.0%
Total	51.9%	48.1%

Meanwhile the 2016 sample breaks down as follows:

Randomly selected survey respondents by age and gender		
Age	Male	Female
18-39	5.8%	8.2%
40-59	19.3%	28.2%
60+	14.7%	23.8%
Total	39.8%	60.2%

Dividing the 2016 sample by the 2011 Census data for each age and gender category provides the following weighting factors:

Weighting factor by age and gender		
Age	Male	Female
18-39	3.788	2.457
40-59	1.015	0.603
60+	0.699	0.463

These weightings are then assigned to each data record based on each respondent's age/gender profile, and the raw data for each question is adjusted accordingly.

Appendix 3: Reason for support or non-support

<i>Support / not support the SRV</i>	<i>Can you briefly explain why you think this?</i>
Not supportive	Think it's too high
Not supportive	Wouldn't use the new facilities too expensive
Not supportive	Would prefer funding to be spent on infrastructure like footpaths, roads etc.
Not supportive	Would not get the full use. I see the swimming pool being good value but really nothing else .if just the pool id pay a small extra rate
Not supportive	Without the SRV you can still have the pool upgrade, town doesn't need an Aquatic Centre or performance venue.
Not supportive	Why should pensioners have to pay money for facilities that they won't use? It will be difficult for pensioners to meet the proposed higher rates.
Not supportive	When I moved here 20 years ago, I was told that I would get kerb and guttering and storm water drainage, it's still not done, no one has looked at the problem
Not supportive	We're pensioners so can't afford it
Not supportive	We're out of town and these things will be of no benefit to us
Not supportive	We pay enough rates here already with all these levy's included. It is too expensive with everything else they want us to cover as well. Spent all the money on Campbell's corner they should utilise that instead.
Not supportive	We pay enough rates already as I am a single pensioner I am concerned at the price. We are also being charged for Emergency services on the rates. I will not benefit from any of these changes and I think pensioners should be exempt. I feel very strongly I should not subsidised the rest of the community
Not supportive	We pay above annual rates where we are and receive zero services can't even get council to pick up burnt out car bodies, live out of town pay very high rates on property yet do not get services of those closer to town
Not supportive	We need the pool upgrade but I have doubts about the need of the other items.
Not supportive	We live rural and we do not get any services. Muswellbrook town centre is dead, there are better places to put the money.
Not supportive	We have a beautiful heated and outdoor swimming pool both with restricted hours of use. Outdoor pool and water park should be accessible from 6am to 6pm for all residents regardless of the numbers of residents using the facilities.
Not supportive	We had a vote in the men's shed we all voted against it
Not supportive	We get a lot a lot of money from the mines but most of us are pensioners who cannot afford it, suggest they pay for it
Not supportive	We don't need these facilities what we have are sufficient
Not supportive	We don't need the stuff
Not supportive	We don't need it too many vacant shops as it is we need employment in town what use is a convention centre here
Not supportive	We don't use any of the existing facilities as it is and wouldn't in future. I am a rural resident and pay overly inflated rates already, and receive no council services in return.
Not supportive	We don't need a theatre and there are more important things to spend money on than a water park. Roads and infrastructure need to be fixed first
Not supportive	We do not need the convention centre - we have an arts centre. The rates will be too high and the money can come from other council funds

Not supportive	We definitely don't need a water park and when we try to go to the pool now you can only get into the inside heated pool and we want to use the cold water outdoor pool which is always closed during the hottest part of the day.
Not supportive	We are self-funded retirees and can't afford the increase
Not supportive	We are pensioners why would we want to pay more. Why would they need a new convention centre what is wrong with what they have already got? I think they need to focus on more important things there is nothing wrong with Denman with the way it is.
Not supportive	We are paying high rates as it is. There is nothing wrong with the pool we have.
Not supportive	We are only living on a pension we can't afford the increase
Not supportive	We are on a rural property and our rates are already high enough and it is too much to ask the rural people to subsidise the town people. We pay \$9000 already and we don't get our garbage collected, water or anything whereas other areas nearby do get garbage collection services.
Not supportive	We already pay too much in rates, some areas are even more expensive than others, and council does not do enough on important issues to fix roads, dirty water supply. I also feel council wastes money, e.g., 20000 on a Christmas tree
Not supportive	Until the pool is proven to be unrepairable I do not agree, we do not need a new pool nor we need a conventional centre, however the Denman upgrade is needed
Not supportive	Unable to afford SRV. Caller lives on a pension.
Not supportive	Too high.
Not supportive	This is a ridiculous amount of increase for rate payers especially when council own commercial property in Sydney.
Not supportive	Thinks the council should manage its funds better and not require SRV to fund new facilities.
Not supportive	Think the plans are too glandulous for this shire
Not supportive	They waist money nothing that goes to the town we pay rates and they just waist.
Not supportive	They tried to renovate the Denman town centre before, and it was not successful, and do we really need a water park?
Not supportive	They give us nothing the rates are already high enough and I don't think they are using the money for what they saying they are going to use it for it is not their money it is funded through the mining. The real issues in the shire they are just not interested in fixing.
Not supportive	They get enough money from the mining community to be able to provide those facilities I do not believe we need to pay extra rates to pay for these. This is a high rate of rental area that does not have to pay rates but yet they still get to use the facilities.
Not supportive	They don't provide a good enough service as it is now, I don't trust them to manage the money wisely.
Not supportive	They could be doing other things to raise the funds rather than a SRV. Council puts rates up each year and residents have no say in what they do.
Not supportive	They are wasting too much now on renovating buildings in the town. I'm not in favour of the pool upgrade because council wasted money it was given to them by the mines. The coal dust settles on pools. Perhaps an indoor pool would be better.
Not supportive	They are facilities that impact me as a rate payer. There are more pressing safety issues to fund to get fixed and maintained.
Not supportive	There should be other ways to fund it.
Not supportive	There is other things that need doing in the area. Should fix cemetery's parks are a disgrace buildings need attention
Not supportive	There is not enough information as yet. I thought the town centre had already been allocated, and was in the pipeline to finish. Is there money left over. I'm trying to make my

	decision with only limited information, when we tried to get more info we were unable to find out anything
Not supportive	There are too many increases
Not supportive	There are more important things that money can be spent on. Muswellbrook main street needs a little sprucing up so that it doesn't look so dead. Campbell's corner looks lovely
Not supportive	The water park needs sun protection, the performance venue in town are sufficient, and Muswellbrook area should not be burdened with rates for cost of Denman upgrade, Denman residents should pay for this
Not supportive	The water park is a waste of money it is too expensive to get in in the first place, on the wages here it is out of reach for local families and if the water park goes in the prices will go up this is a waste of money
Not supportive	The swimming club has to fund new blocks at the Denman Memorial pool because the Council tore down the old blocks. Our town does not get council support even for minor such things. We have to fight for every facility we need and service, even moving the fields.
Not supportive	The rural areas have urgent need of more important priorities such as infrastructure, roads, bridges, garbage services etc. Also very few people would actually use these new facilities.
Not supportive	The rates in the letter from Council said the average rates in the area are seven hundred plus dollars. Mine are 1680 at the moment and that's without a garbage service. They have everything wrong, and if they want take my rates then they should come and fix Wells Gully Road.
Not supportive	The rates go up every single year and I have received nothing in the past and nearly to the point we had to consider selling and now they want to put them up again for things that only one of them I would use
Not supportive	The rates go up anyway the rates are dear enough
Not supportive	The rates are far too high as it is
Not supportive	The proposal doesn't go on to say what happens after the next four years, where do the rates go from there
Not supportive	The pool does not need changing and our rates should be enough to pay for the new facilities.
Not supportive	The plans for Denman are just going to make turn people away. It will only be a one way St, there will not be enough parking. Out of town visitors won't even be able to come through the town with caravans.
Not supportive	The performing arts centre is a no-no. The water park isn't essential but the pool is Denman town centre I support
Not supportive	The money should be spent on storm water drainage. I have been flooded twice in less than three years. This is a very practical ask it needs special attention as it will happen again.
Not supportive	The minimal upgrades are sufficient, there are other issues more important for council to address or focus on.
Not supportive	The mines should foot the bills as they give a substantial amount to support the town for the Muswellbrook district, the mines supplies these royalties for this region and council should ensure the use of that money is given for this proposal.
Not supportive	The majority of Denman residents do not want the proposal for Denman we have not been consulted and feel that we have had not change to do anything about it, and the performance centre is not needed at all there are more important things the shire needs
Not supportive	The increase after the first year will be substantial and may significantly affect a lot of ratepayers

Not supportive	The facilities are not needed and other existing facilities should be improved or updated
Not supportive	The Denman proposal is not going to work for the elder residents due to lack parking provisions, other work needs to be prioritised. Also the swimming centre should be funded in full buy the horse studs as they closed the mine but they do not contribute back into the community.
Not supportive	The council should spend their money on creating jobs for local people,
Not supportive	The council is about 40 years too late with some of these things and I don't want Denman interfered with
Not supportive	The cost to the rate payers will end up costing too much, also I am a business owner who will be affected by the building of a convention centre, which the Muswellbrook are does not need at the moment. There is no job security in this area to support such expansions.
Not supportive	The convention centre wouldn't work they go to the gold coast not Muswellbrook
Not supportive	The aged pensioners and low income and single income people they would not be able to afford that kind of expense. Council not delivering at present value for money. Roads need more attention first some are a death trap.
Not supportive	They do nothing at the pool anyway it is never open there is no point in having a waterpark if they can't afford to employ people on the outdoor pool on 40 degree days and my son always gets sick from the indoor pool so we don't bother going there anymore, if they can't mow the lawn on a regular basis I don't see how they will maintain the water park
Not supportive	Support the pool upgrade this will be good for the young people of the town however do not support rate increase
Not supportive	Support the new pool, but the others new facilities are not warranted.
Not supportive	Some of the issues with council over the last twelve months, no communication with community, issues regarding actions taken then telling community about it afterwards like changing our street address, complete lack of consultation with the community
Not supportive	Residents who live out of town would not benefit from these new facilities.
Not supportive	Rates are too high as it is. Muswellbrook Council can likely afford to do this with current funding.
Not supportive	Rates are high enough as it is and there is little to show for it.
Not supportive	Rates are high as it is and council services in the Muswellbrook area are poor.
Not supportive	Rates are costly as it is. Waterpark isn't necessary
Not supportive	Rate payers will be without the 50 metre pool until it is replaced, this could be 1 month or 12 months knowing the council, Muswellbrook residents have been paying premium rates for minimal services as it is, this is unfair, council have spent funds unwisely which could have been used to fund this, we do not need flowers in roundabouts and artwork, we need basic services and facilities for all residents. Chamber of commerce should encourage businesses to help with upgrades to town centres.
Not supportive	Rate increase is too high.
Not supportive	Our wages wouldn't go up that much to cover it.
Not supportive	Probably wouldn't use the water park. I'm moving from Muswellbrook in two year's time
Not supportive	Previous resident of Denman and very little money spent in Denman by the Council in the past. Residents in the immediate area for the developments should be liable for rate increases if that is Councils decision. Conference and performance centre is supported but feel that Denman residents shouldn't have to contribute. Pool doesn't need upgrading and had previously been funded by the mines. Mines should contribute more as workers are not rate payers and take advantage of the facilities
Not supportive	Prefer funds to be spent on the hospital which is a far higher priority. The health of local people should have priority over the luxury of performance venues.

Not supportive	Pensioners will find it hard to pay, otherwise the proposals are needed.
Not supportive	Out in the rural area we receive not a lot have to take our own garbage, the roads are awful.
Not supportive	Our main concern is pensioners being able to afford it. None of the developments I think are really needed. The town centre of Muswellbrook has empty shops that need filling before anything else. Footpaths need improving in the town centre, especially in front of the court house where I tripped and nearly fell.
Not supportive	Ongoing maintenance of the current pool costs as much as the building of the pool. Maintenance costs of these new facilities are a concern.
Not supportive	Object to what they want to do to the main street in Denman by making it a one way street.
Not supportive	Not sure there is value in some of the projects, added some wish list items to an important project.
Not supportive	Not supportive of performance centre or revitalisation project because other things need attention such as roads and water supply.
Not supportive	Not in favour I think there are other priorities
Not supportive	None of these development influence you and you've heard that some of the Denman business owners are against a one way street
Not supportive	None of the facilities would be relevant to me
Not supportive	Need more information about the rate increase and what is happening after the 4 year period.
Not supportive	My rates are the highest in the state as it is. Council wastes their money as it is, there aren't even footpaths near my home for my children to ride their bikes on.
Not supportive	Muswellbrook people don't appear to be able to support things big developments like these.
Not supportive	Muswellbrook gets much more funding than Denman it seems. I think we need more funding for other community facilities.
Not supportive	Mines give the Council a lot of money for the Shire however the Council will not spend the money donated by the mines that are already saved. Mine money originally purchased the Muswellbrook heated pool. Council should spend the donated money first rather than rate variations and increases.
Not supportive	Let's walk before we run and they won't get the juice out of the aquatic park, the other two are not high on rate payers lists seems to cater more for outside or even mining industry and that is where they should start with asking for funding rather than rate increase
Not supportive	Just spent money on Muswellbrook town centre. Agree with the water park but nothing else
Not supportive	It's already hard enough for a pensioner to pay the existing rates let alone another rate rise.
Not supportive	It's a waste of money, it could be used on many other facilities. I know people in Denman and they don't want this proposal. The pool is always closed so why upgrade it. We had a town hall and it wasn't used and turned in to an art gallery so why build any more. Money should be used to upgrade the sewerage treatment works that has needed it for the past 10 years.
Not supportive	It's a lot of money for pensioners on limited income
Not supportive	It is unfair on rate payers to do such a big project at once. The pool does need work but the proposed rate variation is too much.
Not supportive	It is too expensive.
Not supportive	It is too expensive

Not supportive	It is hard enough to pay the rates now. The pool does need upgrading but not so expensively.
Not supportive	It is a big rise by the fourth 4, other avenues should use to fund such a project
Not supportive	It doesn't apply but I do pay rent.
Not supportive	Is there really a need for a water park we have a pool we don't really need a water park if need to fix the roads so people can come. I travel on the roads every day which are in need of maintenance and they should concentrate on the roads first
Not supportive	Instead of spending the money in the Muswellbrook Shire spend it on the Shires roads.
Not supportive	In Denman we do not benefit from the Council.
Not supportive	I'm willing to support some but not all. We pay reasonable rates. I would not support the convention centre,
Not supportive	I'm struggling to pay my rates now, and it will make life very difficult for me
Not supportive	I'm sick of council always raising the rates. What's the purpose off upgrading the pool and charging more when already costs a lot to go. The Denman water system does need to be upgraded.
Not supportive	I'm only casual and I can't afford for my rates to go up I struggle to pay them as it is they need to be making new jobs
Not supportive	I'm not going to use many of these facilities proposed. We pay enough rates to be able to fund these without a rate rise.
Not supportive	I'm in the swimming club and the plans we have viewed are not positive for the Club
Not supportive	I'm a pensioner so I should not be charged it's not fair, i've raised all my children and really dont think its fair that us poor pensioners should not be charged for this only the people that have families should be charged
Not supportive	If you up the rates people are struggling as it is and they could lose their house or be unable to pay rates
Not supportive	If the waterpark goes into the swimming pool it will not be accessible to all due to the cost, those who need it the most would benefit if it is free and in public places. The town is not big enough for the entertainment Centre seating, it should be built into the University.
Not supportive	If I say no they will do it anyway put your rates up they don't care.
Not supportive	If Council can't afford to do these developments they shouldn't consider doing it
Not supportive	I'm a pensioner and I would not be able to afford it.
Not supportive	I'm 60 and none of this interests me
Not supportive	I wouldn't be of any use to me, as I don't use those facilities
Not supportive	I would struggle with the rate increase, being a pensioner. Over 4-5 years my rates have gone up approx. \$200 a year or more. On a fixed income it is very difficult.
Not supportive	I would not be happy, I'm on a pension, and would not use the facilities, and nothing has been done to rebuild the Denman Hall, which I think should be a priority
Not supportive	I would be happy with just the pool getting replaced and our rates are high enough as they are
Not supportive	I won't be using the Convention Centre it is similar to the Music Conservatorium and we don't need the Convention Centre.
Not supportive	I will not use the proposed three new facilities and think it expensive to fund it through rate increase when I won't use it
Not supportive	I will not get any benefit from the development
Not supportive	I want more information and have made an appointment to see Mr Rice and a lot of elderly residents are concerned about the proposals. We need an information meeting to be held for all residents who would like to attend

Not supportive	I want further assurance that the moneys would be spent on the water park before our rates go further, also we need more information with regards to what happens after the four years with rates, e.g., will it reduce or go up further?
Not supportive	I use the pool and it does need replacing, however I don't think a water park would increase pool users. I have been a resident for 40 years and there are other venues in the town that can be used for performances so I feel this will be a waste of money, council gets a lot of funding from mining companies etc., and they could pay for this without a rate increase.
Not supportive	I think we pay too much rates as it is Denman doesn't receive very much for our money.
Not supportive	I think we pay enough rates in Denman and don't get much for our money. We also have to pay for the septic on our property we don't even get rubbish collection and we are only 5km from town
Not supportive	I think they waste money on too many unnecessary things and they have enough money already to get those improvements done.
Not supportive	I think they should be funding it an alternate way or not do it at all
Not supportive	I think they have wasted enough money and it would not be what they are saying it would be more also they are not saying how much they are intending to spend. Why would you build a convention centre right near a railway line then have to build barriers? I think the town is not big enough to support all these things they are proposing.
Not supportive	I think there are better things worth doing around town like bike tracks as the roads are too dangerous. Would like to know who came up with the ideas for improvement and what consultation was done. How were these evaluated against other projects needed in the community?
Not supportive	I think there are a lot of donations from the mine coming in and I think they should be used for these things. Our rates have risen greatly over the years and I think these should be funded in a different way.
Not supportive	I think the money that they spending I cannot see the benefits
Not supportive	I think the money could be better used elsewhere
Not supportive	I think the cost of living is going up there is a disparity between cost of living rises and income in this area there needs to be conservatism in expenditure asking ratepayers to fund projects that aren't particularly necessary is not worth the sting in residents pockets
Not supportive	I think that they should concentrate more on the outer areas, while I'm happy for them to replace the swimming pool and first stage of town centre they need to broaden their attention outside of the central town itself, I am totally against the regional convention centre only 5% of population here would use it
Not supportive	I think that over a period of time, the improvements would be able to take place without the rate increase
Not supportive	I think that it is too high and if you are not going to use the water park it is not going to benefit some people at all.
Not supportive	I think that all the environmental vandalism perpetrated by mining in this shire and whole hunter area is vandalism and mines should make a greater contribution alleviating damage by substantially contributing to projects council are talking about
Not supportive	I think the money is better spent else where
Not supportive	I think it is too much of an increase we would have to increase our rent and would not get a tenant in there.
Not supportive	I think it is too high we get nothing done here at Aberdeen Rd from the overpass out towards sandy beach there are no walkways or anything council always promises to get it done and never go ahead with anything. We have no way of getting around here without putting walkways in these areas.

Not supportive	I think it is a bit too high.
Not supportive	I think it is a bit too costly for a single income family to have to pay such high rates.
Not supportive	I question two of the facilities that are proposed....especially the performance centre...the regional arts centre doesn't have the support of the local community
Not supportive	I prefer the number 2 option
Not supportive	I pay enough rates now and really none of those projects will have any benefit for me or my family
Not supportive	I oppose because I wouldn't use the water park or the pool, but I do agree with upgrade of Denman town centre
Not supportive	I only support the waterpark nothing else I would support increase if all the money was spent on the waterpark and it needs to be disable friendly
Not supportive	I live in the shire but don't get a garbage pickup...I think this is more important than the new facilities planned
Not supportive	I live in Denman and everything is given to Muswellbrook. We have the local pool has always only had cold water in the showers.
Not supportive	I like the pool idea but if it only gets used for half a year it is not open full time I have grandchildren but they don't use the pool and I don't think the water park would be a good idea. I do like the idea of a new 50m pool though and the other proposals I am not too sure about as I don't know much about them.
Not supportive	I know that council have approval to do other things that will service the community. What is capable without the rate variation is adequate for my needs.
Not supportive	I have not seen anything done properly in m yet
Not supportive	I have been a serving member on Muswellbrook Shire Environment Committee, It was shut down by the current Mayor Martin Rush. Whilst Martin Rush is Mayor I will not support Council and any Council issues.
Not supportive	I have a pool and what happens in Denman doesn't really affect me....also the council has released too much land and my property value has gone down as a result
Not supportive	I have a few properties & it would amount to too much. Coal mining area but not performing as it used to, so the town is not going forward at all.
Not supportive	I feel that Council should be able to fund it as we pay enough rates already.
Not supportive	I don't want my rates to go any further, I am on a pension and it is very hard to pay all my bills as it is
Not supportive	I don't think the things they are proposing are necessary
Not supportive	I don't think it's necessary
Not supportive	I don't want to pay anymore rates, then I have to. The town is dying and full of commission housing. Muswellbrook and Denman have a major "ICE" problem. Don't want my children to mix with these people, would rather go to another town. Also the Council is very poorly run.
Not supportive	I don't use the town pool, we have a pool and the rates would unnecessarily go up for us.
Not supportive	I don't use the swimming pool in Muswellbrook. I don't see the need for another Convention Centre and the way they are going about the main street upgrade.
Not supportive	I don't use the pool and happy with Denman town centre and don't go to Muswellbrook very often
Not supportive	I don't understand why we don't get a reduction in rates if paid yearly. Also my finances simply don't support this sort of increase.
Not supportive	I don't trust the council that this will only be for 4 years. I would support this if I believed after 4 years our rates would go back down as I would like these facilities, however I am not convinced.
Not supportive	I don't think we should have to pay for it.

Not supportive	I don't think we need these new facilities
Not supportive	I don't think we need a convention centre the motel has one and so has the RSL there are enough here.
Not supportive	I don't think they would use the convention centre as they don't use what we have now. Trade is dwindling and the town is dying. Every second house is for sale and housing valuations are decreasing greatly. Costs to the pool are ridiculously high and people can't afford it
Not supportive	I don't think they have given us what we pay for now.
Not supportive	I don't think the town needs what they are suggesting. No one will use the convention centre it's a joke. With the down turn in the mining industry the council should be bringing in new industries and finding jobs instead. There are a lot of trade people in town with expertise and they are the people needing jobs, and we should do something to keep them here or they will go somewhere else. It is a pool of expertise the council should promote to industry.
Not supportive	I don't think the economic growth in the area is large enough for rate payers to afford it. The town needs things and it's a great idea but not sure if everyone can afford the rise.
Not supportive	I don't think the council handles their rates payers finances very well and don't think they should handle the money or development. I believe there is a conflict of interest with the mayor interfering with the council management. I think the mayor doesn't listen to the residents.
Not supportive	I don't think Muswellbrook needs a water park, they could refurbish another venue for the convention centre, so council spend too much money on Muswellbrook and not on other areas. Our rates funds should be better spent on other things such as road repairs, rubbish collection, to beautify what we already have. Create more jobs. Get people off the dole and get people working.
Not supportive	I don't think just rate payers should pay, everyone should pay. We pay way too much on our rates.
Not supportive	I don't think it's needed, it should not be up to the ratepayers to fund this. If council wants it they should wait till they can afford it, or get funding from the industries/companies responsible for destroying the environment and ruining the town.
Not supportive	I don't think it is viable and I think the prices would be so high that normal families would not be able to access it.
Not supportive	I don't see that we get value for money at the moment and our rates are higher than Newcastle rates and other regional centres. The current council does not deliver value for the money. In addition, the council has funds in reserve - the Future Fund.
Not supportive	I don't know if Denman can handle the one way street which isn't a help, Muswellbrook already has a pool that is okay, and the cost of the pool entry is already too high and what cost will be the water park be for families. I am in support of the convention centre but not sure how much use it will be. A lot of rate payers will be paying for not using any of these facilities. The area is already struggling financially with the slump from the mines. Half the shops are empty they should be worrying about creating business first.
Not supportive	I don't feel that council has been responsible with money in the past and they have wasted money in the past. Once the rates go up they will keep going up. I don't feel the rate payers should pick up the tab for council wasting and mismanaging previous rate payer's money.
Not supportive	I don't believe that after the 4 years that council would remove the special rate variation, also the cost to enter the water park is not revealed. Lack of information.
Not supportive	I don't believe about paying excessive amounts of rates when the rural roads are so terrible. Why can't they fix the roads first?
Not supportive	I don't agree with them putting the rates up any more than they have to.

Not supportive	I don't agree with the water park....it's pointless cos it's too expensive and very few people go there anyway. Pass-outs would help a bit
Not supportive	I don't agree with the Denman revitalisation plan, also there are more important things for council to focus on than a water park. Also not enough information about what happens after the 4 year period.
Not supportive	I believe this is a very good proposal but council should look at other funding options such as mining industry funding, as our rates are already way too high, Denman may lose its small town charm if it becomes too modern or fancy. The water park is a good idea but I wonder how much they will charge people for this as the cost of the pool is already quite high, and the indoor heated pool council built which had problems with the heating makes me worry, and there isn't always enough staff to supervise as it is, I think the performance venue is the best idea and to save money council could just do this and not the other things.
Not supportive	I believe the performance centre should be privately funded. I think for a rural ratepayer it is a waste of my resources when other facilities are in greater need of improvement - an example of this is the Newcastle river being unsuitable for swimming - if unsuitable for swimming it stands to reason it is also unsuitable for drinking.
Not supportive	I believe if we are going to pay a rate increase we need to fix the roads. Roads should take greater priority than fun parks.
Not supportive	I am struggling to pay the rates as it is, I am on a minimal pay.
Not supportive	I am a pensioner and the increase would affect me greatly. I agree with the Denman and water park/pool but don't agree with convention centre as there are plenty of other areas to use and there are limited shops need to increase business rather than build the convention centre
Not supportive	I am a pensioner and I don't think there is a real need to put that sort of money into the aquatic centre and the other things planned. I think our money should be going more towards the medical system.
Not supportive	I agree that m needs to move ahead it is a backward town and money has been spent the wrong way but the pension doesn't go up and we are already on a tight budget as it is so I am concerned if the rates go up especially as I am unlikely to use the facilities but this won't affect the cost
Not supportive	Higher council rates is a concern.
Not supportive	Have 2 rental properties empty why would I do that to myself...bad timing
Not supportive	Fees to get into the pool are expensive and should cover the redevelopment of the pool. Don't agree with the location of the convention centre. Need to use money more wisely. Conservatorium should have been built bigger to suit the proposed convention centre
Not supportive	Everything goes to Muswellbrook not Denman our town hall got burnt down and never replaced visitors visit and wonder what happen to our council. What happens to all the money from mining why not use that instead of charging poor rate payers
Not supportive	Does not support the development of the water park because it is not a good use of council funds. Rural garbage service is a higher priority.
Not supportive	Demon actually paid for the pool the council didn't pay for the pool. Totally disagree with raising the rates. The rise goes to Muswellbrook and not Denman.
Not supportive	Denman residents should not be paying for facilities in Muswellbrook.
Not supportive	Denman main street doesn't need upgrading/restructuring. Other streets need attention. Current funding should be able to cover the proposed water park facility. Town Hall has been changed to art gallery which was a perfect performance space.
Not supportive	Current funding could take care of upgrades. Further upgrades not necessary.
Not supportive	Current funding can replace the pool, but the SRV is steep for people on a pension.

Not supportive	Creating work should be priority however this project will only create temporary work, the project is only for younger people and it is unfair that older people will find this under stress and difficulty out of their pension.
Not supportive	Council raising its own revenue and being greedy. Most people will struggle to pay the extra. Council doesn't support the battler and the farmers.
Not supportive	Council is putting money into the wrong projects. Prior revitalisation of the creek is a waste of money because of flooding which will undo all the work that has been done.
Not supportive	Council has spent too much money on Campbell's Corner and venue improvements are used from residents in other shires and do not contribute towards improvements like the conservatorium. Support pool upgrade providing it is done correctly and only once and money should be directed towards more shelters. Fix canal so that it doesn't flood first
Not supportive	Council has previously spent a lot of money revitalising town centres already and this has not made any noticeable difference.
Not supportive	Council has enough money to purchase properties in other areas, therefor council should use those moneys to fund the proposed projects.
Not supportive	Council don't use their money wisely as it is.
Not supportive	Council did not support the operation of the local mine, locals will be losing jobs as a result. Disappointed in operation of the aquatic centre as it is - it is closed in January!
Not supportive	Council are supposed to collect rubbish, provide sewerage and basic facilities, and not go into the commercial world. My rates are too high as it is. I am on a farm and pay high rates as it is for no service.
Not supportive	Council always have a reason to put the rates up and would not be using the new facilities in the near future.
Not supportive	Cause I don't want a rise in the rates
Not supportive	Believes the SRV will remain in place after the 4 year period.
Not supportive	Believes the new convention centre is unnecessary. The local community will likely not support this facility. Why take money away from the local service clubs and businesses that already offer such venues? People can't afford these things.
Not supportive	Being a pensioner I don't really agree to any of this really. It really. Doesn't apply to me. Therefore there should be no charge
Not supportive	Because we are struggling to pay our bills as it is if it goes up we will get further behind
Not supportive	Because we are just about to go onto aged pension and we just got a drop in our rates don't want them to go up again
Not supportive	Because the rates quoted in the letter from council are approximately half of what we're paying, and the additional facilities are of very little value to me
Not supportive	Because the rates are high enough as it is
Not supportive	Because the Muswellbrook developments don't affect me and I don't think the Denman town centre needs a major facelift
Not supportive	Because rates always go up, and land value has gone down. I worry that after the 4 years, the rates will not go back down to current costs
Not supportive	Because of what they plan to do with the money we do not need a convention centre and I don't see the need for a water park when they could upgrade Denman and don't, and nobody in town wants a one way street in the centre of town
Not supportive	Because I think they are spending too much money on the town centre and its not bringing the people back there
Not supportive	Because I pay a lot of rates, and we have had bad roads in my area, and they have not been attended to. And I do not like the design of the Denman plan, e.g., the one way traffic in the town centre.

Not supportive	Because I have multiple properties in town so substantial rate increase for me and concerned that that rate would become the base at the end of the four years rather than going back down
Not supportive	Because I don't think for what we get for our money and it is harder with water rates on top of normal rates it's hard to justify the costs we have to cover every year to own a home, what we get from council is that there is more important things to spend our money on
Not supportive	Because I think people are suffering in this shire as it is, esp. Rate payers, the third part of proposal is a waste of money and it's a lot of money to benefit a target audience doesn't improve roads etc.
Not supportive	Because I do not want to be paying an extra 147 in for years on my rates
Not supportive	As a retired person it would be difficult to afford this increase.
Not supportive	Aquatic Centre I would not use. Denman town centre would like to see it progress. Convention centre has no purpose as we can use other facilities which is more than adequate. Should keep existing facilities viable
Not supportive	All this money for water park, and then we have to pay to use the facility. Put a water park which is free, similar to Lake Keepit, or Cairns, installed in a public park for free. , Who will convention centre benefit?
Not supportive	Agree with the pool being replaced and that something needs to be done with the town centre to make it lively. Woolworths should have been built in the main street. Council needs to support local trade's people and business.
Not supportive	Against the performance centre and the amount spent on Campbell's Corner.
Not supportive	A number of friends live in Denman and do not support the revitalisation proposal. It may take business away from existing retailers and may be to the detriment of the community
Not supportive	A lot of people are losing their jobs in the area and it would be hard to afford the increase.
Not supportive	10 million came from the mining industry, why not fix or build water park then
Not supportive	We have enough bills ,cannot afford more rates increases
Unsure	Worried about pensioners who may battle when the rise in rates and most pensioners would not use all the new facilities (maybe the convention centre). Probably would be good for the town but do we really need the three facilities.
Unsure	Why replace the pool what is the reason
Unsure	We are on the pension and am worried about the rate increase and how we are meant to be able to afford this.
Unsure	Those facilities aren't needed by the town
Unsure	Thinks that there are other areas, such as infrastructure works (e.g., roads), that are more important. Has observed the pool in Denman is fine but seems to be under-used.
Unsure	Think there's better thing that can be done
Unsure	Think the idea is pretty good, but multiple property owners will be hit hard, previous revitalisations have not been successful in bringing more people/businesses to the area.
Unsure	The water park is a good idea for the kids, not too fussed about Denman town centre upgrade. Convention centre I'm not in favour, because I don't think it will get enough use, and where will it be located. Council needs to provide ratepayers with more detail about plans for distribution of funds.
Unsure	The same old things keep coming up and nothing gets done, there must be others way of raising funds
Unsure	The Council has a lot more money than they are saying because of the local coal mines.
Unsure	Read over not sure

Unsure	Rate increase would impact me very badly, and I wouldn't use the pool, but I would like to see funds spent on aged care, and road maintenance. , Muswellbrook needs an injection of enthusiasm, to revitalise the whole area
Unsure	Not sure if I could use the facilities, the waterpark would have to be very child friendly.
Unsure	Not fully clear on the projects and unwilling to comment.
Unsure	No
Unsure	No
Unsure	Need to think about it more
Unsure	Need more time to review information and think about it?
Unsure	Need more time to consider and read the information.
Unsure	Need more information about this such as would this increase employment in the area. How do the improvements impact on the community.
Unsure	Moneys tight and have not had the chance to think whether this is going to be good for the community and rate payers.
Unsure	Money should be spent on Muswellbrook main street area and encourage business like markets or something to revitalise this town. Maybe cheaper version of the waterpark. We are losing the population, the council needs to work on the town and encourage activities especially in sports fun runs, bike rides etc. They are spending the money in the wrong area. The leisure centre can be upgraded without the water park just fix it up.
Unsure	Letter stated sum facts but were not supported, e.g. Muswellbrook has the lowest rates in the area, which is not correct.
Unsure	Its great what they're proposing but you have to think about the budget read
Unsure	It wouldn't affect us as we are in our 70's.
Unsure	It would be good to have the improvements but a strain on pensioners and low income to pay the rise
Unsure	Income has ceased due to mine not going ahead decision by the Govt. At the moment do not have a job. Can't afford extra rate rise.
Unsure	I'm not convinced that we need the convention centre and not sure if it would be used enough to warrant the expense, if it bought performances and shows to the area but I feel we don't have the population to support that. I support the water park and the Denman revitalisation
Unsure	I'm not a rate payer but I do pay rent which would obviously go up if this occurs and I cannot afford any further increases in my rent.
Unsure	I'm about to retire and my money is tied up and I'm on a low budget. If they dropped the price to get in to the pool to half the price then they would triple the numbers in rates.
Unsure	If we are paying for the water park do we get free entry or will we have to pay an entry fee. Denman rates should be used to revitalise their town not Muswellbrook rates and vice versa
Unsure	If things are going ahead that's okay but I would be a bit concerned as a pensioner how to afford.
Unsure	I've been in Denman all my life and seen when Council tried to make the Main St a one way St. If they could make all these options works it would be great.
Unsure	I would need to know a lot more about the planned performance centre before I know whether I will support the SRV
Unsure	I would like to have more information before I can form an opinion. How many would use these facilities, rents are too high. What will the convention centre be used for, will it have a bar.
Unsure	I understand that it will provide better facilities but I do not know how residents will afford the increase. I have mixed feelings.

Unsure	I support it to a point but have reservations in regards to where things will be situated, and don't think they are very constructive options. It lacks imagination.
Unsure	I still have to work out the numbers and see how it will impact on my rates.
Unsure	I pay enough rates on my property. Then go to the pool and have to pay more to go into the pool. Happy to see the new facilities but ratepayers should have some kind of discount to attend.
Unsure	I like the idea of what they are trying to do, but worried about the economic situation. There has been a big slowdown in our town. The land values have dropped, and it may affect the amount coming in to fund these facilities
Unsure	I haven't formed an opinion yet
Unsure	I have not heard much about it I would like to see something like that go in but I just hope that they do it right. I need more information about what they are actually going to do. The young kids need more things to do in the town.
Unsure	I don't live in Muswellbrook or Denman, I'm in an outlying area, and I don't have kids, and would not get any benefit from these proposed new facilities, but recognise that some progress needs to be made to upgrade facilities
Unsure	I don't have enough information to decide
Unsure	I believe that the rate variation will not revert back after the fourth year. In the fourth year we would paying basically for the first four years in one year. For a pensioner this far too high to be able to afford.
Unsure	I am not sure.
Unsure	I am not rate payer and it is difficult to answer, moor information is needed. Price of pool entry has gone up substantially, so I do not think the waterpark will be affordable at the pool as prices will increase further. I have a child and I could not afford to pay that.
Unsure	I am not convinced that the water park would be utilized, therefore it would be a waste of money, and there is no need for 500 seats in the performance venue, 300 would be more than enough and would make the proposal cheaper.
Unsure	I am a pensioner who lives alone and that is a lot of money for me. Improvements in Muswellbrook won't help me here in Denman
Unsure	Husband takes care the bills so I'm unsure
Unsure	Council will do this work anyway, whether we support or oppose. The pool fees are too expensive for families. Denman has missed out on all the funds.
Unsure	Because I live out of town the Denman one I id support haven't been in the pool for years but Denman would be good
Unsure	At this stage I'm planning to retire with in the next few months and also may be leaving the area.
Unsure	Are upgrades necessary? The current pool is underused.
Unsure	Any development of this kind would be good but it doesn't affect me directly
Unsure	Am worried other elderly pensioners who can't afford this rate variation and that they wouldn't use these facilities. If they do go ahead with Convention Centre will we get the Artists and performers?
Supportive	You have to move with the times or the town will die
Supportive	Yes. We pay rates to get things done so we need things done in Denman. We really need angle parking in town as it is really hard to get a parking space.
Supportive	Yes but only if the money is used for that purpose and doesn't go into general revenue
Supportive	Will better the local community.
Supportive	We've lost out with the closed mines, I think rate payers should get behind council and get things done
Supportive	We need to revitalise the town centre

Supportive	We need to do something....it will bring people to the town....and it's good for local employment
Supportive	We need these things in the area
Supportive	We need something more here to keep kids entertained
Supportive	We need something here, and it's only for 4 years is worth it.
Supportive	We need progress
Supportive	We need better facilities
Supportive	We need at least three elements of the proposal, however we do not need a new convention centre, Other buildings could be converted for such use.
Supportive	We need all the facilities we can get
Supportive	We live in a retirement facility, and we are not sure how this will impact us
Supportive	We have children so there are benefits for families with children, however it is very big rise of rates by the fourth year.
Supportive	We are short of facilities around here however am concerned about whether it goes back down after the four years
Supportive	We are looking forward to seeing the new facilities and improvements and I think the town needs upgrading
Supportive	Water park and performance venue would be good for the community as currently there is only the high school hall.
Supportive	Unsure about the location of the entertainment centre, would not like to see buildings demolished.
Supportive	Town needs the facilities to draw more people.
Supportive	Town need these things
Supportive	To help build the town up
Supportive	To go forward it has to be done
Supportive	To get better facilities for Muswellbrook and to get a convention and entertainment area to provide better performances for residents
Supportive	To further improve the town.
Supportive	This town needs more infrastructure and more things to do.
Supportive	This town has been in need of a convention centre for years, and this is the only way to get it.
Supportive	Things should be updated in Muswellbrook and Denman.
Supportive	They need to start doing something for this town
Supportive	They need the money to do the work.
Supportive	They are all things that need to be started and completed. This would make a huge difference for the towns.
Supportive	These facilities are important to the town
Supportive	There is nothing in Muswellbrook for families.
Supportive	There is nothing here to do, we need more entertainment for the kids.
Supportive	There is a need for the pool upgrade and other facilities.
Supportive	There are currently no good facilities for young children in summer. Water Park and performance venue great ideas! Revamp will attract tourism.
Supportive	There are a lot of young families in the area and we need recreation such as the water park, although need lifeguards so it is open, and could do with Denman upgrade and convention centre would be useful currently use school halls etc. Which do not even have aircon
Supportive	The variation supports a lot of upgrades

Supportive	The town pool needs to be replaced, in favour of progress but worried about the people that can't afford it.
Supportive	The town needs upgrading and the town would be nicer to live in for the residence
Supportive	The town needs these things. They are not mind boggling figures.
Supportive	The town needs these things badly
Supportive	The town needs these facilities. Children and grandchildren especially need new aquatic facilities and theatre.
Supportive	The town needs these facilities
Supportive	The town needs these facilities
Supportive	The town needs the water park for the children, Denman upgrade is needed but not the convention & entertainment venue.
Supportive	The town needs something like this.
Supportive	The town needs more, we as rate payers would benefit from these new facilities
Supportive	The town needs extra things in it to attract people to the town performing arts centre would be good
Supportive	The town needs all of those facilities.
Supportive	The town need it they need to look at a new sporting field which we need
Supportive	The town does need more places for entertainment.
Supportive	The town desperately needs this, it has been a long time coming.
Supportive	The SRV is reasonable and things need to be done sooner rather than later.
Supportive	The pool is old and needs replacement; the town needs these new developments.
Supportive	The place is going backwards so something has to be done. I think the council should encourage renewable energy industries which would help things, but if nothing is done it will end up a ghost town.
Supportive	The money has to come from somewhere. A little increase in the rates won't affect us too much, others may not be able. Will give kids something to do.
Supportive	The local people should contribute to these upgrades as they are the ones who will be using them.
Supportive	The improvement of these facilities is a really good idea, ratepayers should contribute to funding it as it will benefit ratepayers.
Supportive	The facilities would help families like mine
Supportive	The facilities are important for the town and community.
Supportive	The cumulative increase for Year 4 is way too high.
Supportive	The council has a vision of going further and I support this. We need to move forward not stay stagnant.
Supportive	That it wouldn't be too much over the four year period.
Supportive	Support the other projects but not the convention & entertainment venues. I do not think people will come and use the venue.
Supportive	SRV is not a big amount for needed facilities.
Supportive	Sounds like a reasonable amount not so large that it would have a drastic effect on anyone and the area needs these projects to go ahead
Supportive	Something good for the children.
Supportive	So the town has more facilities for the younger children
Supportive	Reasonable amount to charge.
Supportive	Progress, something else for the younger people to do.
Supportive	Prefers that mines contribute 50% to these upgrades.
Supportive	People in the town will benefit from it and the town needs a boost.

Supportive	Our rates are not too bad and 2.5% is not excessive
Supportive	Nothing for young people
Supportive	Nothing at present for the kids to do in the area. Facilities are necessary.
Supportive	Not sure how it would affect me in a retirement village. Think it is good for young people
Supportive	Not sure
Supportive	Not a rate payer at the moment. Town needs the new facilities. Residents need to see that the money is being spent within the community and for their benefit
Supportive	Not a lot of money and if we don't do it we may never get it done. Negligible amount for the return
Supportive	Needs going ahead they are doing great works right now so keep going
Supportive	Needs a uplift. And more police presence young kids are ruining the good things in Muswellbrook cameras on every corner.
Supportive	Need the convention centre and the upgrade to Denman and water park but not sure about the pool?
Supportive	My kids would love the water park, not much for families to do together around here.
Supportive	My kids would benefit from this.
Supportive	My daughter is involved in dramatic arts and I think the performance venue would be an asset for our area. A new pool would be nice.
Supportive	My daughter is in a performance group which the performance would be good and anything to better the town is great.
Supportive	Muswellbrook vastly needs improvements. Allot of the businesses are dying - area needs revamping.
Supportive	Muswellbrook relies on mining industry which is cyclical - new facilities may bring more tourism.
Supportive	Muswellbrook needs more facilities for the younger people in the community. Entertainment centre a great idea for the region. Revitalisation is important for bringing business back to the area.
Supportive	Muswellbrook needs an upgrade.
Supportive	Muswellbrook needs a lot more for people.
Supportive	Muswellbrook main centre needs to be upgraded.
Supportive	Muswellbrook is a long way behind other places, so new facilities would be good and bring more interest in the town.
Supportive	Money from the various new mining companies in the area for infrastructure would help.
Supportive	Makes it possible to do the three new facilities at once instead of waiting for years to complete them all.
Supportive	Mainly for the water park.
Supportive	Main street area is in dire need of a revamp which will ultimately assist local businesses. Water park would be of benefit to young people.
Supportive	Living in an isolated area Council needs to provide and upgrade facilities for the residents
Supportive	Like to see things go ahead for the town
Supportive	I've got grandchildren and it would be good for them, the main street of Denman would be better four tourists however I don't think older ratepayers should be charged they should be excluded from the service
Supportive	I've got a 10 year old daughter that would love the water park
Supportive	It's upgrading of foot paths which I use. The water park sounds good and great for the kids. I support them trying to upgrade the Community but they should be able to fund these with the rates already. The amount that they propose is too high, considering it goes up every year.

Supportive	It's got its benefits for the region and has its negatives.
Supportive	It's for a good cause.
Supportive	It's better for the town for Denman people coming in would like it on holidays .Make prettier and bring more into the town
Supportive	It's a very hot area so pools good, exhibition centre region needs something like that and revitalising town I live here and would be good
Supportive	It's good to look into the future rather than dwell in the past
Supportive	It's going to improve all the facilities
Supportive	It would not get done
Supportive	It would give the younger generation more to do and the theatre is definitely needed
Supportive	It would bring a lot more income to the town in way of events. We could become a hub area and look professional and classy and people outside town would come. The pool is rubbish and is only opened limited hours (only 3 hours on a week day) and the water park would be good if it was great quality and they could hold school functions, parties etc. Would need it to be managed correctly and be open a lot longer hours and try to accommodate all age ranges, toddlers, teenager and parents and retirees. Denman town centre, not happy with part of the revitalisation we are a relaxed town. Planning and aesthetics is good, involve locals as there is a large elderly population and we require more room. Needs more parking not enough parking in the design.
Supportive	It would be good for the town. But I would prefer the rates not to go up.
Supportive	It would be good for the town, not sure how successful the water park will be, so I am supportive of change, so the town can grow and develop
Supportive	It would be good for the pool to be finished. We need these things for the town.
Supportive	It will provide something for the children and young people to do.
Supportive	It will make a better town for my family
Supportive	It will give people more things to do, especially the pool and water park
Supportive	It will benefit the town
Supportive	It will beautify Denman and the other areas
Supportive	It will be good for town as its getting a bit ghostly in Muswellbrook, shops have shut down.
Supportive	It is progress, at my age I don't get around a lot, but I admire what the mayor is doing with the town.
Supportive	It is doing something good for the towns.
Supportive	It is a great idea and will keep teenagers out of trouble
Supportive	It is a good idea to gradually increase the rate variation. The swimming pool needs to be upgraded and revamping as it is old.
Supportive	It has got to go ahead, we need to attract more people to the town and this will help.
Supportive	It may provide value to the rate payers
Supportive	Interested in the regional performance centre and the people in Denman to get the revitalisation.
Supportive	In the past there has been too much spent in Muswellbrook Council and Denman needs some attention, in addition there are empty shops in Muswellbrook so something needs to be done to encourage people to go to Muswellbrook
Supportive	In terms of Muswellbrook the upgrades there would be fantastic especially at the pool. Maybe bring more people into town the convention centre would be a boost to the town
Supportive	Improvements for the community would be good.
Supportive	Improve Muswellbrook area and it will give residence with children something to do.

Supportive	I'm not good really but happy with it all going ahead its good for the community cannot be a bad thing. Any improvement is a good improvement.
Supportive	If it entices more people to come to our Community it would be great. Our town needs it.
Supportive	If it benefits the town with improvements I am in support
Supportive	If I was a rate payer I would think these options would be great for the town.
Supportive	I've always been a lover of swimming and for the improvements to Denman, I don't want to pay but want the improved facilities
Supportive	I'm only going to be here for 12months so I'm fine with it going ahead, if I was planning on staying it might be too expensive for me.
Supportive	I'm in favour but I want to know more about the water park before I decide....and I want a new toilet block in Simpson Park
Supportive	I'd like to see the new facilities in the town
Supportive	I would like to see the waterpark and all that go ahead but I disagree with council going into competition with businesses they shouldn't be purchasing land and using ratepayer's money to refurbish it.
Supportive	I would like to see some more things available for young people to do. However, I would also like to see Denman have kerb and guttering throughout the town too so I think they might have other things that need to come first.
Supportive	I want to see the town have a bit of direction...we need all types of families here
Supportive	I want a pool for the kids I want my kids to enjoy the park
Supportive	I think we need to improve our facilities because the pool is fairly average and we need more facilities for kids like theatrical and things like that and it would be good if they provided more shade at the pool.
Supportive	I think we definitely need a performance centre and the pool upgrade would be great as well.
Supportive	I think those things will be great in the town as long as other areas don't suffer from lack of funds.
Supportive	I think this is a good idea it will benefit the kids
Supportive	I think they have got to improve things in Denman and that street in particular.
Supportive	I think these facilities are important, but I'm keen for Denman to get its fair share of the funds
Supportive	I think there is not a lot here for young people, I think it will provide places for young people to go
Supportive	I think the water park would be a good investment for our town and bring in more people to the town. We need something other than mining, to help support the local area
Supportive	I think the town needs it.
Supportive	I think the town does need the facilities we do not have a town hall or anything.
Supportive	I think the new waterpark will be great for the local kids, and we need these new facilities to revitalise our area
Supportive	I think the money would be well-spent
Supportive	I think the children need somewhere to go to that has a little bit more excitement and we do need a convention centre.
Supportive	I think that they need doing anything new in this town would be great I just wish that when they did up Campbell's corner in Muswellbrook which is right in the centre of town they could have made that a very nice convention centre because that is where the conservatorium is now which is empty.
Supportive	I think that it would benefit the community and also attract people to the town.

Supportive	I think priority needs to be given to Denman and the performing arts centre over the swimming pool. I use the swimming pool a lot and can continue to function as is.
Supportive	I think my Grandkids will benefit from the facilities and the town needs them
Supportive	I think Muswellbrook needs upgraded facilities to keep up with other areas, particularly Singleton.
Supportive	I think just because things have to advance the town is pretty bad at the moment and they need to do something to improve it.
Supportive	I think its required in the town and if that is needed to fund them then better getting on with it sooner rather than later
Supportive	I think it's a small price to pay to have these improvements. People whinge they haven't got anything but you have to pay to get things.
Supportive	I think it's important to improve the area
Supportive	I think it's a great idea for the town.
Supportive	I think it would be really good if they fix the area up a bit and put more things in because there is not really much to do around here.
Supportive	I think it would be good for the town...especially the pool / water park
Supportive	I think it will help the town and be good for children and young adults
Supportive	I think it will be good for the future and the next generation.
Supportive	I think it will be a benefit to the community
Supportive	I think it is reasonable cost and reasonable projects
Supportive	I think it is important for the residents in the area and for the kids in the future.
Supportive	I think if it is going to get things better for the district the whole place needs a facelift.
Supportive	I think Denman needs the upgrades
Supportive	I support the water facility and the pool. I think Denman is fine as it is. I am more in favour of fixing up the roads.
Supportive	I support all of the projects that Council has proposed and very prepared to pay for this things to proceed
Supportive	I like the idea of these things, however there are more urgent needs such as the roads and gutters which are a danger and hazard to public.
Supportive	I just think it will be good for the town.
Supportive	I have young kids growing up in the community. These facilities will benefit them in the long run. I run a child care facility so we would use these facilities for work. This idea would benefit everyone.
Supportive	I have seen what the council has done with Campbell's corner, the subway and approach to southern Muswellbrook it is a credit to the council
Supportive	I have a young son and I am sure he would enjoy the pool and I would also use the pool. I pay rent so whether the rates go up don't really matter to me.
Supportive	I guess because the convention centre is needed to maintain the viability of the town.
Supportive	I feel this is something that the town needs, however I think there should be an incentive for ratepayers such as some free trips to the water park.
Supportive	I feel they are all things that the town needs
Supportive	I don't think this is a lot of money for those improvements
Supportive	I don't think it is that much of an impact and it is probably going to bring things in and it will be good for the town.
Supportive	I don't think I would notice the impact on my budget and I support the provision of the new facilities
Supportive	I don't go to the pool and I don't visit Denman but I am supportive. I think a water park would be great for kids. I hope they keep it open during the school holidays and in the

	evenings. Current pool opening hours are inadequate. Keeping the pool open later provides a great avenue for community integration.
Supportive	I don't consider it a whole lot of money per person that they are asking for and the extra facilities in Denman would be great.
Supportive	I believe it will give people more reasons to stay in the community
Supportive	I believe Denman needs to have the town centre upgraded
Supportive	I am supportive of any growth within the region.
Supportive	I am involved with the arts and I think it's good value
Supportive	I am happy to pay for this and I think it will help the town especially young people, community consultation and letterbox drops are helpful for any new proposals/developments so that ratepayers can clearly see where funds are spent.
Supportive	I am a mum and would definitely take my kids to the water park
Supportive	I would support the rate variation only if something is done to improve the condition of Giants creek Road
Supportive	Have young grandchildren and it would be good for them.
Supportive	Have to have progress. Unless we have this sort of thing happening we will go backwards
Supportive	Grown up in the area I love the area. Good to see they are making it a better place to live and visit
Supportive	Good value for the ratepayers
Supportive	Good idea to have more facilities but nothing wrong with the old pool.
Supportive	Good for the town i've moved here couple of years ago it's starting to look unloved like it did 20 years ago need upgrade to bring people in and keep the locals there as well
Supportive	Good for the town seems to be a minimum cost to the rate payer. But only over 4 years
Supportive	Good for the town keep improving facilities for the town
Supportive	Good for the community
Supportive	Good for Denman & Muswellbrook areas
Supportive	Frustrated with council they should have done the water park when first doing the pool.
Supportive	For the town would be good
Supportive	For improvements sake
Supportive	Family live in the shire and family that have moved away. I would like to think that these new developments will prevent other members of my family moving
Supportive	Facilities are needed and they will draw people to the area.
Supportive	Facilities and improvements are necessary to attract more people to the area.
Supportive	Developments better for the whole community.
Supportive	Denman is my favourite town we need the water park for the kids would be great.
Supportive	Deliveries would be good for the town and may increase tourism.
Supportive	Create work for the town.
Supportive	Council may need extra funds to beautify the place.
Supportive	Change is needed and funding has to come from somewhere.
Supportive	Better to have the 3 upgrades in full rather than just a percentage of an upgrade
Supportive	Because we have investment properties in the shire and we want to see things go ahead
Supportive	Because these things are badly needed in our area
Supportive	Because the town's got to grow
Supportive	Because I think there is a need for it
Supportive	Because I think the aquatic centre would be used a lot more and council would make a lot more money back with ,more visitors at aquatic centre and Denman is very rundown so

	deserve makeover however I don't think performance centre will be used that much I think the performance centre will take away from local businesses
Supportive	At this stage I'm mainly for the pool not so much the water park I enjoy a swim good for the town
Supportive	As long as the increase is limited to four years, and rates go back down
Supportive	Anything that improves the town is worthwhile it's for my grandchildren
Supportive	Anything that can improve facilities in the town would be great. These new facilities will keep people in the town centre to shop, etc. Rather than travelling to other areas to shop.
Supportive	Any type of development is good for the town
Supportive	Amount is reasonable for the facilities proposed.
Supportive	All for spending money for improvements
Supportive	A lot of young people and families in the town that need things to do.
Supportive	Great for the town especially the performance centre