

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 28 January 2021 3:30:44 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 1:55 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

I disapprove of the prospective rate rise of the central coast council. The
Your councilors in charge of finances are incompetent and should be sacked. We have
Message nothing to show for the wasted money. There are pot holes all over the central
coast. We have not benefited from joining wyong.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Cc: SecuringYourFuture@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021 9:04:17 PM

Dear IPART,

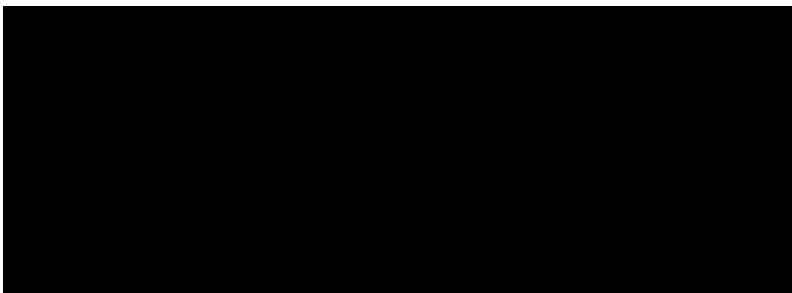
I have been following and read the information provided by the Central Coast Council on the extremely poor financial management of the council.

While I think the actioned mentioned in the report were a good step there is certainly more to be done and in-depth analysis of expenditure and costs is required to find other ways to save money rather than bluntly ask rate payers to foot the bill of years of mismanagement.

There are many activities that are simply over serviced. I will mention one example here. From the windows of my property I can see one public toilet (at the end of Hutton Rd, The Entrance North). Last Monday, 1 February, I took time and counted how many times the Council truck was there cleaning; and between 8am-4pm and I counted four visits (it's fair to say there were more). That day, being weekday and outside of peak holiday season, simply illustrates the over servicing and a plain example of cost saving initiative (cutting down on number of visits) could be implemented without a detrimental effect to the public. I am positive there are many other examples of currently certain services being over serviced and over maintained. More auditing is needed to identify them.

My vote goes to the temporary the lowest increase possible and certainly no more than option 1 (10%).

I also would like to find out what will happen to the individuals or group of individuals, like CEO and other senior executives that have been responsible for those horrendous financial losses. What charges if any would they face? I fail to understand how a person who is financially inept can be employed in a capacity of a CEO? We are talking about the basics here: Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet. What about process of external auditing of the financial statements? Clearly there have been a lot of systemic problems that have been covered up for years.



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 8 February 2021 10:16:20 PM

Dear Rik Hart,

We Oppose to the Increase in Rates that you are proposing due to Council's Financial Mismanagement. Rate Payers should not be exploited due to the wrong doings and outright mistakes. The survey/letter didn't last long and there was no due date for this. Householders/Ratepayers have to live by a budget to be able to pay their bills and why hasn't council had an input and output of expenditures to operate and adhere to? There seems to be an incompetence with the overall management of resources. In summary We Strongly Oppose the exploited proposition in Rate Increases to be passed onto the rate payers as part of Central Coast Council's Mismanagement. As a real solution we suggest that you do a proper market research and find other council's success in management without penalizing rate payers.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021 12:22:17 PM

As a rate payer and the propose increase is playing on my mental health, we just don't have the money!! and may have to sell & relocate but everyone's hearing about Central coast rates so would find it hard to sell.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:47:19 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 24 January 2021 2:42 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Re: 2021-2022 Central Coast Council

In my recent submission regarding the proposed rate rise of Central Coast Council, I want to add:

I believe us ratepayers are being tricked when filling in the survey the Council has put out, as there are only 2 options you can choose, either a 10% rate rises or a 15% rate rise.

Then in the last day or two they added a 3rd option, No Rate Rise, which we are all ticking, but further on it asks so what would you prefer and it still ONLY GIVES THE FIRST 2 OPTIONS, there is no other option for No Rate Rise, so in fact every survey filled out is WRONG.

This is a joke.

My Previous Submission:

I don't believe that the Ratepayers of the Gosford area should be compelled to pay for the incompetence and unlawful practices that the Council took part in, as the Councils are managed by the State Government and it was they who forced Gosford and Wyong into amalgamation.

I feel the Acting Chief Executive Officer should be approaching Gladys Berejiklian for a substantial bail-out with perhaps a much smaller rate rise for the ratepayers. I also feel the Green/Labor policies of the Council by declaring our electorate as being in a climate emergency, added to the problems by channeling funds into ridiculous climate change, renewable energy and environmental issues.

In my opinion Councils' should stick with what they were elected for i.e. maintain roads, parks and beaches, rubbish removal and community services, collect rates and forget about ideological political issues!

[REDACTED]

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:
Importance:

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 February 2021 6:31 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposed rate rise
Importance: High

Dear Mr Hart

I note your letter of 13 Jan and the insert in the recent rates notice.

I am writing to you on behalf of myself and my husband who are 65 and 66 respectively and have a property at [REDACTED].

This property is our retirement plan and when we bought it, we were very surprised to see that the rates for a rural block which is 60% bush were \$3784 pa, which is way above the average figure of \$2909 for a Wyong farming property that you quoted in your letter of 13 Jan. This figure is already very difficult to pay for retirees.

I understand the difficulty you find yourselves however passing this on to people like myself who are already paying ridiculously high rates is not appropriate.

A 10% rise would put the rates up to \$4161.96 which is far more than you quote in your communications and a 15% rise up by \$567.54 to \$4351.14. These figures equate to \$7.27 and \$10.91 per week which are again more than even the business rates you quoted. This is inappropriate when this property is essentially a residential property with some land.

I checked the rateable value after I first moved in and it apparently is correct, though far more than any other properties near where I live so I don't understand that either.

I totally oppose this method of raising funds to resolve the issues council has found itself in by its own mismanagement.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 28 January 2021 7:57:06 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 5:13 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Central Coast Rate Rise

IPART

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: ILLEGAL RATE RISE PROPOSED BY CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL TO RATEPAYERS

My name is [REDACTED] and have lived and paid rates for over 40 years at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I have paid more than my share to improve and maintain the local and surrounding area.

I object to the proposed rate rise of 10% or 15% shoved down my throat by Central Coast Council acting CEO Mr Rik Hart. A rate increase of 0.9% would be more suitable, in line with the inflation rate. I cannot afford to pay this ludicrous increase as I earn well below the average wage. I do not want to suffer as a result of past Council's mistakes, carelessness, overspending, stupidity and plain lack of productivity. Nothing will change even with new Councillors, history shows this.

There are many other ways to tackle this problem. No.1 is productivity. We all see what happens on the road. 10 Council workers to dig a hole that takes them triple the average time required and that is prior to wasting hours discussing just to begin. The same happens behind the desk. How many office workers do you need to fix a cup of coffee. The point is I do not want to pay for this lack of productivity. I am not a charity. I work hard for my money.

The reason I bring this up is because Mr Rik Hart writes projects and infrastructure that need to be paid for. Well we all know what happens with projects/works in the country, delivered late and always over budget. A roundabout recently built in Woy Woy cost a crazy \$25M and a year to build. Sure is the lucky country for a selected few. Comes back to work attitude and accountability.

Council can get a loan to pay for infrastructure and services if needed, especially now with record low interest rates. Mr Hart has the audacity to write "our priority has to be the repayment of restricted funds so that does not become a burden for future generations". This statement makes me extremely angry. So he wants me to suffer now so that future

generations have it all handed to them. NO. We all live within our means, including Council. I have paid and continue to pay my share. You do not buy a house and repay it off the next month. If some services have to be cut, then so be it.

I resent reading all the bull dust in the letter from Mr Rik Hart dated to ratepayers 13 January 2021. You only need the required amount of staff to do a job. I do not want my rates going to staff doing next to nothing. He provides no detail of what staff have been let go and in future, how much cuts to staff will be made. As I said, I will not suffer and have them laughing behind my back.

I am a fair individual but I am no fool. I was not brought down during the last showers. That is why a rate increase of 0.9% is fair. Another option is selling assets. How many underutilised assets are out there and what is their value. This should be put forward to all ratepayers to have a say. It is hypocritical for administrator Mr Dick Persson to say "as ratepayers you are 'the shareholders' of the council..." quoted from Coast Community News local newspaper (22 January 2021), yet he gives us no say or information at all.

I believe the State Government forced this merger to save money, save costs, cheaper rates, etc. Why did we merge to get into a bigger mess. Makes no sense. The State Government should be accountable. We are kidding ourselves if this is going to be a one-off increase. No one believes Council will not ask for more of these kind of increases in the future and more lame excuses to cover their inadequacies, waste, Christmas parties, etc. You can bet they will.

I have been writing to Council for about 20 years to fix my road, Nowack Ave, including kerb and guttering. I am still waiting. Yet they have the hide to want to impose a 10%, 15% rate increase. Nowack Ave needs to be fixed, but same excuses every year. Well no, we do not want a 10%, 15% increase. This is robbing us Mr Rik Hart, not applying for a rate rise as you write.

Thank You.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

P.S. My annual rates are \$1,387.67 already. Well above the \$1,015 current year average annual rate in the chart provided by Mr Rik Hart in his letter to ratepayers dated 13 January 2021. Funny how i am paying higher rates on an average suburb with average house price compared to other houses in the Gosford area.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 March 2021 11:45:32 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 28 February 2021 5:47 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Central coast rate rise

There has not been a response to this email below

I must therefore assume that olg accepts full responsibility for the failed experiment of forced amalgamation And ALL cost consequences.

The survey was designed to offer 2 alternatives. Then part way thru a further subset developed. The survey was never developed to find out what the people thought it was a narrow 2 option survey carefully developed to provide the answers they wanted. The developer of the survey is engaged by olg but paid for by rate payers. Is the administrator really reflecting the views of the people??

The rate rise is not a short term additional cost. It will never be rolled back. The only way up

I assumed that you are paid by govt so you will be biased also

On Sun, 31 Jan 2021 at 12:31 pm, Andy Aldridge <ajaldridge@gmail.com> wrote:

Minister for local govt must take responsibility for ALL consequences of forced amalgamation and the audit office for the mess in reporting

Ministers and state government must also take responsibility for the consequences of rate pegging over many years. Most Councils I believe are technically insolvent. They are not operating in a sound footing. Their debits and deferred maintenance liabilities far exceed their assets

If you set the rules, dictate the framework you MUST work to then you MUST also accept and take responsibility for the consequences of what you have imposed and created.

Ongoing changes seems to be a hallmark of Australian politics at all levels. Governments have no idea on the consequential cost of the political whims that polities impose on the people with their thought bubbles

[REDACTED]

--
Thanks

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 18 January 2021 8:52:20 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 5:48 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I might have missed the boat...but with the proposed rate increase in central
Your coast...are you responsible for ensuring that the council use these increased rates
Message wisely? My concern is that the same people are steering the ship. And history
may repeat itself in no time.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 8 February 2021 7:51:53 PM

Why should we pay for other peoples mistakes I strongly object to a rate rise in Wyong

[REDACTED] Jilliby NSW

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 11 December 2020 10:28:09 AM

why should rate payers replace OUR funds that COUNCIL MEMBERS [REDACTED] ???
they should be collectively putting their hands in their [REDACTED] little p [REDACTED] and it
ALL! it's just not right that struggling ratepayers foot t [REDACTED] for high paid [REDACTED]
positions of power and trust, who have used OUR funds for use other than toward
council areas/ratepayers benefits. These people should be charged with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] or at least mismanagement, and not be permitted to continue or walk
away and leave ratepayers to clean [REDACTED].
PLEASE, LET THE LAW REFLECT THE [REDACTED]!!!!
I can't afford to pay more rates, I am [REDACTED] ion (as are so many) and these [REDACTED] on
high wages can tip their hat and walk off, leaving the little people to pay more [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 31 January 2021 6:48:34 AM

Hi Ipart

I formally object to Central Coast Councils proposed rate rise. The funds were spent unlawfully placing Council into this financial position. I currently pay double the rates of Gosford Shire and I will not accept another rise. The Council is a business like any other and consumers are not at fault.

See below.

OBJECTION SUBMISSION

Hi

As a declared 'shareholder' (Dick Persson's term) of Central Coast Council, I object strongly to the Central Coast Council's request to increase their general income above the 2% rate peg. Please DO NOT burden the ratepayers of the Central Coast with a grossly unfair increase of 10% or 15%, especially as I see nothing in place that will prevent this from happening again. See points below in regards to our wishlist and hopes for a better CCC.

1. Cultural change in the bureaucracy. Live within your means and be kinder to your employees.
2. Official apology for unlawful use of funds. We dont trust CCC anymore, but would like to again.
3. We want an official vote of no confidence in Council and the entire executive leadership team who oversaw this mess.
4. We want curb, gutter, potholes fixed, weeding, water... all the basics prioritized FIRST. There are many documented examples of potholes, roads in disrepair, high weeds covering footpaths used by residents, making them dangerous to negotiate and often forcing schoolchildren to make their way to school by walking on the streets. This neglect is not lack of funds. It's endemic to this Council, a situation going back years.
5. No more carrot v stick threats of restricted services if the CCC loses with ipart.
6. Sack the councillors not just suspend them.
7. An end to the auditor generals historical mentions of decades of breaches of the act 2001 to 2019 in the auditors report. Stop breaching the act.
8. No more executives getting golden hand shakes. With power comes responsibility. Enforce those responsibilities and hold the bureacracy to account.
9. No more contrived manipulated surveys from CCC. Your council is losing your 'shareholders' respect, trust and confidence.
10. No more lack of transparency and proper documentation by council in regards to financial matters that results in inadequate checks from the NSW Auditor General department. Make CCC responsible and culpable via written contracts.
11. 27% of residents on the Central Coast are over 60. Well above the NSW average of 22%. Pensions increased by 0.2% in 2020 and many pensioners and lower income earners are already struggling to get by. PLEASE DO NOT approve the Council's request for an unheard of 10% or 15% rate increase. Simply put, that would destroy lives.
12. Work on behalf of the entire area not just a few select prestige 'tourist based' suburbs. Necessities first.
13. With the higher rate rises will come higher rent rises, and businesses will charge more, some business will now not come to the Central Coast OR they will leave. The

cost is always passed on. So if anyone thinks this is just a home owner problem they are incorrect. Rate rises will increase poverty and unemployment. Developers will have trouble selling their lots and package deal homes, as the insecurity of permanent rate rises will scare people away both buyers and investors. Worse still this could lead to hundreds of homes put up for sale to get away from the financial insecurity leading to a downturn in property values. Watch this decision snowball out of control.

14. In August 20th 2014 Gosford Council agreed to investigate the introduction of a sewer levy for residents who are unable to access sewer services and are therefore being financially disadvantaged due to costs associated with pump-out services. Council also agreed to request the State and Federal Government's assistance via any appropriate funding opportunities or any other federal or state funded services program, to assist in the provision of reticulated sewer to residents on pump out in the Gosford City area. Here are quotes from Central Coast residents on their issues today, NOT 2014. SO THE COUNCIL THREATENS TO REDUCE OUR SERVICES EVEN FURTHER IF WE DON'T PAY FOR THEIR MISTAKES. Can the services of these people be reduced even further? :

(a) Don't you just love power outages when you can't flush a toilet or have a shower because you can't run the pumps.

(b) Get the generator out, fuel it up and start running extension leads. We're living the life.

(c) There are thousands of rate payers like this. Water tankers in times of low rain constantly driving around doing water deliveries? The majority of the water tankers work 18 hour days doing their best to provide water to all the residents when we haven't had rain.

(d) There are hundreds of residents without connected sewer that have on site waste management systems that we pay to maintain and service.

(e) We have the same in the old Wyong shire. It costs us \$3200 a year for the privilege of maintaining on site waste management services. (note - rates for most central coast rate payers are MUCH higher than the out dated figures on the Council's 'Secure your future' letter!).

(f) We have no curb and guttering. No footpaths or street lighting. We do have bin service. We have back to grid solar power and also enviro cycle for sewage. We mostly use tank water, although we have the option of switching to town water in if no rain. Yet STILL our rates are \$3200 yearly!

(g) The only thing I get from the council is garbage collection. No curb and gutter or street lights. \$2200 after pensioner rebate from federal government.

(h) We are not on the sewer and have on site treatment and pay \$80 every quarter for the 'privilege'. Then on top of that council demands \$69 per year for doing nothing and providing us with a piece of paper to say that we can service our own septic. When it needs parts or something breaks down WE foot the bill. This time it's over \$500.

(i) We don't have ANY of those services provided either and this seems to be quite common across the coast. To be honest many of us in this same situation would be better off with no council, no rates, take our own bins to the tip, maintain our own road frontage and volunteer once a month to maintain a common area.

(j) In Jilliby, on HueHue road, we have no water service, no sewer, no gas, no NBN, no green bin service and no curb / guttering. Our rates don't reflect the lack of services.

I disagree with being referred to as a Shareholder in CCC. We did not cause this mess. Our elected officials caused this mess. We are Stakeholders, not Shareholders.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021 8:54:45 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 4 February 2021 6:36 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern I hear that Central Coast council want to increase rates.
Your Why should rate payers subsidise the council for misappropriation and
Message mismanagement of funds and what happens if they do it again. They should be
held personally liable for the actions taken Regards [REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021 8:55:06 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 4 February 2021 6:54 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Further to my last message, the councillors should hv a judgement brought
Your against themselves and be made to pay the monies back in the form of a
Message Garnishee or Garnishee or a garnishee instalment order or even a writ of
execution or a writ on title This should be a method of reimbursement

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 February 2021 11:50:07 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Saturday, 30 January 2021 4:32 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number

Your Message I strongly object to the recently proposed rate rise in our council. The financial mismanagement of a large sum of the rate payers money by the staffs should be properly investigated, and those responsible for the wrong doings should be brought to account. This drama smells fishy, let the crimes pay

From:
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Date:

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 2:41 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Complaint regarding proposed rate increase by Central Coast Council

As I understand rates in NSW are pegged for very good reason. And for the 2021 year thats 2.6%. Why then can Central Coast Council's request for a SRV of 15% even be considered. The situation faced by Council is a direct result of "unlawful access to restricted funds". Why then should ratepayers be punished and have to pay for Council' mismanagement? Please refer to an objection letter sent in response to Council's letter dated 08/01/2021 telling ratepayers that there will be a 15% rate increase. So it appears Council can tell IPART what to do. Heres me thinking that there were some controls in place and that IPART was there to protect ratepayers? Please look into this mess as it will have devistating and long lasting effects on all ratepayers on the Central Coast. Thank you for your help.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Extremely Concerned Ratepayer

[REDACTED]

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 4:22 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Complaint Regarding Central Coast Council's Online Ratepayer Survey

Please take a look at Central Coast Councils online ratepayer survey. It is intentionally structured to provide false support in favour of a rate increase. You are forced to answer all questions to complete the survey. In one of the questions you have to choose either a 10% increase or a 15%, there is no other option. This survey will be used in support of Council's application for a SVR. It is grossly misleading as it will falsely show that ratepayers who took the survey are in favour of 10% or 15% which is wrong. Please take the survey and you will see what I mean. This survey should be discounted.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Concerned Central Coast Ratepayer

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 28 January 2021 3:30:13 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 2:27 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast Council are currently seeking to introduce a significant rate and
Your permanent rate increase of 15% pa. As Council themselves term it “illegal
Message access to restricted funds” has resulted in a multimillion dollar shortfall, loss,
theft? Why should ratepayers have to pay??

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 7 February 2021 9:48:48 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 5 February 2021 10:03 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I am discussed in the recent events that have come to light regarding the Central
Your coast council. The rate payers should not be accountable for this gross
Message mismanagement of funds. There needs to be more discussion on moving forward
not just slugging the ratepayers with more debt.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 14 February 2021 5:34:11 PM

Dear Sir / Madam,

As you are aware the administrator wants an exorbitant increase in rates, the Council (I beleive) will automatically receive a 2% rise so maybe a total rise of around 7.5% might be appropriate. We need some thing above the 2% considering the mess the Councillors and Managers have created for us. For your consideration,

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 13 January 2021 9:46:11 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 12 January 2021 9:21 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Commercial businesses have been
Your operating for a very long time on rural properties and not paying commercial
Message rates. They even get away with paying domestic garbage rates and have free
spring water taken from the acquifer supplying Gosford. Collect revenue!

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 11 December 2020 10:53:47 AM

To whom it may concern,

I strongly object to the increase in rates due to the local council's mismanagement of taxpayer dollars. It is getting exceptionally hard to get by and live without another rate increase.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This message is intended for the addressee named and may contain
privileged information or confidential information or both. If you
are not the intended recipient please delete it and notify the sender.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:49:33 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 January 2021 4:38 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Central Coast Council

Dear Sirs

I attach an email sent today to the Central Coast Council regarding their proposed application for a special variation in rates.

Ratepayers have been offered no information regarding the expenditure which has led to an Administrator being appointed and we are now being asked to accept a rate increase of 15% +. A survey completed by 3000 people (with very little notice, in some cases less than 24 hours) offered only a choice of accepting one of two special variations. This may enable them to give the impression that a majority approve. This is not the case. An outcry by ratepayers has led to a second survey being made available, of which many will still remain unaware. We are being threatened with the withdrawal of almost all services unless we approve the variation.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 January 2021 3:59 PM
To: SecuringYourFuture@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Financial Incompetence and Rate Increases

FAO Rik Hart Esq

Dear Sir

It is clear there has been an ongoing and appalling level of mismanagement by the Central Coast Council to arrive at this situation.

1. If restricted funds were unlawfully accessed, what charges have been laid, and against whom.
2. To suggest that this over-expenditure was for the benefit of the community and therefore should be accepted without question shows breathtaking arrogance.
3. You expect ratepayers to now cover the cost of the [REDACTED] use of Council funds without any explanation of how this situation arose and
4. Appallingly, threaten the withdrawal of services if we do not accede to your demands.

5. Ratepayers trust in Council to behave in a fiscally responsible manner has been totally betrayed and we are expected to accept this without question
6. I received the letter informing me of the survey yesterday morning, one afternoon before the closing time. I knew of its existence by word of mouth. Was this an attempt to minimise responses and enable you to claim majority acceptance?
7. Council has taken advantage of the complacency of the community at large to arrive at this point. There is no doubt there will now be far more attention paid to your actions and your claims to be prioritising the community's best interests.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 18 February 2021 1:05:20 PM

Hello,

In regards to the current financial situation (or crises) facing Council, perhaps seeking financial aid or a bailout (at least in part) from the NSW Government (The Premier's Dept perhaps) would be the best solution. The Federal Government should also be approached. 15% increase is way too high. Some council services such as library services (and current staff) should be, temporarily at least, wound back. Ratepayers should not foot the bill for the incompetency re council management since the amalgamation of Wyong and Gosford councils. I was led to believe the amalgamation would lead to lower council rates and improved services. I was obviously wrongfully informed.

I doubt 15% was agreed to by the rate payers in favour over the 10%. It makes one wonder why bother asking the ratepayers what they want if an agreement is made anyway which opposes the ratepayer's wishes. We ratepayers were asked if 10% was more favoured over the 15%. If you decided that 15% was the way to go, why bother asking ratepayers in the first place what option they preferred? Not very democratic!

Hopefully there will be a reasonable outcome for all ratepayers.

Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 18 February 2021 1:23 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Central Coast Council Rates re Financial Mismanagement

Dear [REDACTED]

In regards to the current financial situation (or crises) facing Central Coast Council, perhaps seeking financial aid or a bailout (at least in part) from the NSW Government (The Premier's Dept perhaps) would be the best solution. The Federal Government should also be approached. 15% increase is way too high. Some council services such as library services (and current staff) should be, temporarily at least, wound back. Ratepayers should not foot the bill for the incompetency re council management since the amalgamation of Wyong and Gosford councils. I was led to believe the amalgamation would lead to lower council rates and improved services. I was obviously wrongfully informed.

Ratepayers were asked if they preferred either 10% or 15% increase in rates. Yet Council seems to have already decided that a 15% increase is the way to go. I doubt ratepayers agreed to the 15% increase. It makes one wonder why bother asking the ratepayers what they want in the first place if a decision by Council was already made? Not very democratic!

Hopefully there will be a reasonable outcome for all ratepayers.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:48:04 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 24 January 2021 2:23 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I filled in the Central Coast rate rise survey but I was tricked into ticking 1 of 2
Your options, either a 10% increase or a 15% increase. They have since added No
Message Rate Rise which you can tick, but further on in the survey it still only gives you
the first 2 options. I am furious. I do not support any.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 18 January 2021 8:51:44 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 17 January 2021 8:09 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast has more than 27 per cent of the population aged over 60 years –
Your well above the NSW State average of 22 per cent. Their pension increased by
Message 0.2% in 2020. How are they going to pay a 10 % rate increase for the next 7
years. It is unconscionable to expect they do.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 18 January 2021 8:51:58 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Saturday, 16 January 2021 11:57 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

A head up. The Council stated in their survey how better off we are on the
Your Coast, paying 34% less rates than lake Macquarie. To our Council, We are
Message paying more than 50% higher than resident of Cowra as per Government site. Its
all about property values. What a misleading statement. The bit that real

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 18 January 2021 8:52:12 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Saturday, 16 January 2021 11:01 AM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Re: the proposed rate increase by the Central Coast Council and their Special
Your Rate Variation. I am A blind pension and my pension rate increase in 2020 by
Message 0.2%. It is unconscionable that the council would request the 10 to 15 %
increase. Don't approve it.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 21 January 2021 1:14:35 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2021 1:11 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Re: the Central Coast Council (TCC) proposed rate increase. We are not The
Your Central Coast Cash Cows (TCCC). 27% pensions, who can afford 10% to 15%
Message rate increase over seven years when their pension rose by 0.2% in 2020 and due
to COVOD19 is likely to change in the future

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 21 January 2021 1:14:41 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2021 12:23 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Re: Proposed CCC SV rate increase for the Central Coast. It is significant here on the Coast with more than 27 per cent of the Coast's population aged over 60 years – well above the NSW State average of 22 per cent. Their pension increased by 0.2% in 2020. How are they going to pay a 10 % rate increase?

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 February 2021 11:49:57 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 1 February 2021 1:07 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message The proposed rate rise on the Central Coast the reason for the rise is councils miss use of money, ratepayers is not at fault so why do they have to pay for it. People are doing it hard enough without adding more financial pressure on them, the coast has the highest number of retired people in NSW

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 5 February 2021 6:26:43 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Friday, 5 February 2021 3:37 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number 0421033630

The application for Central Coast Council for a special rate rise I and my
Your husband strongly object to it. Under my calculations the council has had a rate
Message rise of of \$183.00, this rise & residential properties in the Wyong Shire only
would be \$30,703,374 full rates = \$1,194 x 167778 =\$200,326,932

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021 8:54:31 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 3 February 2021 7:14 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Sending a response as survey from Central Coast Council did not allow us to respond too a no "Rate Rise" from Residents

Dear All,

The Financial dilemma that Central Coast Council now finds itself in was not caused by the Residents/ Rate Payers but by mis-management by the Council and should therefore be resolved by better council management without burden to the ratepayer.

Years ago Blue Mountains City Council was dismissed and had an Administrator appointed and never requested residents to pay for their mis-management of funds.

We cannot believe on this website that you showed that their has been an overwhelming response from residents regarding survey, as there was no option for "No Rate Rise". We were forced to tick 10% or 15%. Not a true indication as most of the residents in the area felt we should not have to pay extra rates.

The Street we live in is not even sewerred. Our local tip has been closed and the main road in our area- The Scenic Drive is full of large potholes and now council has the audacity to propose a rate rise well above the average increase- "you must be joking". To top it off we received the notification Letter dated the 13th January on the 25th January. Was this an attempt by Council to Limit the amount of time in which to reply.

--

Regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 22 January 2021 4:21:38 PM

the council incompetence pie in the sky projects and not the basics amalgamation which suited the new government and not us workers not pulling there weight and spending on new equipment instead of maintaining what we have and using contractors e.g. 20 million for kincumber roundabout a joke i was in the building industry and i can see wastage when it happens as have all people i speak to about it. Why did the auditors pick this debacle up have they given there fees back? such is there lack of due diligence and firing the council manager and still paying his \$380,000 payout ? Everyone gets there moneys worth except us!!!

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 21 December 2020 6:02:36 PM

To whom it may concern

I strongly disagree with Gosford Councils application to IPART Special Variation.

The rate payers didn't vote for incompetence, nor did they vote for the merge, the merge was forced upon us and probably accounts for most of the debt, the area is way too big for one council anyway, and should go back to the way it was.

Somebody needs to be accountable for what I believe borders on criminal activity.

Approx 300 people employed with the council are going to lose jobs, and the rate payers cop the rest, double whammy for those that lose there jobs.

The council spent ratepayers money and what now appears to be more money than they had on things that were not necessary, moving away from what they are really supposed to budget for - ROADS - WATER & WASTE -

How can a thriving region like the Central Coast be possibly in that much debt, I have lived on the Central Coast for 50 years and this has never happened, so somebody at council or state level has done something wrong.

The State government & Councillers got us into this mess and they should be wearing the cost , not the rate payers of the Central Coast.

Royal Commission should also be on the table.

Regards [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 February 2021 4:24:36 PM

Dear IPART

I am a ratepayer in the Central Coast Council (CCC) area. I am writing to express my objection to the proposal put forward by CCC's Acting CEO, Rik Hart, to increase our rates by 15% in order to pay for CCC's illegal, financial mismanagement. I oppose any increase in our rates for this purpose.

In his 13 January 2021 letter to ratepayers, Mr Hart argues that this proposed substantial increase in rates is needed to "...reimburse the restricted funds that were unlawfully accessed...". He further argues, or possibly threatens, that if this increase is not permitted then CCC "...will need to significantly reduce or eliminate the standard and range of services we provide to you...", i.e. I am being asked to pay 15% more to retain existing services.

As a ratepayer in the CCC area I have already lost my democratic representation within Council. I am now expected to incur the penalty for financial mismanagement by CCC, despite the fact I had no part in the decisions made leading to the financial debacle. There is a worrying lack of transparency about this issue. There is no information given regarding the accountability of Council Senior Staff who play a pivotal role in Council's financial decisions. The former CEO has left, but retained a hefty payout. There is little information in regard to what legal action is being taken over the issue of unlawfully accessing restricted funds.

Any reimbursement of funds is the responsibility of the Council and the Office for Local Government (State Government) and should not be funded from the pockets of ratepayers. Nor should we ratepayers be threatened with a reduction in Council services if the 15% rate increase is rejected. If a government body behaves badly, the consequences of that behaviour must be borne by the perpetrators.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 21 January 2021 1:14:54 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2021 9:26 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast Council is asking ratepayers to approve a rate rise. They are being
Your deceitful, sending ratepayers a message to fill out a survey asking ratepayers to
Message choose between a 10% or 15% rate rise, not do you want a rate rise?
<https://www.yourvoiceourcoast.com/all-projects/securing-your-future>

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:48:16 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Sunday, 24 January 2021 11:37 AM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number

Your Message Totally against any council rate rise we have a house at Mooney Mooney creek with only garbage service on a dirt road full of potholes very little maintenance and hardly any money spend by the council

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 23 January 2021 2:50 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Rate rise in central coast

Dear [REDACTED]

I wish to protest formally against the proposed rate rise for Gosford and Wyong residents , following the unbelievable, arrogant and cavalier undertakings by the CEO and the councillors of central coast council. It seems to me and many others that they have thrown tax payer's money around on unnecessary and wasteful projects and paid exorbitant amounts on overtime and other labour costs.

In spite of hundreds of letters from citizens of central coast requesting open disclosure as to how and who authorised such expenditure and admissions of culpability, none is forthcoming from the council or the appointed administrator.

How do we get a guarantee from you that if the proposed rate increase comes into effect, there won't be further poor administration and wastage?

Why on earth public money to the tune of over 2 million dollars is still being wasted on shoring up wamberal beach private properties? The rate payers never agreed to this.

So while we continue to see our tax monies being wasted on the whims and fancies of the councillors we the residents are forced to accept the decisions made by you with out any regard to our opinions and requests.

Please consider all our concerns carefully before the final decision.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 February 2021 11:50:53 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Friday, 29 January 2021 5:45 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name

Last Name

Email

Contact

Number

Your Message Central coast council is a disgrace. The people shouldn't have to cop these massive rate rises. It can't be allowed.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 16 February 2021 4:26:40 PM

Dr Paul Paterson
Chairperson IPART

Dear Sir

The purpose of this communication is to suggest an alternate option to the Special Variation (SV) options being proposed by the Central Coast Council to address Council's financial situation;

an option which would be acceptable to most ratepayers as 'fair and reasonable' *given Council's financial situation' is due to Council mismanagement not of ratepayers making.*

The major problem with Council's SV options is the use of a property's UCV to determine residential and business contributions.

For residential ratepayers, based on the *average* UCV, it is claimed the average weekly increase for residents would be \$2.13 and for Option 2, the average increase would be \$3.20.

Ratepayers know these figures do not represent the real increase and harks back to experience with the past Gosford Council using UCV to charge residents for auxiliary services and development projects. Removed over time.

If Council needs the average amount indicated under their Option 1 or 2, then a *fixed levy if not, 'capped'*, for residential and business property owners in the Central Coast would resolve the UCV issue with ratepayers.

I accept something needs to be done to resolve Council's financial situation.

In my case, I have been a ratepayer for the property I live in for near on 40 years (1983) and would be obliged under Council's proposed SV Options to pay three times the average increase proposed if based on UCV ; *also not of my making.*

At 81yrs of age, being self funded now with little income, Council's options would eliminate the only benefits I receive from Service NSW; Electricity allowance and Regional Travel Allowance.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 11 January 2021 10:42:39 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 23 December 2020 4:59 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

I strongly wish to object to the proposed 15% rate rise intended for home owners
Your in Gosford. This is very unfair that we are expected to pay for the debt that the
Message council have accumulated. We are on a pension and this increase would cause
hardship.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 February 2021 11:50:24 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 29 January 2021 8:26 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

As a rate payer i find it difficult to accept a rate rise as the fact council have a
Your responsibility to spend our hard earnt money sensibly, we cant afford the cost of
Message living as it is and these extra costs are going to affect our household greatly im
not in favour of a rise.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021 8:54:20 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 3 February 2021 7:59 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Rate increase

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Feb 3, 2021 at 7:47 PM
Subject: Proposed Rate increase
To: <SecuringYourFuture@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au>

As a Central Coast resident of over 30 years, I understand the need for rates to be paid to meet the needs of the community, and expect my rates to be used effectively. However when a report shows how the Central Coast Council has mismanaged funds, and made poor financial decisions concerning how my rates are used, I don't see why it is now up to me, and the rest of our ratepayers to make up for our local leaders mistakes.

Why was the situation allowed to get to such a desperate level ?

I'm not sure where the funds were spent, but as a Bensville resident I can assure you it wasn't used to improve local areas. There is STILL no kerb and guttering in many streets , and when there is no kerb as a guide, cars are parking anywhere and making the streets even narrower.

If you want me to pay higher rates, I expect better service by the people elected to work for us, and expect more, not less services, no excuses.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

From:
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Date:

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 27 January 2021 2:39 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Central Coast Rate Rise Proposed by Administrator Dick Persson

Dear Sir

I write in response to the letter received from Council regarding two possible options for rate increases that the Administrator deems necessary to deal with Council's debt.

I completed the survey but there was no option to reject both proposals which I now do.

Administrators should look at low cost borrowing to solve their problem and other avenues for example sale of assets, creating new homesites from sale of Council Land.

It is not right to expect the people to foot the bill for the mismanagement. I would ask why the debt became so huge without earlier recognition and declaration.

I moved to the Central Coast two years ago as a self funded retiree as part of my plan to reduce living costs and make my funds last. I am suffering from record low interest rates and investment returns and increased rates would be yet another blow.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 10:14:30 AM

This crowd should not be allowed access to more funds. It should run at basic services level for 10 years so like the rest of us cut costs and make the dollars you do have deliver what they can.

Under no circumstances should funding be increased.

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 28 January 2021 9:33:43 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 28 January 2021 8:07 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Central Coast Council rate rise survey

Forwarding to our State representative, our views regarding the
Central Coast Council survey to IPART.

Gosford Council could not manage fiscally prior to the amalgamations, forced on local councils by the State govt. and yet SOME councils like ours were forced to amalgamate, with no support from State Govt. to assist the amalgamation scheme.

This has resulted in more people being dragged into this situation of mismanagement.

Despite the fact that the State Govt. admitted to the total bungle that this scheme was,
by cancelling the amalgamations mid stream, leaving some Council areas unaffected and areas like ours left picking up the pieces.

Now we are being manipulated by a survey that insists we choose an option, despite the fact that we opt not to have a rate rise.

If you complete the survey provided in Question 7 they force us to choose an amount for increase 10 %or 15 %.

But in Question 8 we are saying NO NO NO

If you do not complete Question 7, you cannot submit to say NO NO NO in Question 8.

In this day and age shame on both the State Govt. for your part in this and shame on the Central Coast Council, for theirs in this maneuver of coercive democracy.

We DO NOT AGREE WITH ANY RATE Rise.

Regards [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 23 December 2020 5:00:50 PM

I am against any rate rise as requested by our council. The issue is their blatant disregard for the ratepayers who they think have to bail out the council due to the fact that there is a huge debt. We want to know why this happened. We don't deserve to pay for the councils stupidity. Fed up ratepayer [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 17 December 2020 9:49:56 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 16 December 2020 7:35 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]
Last Name [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Contact Number [REDACTED]

I make a complaint re the Central Coast Council's deficit of \$89mil. In addition to the mismanagement of funds, Council increased numbers of staff by over 240. There is a submission to increase rates by 15%. I would like this examined by IPART. I believe [REDACTED] needs to be examined.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 18 January 2021 8:51:35 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Sunday, 17 January 2021 1:05 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Hi Could not find where to lodge objection to rate increase for Central Coast
Your Council as online service only gives 2 options 10% or 15% rate rise despite
Message completing, neither option are acceptable given the unlawful activity that created
this situation and the request for residents to remedy this.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 5 February 2021 6:26:36 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 5 February 2021 3:47 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I am writing to express my disgust that Council are applying for a rate rise to
Your compensate for their poor accounting skills and gross overpayment to the
Message disgraced CEO. I believe the sum was \$360,000 which is mind boggling since I
only earn \$50,0000 p.a yet they want me to pay for their mess.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 March 2021 11:52:48 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 26 February 2021 2:45 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I live in the Central Coast region. In 2013 or close enough Wyong Council
Your requested a rate increase which you granted with provisions that the Fin be
Message checked until 2022. We had an amal. The increased rates continued to be applied
but the conditions vanished? Cant have one without the other. Why?

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 4:46:31 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 3:36 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Keen to highlight lack of community consultation by Central Coast Council with
Your regard to proposed rates increase. in my experience with other local government
Message jurisdictions in NSW, a conversation with the community around agreed service
levels needs to be entered into by Councils beforehand

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 22 February 2021 12:54:58 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 22 February 2021 12:02 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message The administrator of the Central Coast Council wants to increase Council rates by 15% which I can not afford. Please do not slug pensioners ratepayers with this increase.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Saturday, 12 December 2020 11:28:38 AM

To Whom it Will Concern,

I reject the propose increase in council rates to fund council debt. We did not support the NSW government proposal to consolidate the Wyong and Gosford councils, nor the subsequent rate increases with no increase in service.

This is a NSW government crated issue, and should be resolved the same way.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 January 2021 4:47 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Rate rise

My husband and I are rate payers we did not receive an online survey. We do not agree with the ratepayers paying for bad investments (when did those investments realise), mismanagement, State Governments pushing mergers which they wouldn't do unless it was to benefit them politically or financially or both.

1. When were we asked if we wanted the merger.!!!
2. When were we told how much it was going to cost the rate payer.
3. How much was the ongoing costs?
4. Could we afford it and what was the benefit for Gosford Council.
5. Did we have a Council able to manage the merger.

Wyong Council were in a better position financially when the merger was proposed. Did Gosford Council and Councillors rub their hands together. Then the State Government would give them money for the merger what an offer WOW. To top it off our Council made no serious attempt to identify the type of savings available from merging (Administrator Report). Does our Council really work? Are there to many contractors are our employees doing there jobs what's happening to the Organisation. It's not enough to pay extra rates every time there are bad decisions. It has to stop. We can no longer afford bad decisions, bad investments, mismanagement. Who will be managing our Council just the same old. The Council needs to introduce all measures, comprehensive reforms a CEO that has the necessary expertise and experience as stated by the Administrator. We want to see implementation of all these recommendations and the transparency of our Council before they get any more money.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:48:28 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 24 January 2021 9:28 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

As a resident of Gosford I strongly object to the proposed rate rise. As we are
Your now one Central Coast Council why should we pay more then Wyong for the
Message same "service " Council can sell more of it's 10billion in assets instead off
investing in a failed share scheme as they did a couple of years ago

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 5 February 2021 6:25:19 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 5 February 2021 4:20 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Hi, I wanted to work out how the central coast council can claim to have been
Your given a \$100M loan on the basis of a special variation being approved, when it
Message hadn't even been submitted? Surely if this is true Ipart is not independent and
just does as the Local Government and Council tells it.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 21 January 2021 5:01:09 PM

To Whom it may concern,

I have never made a submission before nor could I access the online form, so I am emailing my wholehearted objections to a rates increase on the Central Coast, brought on as direct result of our councils greed and mismanagement.

I do however strongly agree that there should be a financial manager appointed, to not only oversee future spending, but to also navigate a pathway out of the current situation using current income, the ratepayers of the central coast should not be forced to bear the financial burden the incompetent council have created, instead there should be some accountability held by the offending parties.

This is my submission

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Resident and Ratepayer

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:48:22 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 24 January 2021 11:33 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

The letter to me from the Central Coast Council states that funds were
Your "unlawfully accessed" yet no one has been charged or even found responsible!
Message The former CEO even received nearly \$400 000 payout. This is appalling!!!
Residents are now expected to pay higher rates. Please help us.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 10:27:39 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 18 January 2021 4:48 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]
Last Name [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message I object to the proposed submission Central Coast Council's Price Variation of 8% or 13% on top of IPART's 2% on our rates for 2021-2022. Allegedly mismanagement, reckless spending and borrowing and illegal use (Administrator's admission) of "restricted" fees have taken place since amalgamation.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 14 January 2021 9:46:58 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 14 January 2021 8:56 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number

Your
Message RE CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL's community survey re rate increase omits a
"2% pegged increase only" option - an example of the Administrators lack of
genuine community consultation. The survey has been created with the aim of
forcing respondents to agree with a 10% or 15% rise - NO OTHER OPTIONS
GIVEN

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 22 February 2021 10:09:51 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 19 February 2021 7:03 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I'm contacting you in relation to the administrator for Central Coast Council. He
Your has applied for a 15% rate rise. In real facts it will be about 45% in the end. It is
Message not the rate payers fault and I will not be able to pay this lunatics rate rise on the
old age pension. C.C have a lot of retirees.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 9:23:17 AM

Dear IPART members (Please circulate to your entire team relative to the Central Coast Council proposed increase of rates)

We are two individual rate payers. The Central Coast Council has proposed a rate increase for the ratepayers in the middle of a world pandemic. In so many ways their decision to do this shows a lack of wise and sufficient deliberation. It is frankly ill-advised.

Their survey allowed only two options (10% or 15% increase), when there were many more alternatives. This is called a 'false dilemma'. This is not the rigorous thinking and decision making required by local government, nor is it precise about the situation.

As noted below in the two emails we have written to the Council, they need to go back to the 'drawing board'. Above all, they need to do the job they have been assigned or elected to do and take responsibility for words, actions, directions they are proposing. The rate increase is not the only option.

Could you kindly review the below details and take these into consideration for your decision.

Our many thanks.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: "theadministrator@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au" <theadministrator@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 2 February 2021, 10:59:33 am NZDT
Subject: Mr Persson and Mr Hart - Please respond directly

Dear Mr Persson and Mr Hart

We are responding back to the Central Coast email of 25 Jan 2021 relative to the increase of rates. We previously wrote Mr Persson on 17 Jan 2021, and received an unsigned response back. We are providing the following comments. As noted below, there is work to be done without raising the rates.

Identify who is writing every email – The Central Coast Council is a government agency. You are responsible for the oversight and administration of specific and general functions to maintain the Central Coast Council. You are responsible for the Machinery of Government—the interconnected structures and processes of government including the functions and accountability of all the departments. You are ultimately responsible to the people of the Central Coast Council that pay the rates. There should be NO email that goes out from the Central Coast Council that does not identify who is responsible for writing it. Let's start by being responsible for what we are saying...and not being anonymous in a response to an important matter.

You already have the answers. – In December Mr Persson wrote the Administrator's 30 Day Interim report. This was a review detailing the massive level of mismanagement and misuse of public funds. The answers are already evident in the content of the report. Here's two examples, (also stated in the bullets already noted in our 17 Jan 2021 email) : If there were 250 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) personnel hired after the amalgamation and the amalgamation was supposed to save costs; delete 250 FTE positions. If there were capital projects related to government buildings started, or planned beyond the functioning of the government prior to the amalgamation, sell or lease the land or building.

Go Line Item by Line Item - Seek reductions in every expenditure line of the budget. All budgets for every organisation are composed of detailed line items. Each financial number should be thoroughly identified by the exact components of what that expenditure is for. Go through each and every line item and reduce or eliminate the figures. (Please note: We have done this in other organisations; we know it can be done.)

Ask your staff – Every staff member, every division head, every department leader knows where funds can be cut. Ask them to find a certain percentage of the reduction needed for their area of responsibility. They know what they can cut and still be able to function. Ask them to help find ways to reduce the expenditures.

Council members should volunteer their services for a year – The council members are partly responsible for this fiasco. Their job is to know what is going on at the decision-making level. They can't say now they weren't informed when they can see the changes being made all around them. Thus, they should volunteer their services for one year. Ideally there should be a reduction in the number of councillors which is a massive expenditure without any noted value in return. Five council members who have the citizens' welfare most in mind, are better than 15 who are simply concerned about how much press coverage they will get for re-election.

There is a recent movie produced by Edward Norton that has a short phrase that should help you out. 'Do your job'.

The members of our community who go out to work every day are required to do their job. It's a basic tenant of the employer and employee relationship. If we don't do our job that we are told about it, then we are held accountable. It's the same for all of us that have worked in government, (or for that matter any organisation). There is a contract between the government employee and the public. Do your job!

There are answers and solutions available beyond the 'raise the rates' solution. There are thousands of people pouring into the Central Coast and rates will be raised by the sheer volume of people and land values. To add an additional rate increase during the time of a world pandemic (with people and business already struggling) is ludicrous. Raising the rates is ignoring who is really responsible and who needs to take responsibility for the fix.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:47:49 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 24 January 2021 5:54 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

I am a resident/rate payer of the Central Coast. They want you to give them an increase in rates from 10% to 15%. This is to cover the short fall based on their incompetence/poor financial management. We currently pay pretty much the highest rates in NSW. This is criminal

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 February 2021 11:49:14 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 30 January 2021 10:20 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Central Coast Council application for rate rise above the peg

I wish to speak against the rate rises planned by Central Coast Council in an application to Ipart to solve the problem of the lack of finance now being experienced by the Council. I did not participate in the first survey as I did not receive a letter or copy of the survey. I did complete the survey in the second letter dated 13 January.

Nothing in this letter covers the real cause of Council's present trouble, the enormous and continuing cost of the forced amalgamation of Gosford and Wyong Councils. Here lies the real culprit and yet no mention is made of the State Government's role in the present Council's lack of funds. Why is this so?

It is the State Government who should be making funds available to Central Coast Council, not the long-suffering ratepayers who always seem to be the ones to 'pay the piper'.

The two former councils were conveniently deemed to be metropolitan rather than regional councils - which is incorrect - receiving only \$10M each instead of \$20M. At the very least the NSW government should provide this difference - \$20M to assist with the financial debacle that they helped create. Where are the efficiency gains being realised, which was meant to be a fundamental objective of the forced mergers?

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 15 January 2021 10:39:07 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 January 2021 4:48 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Rate enquiry

To whom it may concern

I'm a concerned resident of the Central Coast NSW.

Due to catastrophic mismanagement of finances our Council, Central Coast Council found themselves in the unfathomable position of not being able to pay the wages for its employees. An administrator was appointed and an acting CEO replaced the CEO as he was sacked.

Recently residents have been emailed a letter from the CEO Rik Hart with the current "average" rate figures and the proposed figures if we get the 10% or 15% rate increase that's council is seeking. The "average" rate figures currently seem severely inaccurate. Is there a way to find the actual current figures for the Central Coast region and is there also a way to obtain the figures of our Neighbouring LGA's for comparison? The Central Coast has a large population of residents in low Socio-Economic circumstances and this could break many struggling families.

The problem ratepayers have is that we will be paying much more just to cover the illegal use of restricted funds and gross overspending. We will have services reduced and be in this debt for a very long time to come. It will set our region back many many years.

Finally is there any other thing you can offer or suggest to assist us ratepayers in our quest for transparency and accuracy with our ongoing concerns with these troublesome issues.

Anxiously awaiting your response

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 9 February 2021 2:36:24 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 February 2021 8:38 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Review of proposed rates increase: Central Coast Council NSW

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing regarding Central Coast Councils application for a special rate variation, and in particular, the proposed rate rise for its citizens.

I write to express my strong opposition to the proposed 15% rate rise. As a ratepayer, I am furious and disgusted that we as rate payers might be forced to pay for the mis management of the councils funds, which can entirely be directly attributed to the mistakes made by the Councillors and accountants in charge of said funds.

I understand, the IPART decision will be made after considering all feedback and information provided by ratepayers.

On behalf of myself, and my husband, I ask that the IPART listen to our strong objection to the proposed rate rise when its making its decision on whether to approve Central Coast Councils application for a special rate variation.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 26 February 2021 11:53:47 AM

I have previously made a submission however having been provided with additional information I wish to make a further submission.

1. The current rates for my home in Patonga are general rate \$3225
Plus WaterService Management \$512. \$3736.91 p.a.
2. Council has advised that my rate increase at 10% will be \$1,243 = \$5029.91 p.a.
3. Council has advised that my rate increase at 15% will be \$1,458 = \$5194.91 p.a.
4. An increase of 10% on the general rate is 38.5%
An increase of 15% on the general rate is 45.2%
5. On the proposed increase of 10% my weekly rates would be. \$96.73
On the proposed increase of 15% my weekly rates would be. \$99.90

The information provided by Council in their letter to residents is at best totally misleading and in fact incorrect.

The financial difficulties that have arisen are primarily a result of mismanagement at best or negligence on behalf of the Council and the State Government Auditor's office and the persons responsible should be pursued through the appropriate channels. I own my own home, I am not renting, but the Council proposes to charge me approx \$100 per week to reside here rather than pursue those responsible.

Thanking you for the opportunity to make a submission .

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 22 February 2021 10:09:57 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Friday, 19 February 2021 5:12 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Myself and my wife have lived on the Central Coast for 35 years with 21 of
Your those in our current address in Somersby on a small rural property. Our rates
Message increased 2020 by 22% and we only have garbage pickup , no water or sewer so
we absolutely reject the proposed permanent 15% increase,FOR WHAT !

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 23 February 2021 1:32:55 PM
Importance: High

Hi, we would like to offer our feedback in terms of the Central Coast Council's letter & proposed Rate increases :-

- We definitely **DO NOT SUPPORT A RATE RISE**
- We should not be responsible for Council's errors and mismanagement of funds
- We are not in a financial position to be able to afford a rate rise of an **outrageous percentage increase** as we both have been unemployed for one year & still unemployed.
- We are not happy with Council's maintenance of roads especially Anita Avenue, Lake Munmorah as well as other roads in and around Lake Munmorah & Budgewoi. Money has been recently wasted on speed humps that are not working or calming traffic on Anita Ave, buses, trucks, cars etc are all still speeding. The speed humps are way too small & not high enough, they should be like the ones on Main Road, Toukley. We have contacted the Council many times & have pinpointed the exact damaged sections of Anita Ave which are dangerous and extremely noisy and in fact when the works were being undertaken the works were not completed but left huge dips in the road within metres of the ineffective speed humps.
- We have seen Council staff & contractors working on weekends doing non-urgent work that could have been done on regular week days we would suggest that overtime work would need to cease (except for emergency situations & essential workers, eg Lifeguards etc).
- Alternative options to reduce Council's debt is to reduce staff, pay cuts for employees, stop roads & capital works as we haven't seen any in our area for years (non-existent anyway).

We trust that the above feedback will assist IPART in making the right decision in not allowing the increase of Council rates and listening to rate payers about what's happening and not happening in our area.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 10 February 2021 6:20:22 PM

I have lived on the Central Coast for 60 years. I was born in Wyong . I have never seen the central coast in such a bad state, either Wyong or Gosford Shire, until they were merged by the state government. I think it is unfair that the rate payers have to foot the bill. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 3:25:25 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 1 February 2021 5:06 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message Gosford council need to be investigated. I was told by a council employee from an outer Sydney area in 1997 that Gosford council are corrupt. Why has this been known for so long and no one has anything about it. Now we have to suffer a rate increase. Not fair and they need to be held responsible.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 24 January 2021 2:57:33 PM

I take this opportunity to air my views on the Council,s intention to seek a rate variation by as much as 15% over the annual rate pegging limit.

I make the following comments solely in relation to the previous Gosford City Council as I have no knowledge of the rating history of the then Wyong Council.

It is extremely important and relevant that IPART consider the history of previous variations and the like which benefited Gosford Council.

At the outset I will apologise if some of my dates and amounts are not accurate but IPART should surely take seriously what Council has done with previous excess funds in considering the amalgamated councils suitability for this substantial applied for increase.

During the 1990s Council was bought under the then Water Supply Authorities Act which amongst other things allowed it to levy an additional charge on all rateable properties. The charge was then \$40 annually with pensioners paying \$20. In the year following its introduction the general fund drainage fund budget was significantly reduced meaning no real increase in funds for drainage works. This levy now exceeds \$100 and with the increased rate base would probably raise 8 million dollars or thereabouts.

Again in the mid to late nineties the Local Government Department granted Council a special rate variation for four specific tasks, being a library levy, a levy to construct surf clubs, a sportsground levy and an environmental levy. These levies were for a defined period of time when originally approved but either by the Local Government Department or by IPART were allowed to be incorporated into the general fund and onto its notional income giving it additional yearly funds. The library rate was to raise some \$500000 annually which forgetting interest income should mean around \$12 million available. There is still no library so where are those funds. Ratepayers have shouldered this extra \$2 million since the fixed period was allowed to extend indefinitely and would be hard pressed to see any benefit over fifteen years or more.

It is my submission that IPART must be confident that the granting of Councils variation application in full or in part will result in the the correct application of these funds and as I have shown recent history of these funds raised must put little confidence in their future use.

For much of this period I held the position of [REDACTED] at Gosford Council and was involved in preparing submissions for rate variations.

[REDACTED]
PS. Just as aside, the first real expenditure from the levy for the surf clubs construction was to send a delegation to the Gold Coast to inspect their surf clubs

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 9:14:20 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 5:32 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

We residents dont accept the 10-15% price hike due to councils inability to
Your budget the funds. Us residents pay enough as it is and contribute to the
Message community in spirit and activities supporting local businesses. Stop flushing our
money down the drain!!!!

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 15 February 2021 7:24:46 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 15 February 2021 5:47 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]
Last Name [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message Tell central coast council to manage their funds better, no rate rise.
Restructure your spending to the income you get!!!

From: [Les Rogan](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 25 January 2021 4:38:54 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,

It has become a travesty of injustice and ratepayers on The Central Coast have not been properly consulted by The Administrator and The acting CEO.

There has been a \$100m loan approved on the condition that there would be a substantial increase to Rates.

We object strenuously to the excessive increase and We expect that any Council properties that are sold all of the proceeds go to reducing the massive debt that has been allowed to occur.

I doubt if there has been in the LGA history if there has been such a huge deficit.

There should be no new buildings to be developed while this debt is in place and in particular a New Library.

Apologies for sidetracking slightly but you should be aware and have an understanding of what our Administrator is proposing.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 March 2021 11:46:32 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Saturday, 27 February 2021 10:42 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

 Hello I oppose the rate increase by Central Coast Council and also demand that
Your IPART investigate fully into why the Central Coast Council staff, the internal
Message ARIC committee, the NSW Office of Local Government and the NSW Audit
 Office have fail so incredibly in their roles to this date.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 13 December 2020 7:34:01 PM

I'm saddened and appalled, both at the same time! I'm frustrated, angry and so disappointed and I'm sure I speak for thousands!

It's beyond my comprehension as to how the Central Coast Council could be in the red for this phenomenal amount of money. One must question, not just management but all involved. How could this go on for so long and not be picked up by someone??

We look to our local council for support, we trust them to be honest in what they do and how they put to use our hard earned money, to take care of basic needs around our homes and businesses and to improve and maintain our surrounds, from roads to children's play parks!

It would appear that we have been grossly misled and now will see many of our important facilities go up for sale in order to attempt to begin to pay back this enormous debt!

And if that's not insulting enough, we are also faced with the possibility of this proposed rate rise, which, I **TOTALLY OPPOSE!!**

We, the public, had no part in creating this debt, so **WHY** should we **PAY!!**

PLEASE FIND ANOTHER WAY!!

Im struggling to pay my rates under the established plan.

Please do not go ahead with this increase, we deserve better.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 22 February 2021 10:09:45 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Saturday, 20 February 2021 9:37 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message The administrator for Central Coast Council in NSW will ask IPART for a 15% increase in Council rates. This increase is totally unexceptionable. Why should the ratepayers pay for the bad financial management of the Central Coast Council.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 22 December 2020 11:42:20 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 21 December 2020 4:53 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]
Last Name [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Contact Number [REDACTED]

We have live in Wyong since 1994, We now, through no fault of our own, are to
Your pay another 15%! We have been paying higher rates for 4years. The anger in the
Message community is growing daily, please, please DO NOT increase our rates, the load
is too heavy for us all. I hope you read this &stop the greed.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 22 February 2021 4:34:57 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Monday, 22 February 2021 4:15 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number

We need a Judicial Enquiry into Central Coast Council Performance I accept a
Your 15% Rate Rise may still go ahead but what I absolutely object to is the re-
Message Installation of the previous councillors . They made a holy mess of it. Who will
be monitoring them if they get more money to play with.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 3:23:40 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 8:22 AM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number

Your Message I will only support a rate rise on the Central Coast if all that are responsible fall on their swords and resign

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 21 January 2021 4:56:19 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2021 4:55 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]
Last Name [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Contact Number [REDACTED]0

Your Message I do not support central coast council's the request a rate increase. The Councils mismanagement of funds is its responsibility and as managed by state govt. It is not a ratepayers responsibility to fix their mistakes.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 17 January 2021 7:49:27 AM

Hi there,

I understand a survey has been created for rate payers to complete asking if they choose a 10% or 15% rate increase.

It is incredible that money is spent on such a survey. Who in their right mind would choose 15%? Over 10%.

It is even more incredible that the council is not held accountable for mismanagement of funds and that residents are expected and forced to pay for this incompetence.

Apart from the fact that so many people are struggling financially due to the current financial situation and rates here are high already, I find it abhorrent that a council seems to be able to get away with such gross misconduct and without punishment where other businesses and individuals/residents would not.

Those that were supervising council should also be held responsible for failing to do their job. Shocking to see so much money taken from tax and rate payers wasted on incompetency. And then the only solution the government comes up with is more taxes and higher rates.

Those culpable should not be given a golden handshake, but taken to court, and punished just like others would. Nobody should be above the law.!!!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 2 December 2020 4:07:48 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 2 December 2020 3:30 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message Please do not approve the request that effectively penalises ratepayers for the incompetence of the Central Coast Council.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 5:16:45 PM

Our submission re above Council is urgent in that CCC are millions of dollars in debt, however they will not reveal where the money went it is [REDACTED] and now they want to increase rates to only partly help themselves.

They have an Administrator appointed by Shelly Hancock ie Dick Persson and a temp CEO Rick Hart

What can you do to stop this huge rise and we ratepayers cannot afford this and no has been made accountable and it will limp on till Sept 2121 when Elections are due.....and 200 were sacked and we think
Same councillors want to get back in

Adam Crouch our local member for Terrigal has been a tower of strength and urged us to write to you

What a debacle

Looking fwd to reply very soon

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 10 February 2021 3:55:23 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 February 2021 3:17 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number

We do not agree with the central coast council's request for a 15% increase in council rates. Before they are allowed such an increase they need to show that they can be much more responsible at managing finances. If they are given a large sum there is no guarantee they will not squander it again.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 24 February 2021 5:17:35 PM

I am writing in regard to the Council rate increases proposed by the Central Coast Council and the additive increase in Council rates due to harmonisation resulting from the merger of the Gosford City Council with Wyong Council. We are concerned that the Central Coast Council has separated the two issues of rate increases and harmonisation in its media material, seeking to minimise the cumulative impact on ratepayers and then threatened unquantified service cuts and asset sell offs if particular increases are not approved. We also convey our extreme dissatisfaction in regard to financial management by senior Council officers (CEO and CFO) and the failure of audit reports by the Local Government Department or the Auditor General to uncover these issues. We are disappointed that the Administrator has not proposed any form of recovery of funds on behalf of ratepayers from either those that were complicit in illegal use of funds or from those who failed to audit Council operations appropriately. To give clarity to the impact of the combined effects of both the rate increase and the harmonisation increase I attach an estimate provided by the Central Coast Council to one of our retiree rate payers. An increase from \$3,131 to \$4,547, a 45% increase in Land rates to a retiree is unconscionable in one year. This type of increase will be reflected across our entire community and the old Gosford Council area. We also note that this does not include the new land value assessment which we anticipate at 5% using the averaging methodology. We acknowledge that there is new legislation before State Government to allow harmonisation to occur over several years and we support this in principle. We understand that the previous Gosford Council underinvested in infrastructure and that services were poor, possibly resulting in lower land rates than that which were required. Wyong green fields against Gosford brownfields rate payer base were forecast to be a challenge. We therefore recommend that rate increases and the harmonisation impact should occur over an appropriate period that protects rate payers from inordinate increase in any one year. We also recommend that these increases are subsidised by State Government funding to mitigate rate payers from incurring the full burden of the costs from an amalgamation that was not supported by the majority of rate payers, did not deliver the cost savings promised, and the illegal use of funds that was not reported by the audit reports under the management of the NSW Government.

Our recommendation to IPART is the following:

- a) The 15 % increase by rate payers occurs over 5 years at a 3% p.a. increase to the 19/20 FY rate base. The NSW Government funds the decreasing Council short fall over the five year period each year until the 15% is carried by ratepayers. This ensures that there are no reductions in services or asset sell offs. We understand that the 2% rate peg is cumulative but using the above calculation this would also be subsidised by the NSW

Government over this 5 year period.

- b) The harmonisation process between Wyong and Gosford areas occurs over a period that ensures no rate payer incurs a rate increase of more than 5% of the original rate base before harmonisation, in any one year. This period to be calculated and clearly communicated to each rate payer.
- c) The above proposals limit the cap on increases to no more than 8% p.a. of the original rate base for the first 5 years, and subsequent to this 5% p.a. for the time period remaining calculated to harmonise the rate bases.
- d) That IPART factors into any submission by Council the increase in land values on the Central Coast and subsequent increases in rate revenues.

The consequences for rate payers in the old Gosford Council area of many years of poor management and illegal use of funds have fallen to IPART to determine where and how the financial burden will fall. We ask that you prioritise one of your key objectives to “protect consumers of regulated services from unreasonable price hikes and price gouging” and support our recommendation.
Regards,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 15 January 2021 10:39:31 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 10:37 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast Council NSW is conducting a survey forcing ratepayers to agree to a rate increase of either 10% or 15% which is obviously far greater than the standard 2% increase. There is no option on this survey to keep rate increases in line with IPART 2% level. This is a very biased survey

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 21 January 2021 8:48:13 PM

Hi ,I know it's easy to rise rates and build the bank account .But money for normal businesses doesn't come easy ,I think you should look at different avenues to earn money .I'm currently in the process of starting a home business and all I hear from people 'even ppl that work at council is "why would you go through council"from this point it's obvious to me that council needs to be more pro-active in getting people running there businesses from home legitimately.if council didn't make it a nightmare maybe more people would legitimise business which would bring more money into the bank account.all I wanted to start was a copy of my house plans and I realise why ppl don't bother .after a long chat to reception like (getting blood from a stone) I was unable to take my first step.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 25 February 2021 1:53:34 PM

IPART submission regarding Central Coast Council proposed Rate increase

As a homeowner and ratepayer in Patonga we are writing in regard to the Council rate increases proposed by the Central Coast Council and the additive increase in Council rates due to harmonisation resulting from the merger of the Gosford City Council with Wyong Council.

We are concerned that the Central Coast Council has separated the two issues of rate increases and harmonisation in its media material, seeking to minimise the cumulative impact on ratepayers and then threatened unquantified service cuts and asset sell offs if particular increases are not approved. We also convey our extreme dissatisfaction in regard to financial management by senior Council officers (CEO and CFO) and the failure of audit reports by the Local Government Department or the Auditor General to uncover these issues. We are disappointed that the Administrator has not proposed any form of recovery of funds on behalf of ratepayers from either those that were complicit in illegal use of funds or from those who failed to audit Council operations appropriately.

We acknowledge that there is new legislation before the State Government to allow harmonisation to occur over several years and we support this in principle.

We understand that the previous Gosford Council underinvested in infrastructure and that services were poor, possibly resulting in lower land rates than that which were required. Wyong green fields against Gosford brownfields rate payer base were forecast to be a challenge.

We therefore recommend that rate increases and the harmonisation impact should occur over an appropriate period that protects rate payers from inordinate increase in any one year. We also recommend that these increases are subsidised by State Government funding to mitigate rate payers from incurring the full burden of the costs from an amalgamation that was not supported by the majority of ratepayers, did not deliver the cost savings promised, and the illegal use of funds that was not reported by the audit reports under the management of the NSW Government.

Our recommendation to IPART is the following:

a.

The 15 % increase by ratepayers occurs over 5 years at a 3% p.a. increase to the 19/20 FY rate base. The NSW Government funds the decreasing Council shortfall over the five year period each year until the 15% is carried by ratepayers. This ensures that there are no reductions in services or asset sell offs. We understand that the 2% rate peg is cumulative but using the above calculation this would also be

subsidised by the NSW Government over this 5 year period.

b.

The harmonisation process between Wyong and Gosford areas occurs over a period that ensures no rate payer incurs a rate increase of more than 5% of the original rate base before harmonisation, in any one year. This period to be calculated and clearly communicated to each rate payer.

c.

The above proposals limit the cap on increases to no more than 8% p.a. of the original rate base for the first 5 years, and subsequent to this 5% p.a. for the time period remaining calculated to harmonise the rate bases.

d.

That IPART factors into any submission by Council the increase in land values on the Central Coast and subsequent increases in rate revenues.

The consequences for ratepayers in the old Gosford Council area of many years of poor management and illegal use of funds have fallen to IPART to determine where and how the financial burden will fall. We ask that you prioritise one of your key objectives to “protect consumers of regulated services from unreasonable price hikes and price gouging” and support our recommendation.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 March 2021 2:32:21 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 1 March 2021 2:28 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL Proposed Rates Increase

I

I find this proposed rates increase unjust and unfair. Why should us ratepayers have to pay for the Council's gross incompetence ?

I would reluctantly agree to a 10% rates increase only if all senior administration staff were relieved of their duties (sacked).

what assurance do we have that the money derived from a rates increase will not be mismanaged as well , with the current Council staff. Hence the need for new administration staff .

So every time there is a financial mess the solution is to increase our rates , this is ludicrous.

I suggest that the Council sell part of it's assets to the equivalent of the the debt THEY incurred . It is the is the only fair and right thing to do

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 1 March 2021 11:45:39 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 28 February 2021 2:45 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Central Coast Council Proposed Rate Increase

I find this proposed rate increase unjust and unfair. Why should us ratepayers pay for the Council's gross incompetence

I would reluctantly agree to a 10% rate increase only if all administration staff were relieved of their duties (sacked).

what assurance do we have that money derived from rate increase will not be mismanaged as well with this current Council staff ? Hence we need new administration staff.

So every time there is a financial mess the solution is to increase our rates, this is ludicrous.

[REDACTED]

1st March 2021

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 15 December 2020 10:55:00 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 14 December 2020 5:47 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I am horrified to think that there will be a rates increase 2020-2021. I live alone
Your and already find it hard to make ends meet without having a hike in rates -
Message required because of the ineptitude of council administration. Please explore
every avenue before doing this.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 8 February 2021 3:05:26 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 8 February 2021 1:20 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast Council's "unlawful access of funds" according to the acting chief
Your executive officer Rik Hart, ratepayers have a legal obligation to repay said
Message funds. I don't bloody think so, let those who pilfered, oops sorry, "unlawfully
accessed" them repay them. I'm for an ICAC inquiry.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 3:23:50 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 8:03 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number

As a ratepayer of the central coast council nsw I do not agree to a rate rise for
Your 2021. They current council has acted illegally and, immorally and ignorantly.. a
Message full criminal investigation should ensue. All present councillors should be
sacked and held to account. I say no to a rate rise.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:47:41 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 24 January 2021 9:27 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Hi, Am definitely against the rates increase of 10% to 15% that is being put
Your forward by the central coast administrator. The central coast residents have paid
Message their rates each year as required and now because of the mismanagement of
council we are being hit with this potential increase

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:49:16 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Saturday, 23 January 2021 10:40 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Re: central coast council proposed rate increase as put forward by administer
Your This is now the second time rate payers have had to deal with a rate increase
Message over the regulated increase, this should NOT proceed as rate payers are sick and
tired and not have the funds to pay for POOR decision making.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 18 January 2021 8:51:17 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Sunday, 17 January 2021 1:06 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

Hi Please submit - objection to rate increase for Central Coast Council as online
Your service only gives 2 options 10% or 15% rate rise despite completing, neither
Message option are acceptable given the unlawful activity that created this situation and
the request for residents to remedy this.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 3:04:42 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 2:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Central Coast Council excessive rate increase Wyong Shire

The resident of former Wyong Shire are burdening most of the rate rise because of negligence and incompetence of Financial officer and CEO and Mayor apply grat rate increase over Wyong shire resident than richer Gosford areas. 1.8 factor vs 1.5 factor for Gosford.

Wyong shire was \$1m surplus before forced merger with deficit gosford Shire. Wyong Shire receive a social economic subsidy for greater portion residents over 50 years and large disability population and high levels of unemployment youth and others. In addition people injured at work or car vehicle injury have no concession on rates.

Mr Wynn stated 18/11/20 that Wyong shire for past 4 years have special rate rise to make CCC solvent now you want another slug -outrageous. Now Mr Rick Hart wishes to penalise poor region of CCC with higher burden of rates increase unheard of 15% .For may injured worker, age pensioner,

Council employe [REDACTED] employees that lose council funds those Fiancial officers and CEO need to be sacked without payout and fined and charged criminally for their defraud the community of Centra Coast. The council staff must burden most of this fincila loss burden by reducting staffing levels and its cost by significantly levels say 25%. The structure needs to change some director need to be abolished and run by section manager, publicity department let go,HR outsourced as only employing "yes men not thinkers", would save millions of dollars.

Wyong homeless number are increasing by 30% C.C.Chronical with proposed Council rate increase this fragile community will be destroyed and no one will be paying council rates. Council need to employ some one with experience fixing Council fincail who know what their doing, i suggest my brother jeff Sowiak who in Queensland fixing poorly run country council. That who you need. Some one who cares not Gosford employees who just want more tax payer money to fix their incompetence.

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 10 February 2021 10:08:59 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 10 February 2021 9:56 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast Council submission forced respondents to choose a preference of 10 or 15 % increase otherwise they could not complete the submission. After your message complaints they added a separate question on no increase. A sham, why have the figures not been released but the application for 15% been made.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 19 January 2021 10:27:46 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 18 January 2021 2:33 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast Council is making a submission to IPART to increase rates by either 10% or 15%, following the appointment of an Administrator. I have completed their survey which is an absolute CON because it does not provide any alternative to 10 or 15%. I will make a submission to IPART and CCC.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 15 December 2020 10:54:27 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 13 December 2020 7:21 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Rates rise for central coast council

Don't care what the administrator for the central coast council wants to do, but a 10% rates rise is not too be placed on ratepayers, the state government needs to cover \$ amount owed, because they forced the amalgamation between the two local councils (not needed), which was a lot to do with the financial problems happening now, then, it's got to look at what both councils were spending money on before the amalgamation, but stop blaming ratepayers for doing the right thing, typically what happens in this situation, the administrator/s always blame ratepayers for the problems caused by the people supposedly running these entities

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 22 January 2021 3:55:04 PM

Good afternoon,

I have just received a letter stating that the Gosford/Wyong council is requesting 10% one off increase to rate income that would stop after seven years or a 15% one-off permanent increase . These increases are based on current residential average annual rates of \$1015(Gosford) and \$1194 (Wyong).

I would like to register my concerns with the information provided and the proposed increase.

Currently I own an investment property in [REDACTED], which was valued by Valuer General on the 1st July 2019 at \$512,000.00. Given this value, the property would be considered average. The rates I have paid for this property for 2020 – 2021 was \$2229.22. The rates have averaged this amount over the last 4 years. So to state that residential rates are \$1015.00 – 1194.00 is misleading.

The current council rate is already too high compared to the rates I pay for my home in [REDACTED] which is valued at \$858,000.00 for rateable purposes. The rate I paid for this property in 2020 was \$1550.48 or 30% less than what we are paying for the [REDACTED] property of a much lesser value.

The issue of coastal erosion will require expensive remediation but I do not think that this cost should be passed on to all the rate payers. This cost should be borne by developers and the property owners who built these property against expert advice.

Appreciate that there has been mismanagement by Central Coast Council in the past but to ask the rate payers to pay the cost of mismanagement is unjustified.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021 9:46:26 PM

I am very disappointed that the people are told by the interim administrator. It seems to the majority of the people that we were never consulted about the amalgamation of both Councils. It is also noted that the government didn't pay for it totally.

Ipact should be abolished and a proper industrial and arbitration commission should be established. All public servants should sit for a public service examination before entering the service. No outside auditors, that should be done by the the minister's department.

The Councillors from the are were not told the truth about the situation into the financial desperation of the coast. No council funds should be given to the state including the EPA levy for our landfill operations that should be for councils use only.

Over the past years senior public servants have been given over the top salaries not in line with the rest of society. The senior servants of the council should be investigated as well as the auditors.

CC Minister for local government.

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 26 January 2021 9:49:10 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Saturday, 23 January 2021 11:45 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Central Coast Council rate rise should not be allowed to proceed above the 'rate
Your peg' amount of 2%. They need to find the money elsewhere. They made the
Message mess along with the NSW govent and they need to clean it up without dipping
further into our already empty pockets. Give us a break! What a Year!

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 28 February 2021 11:47:53 PM

To Whom It May Concern

I believe Central Coast Council and the current administrator have been [REDACTED] in what they are telling the residents and IPART as a result of the Council's financial mismanagement.

The administrator conducted a survey which only allowed you to select 10% or 15% rate increase. This was later amended after community outrage but resulting in further costs in communications to residents.

Secondly, the administrator has requested a 15% increase to IPART when over 70% of residents selected no increase in the Council's survey.

The administrator and staff has now admitted that ratepayers in the old Gosford Local Area could be paying up to 42% after so called harmonisation.

This is [REDACTED] misinformation and only when challenged they admit it and confess to this misinformation.

IPART should strike down any increase in rates to any ratepayer, beyond the 2.2% rate.

There is no justification for IPART to approve any increase in Central Coast Council rates until a full analysis of what when wrong, who approved what and potential forensic audit and criminal investigations are completed.

Regards

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 10 February 2021 10:09:07 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 February 2021 7:04 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

We should not pay your debt, we didn't incur them. I cannot ask others to pay for my mortgage, so why are you by increasing our rates by 15%. You should be held accountable because I am sure you would have had qualified advisors and budget analyst in your department to notify your [REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 21 January 2021 4:50:12 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Thursday, 21 January 2021 3:32 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

I live on the Central Coast and received a letter from council informing us they
Your require a 10% or 15% increase in rates. The survey they wish residents to
Message complete asks what rate rise would we prefer. I do not wish to agree to any rate
increase and unable to complete the survey. Can someone call me

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 24 February 2021 5:22:42 PM

I am writing in regard to the Council rate increases proposed by the Central Coast Council and the additive increase in Council rates due to harmonisation resulting from the merger of the Gosford City Council with Wyong Council. We are concerned that the Central Coast Council has separated the two issues of rate increases and harmonisation in its media material, seeking to minimise the cumulative impact on ratepayers and then threatened unquantified service cuts and asset sell offs if particular increases are not approved. We also convey our extreme dissatisfaction in regard to financial management by senior Council officers (CEO and CFO) and the failure of audit reports by the Local Government Department or the Auditor General to uncover these issues. We are disappointed that the Administrator has not proposed any form of recovery of funds on behalf of ratepayers from either those that were complicit in illegal use of funds or from those who failed to audit Council operations appropriately. To give clarity to the impact of the combined effects of both the rate increase and the harmonisation increase I attach an estimate provided by the Central Coast Council to one of our retiree rate payers. An increase from \$3,131 to \$4,547, a 45% increase in Land rates to a retiree is unconscionable in one year. This type of increase will be reflected across our entire community and the old Gosford Council area. We also note that this does not include the new land value assessment which we anticipate at 5% using the averaging methodology. We acknowledge that there is new legislation before State Government to allow harmonisation to occur over several years and we support this in principle. We understand that the previous Gosford Council underinvested in infrastructure and that services were poor, possibly resulting in lower land rates than that which were required. Wyong green fields against Gosford brownfields rate payer base were forecast to be a challenge. We therefore recommend that rate increases and the harmonisation impact should occur over an appropriate period that protects rate payers from inordinate increase in any one year. We also recommend that these increases are subsidised by State Government funding to mitigate rate payers from incurring the full burden of the costs from an amalgamation that was not supported by the majority of rate payers, did not deliver the cost savings promised, and the illegal use of funds that was not reported by the audit reports under the management of the NSW Government.

Our recommendation to IPART is the following:

- a) The 15 % increase by rate payers occurs over 5 years at a 3% p.a. increase to the 19/20 FY rate base. The NSW Government funds the decreasing Council short fall over the five year period each year until the 15% is carried by ratepayers. This ensures that there are no reductions in services or asset sell offs. We understand that the 2% rate peg is cumulative but using the above calculation this would also be subsidised by the NSW

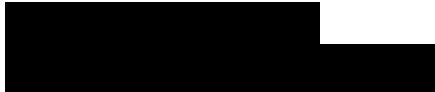
Government over this 5 year period.

b) The harmonisation process between Wyong and Gosford areas occurs over a period that ensures no rate payer incurs a rate increase of more than 5% of the original rate base before harmonisation, in any one year. This period to be calculated and clearly communicated to each rate payer.

c) The above proposals limit the cap on increases to no more than 8% p.a. of the original rate base for the first 5 years, and subsequent to this 5% p.a. for the time period remaining calculated to harmonise the rate bases.

d) That IPART factors into any submission by Council the increase in land values on the Central Coast and subsequent increases in rate revenues.

The consequences for rate payers in the old Gosford Council area of many years of poor management and illegal use of funds have fallen to IPART to determine where and how the financial burden will fall. We ask that you prioritise one of your key objectives to “protect consumers of regulated services from unreasonable price hikes and price gouging” and support our recommendation.
Regards,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 9 February 2021 at 6:56:07 pm AEDT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Rates increase for Central Coast Council

Dear [REDACTED]

In 2013 IPART approved an application by the former Wyong Shire which saw rates increase by 30 percent over 4 years for Wyong ratepayers. This has seen Wyong Shire residents pay a higher compounding rate in each financial year since. Wyong Shire ratepayers have been paying higher rates than the more affluent Gosford Shire for years and this is not acceptable. Gosford Shire has higher land value than Wyong yet Wyong has been paying HUGE rates compared to Gosford. Wyong ratepayers should not be slugged again in this IPART decision and should be left alone. Bring Gosford ratepayers up to what the Wyong ratepayers have been paying for years. With the accessing of restricted funds by Gosford Council I hope that [REDACTED] charges will and should be brought against those that have put this Council in this mess and prosecuted within the law. Former Wyong ratepayers should be exempt from any rate increase as we have already contributed to getting Wyong Council finances back into the black before the merger.

Thankyou and kind regards

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 18 January 2021 8:51:50 AM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]

Sent: Saturday, 16 January 2021 2:20 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I write to lodge a strong complaint in relation to the abject mess my local
Your Central Coast Council is in financially and administratively, its past pathetic,
Message rank incompetence in management and its intention to approach your
organisation to approve a 15% increase this year in our council rate notices

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 9 February 2021 5:20 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: OBJECTION TO THE INCREASE OF 15% ON CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL RATE LEVY

Dear Sir,

We wish to lodge our objection to any sought increase by Central Coast Council in rate payments by residents.

Having lived on the Central Coast for over 50 years, this Council is an utter disgrace the way they treat the ratepayers as their bankers.

Poor management, poor decisions and poor service come hand in hand with this council.

The most basic of maintenance has not been met in our area for years, pre and post amalgamation of the two councils.

It is an embarrassment to travel to other areas with smaller populations to see the beautifully maintained public amenities.

We have to live within our budget. We have to forgo items to do this.

Council should be made to liquidate all of their assets including all income producing amenities such as caravan parks and sporting facilities etc.

Whatever is needed, including a significant reduction in staff, should be the primary source to aid recovery, not expecting ratepayers to make up for the woeful years of bad management.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 23 December 2020 8:19:49 PM

Hi there,

I am a rate payer in the old Wyong council area.

I don't think we should pay massive council rate increases for the mismanagement of the council. Why is no one accountable for them spending beyond their means? Our rates this year are already insanely high at 2518.55 which is more than 2.5 times what we paid in Blacktown council for a property of higher value. I say we make them cut back their spending instead and make people making spending decisions accountable.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 24 February 2021 10:22:22 AM

I am opposed to the proposed rate rise because of this incompetent council and Councillors. Charge the Councillors to regain the funds and the NSW Govt and that (piece of work) [REDACTED] who said our rates would be lower if Councils merged ! And take it out of the salary of the administrator, as well as sack the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Do not burden the ratepayers with having to pay for the ideology of the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] get rid of them and appoint people who will stick to doing that which council is charged to do, eg roads, garbage collection etc and get rid of those arrogant council workers, wherever they are who are just bludgers, we've all seen them, and not impressed.

No, ratepayers are not liable for these people's ineptitude!

Listen to the people,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 3 February 2021 12:47:08 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 3 February 2021 11:51 AM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First
Name [REDACTED]

Last
Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact
Number [REDACTED]

I am writing to you to protest the proposed 15% rate increase that the Central
Your Coast council is pushing for as a result of the poor management of public funds
Message and hence council is now in a significant debt. This is an injustice to the Central
coast community and should not be allowed to go through.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Friday, 11 December 2020 3:10:42 PM

To whom it may concern,

The residents of the central coast should not be footing the bill through rising rates just so that council can again, at any time, throw our hard earned money down the drain. It is outrageous that there is no accountability for the waste and mismanagement that has been forced upon us, and raising our rates, is just another slap in the face for us.

Looking around the central coast community, I see weeds 6Foot high in our median strips on main roads and on the entry to one of our busiest summer holiday destinations, The Entrance. It is a disgrace. All that is missing is a sign,

WELCOME TO WEED CITY", everywhere you look there is no maintenance occurring and you want us to give you even more money via rates?? You must be kidding!!! What are these crews doing? What they do best, absolutely nothing and no pride in their work even when they attempt it. Where is management???

The ridiculous purchases, for example of cars for staff is just outright waste. I would love a new car too, but living beyond my means just does not make sense. Council is not a million dollar corporation, the corporation is the people of the community and council has no right or reason to lash out on new vehicles for their staff with our money. They can use their own cars to go to work, just like the rest of us.

We are retired and my husband owned his own business for nearly 50 years. Never ever was out of work and worked a good 12hour day , many times for 6 days a week and we always paid our tax. Did not live beyond our means and even managed to save while raising a family. Now we have to come up with even more money for rates so that it can be wasted at will by council. How is it that Central Coast Council can lose control?

Council should receive rates that are fair. Rising rates to cover the butts of those at fault of wasting what they had, is disgusting!!!

Very concerned resident

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 2 February 2021 3:25:11 PM

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 1 February 2021 6:00 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

I write to express my opposition to the proposed rate hikes for Central Coast
Your Council . I do not believe that the actions of the council in allowing the level of
Message indebtedness they incurred have been adequately explained . We all need to live
within our means .Why should council be any different ?

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Wednesday, 20 January 2021 1:26:55 PM

I reading this very confusing letter from someone called the acting ceo [REDACTED], im well aware of the old notices sent feed them [REDACTED] and treat us like [REDACTED], the first paragraph uses the word unlawfully used money ,surely someone must have been aware of this wrong doing, maybe our mayor? This letter is so confusing ,do we have a vote on the process, or is it done and dusted , [REDACTED] will disappear when it is implemented? And leave the rate payers and aged pensioners like me to grin and pay up ,cant see the state government being to interested in an area controlled by labor.im aware my letter will go nowhere but you must have emphany for us, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 15 February 2021 at 10:55:01 am AEDT
To:
Subject: Rate rise

Hi

Hope all well with you

Don't know if you are the person to contact but i would like to make an objection to the rate rises (If not i would appreciate if you could forward it to the appropriate department)

Why are we being penalised for the bad management by the central coast council? This seems so very unfair (especially for us pensioners)

There are explanations regarding merging of councils ... doesn't this mean less staff to pay but more ratepayers to contribute ...it shouldn't make any difference

if the rate increases go ahead (which i expect as no one listens to the ordinary person) will this mean we will actually have decent 'by' roads (most have potholes that are being filled up instead of the roads being resurfaced)more for hospitals to shorten waiting times, extra safety for schools etc or will the money be used for art and sport and useless statutes etc ??

Maybe in future there ought to be more auditing especially by people with common sense ... maybe a ratepayer could be part of the team ???? Maybe more women on the council (we are the ones that usually organise and can prioritise)

Anyway thats my opinion probably wont make any difference but every person should count !!!!

Take care keep safe

Have a great day

Best regards

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 9 March 2021 10:21:46 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 8 March 2021 9:09 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL Proposed Rates Increase

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 1 Mar 2021 2:28 pm
Subject: CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL Proposed Rates Increase
To: <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Cc:

I

I find this proposed rates increase unjust and unfair. Why should us ratepayers have to pay for the Council's gross incompetence ?

I would reluctantly agree to a 10% rates increase only if all senior administration staff were relieved of their duties (sacked).

what assurance do we have that the money derived from a rates increase will not be mismanaged as well , with the current Council staff. Hence the need for new administration staff .

So every time there is a financial mess the solution is to increase our rates , this is ludicrous.

I suggest that the Council sell part of it's assets to the equivalent of the the debt THEY incurred . It is the is the only fair and right thing to do

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Sunday, 14 March 2021 1:21:36 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 13 March 2021 2:47 PM

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Central Coast Council's Gross Mismanagement of Funds- Judicial Inquiry/Indepth Investigation Necessary

I am writing as a concerned ratepayer in relation to the gross financial mismanagement of the Central Coast Council (CCC). Thousands of ratepayers are frustrated by the lack of transparency on how their funds have been used by CCC officials and have petitioned for a judicial inquiry (more then 20000 signatures) to assess whether [REDACTED] prevailed, why responsible officers have not been held accountable and whether systemic issues have been addressed. An indepth investigation is required.

Answers to the following questions also need to be answered:

1) How did the CCC go from a positive net income of \$62 million (as reflected in the June 2019 financial statements) to now discussed accumulated losses of \$200 million? The Cash balance reflected in the financials was a positive \$44 million as at 30 June 2019. The June 2019 financial statements also reflect Equity of \$7.180 billion (Accumulated Surplus of \$6.8 billion and Revaluation Reserves of \$191 million), as well as Assets of \$7.6 billion and Liabilities of \$466 million, yet now the CCC confirms it is close to being insolvent. The 2019 financial statements reflect a strong income and cash position and a very strong balance sheet, yet the CFO and CEO now communicate they knew that the CCC was in 'dire straits' for a few years. These Financial Statements do not reflect 'dire straits', so were the June 2019 and June 2018 financial statements misrepresented, having been signed off by Gary Murphy (then CEO) and Craig Norman (CFO) on 24 February 2020?

Intentional misrepresentation of Financial Statements amounts to [REDACTED] which is a financial crime.

2) Was there [REDACTED] in relation to the more then 400 infrastructure projects that cost more then \$150 thousand each in 2020, some costing millions? The reason I ask, and not that i can say any wrongdoing has taken place, but I question the reasonableness of \$ 437 715 being spent to replace the roof and extend the deck of the Wamberal Surf Club (which is as large as some of the double storey homes in the area and is by no means a large building). That sounds excessive and close to the cost of a new building.

3) Why have the June 2020 Financial Statements not been made available to ratepayers? There are no financial statements included in the 2020 Annual Report provided by CCC to date.

I ask that the matter of the CCC's mismanagement of funds be taken seriously and that you (in whatever way you can), can support a judicial inquiry so that we can achieve transparency in the use of public funds (make an example of this), get answers to the questions raised, hold officials accountable if negligence or intentional financial crime has occurred and get confirmation that systemic internal control weaknesses have been addressed.

Kind Regards
Concerned Ratepayer

[REDACTED]

From: [IPART](#)
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: FW: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted
Date: Tuesday, 16 March 2021 8:06:19 AM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

From: ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au [mailto:ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Monday, 15 March 2021 9:43 PM
To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: IPART Website General Enquiry Submitted

First Name [REDACTED]

Last Name [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Contact Number [REDACTED]

Your Message Central Coast Council rate rise. Please do not increase rates because it is not the rate payers fault that a Council debt is occurring. Council management mismanaged finances. Forced amalgamation added to the debt problem. A petition is put to the Legislative Assembly. [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Increase rate rise
Date: Saturday, 20 March 2021 10:02:44 AM

I'm finding this situation increasingly incredible !!!

We as the general public (ratepayers) are expected to pick up the tab for the gross mismanagement of council.

I'm finding it hard enough to justify and pay my rates now. (\$3000)

For nothing more than a weekly garbage collection.

My husband and I are both over 70 and working part time to afford to pay

God help us if it's increased to the expected 15 %

Thank you

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: IPART SUBMISSION re Central Coast Council proposed rate increase
Date: Monday, 8 March 2021 4:57:24 PM

IPART SUBMISSION re Central Coast Council proposed rate increase

I object to any increase by Council for the following reasons:

My water access property [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] which I have owned for 30 years is poorly served by Council with inequitable charges. Especially in regard to Waste Management.

I am charged "140 L WESTERN Domestic waste Service \$454.00 annually.

I have never received a bin and when I verbally enquired of Council they told me I could buy one at Bunnings. This situation applies to 40 properties.

We have to take our rubbish across rather creek to the camping ground.

The Council provides erratic bulk waste cleanups 3-4 times annually. We are in a fire risk area and need to hazard reduce every fortnight.

I brought this up with Council mentioning the element of risk and they told me to take it to the tip and pay. .

I have put all the above issues in writing to Council and received an autoreply acknowledging receipt dated 31/8 /20 . No further correspondence received.

Our friends in Patonga approx 200 meters away are charged \$512.00 annually..designated Domestic waste EASTERN area. They received 3 collection bins and options for 4 or ? Bulk waste pick ups.

When I queried this disparity ...verbally..with Council they said my specific situation / area didn't fit their data base..so they lumped us in with an area at the other side of the Shire.

Attachments may come under separate cover.

Regards [REDACTED]

•

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Petition against 30 percent rise in council rates
Date: Monday, 8 March 2021 9:28:05 AM

To whom it may concern,

Please accept my objection in raising council rates.

From what I understood when we amalgamated all the suburbs under the one council area it was to keep our council cost down, and now we are raising them?

I strongly object to this rate rise as this will impact a lot of residents as we have already suffered enough with the financial impact of this Covid19 crisis and to undertake this rate hike will be unjust for all the residents concerned.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Rate Rise Objection Central Coast Council
Date: Sunday, 7 March 2021 9:52:44 AM

I wish to voice my objection to the current proposed rate rise in the Central Coast Council.

1. Rate rises place and you hardship on households.
2. By granting excessive rate rises we are sending a message that overspending or poor mismanagement will be absorbed by rate payers .
3. Councils need to learn to budget like all normal households who have to live on a budget.
4. Councils need to remove costs which are not deem necessary in our changing society. Emailing rather than printing and posting
5. Councils need to start listening to the Community. Fix and tackle issues rather than creating new problems.
6. Stop signing contracts with employees who are paid excessive amounts even if they are terminated. Why does this happen when it would not happen to normal employees.

[REDACTED]

Hi,

I am very concerned that the central coast council have got themselves into this predicament. I am totally against the rate rise and do not agree. I went on their website to have my say and found this biased survey where you have no option but to select 1 of 2 rates that are ridiculous and unjust. All it is a money grab with zero accountability for their actions. How can the decision be taken fairly if you can't even voice your concern in their ridiculous survey. I believe ipart have a responsibility to help rectify the council surveys as no one is in agreement with these rate rises

~~Council - required.~~

Central Coast Council, Application Notification Letter ▼

Please leave your comments in the comment box below. Required

I as rate payer say no to a special variation rate rise. The rate payer did not commit [REDACTED] of the money why should we have to pay for a crooked council.

The rate rise alone for the Wyong residential Shire alone will bring in \$30,703,374 ($\$183.00 \times 167,778 = \$30,703,374$). Full rates for the for the same \$200,326,932 ($\$1194.00 \times 167,778 = \$200,362,932$), this does not include any businesses or farming properties etc, I understand there are out going expenses but all unnecessary works should be stopped ie. the new Gosford Library that is not wanted by the residents, that money could go back into the debt owing. WHY are the Councillors receiving a payout, is this a reward for incompetent and illegally use of money. When the councils were merged Wyong had a healthy bank balance where Gosford was struggling/broke, this was supposed to be good for us all (ha) unmerge the Central Coast Council and put it back to the way it was

Max file size: 5 MB

Max number of files: 5 files

Accepted file types: .pdf, .doc, .docx, .xls, .xlsx

Your Details

Are you an individual or organisation? Required

- ☒ Individual
☐ Organisation

IPART publishes the submissions we receive on our website as part of our commitment to transparency. Please read IPART's [Submission](#)



[REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 13 February 2021 4:45 PM

To: IPART <ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Central Coast rate rise request

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached my letter of disgust with the operations of our Council and the absurdity relating to their plea for everyday residents to support what has been going on.

I understand that a recommendation has been put to IPART from Council, so I want you, the body who will be making considerations regarding this also hear directly from we the residents.

Thanks for your time,

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Hart,

10th February, 2021

I consider myself a conservative, law-abiding resident of the Central Coast.

As a mature-age person I work hard to earn my modest income to be able to pay my way, without assistance or government entitlements.

I pay my mortgage, bills and running cost for a 17yr old Ford Focus (no frills here).

So I take great umbrage to your “Secure your Future” letter stating that you need MY help.

Under the guise of 2020 being an exceptional year you then state the reality of the financial situation, claiming openness. I don't feel open enough when unlawful activities have taken place. Have you shared how and who accessed millions of our dollars? Where is the accountability for such actions, which clearly occurred prior to 2020?

I seriously question such NON-management by apparently incompetent, ill-qualified but seemingly over-paid management staff.

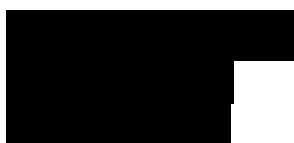
The emotional and financial stresses that many honest people have been confronted with, particularly over this past year, is now being further burdened with this ridiculous rate rise request. We are responsible rate-payers budgeting to make ends meet, however, the same cannot be said for Council – use us and our money and then abuse us for more. Probably over 95% of rates are collected annually, so the amount for spending is easily calculated. The spending to is easy as prices are given before commencement, doesn't seem too hard.

To add insult to the plea for help, Council then appears to show goodwill by assuring us that they have a Hardship Policy – too kind!!

What an embarrassment!!

We cannot have what we cannot afford, such irresponsibility. Everyone involved in this debacle should be made accountable for their actions.

Disgusted ratepayer,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.