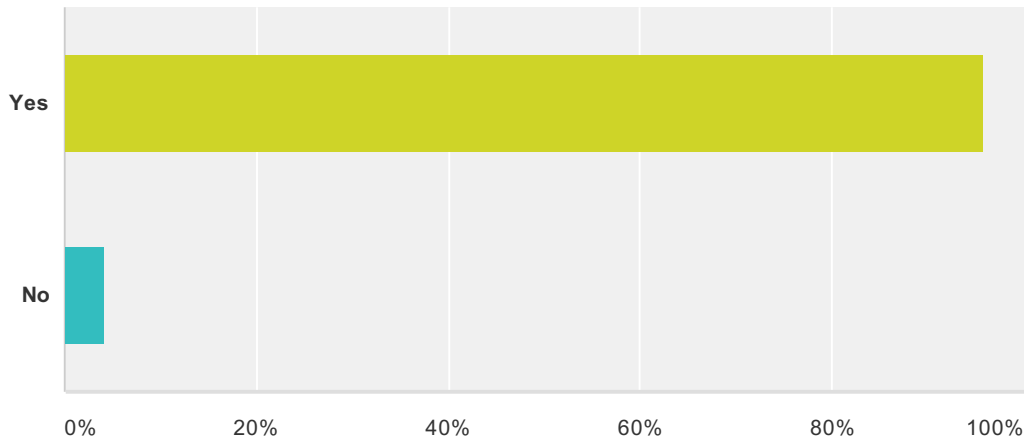


### Q1 Are you a property owner in the Kempsey Shire?

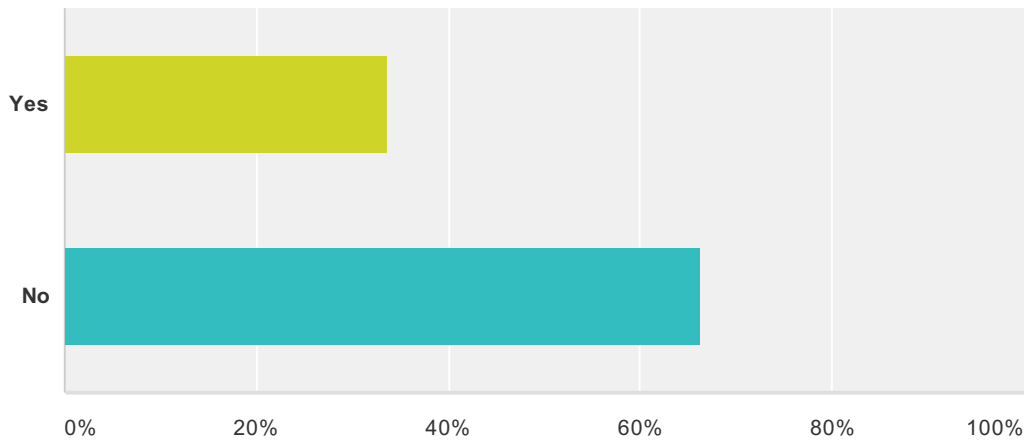
Answered: 141 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	95.74%	135
No	4.26%	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>141</b>

## Q2 Do you think the current standard of Council's road infrastructure is satisfactory?

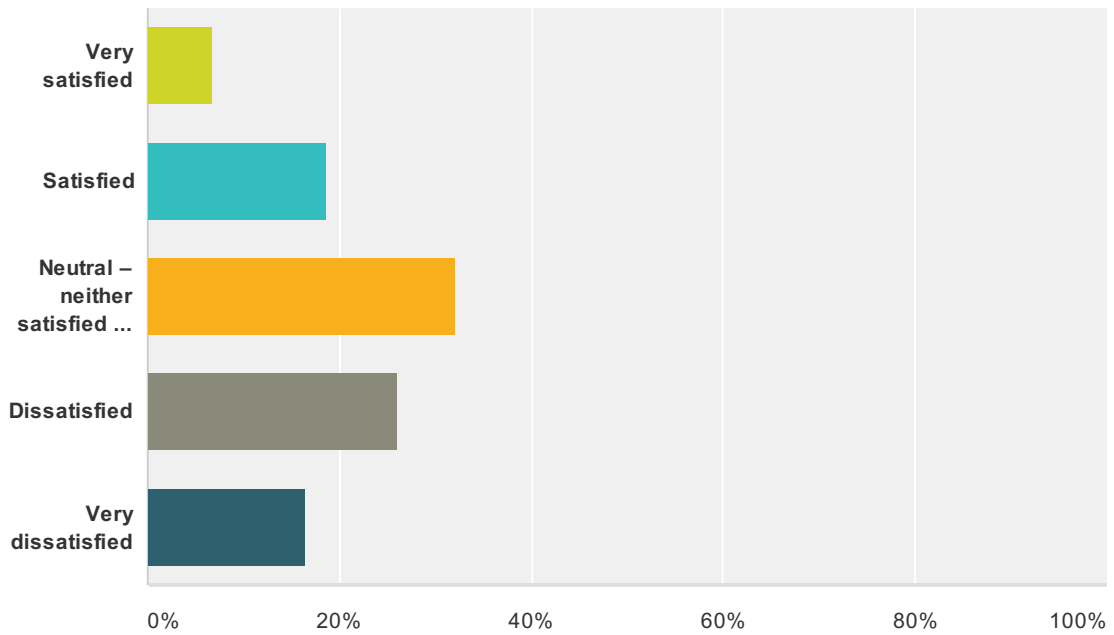
Answered: 134 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	33.58%	45
No	66.42%	89
<b>Total</b>		<b>134</b>

### Q3 How satisfied are you with the quality of infrastructure currently provided by Council in the local area?

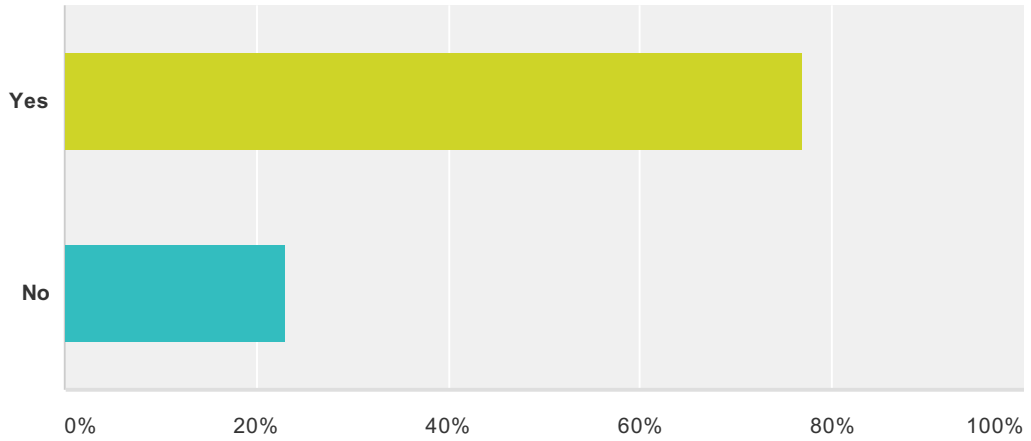
Answered: 134 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
Very satisfied	6.72% 9
Satisfied	18.66% 25
Neutral – neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	32.09% 43
Dissatisfied	26.12% 35
Very dissatisfied	16.42% 22
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>

### Q4 Do you think it is a good idea to invest more in our road network to improve it?

Answered: 130 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	76.92%	100
No	23.08%	30
<b>Total</b>		<b>130</b>

## Community consultation survey

### Q5 Would you be happy to pay more rates if it resulted in better roads and other infrastructure? Why or why not?

Answered: 132 Skipped: 9

#	Responses	Date
1	No. I do not think KSC general manager has the ability to handle any form of budget . Look what is wasted now. It will only mean more money to waste.	2/18/2014 3:23 PM
2	Yes infrastructure has been allowed to run down over the years, we need to have better looking community assets	2/18/2014 1:36 PM
3	As pensioners, we can barely afford the present rates. A further increase will price us out of the area. Council should rely on loans. It is ridiculous to expect ratepayers to contribute even further to fund these works when we are already stretched to our limits. Look elsewhere - long-term loans, for instance - for these funds and leave us alone to manage our day-to-day budgets.	2/18/2014 9:35 AM
4	Yes, of course, maintenance costs more than ever before, and the community needs to realise this fact, and dig a little deeper to help pay for the things we have come to expect and enjoy	2/17/2014 10:06 PM
5	Yes	2/17/2014 10:59 AM
6	I would if the speed limits were lowered as i believe if we put the limits down this may help our roads. Plus if the roads are repaired and done good this would prevent having to repeatedly repair them	2/17/2014 9:15 AM
7	I do not want to pay more at all, we pay more than enough for no services besides waste management. I much rather have streetlights, painted lines on roads and a footpath.	2/15/2014 5:03 PM
8	Yes must look after our assets.	2/15/2014 8:45 AM
9	No! KSC is poorly managed and needs to improve in all areas of financial management.	2/14/2014 5:16 PM
10	No. It is not a reasonable proposition given the weakening economic conditions and employment opportunities. It is becoming too expensive to live in an area that does not have NBN or opportunities to earn income. Ultimately further increases will be the straw that breaks the camels back.	2/14/2014 11:00 AM
11	No. It is not a reasonable proposition given the weakening economic conditions and employment opportunities. It is becoming too expensive to live in an area that does not have NBN or opportunities to earn income. Ultimately further increases will be the straw that breaks the camels back.	2/14/2014 11:00 AM
12	no	2/14/2014 10:18 AM
13	Always happy to pay extra for better quality but Kempsey Shire record is poor quality.	2/13/2014 6:40 PM
14	I would be happy to pay more rate, if the services you supply now were carried out in a orderly fashion, I emailed to the council about the condition of the parks in the crescent head area, the lack of patrol with dogs on the beach at all times, the poor facilities for our holiday makers, who bring income into your area, poor maintenance of facilities, lack of interest in working with the police to protect the residents and holiday makers from endless crime from the indigneous youth, if these keep up more people will not come to this beautiful part of the coast and your income will be affected by less tourism and fewer jobs for your residents, I think you need to fix the entire council, maybe look at all departments and not focus on just the road system	2/13/2014 11:50 AM
15	I believe that if the new rate increase is spent to improve not maintain our current facilities we would all be better off. With these increases I would expect to see reults and if these results were not forthcoming that the rates be returned to current levels	2/13/2014 8:25 AM
16	no	2/12/2014 2:11 PM
17	No I believe there should be a cut to services and better management of funds. I believe infrastructure is okay at present. When will the increase in rates stop, I suggest it never will, how can we all afford to keep paying more & more	2/12/2014 6:49 AM

## Community consultation survey

18	taking business investment and education of some cultural parts of the community in the state of the art of living in the 21st century (!) is not top priority of the shire council agenda, it is hard to believe higher rates with smoother roads will improve the overall situation for the local area in general and it's faithful rate payers. the state government should be presented with the financial load and a future prospect(?). As well, included in the same presentation package should be case to convince a, e.g., head quarter of state department to be moved to Kempsey which will attract more dollars to the region. I believe in the potential of Kempsey not so sure the leaders are about to go down the conservative path in punishing again the families, small businesses and nota bene, your and my neighbour and the faithful rate payers which not all are able to use the roads or unwanted, unnecessary infrastructure.	2/11/2014 4:08 PM
19	No. I am self funded retiree and my income doesn't just go up when I feel like I want it to.	2/11/2014 3:10 PM
20	NO. With the amount of money wasted in South West Rocks business centre prior to Christmas was a disgrace and unneeded. You need to learn how to handle the money that we ratepayer provide	2/11/2014 1:23 PM
21	No. I can't afford an increase in rates. Why can other areas afford and have better quality roads than Kempsey? Victoria have the best roads. Kempsey you need 4WDs to travel on roads.	2/11/2014 5:43 AM
22	No. At this point in time I don't even have gutters on my property, yet I pay about twice the rates of most areas in the district. Surely if my rates are twice the rest of the district I deserve twice the quality of the roads. If this is not the way things are done then at least I should have what the other rate payers have: gutters on my road. I am a bit worried my rates will subsidise the rest of the district and I will continue to have substandard roads leading to my over-rated property. I am a retiree in Crescent Head who owns his own property. I am afraid that increases in rates will make staying in Crescent Head an unsustainable proposition. Is this the aim of the council increases? It could well be an unexpected response to such rate increases.	2/10/2014 7:25 PM
23	No, because the council lost money gambling our rates on overseas investments prior to the GFC and now wants us to pay for it... Sack the council...	2/10/2014 5:34 PM
24	I would be happy to pay more rates if I could see some money being spent in Smithtown	2/10/2014 3:36 PM
25	NO. Council should concentrate on roads, garbage and water and sewer. Community services like fitness programs and elderly care should be left to the state or federal governments who have health ministers instead of allocating council resources.	2/10/2014 1:35 PM
26	NO .. After being here for only 3 1/2 years and observing how the council operates, i am amazed why rate payers have tolerated it for so long .. All i have seen is a waste of money by incompetent people where only a select few have benefited from rate payers money .. Having previously worked for road construction companies in all forms of road maintenance, i know what is required .. the best result for our shire and the ratepayers would be to sack every employee and hire contractors who actually know how to maintain our roads before they deteriorate any further .. To compare Kempsey shire to any other to gain more money off rate payers is also completely stupid. .. I have previously asked the state government to investigate the dealings of the council and will continue too because i am very concerned the path this council is taking .. would certain people be happy to reimburse rate payers for the use of council ( ratepayers ) equipment and materials for there own benefit?	2/10/2014 10:58 AM
27	Firstly, question 4 is an extremely poorly worded question. Of course, I would like to see the roads maintained so they don't deteriorate. In regards to question 5, No, I would rather have monies managed better. For example, when you see safe, drivable unsealed roads being graded for no apparent reason it raises questions. I have seen (twice now) an unsealed road graded when it was not necessary.	2/10/2014 7:18 AM
28	Absolutely yes. We need to improve the entire Shire	2/10/2014 7:05 AM
29	No, We cannot continue to live beyond our means, i am sick and tired of paying for every person that gets a rate exemption in this community. Considering the people who actually work full-time in this community who own property is in the minority why are you constantly punishing us? Any infrastructure you intend to spend money on is only going to be trashed, and any roads you fix will be done to such a poor standard that it will only need to be done again in 6 months time... I am over it !! I drive 2 hours each day Monday to Friday to work... Because this town is just a bottomless pit of welfare who in tum make me pay not only so they do not have to work but to also support them in infrastructure and roads... you cannot be serious... I am not against paying for what I use but i am fed up with paying for everyone else in this community.	2/9/2014 8:29 PM
30	No because repair work done is HOPELESS Amidale road is a good example fix a pothole when it actually needs resurfacing fix a bridge when (mungaycreek bridge) leave road right next to it un repaired when it would have been more cost effective to do it all at same time	2/9/2014 3:05 PM
31	NO. Because our wages aren't increasing at the same rate as your rate wants.	2/9/2014 1:29 PM

## Community consultation survey

32	Until Crescent Head has roads that allow its residents not to be trapped in their village or kept out of Kempsey by a bridge which is not high enough to allow safe access on to the beginning of Crescent Head Road and then on to the highway, I will not be happy to pay extra for the road infrastructure. It is 2014, not 1814, and way past the time when a coastal village should be cut off from basic amenities during times of flood due to lack of proper roads and bridges. The last food, we ran out of milk. It's disgusting.	2/8/2014 6:39 PM
33	Absolutely not, they are dear enough now.	2/8/2014 1:25 PM
34	No as a business it is councils job to keep our community in top order with the rates and grants they receive for this each year not to redirect funds and and make us the community pay again and again if you are going to use other councils as an example how about using current info instead of something that makes this council look better we pay way more than my mother does in rates she is in port Macquarie about 1000 dollars more rates and water together you are a joke I think it's time for someone to investigate how this council is run	2/7/2014 10:21 PM
35	yes absolutely i am all for an increase in rates if it means our roads and infrastructure is improved the roads in many areas need attention and our parks and streets could do with a fresh new look as it is such a beautiful place lets make it shine.	2/7/2014 8:25 PM
36	Yes	2/7/2014 1:47 PM
37	No,because of current wastage on unnecessary projects	2/7/2014 1:25 PM
38	No,kempsey shire council is renowed for wasting money,worst council in nsw	2/7/2014 1:01 PM
39	No. My rates have already increased by 46% since 2001-2002. The new increase will add an additional \$374 above the normal rate increases over three years.	2/7/2014 12:28 PM
40	No- Sorry only pensioner and cannot afford increase.	2/7/2014 10:29 AM
41	Yes. We need to maintain infrastructure to ensure the shire stays competitive & is a desirable area for people to live & work. People expect quality libraries, pools, sports fields, playgrounds , roads & bridges for a quality lifestyle. Poor maintenance of these items reflects badly on communities & is reflected in land values & social problems. People need to take pride in the area they live in & council has a major role to play in this by maintaining services.	2/7/2014 8:24 AM
42	the council must reduce it's overheads by selectively selling it's infrastructure.it has a structural problem with it's budget - too many asets, many poorly managed and many not serving the ratepayers interests. This is a poor welfare dependent area and the council needs to adjust it's ambitions accordingly.	2/7/2014 8:10 AM
43	Yes. Existing roads/infrastructure should be maintained by adopting an economically sound regime to ensure appropriate maintenance/replacement as necessary. If we don't do it now future generations will be faced with an impossible task.	2/7/2014 7:52 AM
44	I would like to be able to pay more rates but you have to consider the fact that normal everyday living day costs have risen as well and we can't necessarily afford it	2/7/2014 7:38 AM
45	yes if council employess were made more accountable for wrong decisionslor errors made IE: central plaza paving fiasco.	2/6/2014 9:24 PM
46	The percentage of rate rise over the coming 4 years is too much for the community as too many individuals and business sectors are suffering. I don't believe council sticks to core business enough and councillors have in the past have approved unnecessary expenditure at council meetings. Considerable savings and increase in professionalism could occur with amalgamation with other councils. This does not mean loss of service or local representation. This is not in the interests of the mayor, GM, senior managers or some functions areas at council but we must have leadership to make amalgamation happen.	2/6/2014 7:48 PM
47	no, these are leading questions, of course I want better roads but I do not want an increase that will be wasted as my rates are currently wasted, I do not trust this council as I frequently see waste and featherbedding as I watch council going about its business.	2/6/2014 7:32 PM
48	No I am not happy in paying more rates. The reason why is that the letter I received from David Rawlings is misrepresenting Kempsey Shire Rates based on council services. Kempsey Shire does not offer the basic services such as sewerage and curb and guttering and curbside garbage collections per annum. This costs are an additional \$280 per annum on septic 'checking' fees and \$100 per annum on tip runs and an outlay of \$4800 to install piping drainage at the front of our driveway. So based on the above my rates are MORE than Port Macquaries for significantly less services including public infrastructure such as family friendly parks, bike tracks and community facilities such as halls that do not require a \$500 public liability insurance certificate. Kempsey residents will continue to use and spend there earned \$\$ in coffs and port where these facilities are availabe and young families will continue to leave this shire. Council needs to re-evaluate its budget.	2/6/2014 6:18 PM

## Community consultation survey

49	No not a special increase. The current incremental increases each year should be enough. Roads are only one aspect of what Council provides. If roads are falling behind then the allocation for them out of the total funds available to Council must be adjusted.	2/6/2014 5:26 PM
50	Good in theory but we are pensioners and the Pensioner Rebate never increases to keep pace with increasing costs.	2/6/2014 4:55 PM
51	Yes. Roads and associated assets are essential infrastructure. As long as monies invested are spread fairly and equitably, no problems. But spending a huge amount of capital on a bridge on a road used by a few rate payers, is not, in my opinion, equitable distribution. I own a holiday home at Crescent Head - not a farm in the Upper stretches of the LGA. Sorry, may sound selfish but for my \$3K/annum, I expect local service provision.	2/6/2014 4:42 PM
52	No, everyone is going through hard times. Rate increases will only make it more difficult. If I was guaranteed that that my rd would be tarred then I might consider it. Anything Extra I payed would be gobbled up elsewhere and I would not see any benefit from it. So no I am not prepared to pay any more.	2/6/2014 4:01 PM
53	No, the rates are to high as it is. The issue is wrong people on the council. We need younger people to provide a better community. Look at port macquarie it is booming because the actually want to do something. Also when the road are being fixed do it properly the first time instead of one person doing it and ten people watching him. Cull your employees before asking for a handout	2/6/2014 2:25 PM
54	No I would not be happy to pay more money. I think i'm paying more than enough already. I also don't think the money is allocated appropriately.	2/6/2014 2:06 PM
55	No - Council needs to get their figures correct and prioritise the jobs.	2/6/2014 1:25 PM
56	the roads in Kempsey Shire are a mess full of potholtes and are uneven and thats the tared roads It is costing a small fortune to fix my vehicle after travelling on the roads within the shire	2/6/2014 1:20 PM
57	yes	2/6/2014 12:09 PM
58	no, there seems to be spend a lot of money for a senseless small part of the community no, because there seems to be spent senseless o lot of money for a small part of the community	2/6/2014 11:51 AM
59	yes. but not to the extremes of the increases you want to implement. cpi increases should be enough	2/6/2014 11:27 AM
60	Yes- as long as something is done with the increased funding so that it can address the state of Middleton St area, an eyesore that ratepayers from Euroka, River Meadows and Dondingalong have to drive through each day. I also object to our rates being used to fund Mayor's Ball- totally unrealistic and out of touch with the community.	2/6/2014 10:48 AM
61	No. According to your calculator my rates, which are already very high would increase by approximately \$1,000 in the next few years - where do you think I will get that sort of money	2/6/2014 10:21 AM
62	The roads are very very rarely repaired to an acceptable standard and gives one the impression these guys are trying to keep themselves in work!. This is particularly evident along Plummers Lane where the fill is not packed down into potholes and of course loosens and is removed as soon as it is driven upon. Really does no one check the road teams work? The amount of time and money spent of road works we should be driving on roads the likes of which are seen throughout the USA.	2/6/2014 8:27 AM
63	I only use 5 roads in the area and none of the other infrastructure. I cannot see why my rates should increase at such a disportionate rate to those in the main towns who have daily access to all of the infrastructure and pay a lower rate.	2/5/2014 7:52 PM
64	yes	2/3/2014 1:59 PM
65	I would not be happy to pay more rates which may or may not result in better roads. I would prefer that council not spend ratepayer money on poorly planned projects which result in more ratepayer funds being poured into their maintenance or conversion. Some examples are the re-paving of the mall(due to the surface not being suitable for traffic) and now the re positioning of the Smith St bus stop. Rather than gouging more money from this community, please plan your projects more carefully, this is money which could be spent on roads!	1/21/2014 2:59 PM
66	No . . . who pays me to pay you? If you can't do the job with the money you have got then get out of the way and get someone who can.	1/17/2014 12:17 PM
67	no council seems to waste a lot of money with its so quick fix pot hole repairs .simple observations,it doesnt last ,then it comes and does the same thing.maybe two or three times in a six month period	1/11/2014 7:25 AM
68	Yes	1/2/2014 12:33 PM



## Community consultation survey

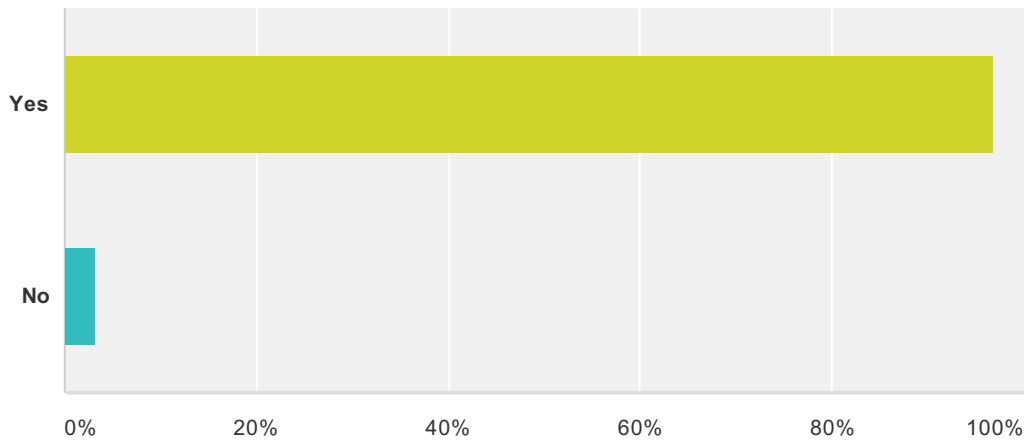
69	No. Road infrastructure needs to be prioritised in context of other services. Funds are available from Federal Gov to repair flood damage which is significant amount of issue. Can the community be confident that money will be quarantined and that all of it will go on roads? How does council intend to prioritise roads fixed with normal rates first?	12/18/2013 1:22 PM
70	NO - MY IDEAL IS COUNCIL NEED TO CUT THERE OWN EXPENSES - AND GO FOR SMALL VEHICLES WHICH IS MORE ECOMONY AND CHEAPER TO RUN - MAYOR TO TAKE A PAY CUT	12/18/2013 10:27 AM
71	Yes - I feel that we all need to help pay for better infrastructure and roads with a rates increase. I would like to add that any repair done to roads be of a higher standard so that they don't start to degrade as soon as they are repaired - for example Sea St in the gully below the TAFE - those holes just reappear very quickly.	12/17/2013 3:01 PM
72	no, council wastes money on inessentials	12/16/2013 1:29 PM
73	No. Rates increased in 2013, however property's values have not increased. In our opinion, rates are currently commensurate with rates in urban areas, without the associated benefits of increased property values. We have seen little or no information about proposed savings within Councils operating budget, or how major initiatives including savings and efficiencies are linked to councils executive officers key performance indicators and performance outcomes.	12/14/2013 5:17 PM
74	Concerned council will continue to waste money. eg; pulling down toilets, Kempsey mall debacle	12/12/2013 11:29 AM
75	NO. Council should undertake a service review of ALL its services rather than making a decision of this nature on the basis of one aspect of Council service delivery. A comprehensive service review should determine a.) what the community want and b.) if the services are delivered in the most effective and efficient way. This should include benchmarking against other Councils. Councils have moved beyond roads, rubbish and rates as the focus of services. Council should also consider full cost recovery for those activities which have a PRIVATE benefit. Further if Council is intending to use the list of items in the 11 December 2013 Happenings as "foundation for planning to invest" it clearly doesn't have an understanding of the roles of Federal, State and Local Government - as some of the items are clearly a function of other levels of Government - eg Law and Order. Further Council should have ensured that all ratepayers (including those who own holiday properties and therefore don't live in the Shire are notified of the proposal rather than just relying on social and local media. Emailing and posting a simple letter/ attachment to the first and second Rate Notices could have achieved this at no extra cost to Council.	12/12/2013 11:26 AM
76	No because council need to not waste money on projects such as slim dusty centre that has no benefit for the community.	12/11/2013 4:54 PM
77	No South west rocks is already paying the highest rates and carrying the rest of the shire	12/11/2013 4:27 PM
78	yes, i wouldn't mind if the money was spent on roads and infrastructure, and not buying cars for all the managers to drive around in	12/10/2013 6:05 PM
79	No South west rocks pay far more than other Kempsey residents now	12/10/2013 4:35 PM
80	Leading question - answer why any increase should be above CPI? Current ratepayers shouldn't be penalised for past mismanagement.	12/7/2013 11:18 AM
81	No council needs to not employ out of shire residents	12/5/2013 10:30 AM
82	Yes	12/5/2013 10:25 AM
83	Unsure	12/5/2013 9:56 AM
84	Yes if not too big	12/5/2013 9:38 AM
85	Mall issue are a waste of money big problem to residents	12/5/2013 9:35 AM
86	No because pensioners do not have the budget	12/5/2013 9:34 AM
87	No - residents in the area are low income earners.	12/5/2013 9:29 AM
88	No already pay rates on road that has no services as not designated road woodshed gully road	12/5/2013 9:19 AM
89	Can't afford a rate rise	12/5/2013 9:09 AM
90	Yes	12/5/2013 9:01 AM
91	No workers don't do enough now	12/5/2013 9:01 AM
92	Yes	12/5/2013 8:50 AM
93	No	12/5/2013 8:47 AM

## Community consultation survey

94	No	12/5/2013 8:45 AM
95	No because cutbacks should happen elsewhere in Council	12/5/2013 8:44 AM
96	No pay enough now	12/5/2013 8:41 AM
97	Yes no answer	12/5/2013 8:35 AM
98	No don't get enough for rates paid now my rates over average already	12/5/2013 8:27 AM
99	No	12/5/2013 8:10 AM
100	No too expensive now too much wasted money already	12/5/2013 8:09 AM
101	No I would not want to pay more rates.	12/4/2013 9:29 PM
102	Definitely YES only if rates are focused into core business of fixing roads. Roads throughout Shire are in urgent need of upgrade.	12/3/2013 10:35 AM
103	not until an independant body looks at council's out of proportion management/ staff situation	12/1/2013 9:50 PM
104	Yes, just don't waste the money	11/29/2013 3:21 PM
105	Yes if there's is a guarantee it is spent on roads	11/29/2013 11:04 AM
106	Yes	11/29/2013 10:54 AM
107	Yes	11/29/2013 10:49 AM
108	With current spend being audited to ensure funds were spent properly ok	11/29/2013 10:48 AM
109	Yes	11/29/2013 10:43 AM
110	Yes	11/29/2013 10:38 AM
111	Yes.	11/29/2013 10:36 AM
112	Yes	11/29/2013 10:32 AM
113	No	11/29/2013 10:14 AM
114	No. Council doesn't deliver.	11/29/2013 10:08 AM
115	Yes if roads are fixed	11/29/2013 10:03 AM
116	Na	11/29/2013 10:01 AM
117	Yes	11/29/2013 9:57 AM
118	Yes	11/29/2013 9:52 AM
119	Yes	11/29/2013 9:44 AM
120	Yes	11/29/2013 9:37 AM
121	Yes	11/29/2013 9:20 AM
122	Yes	11/29/2013 9:17 AM
123	No	11/29/2013 9:08 AM
124	Yes	11/29/2013 9:08 AM
125	Yes	11/29/2013 9:00 AM
126	Yes	11/29/2013 8:43 AM
127	No wasted last increases , do nothing in this area	11/29/2013 8:39 AM
128	No	11/29/2013 8:39 AM
129	Yes	11/29/2013 8:37 AM
130	Yes	11/29/2013 8:31 AM
131	Yes	11/29/2013 8:22 AM
132	Yes to see the benefits	11/29/2013 8:03 AM

**Q6 Are you aware that Council is applying for a multiple year permanent rate rise, starting from 1 July 2014?**

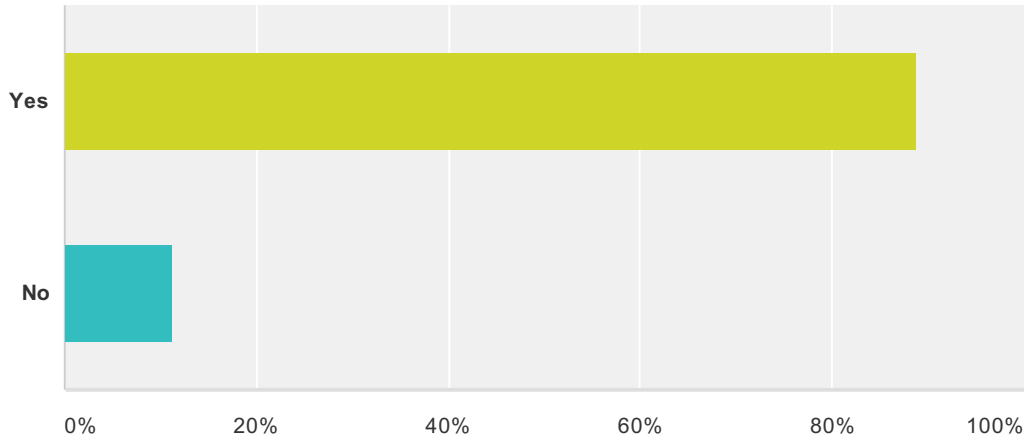
Answered: 124 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	96.77% 120
No	3.23% 4
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>

### Q7 Are you aware of the size of the rate rise?

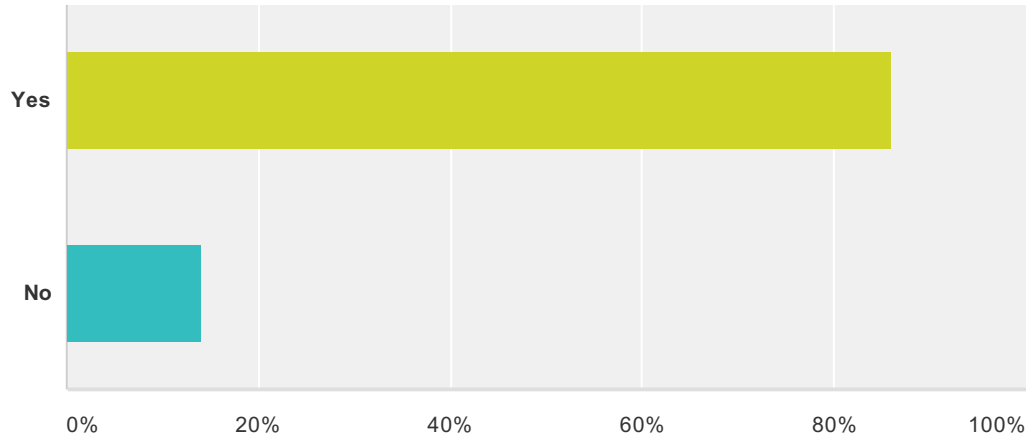
Answered: 124 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	88.71%	110
No	11.29%	14
<b>Total</b>		<b>124</b>

**Q8 Are you aware that this rise only applies to general rates and not water, sewer or waste? (Water, sewer and waste are all increasing but that is separate from this application.)**

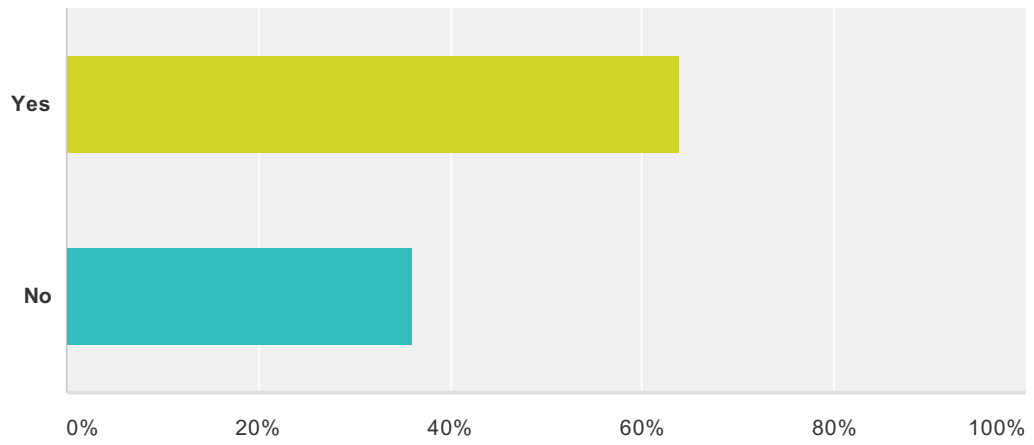
Answered: 128 Skipped: 13



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	85.94% 110
No	14.06% 18
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>

### Q9 Are you aware that the money from the rate rise will only be spent on the road network?

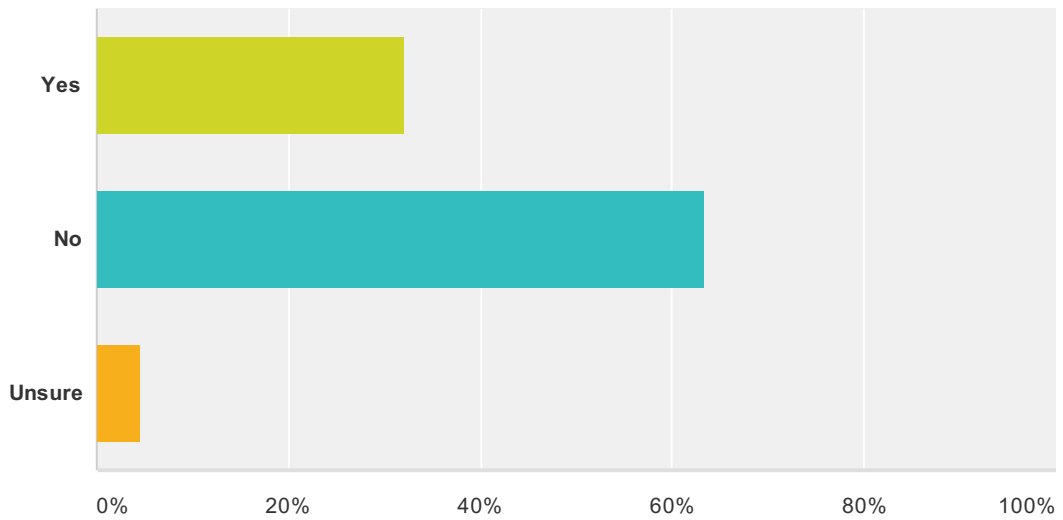
Answered: 130 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	63.85% 83
No	36.15% 47
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>

**Q10 For the average residential ratepayer, the proposed increase would mean an extra \$83.42 in the first year, an extra \$91.77 in the second year, an extra \$100.93 in the third year and an extra \$44.41 in the fourth year (i.e. \$320.53 over the life of the rate variation or about \$6.15 more per week) above current rates. Please note that this increase includes the increases allowed by rate pegging. Either considering the above or using the online calculator, do you think that this rate levy increase is acceptable?**

Answered: 131 Skipped: 10



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	32.06% 42
No	63.36% 83
Unsure	4.58% 6
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>

# Community consultation survey

## Q11 Why do you say that?

Answered: 108 Skipped: 33

#	Responses	Date
1	We need to increase income to get this community moving	2/18/2014 1:38 PM
2	For the reasons already stated. As pensioners, we can barely afford the rates as they are. If you could absolve Age Pensioners from the rate increases, then we might rethink our attitude.	2/18/2014 9:37 AM
3	Its not a lot of money per head of shire population, wake up Kempsey!	2/17/2014 10:09 PM
4	everything is going up	2/17/2014 9:22 AM
5	I think Council could spend rate payers money more wisely	2/15/2014 5:07 PM
6	as stated in question 5	2/14/2014 5:17 PM
7	Kempsey is economically depressed fforther cash grabs are not warranted. Have you thought of Increased productivity?	2/14/2014 11:08 AM
8	that is because u have used an average rate of 668 dollars my rates are 1500 already. iam unemployed i can not afforded to pay more. why not look at trying to get more industries into the area. bight the bullet give them some sort of inscentive to come to our town. more population is what this town needs more than any thing.dont waste money on beautification of the cbd.all it is going to be is another make over.get some industries in.take an average of the people income and the unemployedand pensioners. look at the bigger picture before u increase our rates. i would gladly pay 1000 a year rates.why not make this the rates for every one????	2/14/2014 10:36 AM
9	I do not believe all funds received through rate rise will be used only on roads.	2/13/2014 6:43 PM
10	because as before, you do not seem to be able to run the council in all areas with any efficiency, so giving you a rate increase will it really improve the roads	2/13/2014 11:55 AM
11	None of us like to pay more. This money is essential for the maitenance of our facilities	2/13/2014 8:26 AM
12	no	2/12/2014 2:12 PM
13	I would prefer to see Council manage money better, cut costs in some areas, currently there is too much money wasted. I believe most of the infrastructure is okay and would be prepared to accept things the way they are or cut out some of the services provided rather than have to pay more rates, our community cannot afford to keep paying more and more each year.	2/12/2014 6:57 AM
14	Have you lived on a pension, the dole or no income at all?	2/11/2014 4:12 PM
15	Everyone else is expected to make sacrifices due to the "financial crisis". So should Local Government.	2/11/2014 3:13 PM
16	To much of our money is wasted by you. For example the price of the tar truck that is used at present does an unsatisfactory job for the price much better off with the old tipper and a couple of people on shovels. Better job done less expense same number of people doing the job. Its not rocket science	2/11/2014 1:30 PM
17	Way to high. Suggest council research other councils to find out how they charge and how they manage their infrastructure better.	2/11/2014 5:48 AM
18	My rates are based on the unimproved value of my property. Presently council trees are growing up and blocking out my view. Soon I will be paying double the rates of other homes in the district for a house without a view of the ocean, for a house without footpath or gutters and I am expected to be happy to subsidise other parts of the district.	2/10/2014 7:32 PM
19	councils mismanagement is the real issue... the council should make public the amount of money they invested overseas prior to the GFC and how much they lost, who was responsible and who will be compensating the ratepayer...	2/10/2014 5:37 PM
20	See above. council wastes money on areas that should be handled by the State and Federal Govts. Why take a grant if you end up having to spend some of your own money as well.	2/10/2014 1:38 PM
21	I have yet to see any benefit to rate payers, only select individuals and business's	2/10/2014 11:17 AM
22	Because I don't believe the rate rises are justifiable. I would be happier to pay the increased rates if the monies were managed better.	2/10/2014 7:22 AM



## Community consultation survey

23	Because it will help to bring us in line with most other shires. Our rates are low and it is reflected in our infrastructure and most thing in the Shire.	2/10/2014 7:14 AM
24	As i have said previously stop punishing the people who work in this community who are already doing it tough... I love how you separated the water bill from the rates ... thinking that no one will notice the absolute ridiculous amount we are charged for budget rate services in this community ... I am sure that with the extra money you are raising for "road works" will benefit some member of council that has bought land they wish to develop or it will tar a road that they live on .. after I have finished my research i will get back to you on that.... and the rest from the literature of fantasy you wasted my money on is for bridges to nowhere and roads that the general community will never drive on .. or care to drive on... so why should the majority of us pay for the minority of us who bought in these areas knowing full well that they are remote .. and how is it my responsibility for these bridges ... once again why should the majority pay for the minority... surely this money could be much better spent ... but then I guess if you had this money and you were not going to spend it on roads .. you would probably build a money pit like the glasshouse to put Kempsey on the map ... seriously a reality check is needed for this council ... your town has one of the highest unemployment rates in NSW... people are embarrassed to say they live in Kempsey... the average life expectancy of an animal is 16months and most females are disappointed if they are not pregnant by 15 ... 90% of this town you don't drive in at night due to the alcohol fuelled violence ... so maybe we have bigger issues here that we could spend money on.	2/9/2014 8:55 PM
25	Because council has Not shown any ability to use our money effectively in the past decade so what has changed with council and the people working and managing our roads	2/9/2014 3:14 PM
26	Because governments of all levels are just blood suckers.	2/9/2014 1:31 PM
27	For me, an owner in a strata lot which in total fetches council \$5,562 when other single dwellings fetch only around \$3,300 - 3,500, based on land value, I feel I am already paying more than my fair share.	2/8/2014 6:46 PM
28	Because they are too dear now, considering all the charges. You have just pout the increases, not with the average charges now, a very biased approach.	2/8/2014 1:28 PM
29	Because the upkeep of a town should be done yearly that's why we pay rates every year	2/7/2014 10:25 PM
30	I say yes the increase is acceptable provided the "GOODS ARE DELIVERED".	2/7/2014 8:40 PM
31	The current payable rate is, I believe, excessive in terms of what we receive and money is spent unnecessarily on certain projects, viz. the Paragon ave./Prince of Wales ave. road/footpath works in SWR.	2/7/2014 1:40 PM
32	This council needs better organisation, stop waisting money	2/7/2014 1:04 PM
33	I have a relative who has a property of comparible size in Newport NSW. His rates are 1/3 less than mine.	2/7/2014 12:32 PM
34	Not affordable	2/7/2014 10:30 AM
35	Because of the low socioeconomics of our area. Many people are unemployed or on government benefits & this increase may be hard on them.	2/7/2014 8:27 AM
36	the council must first adjust the rate demand composition. the abse rate should be expalined first - does this equal 50% - the maximum allowed? if so it should be reduced as the average ratepayer in this council area is a poor and probably welfare dependent person. The ad valorum componenet of the rates shpuld be increased - this will spread the increases to those with the greatest asset bases and they should be capable of paying more rather than the average ratepayer. the council is unfortuanetly not transparent in it;s dealings with ratepayers- there are at least 5 substantial property owners as councillors and they will benefit most form the average ratepayers being made to pay extra. This is regressive taxation - inequitable and punitive.	2/7/2014 8:18 AM
37	Your rate calculator indicates that my rates will increase by a nett slightly above 8% over the 4 years. If previous year's neglect is to be turned around we have to expect a rise something above expected inflation in the same period.	2/7/2014 8:02 AM
38	When i use your online calculator, my increase at the end of the four year period is more in the vicinity of \$700. That is ridiculous!	2/7/2014 7:42 AM
39	for some residents that is too much	2/6/2014 9:29 PM
40	Many individuals and business sectors are suffering and these are considerable rate increases. Continual increases across all facets of business makes it difficult to maintain profitability, particularly in the farming sector.	2/6/2014 7:53 PM

## Community consultation survey

41	I am getting fed up with these leading questions. Council obviously has an agenda and does not seek opinions, only confirmation of its preconceived intention to increase my rates to pay for its indulgences	2/6/2014 7:37 PM
42	Lack of services being offered to the residents for these increase	2/6/2014 6:20 PM
43	Waste management is going up by 3%, water by 5.3% and sewer by 7.5% each year. To then increase the general rate by up to 10% each year is exorbitant.	2/6/2014 5:49 PM
44	Because our land is only \$157,000 and I calculate the increase to be extra \$409.30 p.a. in the 4th year (excluding water) and we have no sewer (only septic system) and still pay \$60 increasing to \$85 for absolutely nothing.	2/6/2014 4:59 PM
45	Acceptable, providing Council equitably distributes the monies.	2/6/2014 4:44 PM
46	Because if granted the increase after the forth year Council would again be looking to further increase the rates and our wages are not being increased every year, but the cost of living is continuously rising.	2/6/2014 4:04 PM
47	We pay enough as it is. Fix the roads properly the first time. Your workforce is too high as you don't need countless people watching one person do the job	2/6/2014 2:28 PM
48	I don't believe that the money will be spent on the correct intended purpose	2/6/2014 2:10 PM
49	Being on a fixed income my husband and I cannot continue to fund council's mismanagement of the past. We will have to sell our house and live in a caravan.	2/6/2014 1:28 PM
50	anything to improve our roads	2/6/2014 1:22 PM
51	agree	2/6/2014 12:10 PM
52	because those costs can be taken out of the normal rates, council is trying to blind the people	2/6/2014 11:56 AM
53	too high a rate of increase	2/6/2014 11:30 AM
54	Because it seems that the same sector of the population in Kempsey is always hit for extra money but sees no benefit. Clean up areas such as South Kempsey and more industry might be attracted, therefore not costing ratepayers more and more money. Cut back on Council costs eg Mayor's Ball. Do something to attract industry and development. Be realistic in how you see the community and what they can afford. Find some equitable way for the whole population to subsidise the work/services of Council, not just the ratepayers who are seeing little benefit for their money, especially in Dondingalong- a road through from South St would be a starting point -to be constructed using this rate rise, if it is only for roads. Then I would be happy to pay the increase.	2/6/2014 10:58 AM
55	Because Kempsey is a very low socio-economic area, The majority of people are on award wages which are extremely low by State standards. People simply do not have any extra money with all the other increases over the last few years.	2/6/2014 10:23 AM
56	This is way too much way too quickly. I would not object to this increase spread over an 8 year period.	2/6/2014 8:33 AM
57	should run like a business, if you cannot afford it you do not do it. In other words, prioritise and look at reducing your labour costs by redundancy and using contractors, this is your biggest revenue cost.	2/5/2014 7:58 PM
58	I do not believe that council has taken into account the impact of their rate rise on the many low income families in this area. \$6.15 per week is a significant increase to many people struggling at the moment on a fixed income.	1/21/2014 3:03 PM
59	Because it is only the thin edge of the wedge . . . water, sewerage and garbage are also getting more expensive and it will finish up being \$20 a week!	1/17/2014 12:22 PM
60	i can not afford it	1/11/2014 7:35 AM
61	We need to invest in our future now and not leave it to future generations to fund which is what past Council's and Councillors have done!	1/2/2014 12:37 PM
62	Any special rate increase is unacceptable when the Council has demonstrated it cannot manage a budget with existing funds let alone any additional \$. Only a limited number of rate payers will fully pay given that pensioners rates under Section 575 cannot pay more than \$250 per annum. In effect a proportion won't pay.	12/18/2013 1:29 PM
63	IT IS TOO DEAR FOR UNEMPLOYED AND PENSIONER RATES ARE NOT BEEN INCREASED TO PAY FOR INCREASES AND THE AVERAGE WORKER ARE NOT GETTING INCREASE TO HELP AS WELL AND BASICALLY CANT AFFORD THIS AND THIS EVENTUALLY WILL HAVE THIS AS A GHOST TOWN AND PEOPLE WILL MOVE ON.	12/18/2013 10:33 AM

## Community consultation survey

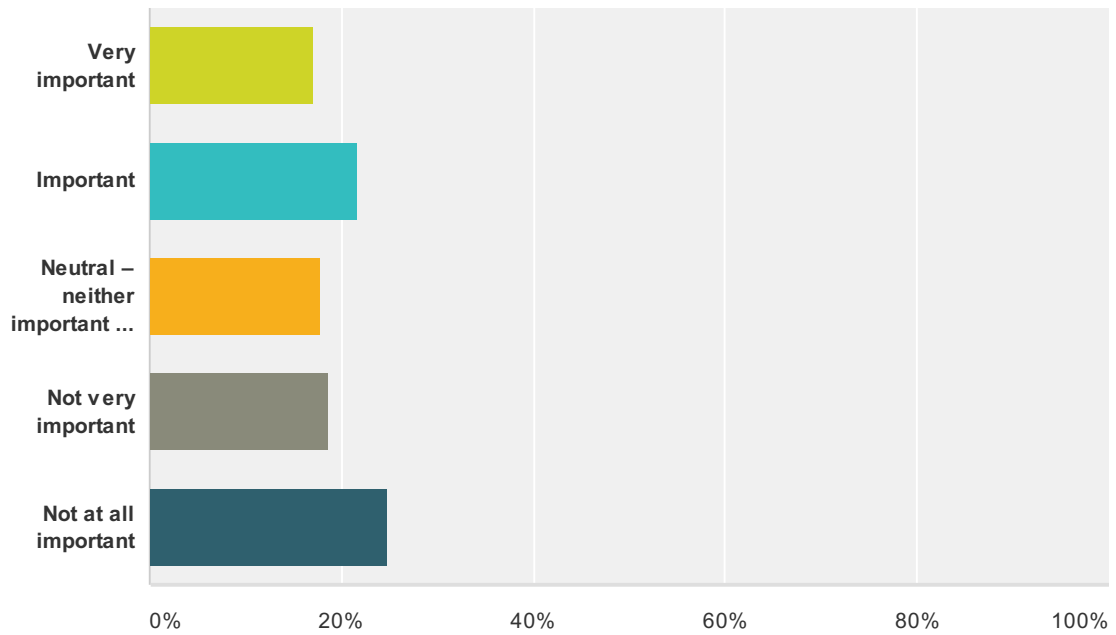
64	It is a small increase which would benefit the whole community and visitors to the area	12/17/2013 3:06 PM
65	I am an Old Aged Pensioner, I have to live within my means....	12/16/2013 1:31 PM
66	In addition to previous comment in this survey, we are of the understanding that are funds provided by the State and Commonwealth governments such as flood relief and highway upgrades. These two levels of government should be approached to provide funds that are associated with road networks associated with major projects. Roadwork maintenance should be planed for and included within Councils forward budget estimates.	12/14/2013 5:30 PM
67	There are other sources of funding and as mentioned earlier a service review should be undertaken to determine current levels of all services and whether they are efficiently and effectively delivered (including building in annual productivity savings). The demographics of the Shire would also suggest that many will find this difficult to bear. Further whilst there is a Review of the Local Government Act underway as well as an independent Review of Councils, which indicates that Kempsey is not sustainable as a Shire in the long term, additional rate increases alone seem premature.	12/12/2013 11:35 AM
68	Resources poorly allocated now. Probably still will be.	12/12/2013 11:31 AM
69	Our rates in crescent head are too high already	12/11/2013 4:57 PM
70	It is unfair to expect some areas of the shire to carry the other areas in regards to rates paid. Would it not be a greater increase if everyones rates in the cheaper areas were brought up to match the more expensive areas? We all use the same services so y not the same price? I am yet to see a shop that charges different prices for goods depending on income. The rate system is a joke and its about time everyone carried the cost evenly.	12/11/2013 4:37 PM
71	i use to work for the council and there is to much waste of money, manger money better, and you would be better off	12/10/2013 6:11 PM
72	way to high for people on limited income	12/10/2013 4:38 PM
73	see previous answers. Unless you can show a performance that returns better than CPI increase why continue with the failed management practices? Root and branch cost audits are needed throughout the Council works and services.	12/7/2013 11:21 AM
74	If it is that amount	12/5/2013 10:42 AM
75	Need to stop money wasting mistakes	12/5/2013 10:02 AM
76	Essential services only until council can afford and recommend public meeting after work hours	12/5/2013 9:44 AM
77	Just acceptable	12/5/2013 9:41 AM
78	Wasted money cut out expensive lunches and credit cards lost confidence	12/5/2013 9:37 AM
79	Not getting anything now is moving from area	12/5/2013 9:24 AM
80	Can't see guarantee of promises made	12/5/2013 9:12 AM
81	Bad use of money no supervision of road works, not starting work on time	12/5/2013 9:06 AM
82	Not getting enough for money now	12/5/2013 9:03 AM
83	If the money goes to roads	12/5/2013 9:01 AM
84	Spend less on other services and spend what we can afford	12/5/2013 8:49 AM
85	Every thing else goes up	12/5/2013 8:46 AM
86	No services don't trust will go to roads	12/5/2013 8:29 AM
87	Too much money wasted one not enough productivity	12/5/2013 8:12 AM
88	Where am I supposed to get this extra money from?	12/4/2013 9:48 PM
89	It is required to fix our roads to a proper standard as they are currently in very poor condition.	12/3/2013 10:38 AM
90	no attempt has been made by council to cut costs and make savings in house. they are even talking about hiring another manager, who's salary will put more pressure on ratepayers as well as rate rise.	12/1/2013 10:01 PM
91	We as a community need to protect our assetts. That means spending to preserve or improve.	11/29/2013 3:25 PM
92	Not sure how pensioners will cope with the additional rates.	11/29/2013 10:51 AM
93	Should be a flat rate per ratepayer rather than a percentage increase	11/29/2013 10:50 AM
94	Make our roads safe	11/29/2013 10:49 AM

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95	Wages etc need to be covered if its well planned should be good	11/29/2013 10:40 AM
96	Too much on farmers and business	11/29/2013 10:37 AM
97	Half would be acceptable	11/29/2013 10:16 AM
98	As long as not wasted on office staff	11/29/2013 10:04 AM
99	Spend more on beer	11/29/2013 9:53 AM
100	It's needed	11/29/2013 9:38 AM
101	Whole area is in need of infrastructure work	11/29/2013 9:18 AM
102	It is a lot of money happy with lower increase	11/29/2013 9:10 AM
103	If it gets better roads	11/29/2013 9:05 AM
104	Increase is in excess of 50% we want a differential rate in this area ,why should we pay more than kempsey	11/29/2013 8:43 AM
105	Very high for pensioners	11/29/2013 8:41 AM
106	If work is done	11/29/2013 8:40 AM
107	Just a couple of hundred is ok	11/29/2013 8:23 AM
108	Need good roads	11/29/2013 8:04 AM

**Q12 Based on what you have been told, how important do you believe it is that Kempsey Council is allowed to introduce this special rate variation?**

Answered: 129 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses
Very important	17.05% 22
Important	21.71% 28
Neutral – neither important nor unimportant	17.83% 23
Not very important	18.60% 24
Not at all important	24.81% 32
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>

# Community consultation survey

## Q13 Why do you say that?

Answered: 101 Skipped: 40

#	Responses	Date
1	You only have to see the projects that have been under taken and how far of budget they come in.	2/18/2014 3:24 PM
2	Kempsey has a tired look about it, to fix roads will be a good start	2/18/2014 1:38 PM
3	The roads are falling apart, and we need to have them repaired. It will only take a successful claim against Council for poorly repaired roads to be blamed for an accident to make people sit up and realise that they should have supported the rate rise	2/17/2014 10:09 PM
4	not sure what to say, only everything is becoming too expensive	2/17/2014 9:22 AM
5	We already pay more than enough for no services.	2/15/2014 5:07 PM
6	as stated in question 5	2/14/2014 5:17 PM
7	Kempsey should develop a more sustainable development model rather than relying on "building roads" ad infinitum	2/14/2014 11:08 AM
8	i dont think that council has taken into view that there is a lot of low income earners in the kempsey shire. i for one will leave this area.because i cannot not afford any more expenses	2/14/2014 10:36 AM
9	I have no doubt the council need more money but the means by which the General Manager have tried to sell the concept to the ratepayers is totally misleading.	2/13/2014 6:43 PM
10	no	2/12/2014 2:12 PM
11	I think Council needs to look at other ways of funding the infrastructure gap.	2/12/2014 6:57 AM
12	because I believe the council hasn't done it's homework for years!	2/11/2014 4:12 PM
13	It is a typical LNP ploy to make to low income earners pay. After all water has gone up 7.6%.	2/11/2014 3:13 PM
14	I feel the special rate rise will be siphoned off to cover up other unneeded and unexplained expenses racked up by council	2/11/2014 1:30 PM
15	Because its coming out of my pocket.	2/11/2014 5:48 AM
16	The council needs to have a district wide view. I can understand that, but if I am presently receiving substandard value for my rating dollars (no guttering or footpath and council trees stealing my view) I can not be reasonably expected to applaud a rating increase.	2/10/2014 7:32 PM
17	because the council has been negligent in its management of revenue...	2/10/2014 5:37 PM
18	See above	2/10/2014 1:38 PM
19	Misleading rate payers with false intentions and publications truly shows the council does not have the best interests at heart for all ratepayers.. not all rate payers are fools and i have previously experienced from other council's all around Australia exactly the direction this council is heading and its not to benefit all rate payers.	2/10/2014 11:17 AM
20	I find the rate increase in the first 3 years to be unacceptable. Rates should rise respective to general CPI type rises.	2/10/2014 7:22 AM
21	Because I want to live in a town that can offer the same quality of services, roads and infrastructure as most other towns and therefor make it attractive for others to visit and hopefully relocate.	2/10/2014 7:14 AM

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22	<p>People that live in this town can not afford the outrageous sums of money for general council services already ... and why are we living outside of our means .. I cannot even imagine going to my employer saying umm i want you to increase my wages by 10% over the next 4years so that i can pay for bridges and roads that i will never use .. oh and i am sure that my water rates will increase ... all other items will increase so my pay would normally increase say 2.5% each year .. so do you not think that 10% is a little ambitious.. unless of course you want everything to be so expensive that people decide it is actually cheaper in the long run if i don't work 40 hours a week in a stressful job commuting 10hrs paying for medications and govt services and not getting deductions in things .. maybe i will quit my job sit on my arse and let everyone else just pay for me ... i would actually come out in front ... I just think this town has enough statistics and i should contribute my share not everyone else's ... I think that you should be rewarded in this town for having a job .. getting your animals desexed ... volunteering for your community ... but you seem to only reward people who do nothing ... i think things need to change... don't you ?</p>	2/9/2014 8:55 PM
23	<p>If Amidale road isn't listed for repair which is one of the major arteries into Kempsey how can the rate increase be considered fair?</p>	2/9/2014 3:14 PM
24	<p>It's important to the council, it isn't important to me, until Crescent Head residents aren't required to live as if it is the 19th century and are included in the road and bridge works.</p>	2/8/2014 6:46 PM
25	<p>Because they are too dear now, considering all the charges.</p>	2/8/2014 1:28 PM
26	<p>It goes without saying the local community needs and expects better roads etc but also because we need to entice more people to this great area and roads and infrastructure are just the the beginning to this mammoth task.</p>	2/7/2014 8:40 PM
27	<p>Wiser project selection and greater efficiencies are possible.</p>	2/7/2014 1:40 PM
28	<p>How many employee's does this council have?and how many of them have a council car?Drop all the cars running around and you will have more money.</p>	2/7/2014 1:04 PM
29	<p>If the Council has insufficient funds to operate because of a small rate base then it should consider amalgamation with Port Macquarie Council as a way forward rather than increase rates</p>	2/7/2014 12:32 PM
30	<p>Too much increase</p>	2/7/2014 10:30 AM
31	<p>Without the increase we stand to lose services which other richer areas see as their right. A downhill spiral effect may occur with land values dropping &amp; low community moral leading to more social problems.</p>	2/7/2014 8:27 AM
32	<p>This is an unbalanced argument being presented by Council . They take it as a given that they need to increase their activities when they should fund capital raisings by selling assets.They need to work within their budget not forever try to justify their own jobs and activities as if they are inevitable.</p>	2/7/2014 8:18 AM
33	<p>Sound financial management requires appropriate maintenance/replacement of assets. The special rate is identifiable and should be applied to the intended maintenance plan specifically and not watered down into other areas of expenditure.</p>	2/7/2014 8:02 AM
34	<p>I want to say it is important as the roads are deteriorating rapidly. The state of old station road is very poor but it comes down to the fact that is the community going to be able to afford the rate rise.</p>	2/7/2014 7:42 AM
35	<p>council should look at other cost cutting measures or encourage more industrial development to aid it's funding short fall</p>	2/6/2014 9:29 PM
36	<p>I understand why but council should concentrate on core business and amalgamate with nearby councils.</p>	2/6/2014 7:53 PM
37	<p>these questions are ridiculously biased and intended to prevent expression of opposition to councils plans</p>	2/6/2014 7:37 PM
38	<p>Kempsey Shire residents deserve 'basic' infrastructure that is available in other shires on the mid north coast but is lacking in this footprint</p>	2/6/2014 6:20 PM
39	<p>Councils should restrict any increases in charges to the CPI each year for all services.</p>	2/6/2014 5:49 PM
40	<p>Important but take into account people on fixed incomes - does the Pension Rebate rise accordingly or are we falling behind once again?</p>	2/6/2014 4:59 PM
41	<p>Roads and bridges are essential infrastructure.</p>	2/6/2014 4:44 PM
42	<p>Council should be looking at other ways to make savings that can be used. The same as every other government department is.</p>	2/6/2014 4:04 PM

## Community consultation survey

43	The money you receive now is wasted on botched jobs and people standing around doing nothing. I'm not going to pay more money for it to go to more waste	2/6/2014 2:28 PM
44	I don,t believe that the money will be spent in an appropriate manner	2/6/2014 2:10 PM
45	Council has mismanaged it funds for many years and is now paying the consequences. We have managed our money wisely why don't council	2/6/2014 1:28 PM
46	if Council did not have the ability to know how much of a shortfall they would have in the future then its up to the ratepayers to bail them out for the good of the shire	2/6/2014 1:22 PM
47	agree	2/6/2014 12:10 PM
48	because I don't trust council	2/6/2014 11:56 AM
49	too high a rate	2/6/2014 11:30 AM
50	Because I don't believe that Council listens to the ratepayers or is in touch with the community	2/6/2014 10:58 AM
51	The majority of the residents in the Kempsey Shire simply cannot afford to pay very much more in rates	2/6/2014 10:23 AM
52	As stated previously the current road work budget is for the most part wasted. Try having a look at the operating procedures and the product used to complete past road works. Can this not be improved at all? Maybe it would be cheaper to contract the work out, it seems to me that Council is currently throwing good money after bad.	2/6/2014 8:33 AM
53	One of the worst sealed roads I have driven on is the Armidale road, it is falling to bits and there are continuous pothole repairs weekly, but does not even make the priority roads list over the 4 years	2/5/2014 7:58 PM
54	because	2/3/2014 2:00 PM
55	I believe that with better management of funds, council should be able to offer an acceptable level of road maintenance without special rate variation.	1/21/2014 3:03 PM
56	Because every other thing in life is getting more expensive and the rate rise will be the straw that breaks the camel's back. I just can't afford it on the pension.	1/17/2014 12:22 PM
57	council has already dropped the speedimit to compensate the conditions of the road .bite the bullet .there is not enough populas in kempsey shire to maintain our roads. look at increasing kempseys population if u can .solution more people more money for rates	1/11/2014 7:35 AM
58	We need to invest in our future now and not leave it to future generations to fund which is what past Council's and Councilllors have done!	1/2/2014 12:37 PM
59	Council needs to prioritise its activities. Its delivery plan starts with a huge wish list which suggests that its consultation and community engagement process is not very effective and that Council is not able to make any decisions on what are priorities. Why spend a huge amount on redeveloping HorseShoe bay (when its not wanted or needed) and funds could be better directed elsewhere. Are the CEO and Manager responsibilities and accountabilities tied to key performance indicators, including managing budgets?	12/18/2013 1:29 PM
60	IF THIS KEEPS ON GOING THIS WILL BE GHOST TOWN AND WONT HAVE PEOPLE MOVE TO THE TOWN AS THERE IS NEW NEW INFRASTURE TO BRING TO COVER THE RISES	12/18/2013 10:33 AM
61	If there is not enough money to pay for resurfacing/or grading existing roads we will have horrible bumpy, potholed roads which damage our cars.	12/17/2013 3:06 PM
62	waste of money on inessentials	12/16/2013 1:31 PM
63	Roads, and rubbish are fundamental Council business, and should not be considered special additional activities. These should be budgeted for in Councils forward estimates. Efficiencies should be sought from within councils operating budgets, tied to Executives key performance indicators and performance. Salary packages should be tied to KPIs.	12/14/2013 5:30 PM
64	See all previous comments.	12/12/2013 11:35 AM
65	Don't actually expect much result. Only certainty will be paying more.	12/12/2013 11:31 AM
66	As I have already stated	12/11/2013 4:57 PM
67	Council have already sneakily increased rates from when water and sewer was in the rates notice. When it was changed to being billed separately overall rates increases to me about \$300 and nothing chanced no improvements. Also why is it when Christmas rolls around all the roadsides get mowed potholes filled and so on, it may fool the tourist but for those of us that live here need this all year round.	12/11/2013 4:37 PM



## Community consultation survey

68	i wouldn't have a problem with the rate rise, if the money was spent in the correct places and if council actually saved money in other places.	12/10/2013 6:11 PM
69	way to high for people on limited income	12/10/2013 4:38 PM
70	the rise is just seeking funds and the Council would be better focused on improving it's productivity.	12/7/2013 11:21 AM
71	Will need new car	12/5/2013 10:28 AM
72	As long as we deliver on what we promise on infrastructure	12/5/2013 10:02 AM
73	People just cannot afford	12/5/2013 9:44 AM
74	Reasons given if had confidence would be hapoy	12/5/2013 9:37 AM
75	Not happy with what you are paying for now	12/5/2013 9:24 AM
76	Too many people not pulling their weight	12/5/2013 9:12 AM
77	Too much wasted money	12/5/2013 9:06 AM
78	Need to be more efficient on roads works now	12/5/2013 9:03 AM
79	Happy to have a little less in facilities but can see the need more money needs to be spent on roads.	12/5/2013 9:01 AM
80	Stop this ridiculous rate rise and start running like a business and reduce staff and other things until things pick up	12/5/2013 8:49 AM
81	Why can't the money come from gov funds	12/5/2013 8:47 AM
82	Should manage money better	12/5/2013 8:46 AM
83	What about ppl that can not afford it	12/5/2013 8:37 AM
84	Too much money wasted already	12/5/2013 8:29 AM
85	Already paint enough	12/5/2013 8:12 AM
86	No need for a rate rise if council better use the millions they get now	12/4/2013 9:48 PM
87	As above.	12/3/2013 10:38 AM
88	The rate pegging amount is not sufficient to improve our infrastructure.	11/29/2013 3:25 PM
89	The rOADS NEED IT	11/29/2013 11:06 AM
90	Roads are no good	11/29/2013 10:50 AM
91	Live here	11/29/2013 10:49 AM
92	Roads need repair	11/29/2013 10:38 AM
93	Plan for growth	11/29/2013 10:03 AM
94	Need to	11/29/2013 9:53 AM
95	Need better roads	11/29/2013 9:47 AM
96	It's needed	11/29/2013 9:38 AM
97	Same as above	11/29/2013 9:18 AM
98	Attracts more people and safer to travel	11/29/2013 9:10 AM
99	Wasted last Increase , have no idea how to build or maintain roads	11/29/2013 8:43 AM
100	Reallocations may be a preferred option	11/29/2013 8:41 AM
101	Need the dollars to do the work	11/29/2013 8:40 AM

# Community consultation survey

## Q14 Do you have any other questions or comments for Council to consider about the proposed rate rise?

Answered: 89 Skipped: 52

#	Responses	Date
1	Get an Administrator in and weed out all the dead wood from KSC. Seeing there is no room to answer Question 15 Community consultations is a waste of time ,because no wants to know what the community things. A total waste of time.	2/18/2014 3:28 PM
2	Please consider the considerable impact on those living on Age Pensions.	2/18/2014 9:38 AM
3	Please consider the effect that the extra waste trucks has had on road infrastructure deterioration. It was not long after the introduction of yellow and green bins that the residential roads in West Kempsey began to deteriorate very quickly	2/17/2014 10:12 PM
4	no	2/17/2014 9:23 AM
5	Take a good look at the Council itself how much rate payers money is being wasted.	2/15/2014 5:09 PM
6	KSC take on responsibility from the State without asking for money from the state but are quick to pass on the costs to the rate payer why? I live at SWR my rates are higher then kempsey my street does not have curb and guttering? SWR seems to be supporting kempsey and all of their inhabitants. I am fed up with paying so much for so little. You need to be attracting more people to live in the area to pay foe costs not charging the few here to pay more.	2/14/2014 5:28 PM
7	Pensioners should pay there fair share, giving rate discounts to asset rich cashed pensioners is unfair while the burden is increased on working families	2/14/2014 11:11 AM
8	i belive that council is falsely advertising the rate increases. not every one understands that this is the lowest average rate not he highest.your figgers make it look small to what they will actually be.what will be the rates approximatley in 2016.as i have said increase industries offer them incentivies to come here and stay other wise kempsey will end up a gost town	2/14/2014 10:48 AM
9	Be more honest with rate payers. It would appear some road and bridge works used as examples have already been funded by the State Govt through NDRRA.	2/13/2014 6:44 PM
10	I would approve the rate rise, if I could be assured that kempsey council has looked at all areas of its spending, and picks up their game in looking after the community that they are paid to do. We pay the wages, lets seem something for it.	2/13/2014 11:57 AM
11	no	2/12/2014 2:12 PM
12	If Council are granted a rate rise for the next few years would the rises then stop, I believe not there will always be some reason why they need more money, we can't afford this, lower the service delivery expectations instead.	2/12/2014 7:01 AM
13	it seems there is just a special selection of roads on the agenda. and, comparison equals statistical not need based judgment and prevents to appropriately look at facts, tasks and must be dones. it also stops the council's brain think tank to step outside the square.	2/11/2014 4:21 PM
14	How much is water going to go up this time? The excuse was for the roadhouse pipeline. Shouldn't the businesses there pay for that.	2/11/2014 3:15 PM
15	Learn to budget the money provided to you by us ratepayers or get someone who can. The other I have marked below is "honestly"	2/11/2014 1:33 PM
16	Please reseach other Councils to find out how they manage. Its not just Kempsey that use the roads. We have alot of travellers eg Queenslanders and Vcitoria that use our roads, so why should we pay for it?	2/11/2014 5:53 AM
17	With wildfire an increasing problem, what is the council's responsibility for houses that get burnt on a day when catastrophic fire conditions lead to fires where we have never had them before. Does the council consider that the mature paperbark trees in Crescent Head pose an acceptable fire risk to the homes that are bordering them? Is council willing to reduce the chances of a crowning fire causing devastation in Crescent Head by returning the vegetation of the township to what it once was: banksia to 4m not paperbarks to 15m in height?	2/10/2014 7:42 PM

## Community consultation survey

18	how much of the money is invested overseas in order to use the revenue raised from these investments to carry out infrastructure, and if losses are accrued would you be liable to repay the money personally or face civil lawsuits by the ratepayers	2/10/2014 5:39 PM
19	Kempsey is a low socio-economic area. None of us will get a 30% wage rise in the next 3 years.	2/10/2014 1:40 PM
20	Irrelevant of how incompetent the council is, or the amount of rate payers who protest against it, we all know the rate increase will still go ahead.	2/10/2014 11:32 AM
21	1. The information letter sent to residents (ref:483) was poorly worded and written. 2. In the second paragraph of the letter it highlights "this has been hidden by not replacing or maintaining assets properly and the use of debt" What does this mean? 3. I think the letter highlights poor management of monies overall. 4. If you have a debt of millions of dollars what is \$985,781 (in the first year) really going to do? You state yourself that you have reduced your loan repayments? Overall a very disappointing letter that provided disjointed and conflicting information. It makes me worry the monies are not being managed correctly.	2/10/2014 7:34 AM
22	Only to do all possible to have this implimented to assist in moving the town forward. All people I talk to are for the investment in rates to improve our town. As for the question below it should be all forms of communication.	2/10/2014 7:16 AM
23	I love how you use the term "proposed" you guys know it is a done deal ... consider the people who work and cannot afford this rubbish you are planning ... Consider rewarding people in this community than punishing them for contributing financially ... consider that I am trying to pay of a mortgage and give back by investing in this community every cent extra you take is money I will not spend in our local shops and community ... is that a trade you are prepared to make ?? if we do not support or spend money in our retail stores and on local tradesmen then all the road and bridges to no where will mean nothing because those people will either leave the area or end up going on benefits a d not have to pay rates ... it seems that this council loves the poor me but doesn't want to toughen up and live within the means of this community ... you are like everyone else ... who sees something sparkly they want instead of saving up for it you make someone else pay for it and then think you have gotten away with it ... please start rewarding people who pay rates in this community instead of punishing us ...	2/9/2014 9:03 PM
24	Kempsey shire is very large, surely road budget could be split between east west north and south and then a survey done between those areas as to which roads in there area need work if council wants to increase land value and then revenue then all areas need a chance to grow, I have lived in this area for 9 years and have yet to see council improve ONE road properly without state or federal assistance and this has not been because of lack of funds but on the job stupidity you are a elected government working with the communities money you don't have the luxury to be arrogant asking for more of our money and just Telling us where and how it is going to be wasted.	2/9/2014 3:26 PM
25	Yes. Wait till next council elections and put the rate rise on a referendum and see what you get. I know the answer is a massive NO.	2/9/2014 1:33 PM
26	During another consultation a while ago there was an option for residents to elect that as a way to save some money would be to have 1 or 2 less local councillors. While I believe that many residents who took part thought this was a good way to save some money, the previous mayor stated somewhere, perhaps in "Happynings", that at ONLY \$50,000 that the saving was negligible. To be so blase about 50 or 100k more than enough to pay off my mortgage, was in poor taste - and a saving is a saving. If the residents have to bite the bullet, so should the council.	2/8/2014 6:50 PM
27	Council should save money internally, sell unprofitable assets	2/8/2014 1:29 PM
28	Why are you holding such important information for two weeks before you post it dated 24 jan receive 7 feb I work interstate this is the first I have heard about it you have used 14 of my eligible days to correspond with the relevant body	2/7/2014 10:32 PM
29	One day i really would like to see willi willi road tar sealed i guess thats a long way away if at all possible due to the enormous cost involved.	2/7/2014 8:47 PM
30	No-This council is a joke.	2/7/2014 1:06 PM
31	Yes - consider amalgamation with another council rather than expecting ratepayers to make up the shortfall which is a result of Council's myopia.	2/7/2014 12:35 PM
32	No	2/7/2014 10:30 AM

## Community consultation survey

33	<p>My previous comments cover the main issues. One suggestion is that the council should definitely consider raising funds from parking fees. Ratepayers would be issued stickers for 2-3 cars and the display of these stickers would exempt these cars from the need to pay. Meters are then positioned at all sea side car parks meaning that tourists pay towards the amenities they enjoy. There doesn't need to be a time limit but the person can pay for up to 6 hours parking. Further the beach driving permits are far too cheap - and our beaches are beginning to resemble busy roads in summer. Raise the fee to \$200 per season. The final comment I have is that the ratepayers in this council area are capable of understanding that the council has made some very weak arguments for its explanation of why the rates must increase. Comparing us to other regions is one example - these areas pay more because the rated value of the land is higher. The agricultural land is more productive (most coastal land is very poor for agriculture) and most ratepayers in the towns with largely welfare dependent populations have to live with high crime and poor often frequent antisocial behaviour. This directly decreases the attractiveness of the towns - witness the projected near zero population growth to 2030! Commercial property is decreasing in value as the bypass hollows out the few remaining businesses in Kempsey. The council should be aware of a flight of capital out of commercial property currently underway. That two councillors want public funds spent improving the town's amenity by enhancing the attractiveness of the environment outside their businesses is very poor form and engenders a very cynical attitude in ratepayers.</p>	2/7/2014 8:33 AM
34	<p>The same approach should be taken to all council assets (not just roads) after each asset item is appraised for its current value/suitability to current community needs. Basically maintain what we have and not taking on additional community responsibilities that federal and state governments seem to be abdicating at the expense of local government without adequate compensation/funding.</p>	2/7/2014 8:12 AM
35	<p>Maybe council needs to further investigate their costs and see if there are other measures they can cut down on. Does the council really need all the motor vehicles they have, when you factor in registration and insurance, would it maybe be better to just pay an allowance to staff that have to use their vehicle for council business, how many staff use council vehicles for private use? Do you really need as many staff as you have? It is common talk amongst people how much of a bludge it is to work for council, as you do not have to work very hard</p>	2/7/2014 7:44 AM
36	<p>why did council donate monies to slim dusty org when this is a privately run org and funds could have been used for road maintenance why did council let F J Hand relocate large part of it's plant to port Macquarie. the extra rates could have repaired a lot of roads. why didn't council work with boral and it's "I beam plant" instead of letting it go to Macksville</p>	2/6/2014 9:38 PM
37	<p>you must seek public opinion without attempting to preform it, I am very dissatisfied with the way this issue is being presented (at my expense)</p>	2/6/2014 7:39 PM
38	<p>Offer facilities and services to your residents ie: Review the mandatory \$280 per annum Septic Check, offer 4 free tip runs per annum for rates payers, build family friendly facilities in Kempsey (not just for the holiday makers at Cresco and SWR)</p>	2/6/2014 6:21 PM
39	<p>Council should operate within their funded budget and not seek special variations allocation. Why does our Council charge businesses half the rates of most other nearby councils?</p>	2/6/2014 6:02 PM
40	<p>No - only what said above.</p>	2/6/2014 5:00 PM
41	<p>Consider levying sub-areas within the LGA in proportion to the cost required to update that sub-area. Spend more on areas that generate higher rates and other revenue streams for the Council. i.e. tourist areas such as Crescent Head (SW Rocks already seems to get enough!)</p>	2/6/2014 4:47 PM
42	<p>We cannot afford rate increases as proposed.</p>	2/6/2014 4:05 PM
43	<p>Include infrastructure because kempsey is becoming a ghost town</p>	2/6/2014 2:29 PM
44	<p>use the money for Roads!!</p>	2/6/2014 1:23 PM
45	<p>As previously mentioned, people could see the importance of the rate rise if the following were to be done: -clean up the Middleton St area to reduce crime rate and danger to people driving through area. -Build a road from South St to Gowings Hill Rd, so people feel safe -Use funds more wisely eg not on Mayoral Ball - attract more industry to ensure growth, therefore more money into the town from businesses and then more private housing</p>	2/6/2014 11:04 AM
46	<p>Council would be better served to look at their budgets and work practises to allow more efficient use of funds instead of taking the easy way out and looking to the rate paying members of this community to bail them out of financial difficulty. Its obvious Council elections are popularity contests. Councils that do not rely on Councilors to have business and financial skills cannot pretend to be acting in the best interests of our community.</p>	2/6/2014 8:40 AM

## Community consultation survey

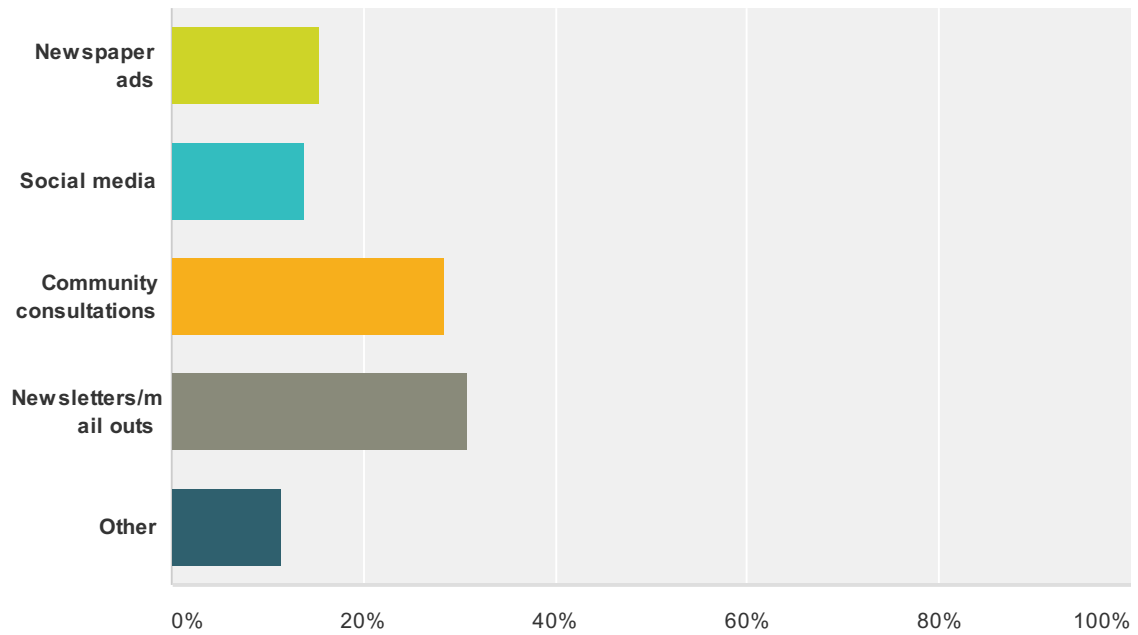
47	There seems to have been very little public interaction, as the letter I received today 4/2/14 is the first I have heard about this and as a business manager, I would be sacked if I could not work with the budget I have and I am not in the position to increase my charges by 9-10% plus still add the rate peg on top which seems to be every councils way to run now. Lets get back to basics and cut the fluff out and run as a business dedicated to the community, not using the community to pay its bills when it cannot meet budget	2/5/2014 8:08 PM
48	Kempsey is a welfare town slowly going backwards and it is not affordable.	1/17/2014 12:23 PM
49	The Community "consultation" is pathetic. Two sessions doing a meet and greet does not constitute a consultation. What about focus groups? More sessions? Why wasn't info on the rate increase posted out to all rate payers with the rates at the start of the financial year (which would have been at no extra cost if a simple word letter) giving them an opportunity to write or call with feedback? Was this so that Council could avoid a full consultation and feedback process knowing that many houses in parts of Kempsey such as SWR are holiday houses with absentee owners so keeping them in the dark. Are the results of the surveys going to be comprehensively analysed and then made public? Your options below only allow for one answer. Council should be using a range of methods to communicate with its ratepayers. The survey is poorly constructed and doesn't allow for full feedback that isn't skewed.	12/18/2013 1:35 PM
50	COUNCIL NEEDS TO CONSIDER WHAT THEY DOING WITH THE MONEY. AND BECOME MORE ACCOUNTABLE THEN COUNCIL IS THEN WELL RESPECTED IN THE COMMUNITY FOR MAKING DECISIONS AT THE SAME TIME SHOW SOME RESTRANT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE HAS TO AND APPLY FOR MORE LOANS AND INVEST INTO THE COMMUNITY AND IF THEY CANT DO THIS THEY NEED GET FUNDING TO HELP OUR CHILDREN TO STAY IN THE TOWN AND NOT LOOK FOR JOBS IN THE BIG CITIES.	12/18/2013 10:44 AM
51	Just that I think all ratepayers should get behind the council and support this rate rise.	12/17/2013 3:08 PM
52	this is a low socio-economic area....	12/16/2013 1:32 PM
53	Council needs to implement real community consultation, that includes focus groups, and community representatives. While meeting councillors and Executive managers in community locations is encouraged, this is meet, greet and listen, NOT community consultation.	12/14/2013 5:33 PM
54	Community consultation as at 12 December is inadequate. Notification should have gone to all ratepayers at the start of the financial year (with the rate notice) - as this would have been in the planning - to give plenty of notice and an opportunity to provide real community feedback that wasn't rushed in over the lead up to the Christmas period.	12/12/2013 11:37 AM
55	consulting with the community involves times and places when workers could attend, weekday mornings at the shops was a joke.	12/12/2013 11:33 AM
56	If council did things right the first time and didn't cut corners things would last longer and be cheaper in the long run. I would love to see as a percentage where money for rates by area comes from and how much in return is spent in the area. Maybe this could be published for people to review. Make the rates even across the shire regardless of location / land value pegging I am sure that you could increase the total income required and some areas would even see a drop in rates. As a community we all access and use the road network and services provided, so why should some pay more than others, doesn't seem fair. Also when workers are in the public eye they need to be working and not putting on the go slow / make the job last that is going on at the moment when workers tell other workers to slow down they are working too quick no its no wonder money is short and little is being done.	12/11/2013 4:46 PM
57	the council wants to consider how it spends the money and stop wasting it. better management would be the answer	12/10/2013 6:13 PM
58	stop wasting OUR money	12/10/2013 4:39 PM
59	yes - the Council should alter the mix of base rate and ad valorem rates. The base rate must be lower than the current percentage and this will extract funds from large landholders who will be able to pay. The statement from the Council ( on the page explaining the rate rise )that all ratepayers should pay equally is regressive and punitive for lower income and lower asset value ratepayers. Council needs to recognise the reality of the socioeconomic demographic in the area it administers and adjust it's plans accordingly.	12/7/2013 11:25 AM
60	Stop wasting rate payer's money e.g. David Rawlings wasted money on a survey asking ratepayers if they want the water rates clear and "transparent" it was transparent enough on our rate notice. David Rawlings needs to be "transparent" about the real reason for the survey, even blind Freddie can see why. You might think it looks cheaper (even after the rate increase) with two separate bills but ratepayers can add up you know? Now it makes it hard for us with two separate bills to pay. All he gained out of his sneaky sly act was the loss of trust by the ratepayers; send him back to Forbes Shire.	12/5/2013 10:23 AM

## Community consultation survey

61	Be accountable, think of ratepayers	12/5/2013 10:03 AM
62	No	12/5/2013 9:42 AM
63	General no to rate rise until council does right thing	12/5/2013 9:39 AM
64	Needs an administrator to sort problems. Get rid of cars	12/5/2013 9:26 AM
65	Need a public meeting Need an administrator appointed from out of the area Good look at savings in council operations Too much wasted money Paying too much for alfresco dining	12/5/2013 9:12 AM
66	Has concerns for pensioners.	12/5/2013 9:05 AM
67	Quality of Yarravel St very poor on the swamp side	12/5/2013 9:05 AM
68	Prefer to pay fines for not voting have no confidence in current structure	12/5/2013 9:05 AM
69	Drop it and listen to the community	12/5/2013 8:50 AM
70	Make it more clear what the money is going to	12/5/2013 8:32 AM
71	Gm hand back pay rise towards councils costs	12/5/2013 8:13 AM
72	Council needs to increase it's exposure of the rates rise even further in local media as I fear the vocal minority will be heard more loudly than the majority of ratepayers who currently support Council's attempts to improve our infrastructure.	12/3/2013 10:40 AM
73	conduct an honest survey with honest questions, not questions who's answers can be twisted. ask the question about rate rise ,yes/no and abide by the majority vote just once.	12/1/2013 10:09 PM
74	Spend it wisely. Wasting money is the biggest problem of all large corporations/councils.	11/29/2013 3:27 PM
75	Get on with it	11/29/2013 10:56 AM
76	No	11/29/2013 10:50 AM
77	The planning and costing has to be important locals benefit the most	11/29/2013 10:41 AM
78	Put out tenders for jobs and council staff can apply	11/29/2013 10:17 AM
79	Money should be invested in young families and children. They are the future. Would like to see more play park equipment and sport fields. Would like to see sail back on play park at horseshoe. I can live with the roads the way they are.	11/29/2013 10:15 AM
80	No	11/29/2013 10:09 AM
81	Suggest going for Rms jobs or private job	11/29/2013 10:04 AM
82	No	11/29/2013 9:38 AM
83	Will we quote on jobs to outsource as council doesn't have expertise to do it	11/29/2013 9:19 AM
84	No	11/29/2013 9:11 AM
85	No	11/29/2013 8:45 AM
86	Need an administrator	11/29/2013 8:44 AM
87	No	11/29/2013 8:41 AM
88	No	11/29/2013 8:40 AM
89	No	11/29/2013 8:24 AM

### Q15 What do you think is the best way for Council to communicate with the community?

Answered: 123 Skipped: 18



Answer Choices	Responses
Newspaper ads	15.45% 19
Social media	13.82% 17
Community consultations	28.46% 35
Newsletters/mail outs	30.89% 38
Other	11.38% 14
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>