



1/04/13

Submission from Concerned rate payers of Shoalhaven City Council

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please find attached a submission from over 1500 rate payers of Shoalhaven City Council.

Yours Faithfully

Anthony Blain

Submission from Concerned rate payers of Shoalhaven City Council

My name is Tony Blain and have lived in [REDACTED] for the last 20 years.

I attended the Bay and Basin Forum meeting during mid Feb to debate the Council's Discussion paper regarding the application for a special rates increase by 8%.

Discussion Paper attached for you to study.

The council conducted a survey in 2009 and recently a follow up telephone survey of 180 persons in the shire.

A few of those attending the Forum meeting could not believe such a small sample was taken and be representative of the broader community.

We decided to conduct a survey on Saturday morning out side two supermarkets in the area and were surprised that such a large number of ratepayers were not aware of the huge rate rise.

We collected on that morning over 500 signatures on a petition.

Copy attached

Ratepayers have not had, and will be denied reasonable consultation on the matter, particularly those on fixed incomes whose situation will be worst effected.

The rate increase should be pegged at the approved 3.4% along with other councils.

This is a significant issue as the council is also looking at increasing other fees and charges on top of this rate increase.

We need the council to live within its means, and look at reducing costs and reviewing job methods.

We need to look at staffing and looking at more effective work practice.

This is before any further increase 4.6% is imposed(over and above the 3.4% already approved.

We to date over 1500 signatures and more are arriving every day .

The total population of Shoalhaven is	92,805
55 years and older	39,525
In the work force	24,285
Young work force	7,829

The balance at school or at tertiary education or pre schoolers

Census attached

People are feeling disenfranchised to the point that they are seeking help  
Outside their area.

We have also submitted a letter to ACCC for their consideration

**SHOALHAVEN CITY COUNCIL**

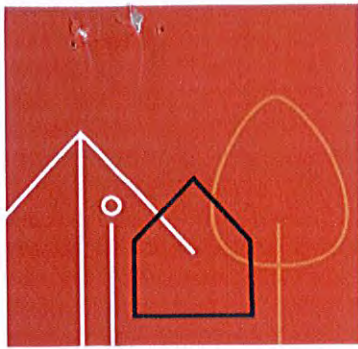
**We, the undersigned, are concerned by the announcement by Shoalhaven City Council that it intends to apply for a rate increase of 8% which is 4.6% above the rate-pegging limit set by IPART. Before applying for such an increase we request that Council looks into saving money by:**

- **investigating the efficiency of all current council processes; and**
- **comparing Shoalhaven City Council's procedures with those of similar councils who are able to provide services within budget.**

**We are concerned too that decisions have been based on a survey with a sample size of only 180 people.**

**We would request that, should this application be made and be successful, further community consultation be undertaken to determine where the additional funds be spent.**

Signature	Name	Address



profile.id

# community profile

## Shoalhaven City

### Service age groups

Shoalhaven City has a lower proportion of pre-schoolers and a higher proportion of people at most retirement age than Regional NSW.

The Age Structure of Shoalhaven City provides key insights into the level of demand for age based services and facilities such as child care. It is an indicator of Shoalhaven City's residential role and function and how it is likely to change in the future.

Service age groups divide the population into age categories that reflect typical life-stages. They indicate the level of demand for services that target people at different stages in life and how that demand is changing.

To get a more complete picture Shoalhaven City's Age Structure should be viewed in conjunction with **Household Types** and **Dwelling Types**.

Derived from the Census

question:

'What is the person's date of birth (or age last birthday)?'

Total population

1/04/2013

## Age structure - service age groups

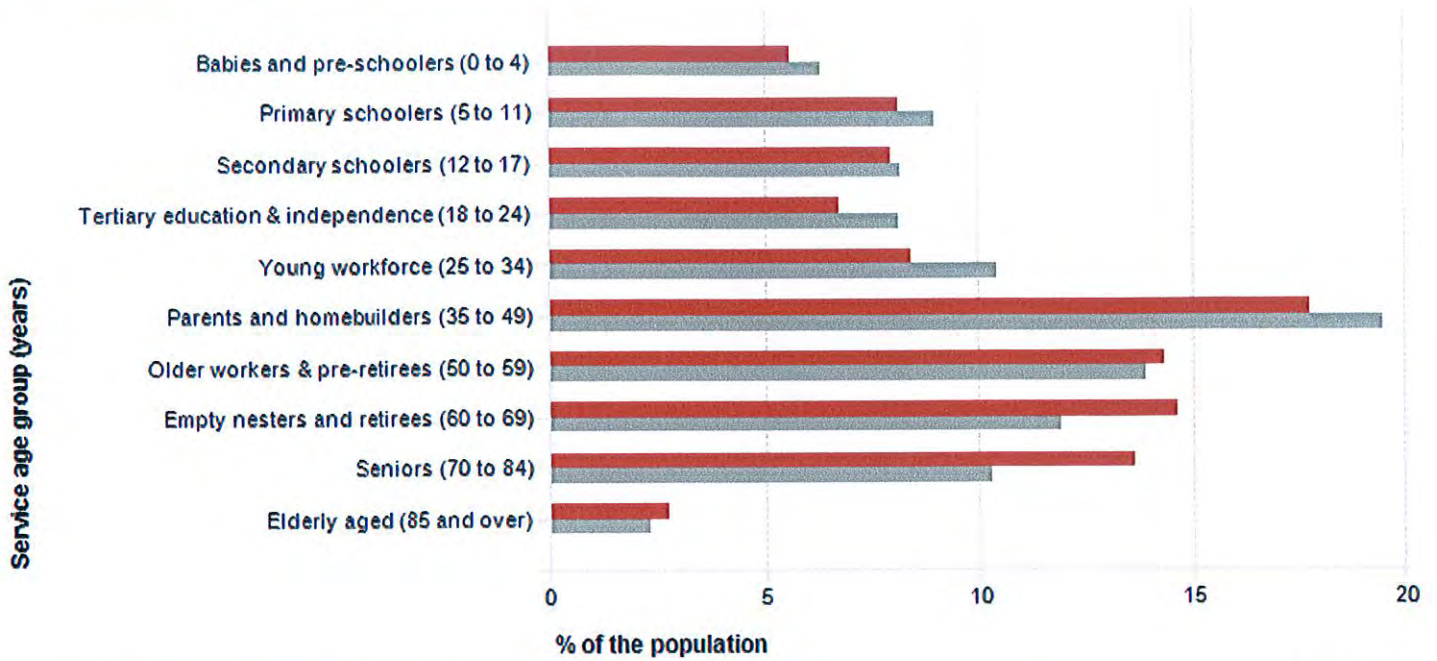
Shoalhaven City		2011		2006		Regional NSW %
Service age group (years)	Number	%	Regional NSW %	Number	%	Regional NSW %
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	5,185	5.6	6.3	4,837	5.5	
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	7,566	8.2	9.0	8,168	9.2	
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	7,394	8.0	8.2	7,926	9.0	
Tertiary education & independence (18 to 24)	6,279	6.8	8.1	5,454	6.2	
Young workforce (25 to 34)	7,829	8.4	10.4	7,653	8.7	
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	16,456	17.7	19.5	17,261	19.5	
Older workers & pre-retirees (50 to 59)	13,285	14.3	13.9	12,392	14.0	
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	13,573	14.6	11.9	11,586	13.1	
Seniors (70 to 84)	12,666	13.6	10.3	11,355	12.8	
Elderly aged (85 and over)	2,572	2.8	2.3	1,757	2.0	
<b>Total population</b>	<b>92,805</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>88,389</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006 and 2011. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population data service.

1/04/2013

# Age structure, 2011

Shoalhaven City Regional NSW



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 (Usual residence data)  
Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.



# Change in age structure, 2006 to 2011

Shoalhaven City



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 and 2011 (Usual residence data)  
Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.



## Dominant groups

Analysis of the service age groups of Shoalhaven City in 2011 compared to Regional NSW shows that the proportion of people in the younger age groups (0 to 17 years) and a higher proportion of people in the older years).

Overall, 21.7% of the population was aged between 0 and 17, and 31.0% were aged 60 years and over, compared 24.5% respectively for Regional NSW.

### The major differences between the age structure of Shoalhaven City and Regional NSW were:

A larger percentage of 'Seniors' (13.6% compared to 10.3%)

A larger percentage of 'Empty nesters and retirees' (14.6% compared to 11.9%)

A smaller percentage of 'Young workforce' (8.4% compared to 10.4%)

A smaller percentage of 'Parents and homebuilders' (17.7% compared to 19.5%)

## Emerging groups

From 2006 to 2011, Shoalhaven City's population increased by 4,416 people (5.0%). This represents an average population change of 0.98% per year over the period.

### The largest changes in age structure in this area between 2006 and 2011 were in the age groups:

Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69) (+1,987 persons)

Seniors (70 to 84) (+1,311 persons)

Older workers & pre-retirees (50 to 59) (+893 persons)

Tertiary education & independence (18 to 24) (+825 persons)