

Submission to IPART objecting to Hawkesbury council Special rate increase.

[REDACTED]

I am writing to object to Hawkesbury council 31.29% rate increase.

I object to Hawkesbury council increasing rates, as this council has redistributed rates in 2017 and taken what was a fair rates structure and made it very unfair.

This area has been hit badly due to adjacent land being sub divided by a neighbouring council, causing land values to be artificially inflated due to an influx of potential buyers into the area. Land valuations carried out 12 months early due to government changes.

Council has redistributed rates in the Hawkesbury increasing rates in some cases by 180% this was done with the full knowledge of the land valuations and the upcoming SRV.

Council has not been honest with the ratepayers and have been telling the community the rates structure is fair. When it is grossly unfair.

This has been put to the council of [REDACTED] at their council meetings and lobbied for the rates to be re distributed back to make it fair for all. This motion was declined by council. It was also apparent that 4 of the councillors were against [REDACTED] and agreed that the rates should be made fairer and equitable for all rate payers. Still [REDACTED] and the remainder of the councillors refuse to amend these inadequacies. In my attendance at these council meeting I was appalled at the behaviour, by some councillors and the way in which [REDACTED] chaired these meetings.

Council spending at present is frivolous, preferring to spend rate payer's money pandering to minority groups.

Council has misled the community to believe that they are financially viable and now we are advised that they are not fit for the future without this massive SRV of 31.29%

People in the rural residential areas are dealing with hardship imposed by Council with people paying between \$4000 and \$9000 before an SRV.

This is the opposite of the intension in the Local Government Act, which intends rates to be evenly distributed to pay for services.

Please tell this council what they are doing is unfair they are supposed to represent all of us. I most strenuously disagree with an SRV this council CANNOT be trusted they are unfit as a council they are out of control.

Sincere regards  
Andrew Hofer