


From: 
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Re: re rate rises
Date: Friday, 9 March 2018 4:33:17 PM

Dear sir,

I have just viewed and made a decision on the rates increase estimated by council over the forthcoming three years to be far too exorbitant.

As a pensioner and with my wife unable to find work and unlikely to secure work other than the volunteer work we carry out in the Clarence Valley I consider the rate increase to be excessive.

Added to this we both have worked many years in a voluntary capacity and have no superannuation to fall back on.

My pension aged pension coupled with my wife's unemployment benefit is unlikely to increase enough to sustain that increase.

Food while relatively stable are expected to rise disproportionately over the next three years in a normal cyclic event.

Energy costs have risen by over 20% and are expected to rise again by a similar amount again disproportionately to inflation compared to the CPI which our pension is based on.

Further with the highway to be opened shortly to bypass Grafton it expected that the economy will lose an around 15-20% of passing traffic, resulting in a lower expenditure in the district, higher retail closures, lower employment opportunities and possibly a real decrease in population as has been experienced in other cities and towns.

There fore I must stand opposed to any increase based above the CPI at least until the full results of the highway bypass are absorbed into the local economy and the exact long term fall outs are known.

Yours,
andi Mellis