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Submission: Dear IPART, I can not afford the 26% rate rise and I object the clarence valley councils special rates variation, not only do they constantly provide and allow local media outlets to publish false information to the community, about the variation of the rates but they also have not tried to come up with a plan b so fix the problem. They continue to spend money, hoping they get the rise to cover themselves. How long will this continue for? We as a community can not afford any rate rise let alone such a drastic one like the one they are applying for. They got the last rate rise and what did they actually do with the money?? They havnt shown the community any improvement in their budgeting since the last variation but threaten constantly with service cuts if they don't get the rate rise. The mayorstated in an article posted by the daily examiner that they will not upgrade any roads because of funding and are waiting on the outcome of the SRV. He also stated that the council is in IPARTS hands. The council claims they cannot fix roads because of funding but wasn't the last variation for roads? If they don't have any funding only 7 months later how will they ever have any. They spend millions of dollars on a super depot that at night seriously looks like a jail to save 1 million a year well they won't be saving a million a year until the initial amount of the depot is payed, off the top of my head that's looking like in 22 years they may start saving!!! Please dont allow this council to have any variation in rates how community will not be able to take it. The suicide and crime rate for the clarence valley is high enough let alone adding more fiancial stress on us low income earners. The council needs to look at saving in costs from office expenses and assets that can be sold for a profit! Thank you.