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Submission: I am writing to say that I am against the special rate variation for Port Stephens Council. As a self funded retiree receiving a small age pension I cannot afford to have an extra 7.5% added to my rates for each of the next seven years, with falling income from my super this will place an unwanted burden on my finances and I fear for my future. When I cannot afford something I want I go without, Port Stephens Council should learn to do the same.