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Submission: I would like to oppose Hawkesbury City Council's submission for a 9.5% rate increase each year for the next three years. 31.3% over three years, no way. Frankly I don't think the residents of the Hawkesbury can afford such a huge rate increase, there are many elderly residents and parts of the Hawkesbury are in the lower income earners. Frankly I also think that the Hawkesbury has not been spending the rates they have been receiving wisely. We have lived in the Hawkesbury for 17 years and road has never been in such a bad state of repairs as it is now. Other roads are patched and the holes reappear a couple of weeks later. Money is being spent on issues such as the same sex marriage debate which as a council is not their issue. Books at the library are old and not updated as they should be. One of the slippery dips at the park in Kurrajong was vandalised so instead of replacing it, they blocked the end off. Nothing really much for small children to play on now. The park in Richmond is fine for older children but small children only have a static train to sit on, not much fun. The main street on Windsor is a ghost town most days of the week, nothing is being done by the council to bring tourists to this beautiful area. The roads are congested and yes this is a state issue but the council are not protesting to the state government to have this issue sorted. They don't seem to have any interest in the local area or its residents. Complaints fall on deaf ears.