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Submission: This Council has falsely claimed that the Majority of Households approved their leading questions about "Council's preferred course of action" Option 3 a 19.85% rate rise over 3 years. A tiny pool of 600 residents (being 150,000 residing in the Municipality) contacted randomly by phone or interviewed at shopping centres. How many of these people are actual ratepayers and actually care? The fact that 5,700 ratepayers returned a written survey and 51% said "NO" to a 19.85% increase has not even been highlighted by Council. Falsely stating the \$1,185 rates that a 1 bedroom apartment pays is cheating and not indicative of the great majority of ratepayers costs. Clearly it has been done to get approval for a big-spending Council and is deceptive and misleading, totally unfair and unethical to boot. There are awful precedents for local governments going into debt, (especially as RCC has it's own funds available) to pay for what is 'maintenance' with few New Projects as claimed with some receiving outside funding anyway. RCC have sold the increase on the basis of putting electricity wires underground, but it can only be a trial, or just main street, as nowhere near sufficient funds (nor is it really Council's decision) to put wires underground. The promise to plant New Trees does not fool anyone either especially seeing the 100's & 100's lost due to their backing of the CDB/SE Light Fail. The GM at RCC is paid some \$500k/yr to manage rubbish (outsourced), DAs (removed from Council's control) and roads (done pretty poorly). The reason the state government introduced rate-pegging was precisely to stop local government from deciding to tax excessively to fund its own lavish bureaucracies. Yes, there will be exceptions in new high-growth areas, but not in established areas, where the better practice is to spend what is raised, and to not go into debt to pay a whole top-layer of bureaucrats salaries that most ratepayers would object to.