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Submission: From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, 20 March 2017 5:22 PM  
To: Local Government Mailbox  
Subject: Ballina Shire Special Variation Application

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for reading this short note.

With reference to town meeting held at Ballina council chamber late January 2017 to discuss their rate variation increase I was dismayed to hear that these increases had been applied to prior budget workings some years earlier. A report presented on a overhead projector showed that these increases are required to maintain Ballina's independence in the fit for the future State government requirements.

These increases are well over current CPI figures. While all parts of our community must work within the income they generate, be it pensioners on fixed incomes or wage earners with wage growth less then 1.5% per year. I think it is wrong that government departments can mismanage our monies then put their hand out for more. The part of our community that is making our CPI % increase is all three levels of government.

This must stop - government should live within their means as all our people have too.

Also noted at the Ballina meeting, local shires would receive from the state government Special Grants that was monies required to ran the shire, be it, monies that the state government received from the locals in that shire from taxes levied. This has either stopped or been cut back. Local shires should have the balls to get there fair share and not hit up the rate payers for this short fall.

[REDACTED]  
Individual Ballina resident

I do not mind if published BUT withhold name.  
I have read and agree with ipart's submission policy.