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Submission: I object to the Council's application to continue the Environment Levy. There have been a number of special rate increases in the last few years. From 2013 rates were increased by 3.59% pa for the next 4 years then last year approval was given to increase rates another 19.5% over the next 3 years. Randwick Council rates will be some of the highest in Sydney and there is no longer a justification for a special environmental levy. Environmental works, such as an extension of a coastal walkway, should be funded from the general rates.

Randwick Council engages in 'push' polling to garner survey results which supports their objectives. The full story of how much council rates have increased in the last decade was not given to survey participants and only motherhood statements on proposed projects presented to illicit the desired response. That is, the survey results are not to be believed and should not be used as a justification for yet another increase in rates.