This council have created the most unfair rates distribution in the history of the Hawkesbury. Some suburbs have already had rate increases up to 180% and the council are applying for another increase of 31.3%. This is most unfair. People are already struggling with the cost of living. When the Council Amalgamations were being proposed Hawkesbury Council stated that they were financial and able to be totally independant from any merges. As soon as the amalgamations were off the table, we now find that the council is so short of funds that it wants to impose these massive rate increases. We beseech IPART to refuse the Hawkesbury Council this increase they are applying for. We cannot afford this increase, some people are considering selling up and moving out of the council area.