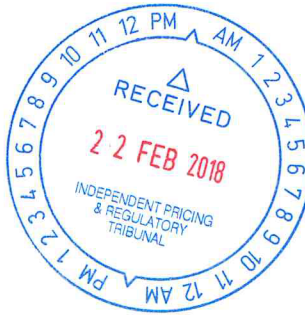


17<sup>th</sup> February 2018



I.P.A.R.T.

PO Box K35,

Haymarket Post Shop

NSW 1240.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We the undersigned strongly reject the proposed rate increase by Bellingen Shire Council

For the following reasons :-

1. The majority of rate payers are struggling to pay their rates now which are = (Atrocious)
2. Council has shown it can't spend money efficiently or effectively = (Raleigh Works Depot extravaganza) (Most jobs are let out to private contractors) ( Hire of vehicles, when Council Car Park has a plethora of Council vehicles just sitting there) (Council spent a fortune on a new administration building with provision for only 1 disabled and 1 other car park for visitors. (Public Library, Museum, Other Administrative Buildings, Ladies and Gents toilets are also located within that area)
3. Management treats ratepayers with contempt= (Complainers are too afraid to confront Council for fear of retribution)
4. Too many indoor staff=(Two Assistant General Managers)
5. Spends money on social issues that are not relevant to Council=(Thousands on recent Gay Marriage issue)
6. Accepts grant funding for projects that require ongoing maintenance at ratepayers expense =(Youth Hub, Hyde Street upgrade.)
7. Have seen little (or nothing) from last year's rate increase which was to go on local road infrastructure
8. Consultants are engaged =(why is it so when the indoor staffing is so great ?)
9. Rural ratepayers that receive no collection Services=(Fees are charged to ratepayers when they deposit certain types of Household rubbish at the Tip)
10. Council constantly bemoan that Forestry and National Park Lands cover half of the Shire and are non-rateable=(Cost to Council is nil, **not** having to supply = Water/Garbage/Sewer/Maintenance of Services other than a few spur roads, for which funding is received through Grants and other outlying Rateable Lands.

Sincerely Yours,

