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Submission: I absolutely oppose this rate rise. A 77% cumulative rise over 7 years that then will remain in place is excessive. I am a pensioner and I am already struggling financially, this rate rise will make it impossible to live within my budget. This will present an extremely stressful situation for me.

Port Stephens Council contribute very little to my area and that is not going to change with the money coming from this rate rise.

Port Stephens Council have also received well over

\$10 million in the form of Section 94 funds from the Estate in which I live and again I have seen very little if any money put back into the area.

Port Stephens Council need to review their financial management and not just look for the easy path of hitting the rate payers with excessive rate rises.