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Date of submission: Wednesday, 5 March 2014

Submission:

I wish to oppose the rate increase above the rate cap. The council wasted money posting paper surveys to residents to voice their opinion on the rate increase, which many residents opposed, then made a decision to go ahead & increase it anyway. **The online survey conducted also shows that the majority of submissions are objections.**

Council's argument is that as the area is known for some well-off people, so the rest of the area has to pay what the well-off people can afford. The majority of residents in Warringah are not well-off and many are struggling with increases to power costs as well as the rising cost of living. Wages and salaries are not going up in line with the council's proposed increase so where do they think people are going to get the money from?

In addition to this, the council wasted money on a new logo that no-one wanted without consultation with the residents. There has been enormous negative response to this. This money could have been spent on services for the community. This is why we pay rates.

The council needs to look at all the new dwellings being built, the majority of them high density units, if the council is looking for ways to increase revenue. The developers should be paying for increases to infrastructure, not the existing ratepayers. The number of residents in Warringah is continually increasing and the owners of all these properties pay rates. This alone increases the council's revenue which pays for maintenance of existing services.

The rate cap is there for a reason: to stop councils being greedy and increasing rates beyond what the residents can afford. Asking for anything more is unacceptable. The council needs to listen to the electorate and realise that this is a bad idea.