

Author name: Anonymous

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Submission: I believe that Ballina Shire should not be granted any increases in rates beyond the standard increase. My reasons are:

Council has already had many substantial extraordinary increases in the last 10 years, so that our rates are now in step with other Councils in the region, as well as being very much higher than they were 10 years ago.

The last extraordinary increases were not used for the purpose proposed, ie upgrading of swimming pools.

I believe that the community thinks that Council is not efficient or diligent in it's use of ratepayers' money.

There are many people in the Shire on low and fixed incomes whose income rises much slower than the cost of our Council. Some will find these continuing increases a strain.

Council's recent (and past) community consultation revealed that the community is strongly opposed to the proposed increases.