

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 10 March 2017 8:32 PM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: Fwd: Re predicted Rate Rises

In addition to the comments previously submitted I would like to add, having only just learnt the enormity of the proposed increased rates for the Shoalhaven Council, this is far higher than wage rises, or declines as is the case for penalty rates for weekend workers.

It is also far greater than CPI, at around 30% compounded over 2 yr period, with interest rates at record lows, pressures placed downward on Pensioners how are people supposed to "magically find" this sort of "extra cash" when many are living on or near the poverty line now? Flip a coin, which bill to pay? Elderly not turning on heating in winter because they can't afford to, because they are barely getting by. So when rates go up, what will they give up next, their medication?

This lucky country you say, well not unless we hold Council accountable for their mismanagement of Rates paid thus far. Are they applying due diligence/research when purchasing items? Day to day costs of running Council are these regularly reviewed, with all purchases not just rolling forward month by month without checking best value. Before purchasing/leasing big items do Council investigate purchasing through liquidators etc?

Look within before knee jerk reactions of supersizing Rates.

[REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]

To:
ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au
Sent:
Wed, 08 Mar 2017 17:52:11 +1100
Subject:
Re predicted Rate Rises

I am currently residing within the Shoalhaven Shire Council area where I pay Council Rates on my property. I believe the rates we pay are more than sufficient and would rather Council look at how they manage the rates they raise from residents. Having moved here only 3 years ago from a Council that provided high quality parks and gardens well maintained streetscapes, wonderful adventure playgrounds for children whether with disabilities or not. Very well maintained sporting fields, well appointed areas for travellers with caravans to stop, BBQ toilet facilities to encourage visitors to stop and spend time and money in the areas. Our area seems to lack/overlook so many opportunities/facilities which I had come to accept as the norm from a Council.

So do I think our rates should go up, definitely not, Council is falling well short in basic services and infrastructures that make a Council and communities feel included. If you want better services and some decent parks instead of just bushland scrub, some footpaths so you aren't forced to walk on roadways, it shouldn't require rate hikes. Why are our rates being mismanaged? It is a booming Council is it not, with new houses popping up everywhere?

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]