

IPART SUBMISSION
PORT STEPHENS SRV



I am very concerned about the 7.5% seven year increase to our rates. This 7.5% increase will cripple many of the residents of Port Stephens.

Mr. Ryan Palmer (Mayor of Port Stephens Council) claims that some of the community of Port Stephens want more to be done in our area.

What some ratepayers want - well - we can't always expect to get in the next year or two however, over a planned future a lot can be achieved if a much smaller increase could be possible. The Council always needs to live within their budget, just like rate payers.

The Mayor is overlooking the fact that the majority of people have voted in many surveys, over the last few months and that they are strongly opposed to this huge increase of 7.5%.

It has already been published in many newspapers and on television that there are many major increases in living costs this year i.e health insurance, food prices, electricity, water rates, gas and many more.

A smaller increase probably would be acceptable to the majority of rate payers with the idea of a plan made over several years that can be financed within the new lower rate increase, and can be done over an extended period of time, so that it doesn't have such a major impact on our households.

There should not be such a rush to get all the planned proposals done quickly by enforcing a 7.5% increase. The Council needs to think of the majority who do not want or cannot afford such an increase.

Please consider our living cost increases before making your decision.

Our submission to you is to request that the Port Stephens Council's SRV be rejected in the interests of the majority of the rate payers by respecting their wishes.

Barry David Schultz

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Date: 27th February 2019.

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