Dr Peter Boxall IPART Chairman PO Box K35

22 June 2017

Haymarket Post Office NSW1240

## Dear Dr Boxall

My wife and I are very concerned about the proposal by Mid Coast Council to increase rates by 28.5% over four years. We are Commonwealth pensioners and our pensions increase in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This has averaged around 2% pa in recent years and is likely to be no more than this in future years. The proposed rate increase will cause considerable financial hardship for us.

We ask that any increase in rates be limited to the CPI as was promised when council mergers were being discussed. What is particularly concerning is that this substantial change is being proposed without any real consultation or justification. The change in proposed legislation to enable this increase is extremely poor administration and impacts adversely on the integrity and reputation of the state Government.

Yours sincerely

Bryan and Patricia Welsh