



10/03/2014 .



I.P.A.R.T. N.S.W.,
P.O.,Box,Q290,
Q.V.B.Post Office,
N.S.W. 1230.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to object to the Maitland council rate rise and the way the public survey was done. In my opinion it was conducted in a way to best benefit the council . Anyone who has taken statistical analysis as a subject knows that it is easy to predict a positive or a negative by using Random surveys, dependent on the way the figures are used !.

As a business , the council should be efficient enough to work round the variations of extra population growth etc.. a big jump in revenue without ALL other avenues being explored is unacceptable . Certainly, there are some extra infrastructure costs, but I was always under the impression the developer paid all or most of the costs associated with his development, then the council collects the rates from these properties from then on. After all ,in theory at least, the more people in a given area, the cheaper the rates should become . Unless of course there is expenditure on extra things that may not be considered essential .

There are a large number of people living in Maitland, especially those unemployed, on pensions, etc. who can not afford a BIG extra slug in rates . Certainly those unemployed. These are grossly underestimated by the way the figures are established, eg. Those on courses or working an hour or so a week are counted as “employed”. They mostly are paying rent, which, naturally will increase with the rise in rates , making it extremely hard for them to afford the extra cost!.

Another point, there are roughly 20% of people who do not use computers , and if objections or comments are required,they do not get a say as they do not use the internet ,so giving the false impression of those objecting. Helping or hindering the process depending which way it is used!!

Respectfully ,
Dallas Edwards.
Maitland Resident.