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Submission: This submission is to object most strenuously to the Blue Mts Council's request for a rate rise. The document the council sent out as a "survey" or ratepayer "vote" was NOT a balanced request for more money but a blatant outcome targeted marketing exercise, the use of demonizing language, guilt inducing statements stating that if you voted No to a rate rise you would be personally responsible for not saving the environment (also the use of colour, Red for the No vote and green for the Yes vote. This document was not an audited survey and the results have not been publicly released. The numbers quoted are pure fantasy, designed to enhance their request for more money. (an industry opinion was that the marketing campaign would have cost more than \$50,000 of ratepayers money) This council spends more than 30% of its budget on Administration clearly overkill compared with our neighbour council Hawsbury who spend less than 10%. They are already planning on spending some of the rate increases on a "Vivid festival for the Blue Mts" and Beautification projects among other political white elephants. When there are considerable areas without guttering or footpaths, some streets regularly flood through lack of stormwater control, whilst they spend some 14 million dollars on a theatre 10% of the ratepayers will use. Also spending local money on Sister cities of which BMCC has 2 around the world. In conclusion I believe this council should not only be refused the rate increase but also audited for fiscal incompetence and possibly be replaced with an Administrator to cut out the middle management and correctly prioritize spending into infrastructure and Local Roads, Gutters, footpaths, flood mitigation and ratepayer services. (since this council has been in office they have already reduced ratepayer services extensively, whilst spending more on the Arts and themselves) Yours Sincerely Davyd Williams