

**Sent:** Thursday, 19 March 2015 7:36 PM

**To:** Local Government Mailbox

**Subject:** HPRM: Newcastle City Council Rate Increase

I strongly object to the obscene hike in land rates in the Newcastle City electorate. The audacious assumption that I have the capacity to meet a 46.9% increase in rates indicates an explicit lack of knowledge about the financial circumstances of myself and my neighbours. Using 2011 employment data as evidence upon which to determine the figure of 46.9% is without integrity and infers an assumption by the council that rate payers are uninformed, unable to analyse data themselves and gullable.

I feel the council has breached it's authority in the determination of this rate rise - how extraordinary 46.9%. Good thing the council is not determining my capacity to meet a 46.9% rise in fuel, food and medication costs.

Ellen Bax