

Elizabeth Deehan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
February 19, 2019 [REDACTED]



To:

IPART
PO Box
K35 HAYMARKET
NSW, 1240

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to you today to formally lodge a complaint to the team about the sheer frustration at the Port Stevens Council in relation to the request for a 7% rise to the local council rates.

The council has presented local forums about the need for such an exorbitant rate rise. At each meeting the local people have stated quite clearly that a small rise is valid but not the one the council is pushing for.

It would appear that because we live in Nelson Bay there is a belief that we are all mega million aires. Well statics will tell you very differently.

This area is an area where people come to retire. Like myself, I planned for my retirement, I am now too old to increase my income, hence this decision by the council is extremely stressful for residents like myself, even though I have factored in small rises annually in all utility costs.

I think the council would be advisable to remember this old saying (as a retiree), and rate payer **"walk a mile in my shoes"** before asking for such a hefty rate rise and start to prioritise their fundamental responsibility to their ratepayers.

I feel the council has been hijacked by counsellors who do not understand the meaning of **"fixed income"** particularly when the Commonwealth Government is focusing on keeping people in their own homes as we age.

How about the council look at a small rate rise and make it gradual.

I wish to thank you for allowing me to express my feelings of frustration.

Many thanks
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
19.2.2019.