



George Gergely

15<sup>th</sup> March 2013-03-15.

Dr. Peter Boxall  
Chair Person  
Independent Pricing and  
Regulatory Tribunal  
P.O. Box Q 290  
Q V B p.o.NSW 12

Dear Dr. Boxall.

I am an 88 year old widower pensioner. I am a member of the Randwick City Council Older Persons Advisory Committee as a Community Representative.

I have sent a letter to the Hon Donald Page Mp, drawing to his attention the extremely high Rates in Randwick. I attached to him a copy of an article by Mr. Tyron Butson in the Southern Courier " Randwick residents face some of the highest rates in the City". I am enclosing copies of Mr. Tyron,s article and my letter to the hon. Minister.

Using my Council Rates (as an example only) my Rates increased from 1994/95 to 2012/13 from \$842. to \$2388. The Pensioners Rebate remained unchanged at \$ 250.- Just to put it in perspective my highest table in my health and auxiliary insurance cost only \$ 1694.-

According to a Council,s survey in 2010 Randwick Council had 17.5% needy residents, but there is no assistance offered to them other than deferment of paying the rates at 10% Interest.

When I requested the General Manager through the Hon Michel Daley MP to waive the Environmental Levy from the 17.5% needy pensioners, even this was refused.

I respectfully ask the Chair Person to consider the enclosed attachments at the time of the next years Council,s Applications.

Respectfully

4 attachments:

George Gergely

STATEWIDE

AUG 23/11

# Council must face changes

TYRON BUTSON

## DESTINATION 2036

COUNCILS need to embrace change or face becoming unsustainable, a statewide council forum heard last week.

The state government has launched a review of the Local Government Act and the minister in charge, Don Page, spent two days urging councillors from all 152 NSW councils at the Destination 2036 conference to change the way they did business.

While a pre-conference survey found more than 40 per cent of participants at the Dubbo conference would consider council amalgamation in the future, the overwhelming sentiment at the conference was in favour of resources such as waste management and cost sharing.

"We really do need to work

■ Councils were also delivered a blunt message: deliver what ratepayers need without crying poor

■ Randwick residents face some of the highest rates in the city

■ The average median NSW household rates were \$637 in 2009

■ Randwick rates have risen from \$788 in 2006 to \$839 in 2009

towards enhancing local government now to ensure it's still sustainable," Sydney Coastal Councils Group's executive officer Geoff Withycombe said.

The state government will now prepare a discussion paper before undertaking further review.

member of the Randwick City Council  
Community Representative.

(il's 2010 survey) I would like to draw  
rates. According to an article in the  
Butson " Randwick residents face  
il Rates for 1994/95 was \$892.-including  
y Council Rate was \$2388.- including  
(attached.)

the same of 2007. ~~Consolidating ... rates are~~  
Just to put in perspective my highest table Hospital fund is \$1694.-.

The only assistance the Council is offering to the needy ratepayers is a deferred payment drawing interest. When I asked via Mr. Michael Daley MP the Council to waive the additional environmental levy, even that was rejected.

Your assistance will be vey much appreciated by all the ratepayers.

/  
Sincerely

George Gergely

5 attachment

George Gergely

11th Febr. 2013

Reference: F2004/07458

30 June 2010

Mr George Gergely

Dear Mr Gergely

**Buildings for our Community Program  
Pensioner Assistance**

Thank you for your letter dated 31 May 2010 concerning the proposed rate increase associated with the Building for our Community Program.

As you are aware, Council embarked on an extensive community consultation program before applying to the Division of Local Government for an increase in the rates to fund the proposed works. The consultation strategy included:

- Information on Council's website
- Mayor's column, advertising & media coverage
- Focus groups
- An information package distribution to all residents
- Online discussion website
- Information at Council's customer service centre, libraries and aquatic centre
- Presentations to community and stakeholders groups
- A deliberative engagement workshop
- Newsletter distributed to all households in March
- Street stall

One of the issues raised in the consultation was whether or not the proposed levy should include an exemption for pensioners. Any exemption would have to be funded by other ratepayers.

Council gave considerable attention to the matter of pensioner exemptions, however as the proposal did not have the majority support of the community, Council resolved not to provide any further rating exemptions or rebates for pensioners. 2

Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying to your letter. I have been waiting on the determination by the Minister for Local Government as to whether or not Randwick City Council's application for the rate increase has been approved. As at the date of this letter, Council has still not been advised of the outcome.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in the welfare of pensioners within the Randwick City Council area.

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Yours faithfully



Greg Byrne  
Manager Financial Operations

Attachment 1

**Rating and Valuation History**

Year	Land Value	Rate Levy	Env. Levy	Strmwtr. Levy	Waste Mgmt.	Total Rates & Charges	Pension Rebate	Rates less Rebate
1994/95	220,000	\$719.58			\$172.10	\$891.68	\$250.00	\$641.68
1995/96	231,000	\$726.38			\$179.30	\$905.68	\$250.00	\$655.68
1996/97	231,000	\$782.44			\$179.00	\$961.44	\$250.00	\$711.44
1997/98	231,000	\$829.68			\$183.50	\$993.18	\$250.00	\$743.18
1998/99	364,000	\$949.20			\$183.50	\$1,112.70	\$250.00	\$862.70
1999/00	364,000	\$974.91			\$173.00	\$1,147.61	\$250.00	\$897.61
2000/01	364,000	\$1,000.96			\$200.00	\$1,200.96	\$250.00	\$950.96
2001/02	415,000	\$1,075.51			\$220.00	\$1,295.51	\$250.00	\$1,045.51
2002/03	415,000	\$1,159.76			\$242.00	\$1,401.76	\$250.00	\$1,151.76
2003/04	415,000	\$1,201.05			\$255.00	\$1,456.05	\$250.00	\$1,206.05
2004/05	630,000	\$1,327.41			\$263.00	\$1,590.41	\$250.00	\$1,340.41
2005/06	630,000	\$1,371.70			\$281.60	\$1,653.30	\$250.00	\$1,403.30
2006/07	630,000	\$1,421.03			\$294.60	\$1,715.63	\$250.00	\$1,465.63
2007/08	900,000	\$1,511.64			\$339.70	\$1,851.34	\$250.00	\$1,601.34
2008/09	900,000	\$1,563.84		\$25.00	\$351.60	\$1,940.44	\$250.00	\$1,690.44
2009/10	900,000	<del>1703</del> \$1,576.26	\$125.23	\$25.00	\$391.00	\$2,118.49	\$250.00	\$1,868.49
2010/11	885,000	<del>1754</del> \$1,515.47	\$121.99	\$25.00	\$410.00	\$2,072.46	\$250.00	\$1,822.46
2011/12	885,000	\$1,609.55	\$129.56	\$25.00	\$429.30	\$2,193.41	\$250.00	\$1,943.41

2012/13  
July 12 -

885,000  
1948  
2012

2,193  
2,338

61.4%