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**Submission:**

I believe that Warringah Council should not be allowed the special increase in rates.

There are many ways that Council can streamline its operations and reduce costs.

The Council claims that the increased costs will be for improvements to the shire and its amenities. Some of these improvements are unnecessary. I also believe that much of our rates money is being spent on projects and events that are not part of the council's remit or core business.

I agree with the Council's Vision of "Leading the community, protecting our environment, creating our future" but I don't believe that this includes fireworks displays, big breakfasts on public holidays, chartered tall ships on Sydney Harbour etc. or the many other ways Council is setting out to entertain Council staff and residents. Instead they should be concentrating on maintaining infrastructure and adding or improving where necessary. Certainly Council can encourage private enterprise to put on events for the residents but it is not their responsibility to stage them nor for the rate payers to fund them.