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Submission: To date CVC have had two Community meetings with regard to their Fitness for the Future Proposals.

One of these was in Maclean and the other in Grafton.

At the first meeting those who attended made it perfectly obvious that they did NOT support CVC's proposals for SRV's or a reduction in their services. CVC senior staff refused to conduct a vote of the people's views but we had one anyway and not one person supported CVC's plans. This is available on the audio recording of that meeting.

At the second meeting we were told we were there to discuss the coming years budget and that future meetings would be held to discuss the SRV's and reduced services.

To date we have had reduced services and increased charges but no further Community meetings.

The SRV being proposed by CVC would, if accepted, place us in approximately equal position with Newcastle Council for the second highest SRV in the State of NSW.

Millions of extra dollars are flowing into the CVC from the Federal Governments Road to Recovery Program but we are told by Ashley Lindsay (CVC's Corporate Director) that CVC have been forced to request an SRV of 8%pa for each of the coming 5 years because the Federal Government reduced their financial assistance grant by \$748,000!!!

Our LGA is one of the poorest in the State. Put simply, we cannot afford the rate rises being considered by IPART. Our demographic is very thin in the middle as many people of working age have to leave the area to find work.

On top of all this: CVC are heading full steam ahead with their obscene idea of spending over 17 Million Dollars on a Super Depot next to South Grafton High School.

To help shed some light on their Depot Plans: It is relevant to note that their Community Consultation period for the rezoning of the land was in the few weeks either side of Xmas last year and when no one noticed CVC concluded they had Community Support!!!

We need your help.