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Submission:

I am writing in response to Maitland Council asking for what I think is a ridiculous increase in our rates. Many people in Maitland are pensioners or from a low socioeconomic background and can ill afford such a large increase. I have seen several independent surveys and every one was against this increase. Every person I have spoken to is against this increase, They are irate that the council has not taken the whole community into consideration. The people of Maitland realise there is a need for an increase to keep all services viable but to increase our rates by what they are asking is highway robbery.