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Date of submission: Wednesday, 4 March 2015

Submission: As a BMCC rate payer I oppose the proposed rate rise over the next four years. For the last 5 years I have been (and continue to be) a rate paying resident of the blue mountains during those years my rates have consistently increased each year that has passed which makes it even tighter to budget for when I am a part of a low income household of 5 (inclusive of 3 dependents). Taking into account also the cost of living that is increasing each year that passes as well, while wages remain stagnant and unemployment (particularly in the blue mountains) is high. I want to know what exactly do I get for my rates each year besides a weekly bin service, 2 council pickups a year that I have to arrange by appointment. The roads around my area and I'm sure everywhere you go in the mountains are in appalling conditions, I don't like to feel every pothole, every bump and my vehicles certainly don't need to endure it on a regular basis. Why don't your high paid councillors take a pay cut or at least freeze their salaries, stop spending money on areas that it isn't necessary maybe you could recoup costs that way instead. You can't get blood from a stone.