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Date of submission: Monday, 4 March 2019

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Sent: Monday, 4 March 2019 10:53 AM

To: Local Government Mailbox

Subject: Port Stephens Shire Council rate Variation.

I have made a submission via the Ipart Submission form – but it responded saying there was an error and I could not work out how to fix it. I therefore submit through this option, just in case the first attempt did not get through. I will try to recall what I had written in my submission.

I am a part pensioner that gives me an income that let's me get by with the basic necessities. I am fortunate enough to own my own home. Increasing living costs are running down my cash reserves and directing me to a situation where I will need to downsize my home to continue living reasonably comfortably. The proposed increased rates will further impact on my limited available cash. That's OK for me but there a many who are not as well off as I. Those who are on limited incomes such as full pension do not have any resources to draw on to the cover this proposed increase. I believe that the projects proposed under the rate rise are of a non essential nature and the Council needs to prioritise more important issues such as parking and traffic flow from the existing budget.

The proposed variation should not be approved.

Lionel Fines

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