

File:- HCC-SRV070318

7/3/2018

L.A.Leary

I understand that Hawkesbury City Council have made a SRV submission to increase the rate level and would like to bring to your attention below what I consider to be inconsistencies in the in the overall plan:-

A redistribution of rating by Hawkesbury Council has resulted in our rates going from \$ [REDACTED] in 2016 to \$ [REDACTED] in 2017 an increase of \$2,165 or 120%.

A further 30% increase will cause additional pressure on us as Self Funded Retirees which I believe is both unfair and unjust as other parts of the Hawkesbury Council area had very small increases being in line with that prescribed by the NSW Local Government Act.

The rate increase even without the SRV far exceeds any other increases by service providers such as Electricity, Water, Vehicle Registration and the cost food and Health.

Services provided to the Oakville area of the Hawkesbury Council, other than garbage are non existent, we have no kerbing or gutters with the local roads in a very bad condition, and after bad weather conditions often pose a danger to users. Any services such as the trimming of trees over communication and power wires and ignored by the council when advised of problems.

Information provided by the Hawkesbury Council has been complicated and unclear and with no real detail of what a SRV will deliver to the area.

The Hawkesbury Council appears to be misleading the community as last year they advised that the council was short of funds but now are financial, one asks which is correct?

In summary, for Hawkesbury Council to implement a SRV of 30% would not only be unfair but morally wrong and ask the NSW Government to please intercede on behalf of NSW Tax Payers.

Yours Sincerely
Leonard Leary

Submission to IPART objecting to Hawkesbury council Special rate increase.

Online submission..

<https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Local-Government/Council-Portal/Submission-Form>

Postal Address

PO Box K35

Haymarket Post Shop

NSW 1240

Objection to Hawkesbury Council 31.29% rate increase.

I object to Hawkesbury council increasing rates, as this council and redistributed rates in 2017 and taken what was a fair rates structure and made it very unfair.

Some suburbs have had increases of 180% and higher and 80% of the district was given a rate drop, specifically to minimise the effect of an SRV.

Council have stated in the IPART submission that they protected some suburbs so they only get an increase of \$90, while other suburbs will get increases more than \$6500.

This is the opposite of the intention in the Local Government Act, which intends rates to be evenly distributed to pay for services.

The council has not been honest with the ratepayers and have been telling the community the rates structure they put in place is fair.

Council also polled people and asked what new services we want, and implied we will get new services, but have NOT applied for new services or infrastructure in the IPART Submission. The submission is about retiring an \$80M debt accrued over decades by a failing council.

Council has been running operating losses for seven years, have not managed their fiduciary responsibilities, and have neglected our assets to the point where the state government requires immediate action.

Council spending is out of control, preferring to spend our money on frivolous things, pandering to minority groups, and neglecting the needs of long term ratepayers in rural areas

It seems the council have changed the rates structure specifically to gain support of the urban areas, and force the Rural areas to pay for it.

People in the rural residential areas are dealing with hardship imposed by Council, with people paying between \$4000 and \$9000 before an SRV.

It is unfair, and Council are out of control

Sincere regards