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Submission:

I oppose this SRV application

* My rates have risen 91% over the last 10 years, compared with a CPI rise of only 20.08%. There has been no discernible increase or improvement in services. The shire has been unsuccessfully crying out for years now for footpaths, kerbs and guttering.

* The council has a history of cost overruns and losing ratepayers' funds on suspect investments.

* Wasting money on selfish trivialities. Just in the current term, there have overseas trips for

- 3 council directors to go to Singapore to attend the Civica (?) course to learn how to do their jobs. Soon after they recommended, and got a 4th Director, wit again no improvement in service to the ratepayers. The course could easily have been conducted by video link.

- the mayor, GM, another councillor and an interpreter soon to go to Sasebo in Japan for a Sister City trip, at a cost of \$25,000.

These are just an irresponsible waste of money, especially in the current financial climate, and in an LGA with very high unemployment.

* While consideration must be given to the fact that the NSW government has been cost-shifting, ie transferring its own costs onto councils, this does not, in any way alleviate its responsibility to act sensibly and responsibly regarding its spending.