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Your submission for this review:

There are some really concerning aspects to the touted 34% increase proposed by the council. 1. The council is in a management vacuum because they have displayed an inability to manage money and are in administration. Simply throwing more money at the problem does not solve the problem with mismanagement in fact it provides more fuel to an out of control fire. Aside from justifying rises the council needs to prove in the submission it can manage additional funding. 2. Imposing massive rate rises in the current situation will cause additional pain to people who have already been hit with an IPART approved 43.5 % increase in base council rates. It is unacceptable in the current financial environment to be imposing further financial pain on consumers without massive justification that the pain is worth bearing. I do not believe it is reasonable or justified to do so now. 3. Before imposing any rate hikes, the council should make submissions to the State Government that created the amalgamated council structure. The submission must explain how the expected efficiencies the State Government touted were not delivered, in fact the opposite. The submission must include a funding proposal where the State Government takes financial responsibility for their actions. All this because it is unfair to ask Council customers to bear all the burden of the proven poor decision to amalgamated local councils that was imposed on them. Without these measures the requested rate hike fails a fairness test and a responsible management plan for correcting the errors leading to financial failure in the State created amalgamated Council. Thank you for considering the impact on regular residents, particularly those at retirement age.