

From: Morvyth Goldstein
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Hawkesbury City Council application for Special Rate Variation
Date: Sunday, March 11, 2018 12:43:42 PM

We object to Hawkesbury City Council further increasing rates; the council redistributed rates in 2017, taking a fair rates structure and making it unfair. Specifically, land classified as Rural Residential was reclassified Residential, without any change unallowable lot size our allowable buildings. For example, minimum lot size 2hA; only one free-standing building.

Some suburbs have had increases of 180% and higher, while 80% of the local government area was given a rate decrease, specifically to minimise the effect for a projected SRV. It seems the council have changed the rates structure 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 ratepayers paying between \$4000 and \$9000 before an SRV. Council have stated in their IPART submission that they protected some suburbs so they only get an increase of \$90; other suburbs would get increases of more than \$6000. This is a gerrymander, and is contrary to Local Government Act, which intends rates to be evenly distributed to pay for services.

Council has not been honest with its ratepayers and have told the community the the rates structure they put in place is fair.. Council polled people and asked what new services were wanted, and implied we will get new services, but have NOT applied for the new services or infrastructure in the submission to IPART. The submission is about retiring a \$80,000,000 debt accrued over many years.

This submission is made by Morvyth and Ross Goldstein as individuals and ratepayers.