

**From:** Michele Middleton  
**To:** [Local Government Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Randwick Council Rate Rise  
**Date:** Saturday, February 24, 2018 9:04:43 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am finding it very difficult to accept that the majority of ratepayers in Randwick have agreed to a rate rise of almost 20%. The survey was conducted just before Christmas when everyone is very busy and distracted (obviously well timed by the council wanting fewer respondents) and so many people I have spoken did not know about the survey.

The council reports there were 6,000 responses- what percentage is that in this Council area??? I believe the residents who have agreed to the rate rise must have self interest involved to elect this option. I know and all my friends voted against this proposal.

In these times when wages are stagnant and **VG land values are increasing (in effect another % rate rise for the council)**, electricity going through the roof etc, to have another 20% added to our rates is untenable.

I did vote against the proposed rate rise but the way the voting was presented for expenditure is not what the council has ratified as they have added an energy conservation programme to appease the Greens (one of whom is the Mayor) and excluded some of the proposals they made on the voting form! The "average" amount is listed as \$70- this must be for the rates on a one bedroom bedsitter- I only wish our rates were so small.

In the local paper it is reported that Cr [REDACTED] shares my disbelief that the majority of ratepayers are happy with this increase! I could not agree with him more and will be contacting him for his support to look into this unbelievable matter. I for one feel outraged and truly cannot believe this is an honest representation of the people living in Randwick.

Please consider well this rate/increase - it is far too much too soon. I think the matter should be looked into closely to see that has not been corrupted in some way.

Let the council spend less on unnecessary expenditure and get on with maintaining our city and looking after the already overstretched pockets of its constituents and stop putting up so many unit blocks."

Warm Regards  
Michele Middleton

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]