

From: Margaret Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 20 February 2015 9:44 AM
To: IPART Mailbox
[REDACTED]

Subject: Objection to Ashfield Council rate rise proposal

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to lodge my strong objections to the proposed rate rise by Ashfield Council.

As a single householder, approaching retirement and working only part time, I am like so many others in the area, budgetting carefully to cover all the costs of daily living.

Ashfield Council imposed a rate rise in the past so they could build a new facility which gave me no benefit at all.

I live in Haberfield and rely on Ashfield Council for rubbish collection, tree trimming, footpath repair and leaf collection. Apart from the reliable collection of rubbish, they perform none of these tasks particularly well.

In fact, it took three years of writing to them, to get the trees trimmed and road outside my house repaired when tree roots were causing problems and the footpaths throughout Haberfield are a disgrace. With many elderly people having to negotiate the uneven surfaces, it shows no awareness of what is actually required when money is spent instead on an unremarkable annual community festival.

I don't think any local government is particularly efficient, and they have all taken on too many responsibilities and thus stretch their budgets too far. If they wish to invest in new infrastructure such as upgraded swimming pools, they should assess the business case, take out a loan and then those who use the facility can pay to enjoy the amenity.

I strongly object to any special rate variation. I request IPART reject Ashfield Council's application for a special rate variation. Please keep me informed in writing about any decisions made regarding the above.

Yours faithfully,

Margaret Miller
[REDACTED]