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Submission: I have been a resident Glenbrook for the past 15 years and have paid rates to BMCC for the past 17 years. I have read the supporting documentation lodged by Council seeking approval to apply their Option 1 rate increases. I object to this application by Council. BMCC indicates that its Community Consultation Program showed that the majority of the community supported Option 1. In its documentation Council provided 3 Options each having different rate increases and different financial outcomes. I registered with Council to attend a public meeting and informed them that I would oppose Options 1 & 2. The day before the meeting BMCC rang me and asked me not to attend as there were too many participants. I don't know if my objection has been noted. The major, major issue I have with Council's application is that in their documentation they have assumed under all Options that they are spending their revenues efficiently. There is absolutely no documentation of comparative expenditure against benchmarks or even other Councils. I would much prefer to see Council undertake an efficiency audit before they talk about increasing rates. There is anecdotal evidence within the community of Council's inefficient expenditures. I have read the TCorp report and Council's financial report. I am not surprised by the rapid increase in depreciation provisions as Council has a long record of not spending on the upkeep of its assets. This historical behaviour is now significantly impacting on future financial issues. What we are now being asked to do is to fund past inefficient behaviours of Council. Until Council can demonstrate that it spends ratepayers funds efficiently and effectively then there should be no increase to rates over and above CPI increases.