

Author name: Name suppressed

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Your submission for this review:

Some Local Councils in NSW (eg Tenterfield) are applying to have the Rates PEG removed so that they can be in control of any Rate rises themselves, without restriction. This gives the Council zero incentive to try to keep costs down, and which will, in all probability, eventually make it not affordable for many Elderly home owners to reside in their hometown or keep their homes. Tenterfield Council is applying for a Special Variation of 104.49% over the next 3 years. When they claimed that the Rates had only been increased by 0.7% recently, when included with increased Fees and Charges, my cost from one bill to the most recent went up by 6.3%. Over the past 4.5 years, the total Rates, Fees and Charges have increased by 34%. Council is hiding their extra revenue mainly in Fees and Charges increases which are also much higher than the CPI. I therefore ask that the external control of Rates remain as is. [REDACTED]