

[REDACTED]

To: localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Ratepayer submission in response to Bellingen Shire Council SRV Application 2018/19

Ratepayer submission in response to Bellingen Shire Councils SRV application 2018/19

As Bellingen Shire rate payers we strenuously object to the Councils SRV application for the following reasons:

1. As self-funded retirees we cannot afford to pay the ongoing increases on top of already sky rocketing other costs of living. We also have an 18 year old child that we are financially supporting through Tertiary Education.
2. We do not feel the Council has communicated its intentions adequately. In fact we feel the glossy brochure which was distributed was misleading. The Councils example for the SRV for the average residential household rates was quoted as approximately \$1000. We live in a small residential community within the shire and our rates for 2017 were \$ [REDACTED] therefore our rate rise will be quite substantial. Some estimates over the 3-5 year period are expected to result in a 40% rise.
3. We strongly feel the Council has done little to improve efficiencies within their operation especially in regards to rural roads and bridges. We also understand the Council has limited funds due to a major % of these funds being used for staff wages in a Council that after a number of restructures seems to be very "top heavy".

Please acknowledge/receipt of this submission,
Thank you.

Yours sincerely, *1*

[REDACTED]

Paul and Glenys Bonventi

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