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Date of submission: Thursday, 9 March 2017

Submission: From: Philip Tonge [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 9 March 2017 10:09 AM
To: Local Government Mailbox
Subject:

I would like to voice my objection to the proposal by Ballina Shire Council for to increases in rates over and above the pegged rate. My main point relates to the comparison by Council with other shire Council's rates, when no consideration has been taken in regard to Ballina being one of the fastest growing areas in this State, evidenced by the recent construction of hundreds of new homes, chiefly within four developing estates, Sovereign Gardens, River Oaks, Palm Lake Resort and Ballina Heights resort. Council would have been duly compensated for any costs by each developer in the establishment of each estate. Despite the potential profit being made in these establishments, each new home owner will be obliged to pay rates, which will add at least \$7 million to Council's coffers, give that our rates have risen substantially over recent years, our last quarterly payment being almost \$600, even though we are pensioners and struggle to pay the current level of rates. I believe that the works being the subject of the applied increases are merely standard expenses and the additional funds they are now receiving from this new owners will be in excess of their future financial liabilities..

Yours sincerely.

Phil Tonge