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Submission: It is unacceptable for our Council to have reduced the Local Government Base Rate component from 50% to 30% and increased the Valuer General's component, from 50% to 70%, at the same time that the Valuer General's land value assessment has increased significantly, seemingly due to increased land values in our neighbouring LGA (The Hills), arising from changes in their subdivision & property development regulations. Comparative subdivision & property development regulations do not apply in The Hawkesbury LGA and our Council continually advises us that there are no plans for such regulation to apply now or in the future.

I also do not accept that I (living on a rural acreage property) should pay similar rates to residents in urban / built upon areas, when I do not receive comparative services to them ... I have no sewerage, no town water, no curb & guttering, no street lighting, have to travel +15km to access community services, have no access to public transport and it takes emergency services at least 20 - 30 minutes to be at my resident in the case of an emergency. Yes, I choose to live here & accept those things, but don't then charge me the same Rates as people in urban areas, who have all of these things on their doorstep, at a significant cost & then expect me to pay (or subsidise) them, when I receive no day to day benefit from them.