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Date of submission: Tuesday, 4 March 2014

Submission:

As a long time rate payer to Warringah Council I am writing to object to the proposed rise in rates (over 4 years to eventually 26%) that exceeds the recommended rise of 3% per annum.

This area is largely not one of affluent people (as Council seems to think) but of families and many retired persons like myself, struggling to make ends meet in these times of rising prices everywhere.

As I have pointed out to Council, both by letter and in a survey they ran, they are already seeing the benefit of the rise in Land valuations - an example being my rates: for the current rating year the rise in actual figures against the previous year was 12% (due to the rise in Land valuation) - not the 3% that Council constantly mentions.

I consider that the fact that the proposed rise in rates (above the recommended figure) should have been put to the ratepayers to decide, not by a few councillors, many of whom are in a position to afford the extra money. The average Warringah rate payer cannot!

I understand that IPART is currently undertaking a survey of this and other matters. May I ask that due consideration be given to the reasons I have given in this letter and that this excessive rate rise be refused.