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Submission:

I am writing and condemning Warringah Council's application to raise rates above and beyond the norm.

I believed we lived in a democracy, yet, after Warringah Council asking if ratepayer's wanted this rate increase of more than 25% over a number of years and the answer was an overwhelming NO, the council ignored the majority of the ratepayers and went ahead anyway with their application to increase rates.

This exercise in asking for the ratepayer's advice in itself cost a great deal of money with phone polls and brochures in the mail asking for our input. Again this input was an overwhelming NO to the rate increases and WAS IGNORED.

The immediate affect of this increase will be to increase the already high rents in the area as landowners will increase rents to pay for the rate rises. My daughter already pays an unaffordable \$525 a week for a unit in Narrabeen.

The council should be made aware that times are hard on most people and they can ill afford these huge rate increases.

The council should look at more cost-saving to fill their coffers. Check out the huge salaries of staff at the council and the staff carpark full of BMWs for a start.

The Warringah Council say they need the extra money for the Warringah Aquatic Centre and the dredging of Narrabeen Lagoon that actually very few ratepayers asked for.

Once again I implore you not to accept this grab for cash from the already overburdened ratepayers of Warringah.