

**From:** Steven Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 March 2017 11:32 AM  
**To:** IPART Mailbox  
**Subject:** Opposed - Rate rise request - Shoalhaven City Council - 2017

Dear IPART NSW,

**Shoalhaven City Council Residential Rates – 2017 – opposed**

I urge IPART to deny Shoalhaven City Council their application for a 29% increase (over two years) in residential rates. At a public meeting this week, a pensioner told Council that an increase of this magnitude would mean having to cancel his private health insurance. One Councillor just laughed.

The incoming Council has many new Cllrs on trainer wheels in their role, and they have been accused of being out of touch and elitist. It's not hard to see why.

The overwhelming majority of Shoalhaven residents are opposed to these increases. I'm involved in a community representative group, so I'm in a position to know.

Please send Shoalhaven City Council back to the community, to negotiate something reasonable, and in keeping with citizens capacity to pay, and that involves living within their means.

On the subject of consultation, it has been quite annoying to Shoalhaven residents, that Council first made the decision to apply to IPART, but only afterwards thought to consult with the wider community. Even then it was only to explain after the fact, why the decision was already made.

Regards,  
Steven Murphy

[REDACTED]

16 March 2017