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Submission:

I wish to strongly object to Maitland City Council's (MCC) proposal to dramatically increase rates in the Local Government Area (LGA). MCC's assertion that all residents were surveyed on this topic is erroneous, I certainly was not contacted, nor was anyone in my wide group of friends and associates. After widespread media coverage, I contacted MCC + have subsequently made my views on this matter known to them. MCC's request to raise rates so dramatically should not be allowed by IPART. MCC needs to look at their internal human resources levels and the current inflated levels of compensation paid to their employees. The Council seems to be taking a lazy approach to their current fiscal position + their attempts to simply push the responsibility back onto ratepayers is a lazy and unimaginative one. MCC should rather look at internal cost cutting measures and, in particular, reassess their current extravagant proposals for development within the LGA. I urge IPART to dismiss this application for this unjustified and dramatic rate increase proposal. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. SALLY O'NEAL