

Council have lost public support of the ratepayers by failing to address the infrastructure backlog over many years. They have also failed ways to increase the rate base. A large number of properties have been rezoned for additional development, but council's practices/ requirements mean the rezoning will never be developed. The Shire also suffers from a lack of water and sewerage infrastructure, even though Council substantially increased the water rates this money was diverted to consolidated revenue.

Please do not believe that Council operate in an open and consultative manner. We the people are treated as minions in a feudal, failed state, Council's work practices and general methods of operation are simply not acceptable in our society and require an overhaul.

Many people I have spoken to are of the opinion that some form of high level review should be put in place as -

- We have insufficient size or capacity for growth in ratepayers to ever maintain our infrastructure
- Council have failed to undertake any meaningful review of its operations (just motherhood statements and whitewashing of issues to date)
- Many ratepayers are either pensioners or on low levels of income. There is little work available in the area and Council "frowns" on any sort of development or new business activity
- Council are actively pursuing a political agenda, rather than concentrate on providing essential services. In essence they are undertaking a form of "social cleansing" by advocating these rate rises as the less well off are forced out and our community undergoes a form of gentrification

A formal review of our dysfunctional Council is urgently required as their main goal seems to be saving their jobs and or seeking political office, catering to minorities instead of meeting the communities' basic needs.

A honest and open review of this Council needs to be undertaken to ensure that the community can afford to remain in their homes going forward.

Thank you

Tony Saunders

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Please acknowledge receipt of this document and I would appreciate being kept up to date with progress.