

To IPART

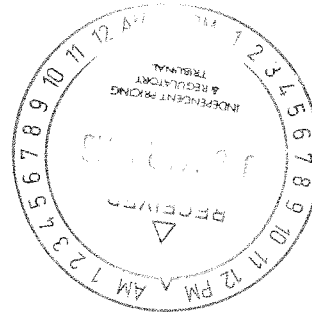
Lucy Garnier

McKell Building

2-24 Rawson Place

Level 15

SYDNEY NSW 2000



The attached petitions were gathered from within the Clarence Valley Council's (CVC) electorate.

They are bundled as pages of 15 signatures per page, 10 signatures per page and other numbers per page.

There are 127 pages of 15's, 40 pages of 10's and 22 pages with other numbers of signatures.

The total number of signatures is 2,537.

Our Council held 4 Public Information Sessions which included discussions of their proposed Special Rates Variation (SRV).

The first two were part of CVC's Fit for the Future Submission to IPART and the second two were focussed more on the SRV.

At the first meeting in Maclean, Council refused to allow the 100 or so people to hold a vote to indicate their support (or otherwise) of the SRV.

At that Maclean meeting, the local People ignored Council's direction and there was a unanimous vote against the SRV.

At the following meeting in Grafton, Council's General Manager said that the SRV was Not the focus of that meeting.

At the 3rd meeting (also in Grafton) only 6 members of the Public attended and

At the final meeting in Maclean an overwhelming majority of the approximately 100 people in attendance voted For a No Confidence Motion in CVC.

Council conducted its own written survey of local rate payers and found that 72% did Not support the proposed Rates Rise.

Council employed IRIS consulting to conduct an expensive telephone poll of local Rate Payers which found that over 75% did not support the Rates Rise.

Council have since reduced their SRV by about 10% and have added asset sales and service reductions to the mix.

Neither the asset sales nor Councils intentions of an additional 53.7% increase in Revenue from their Service Charges and Fees over the next 5 years have been the subject of Community Discussion.

Council have yet to identify which services are to be reduced or eliminated.

The returns from the proposed asset sales are intended for Councils Strategic Building Fund which is being used to partly fund their Super Depot development next to South Grafton High School.

We have had the Council's General Manager telling local People on the Regional Television news that the cost of the Rates Rise would be a cup of coffee a fortnight (<http://www.nbnnews.com.au/2015/10/11/clarence-council-plays-down-rates-rise-plan/>) and we have had both the Mayor and the GM making the same ridiculous claims on Council advice brochures about the Rates proposals.

On the 10th of February this year, Council issued a Media Release about a Petition, that does Not and Never has existed, about their proposed Depot Plans in South Grafton with the heading 'Warning of misleading claims from petitioners' and advice to contact Council before signing Petitions.

This was broadcast as part of the Mayors Morning Radio Show with the Super Radio Network and also reported in The Daily Examiner.

This media release from the Mayor and GM coincided with the Rates Rise petition.

We note that Council's reporting of their current average residential rates to IPART is inaccurate and outdated.

Council's SRV Application Form – Part B for 2016 – 17 which was issued in January of 2016, and submitted to IPART, makes many claims about Our existing rates structure. Unfortunately most of those claims do not reflect the current reality.

For example Table 5.2.1 of that SRV Application claims that Clarence Valley Councils Average Residential Rates for 2014/15 are \$857.71 pa.

The currently reality is that:

Our average residential rates for the Clarence Valley are \$1042 pa (as evidenced by the attached letter and numerous CVC brochures) and

Compared to All Councils in NSW, the CVC's average residential rates are already in the Highest Top 1/3rd for NSW.

Council have drawn IPART's attention to the comparatively lower amounts that People in the Clarence pay for Mortgages and Rents which is in line with our relatively depressed local economy, falling population numbers and rural geography.

Council spends much less time on this Local Government Areas (Very) Low SEIFA (Socio Economic Index For Areas) scores which are prepared by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to indicated relative advantage/disadvantage.

Average SEIFA scores for the Clarence Valley LGA are 907 which are significantly lower than the Australian average of 1002.

Even within Council's Group 4 comparisons (Table 5.2.4 of their application), Clarence Valley Council's SEIFA average of 907 places CVC as the 3rd lowest.

South Grafton, which is one of our biggest population centres in our LGA, has a SEIFA score of only 830!!!

Council's response is to draw IPART's attention to Council's existing hardship policy and notes that Council have No intention of changing that policy to help with the extra hardship their SRV would bring.

Bottom line: This is a Very poor area. Our Rates are already in the top 1/3rd of All Councils in NSW and Residents Do Not have the capacity to pay such huge increases.

Average annual income in Our Valley is about \$34,000. Half the adults here earn less than that. Reduce that (already very low) annual income with a massive 37% Rates Rise and many local People simply can Not afford to pay it.

Our Council explicitly rejected the 40 Million Dollar sale of unused assets proposed by Councillor Baker which would have provided far more income than the proposed SRV while reducing maintenance costs.

Our Council has not explained the cumulative impact of such a massive increase on such a poor population and how the reduced level of discretionary

and other spending will lead to reduced profits for local business owners and how this will result in increased unemployment.

Rather than an honest appraisal, our Council have made misleading comments about cups of coffee.

If IPART do not reject at least part of Clarence Valley Council's submission, the People of the Valley, the Clarence Valley's economy and our children will All suffer from this intolerable burden.

Many Thanks


John Hagger

The Clarence Forum

Council Average Residential Rates according to Clarence Valley Council

As per your phone request on Monday 12th October 2015 we have provided the information you have requested below:


The total value of Residential Rates levied is \$20,855,370.59

The total number of Residential assessments for the 2015/2016 period is 22184.2 (the decimal point arises due to mixed development)

The total value of Residential Rate arrears as a % at 30 June 2015 was 6.14%

Average residential rates per dwelling for 2015/2016 \$1040.00

Kind regards


Revenue Officer (Rates Valuations)

Clarence Valley Council

Locked Bag 23, GRAFTON NSW 2460

www.clarence.nsw.gov.au

WE, the undersigned, call upon IPART to refuse the Special Rate Variation sought by Clarence Valley Council.

WE live in a low socioeconomic area and Residents and Businesses do Not have the capacity to pay the proposed 37% Rates Increase, cumulative over the next five years.

WE note that Clarence Valley Council has rejected alternative options to Rates increases.

WE note that Clarence Valley Council has Not honestly explained the long term impact of the proposed Rates Increases on the local Community.

NAME

ADDRESS

SIGNATURE



From: John [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 8 March 2016 11:20 PM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: Public Submission with regard to Clarence Valley Councils SRV

To IPART

ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au

Public Submission with regard to Clarence Valley Council's SRV.

We ran this electronic petition at:

<https://www.change.org/p/independent-pricing-and-regulatory-tribunal-ipart-ipart-nsw-gov-au-choosing-a-better-direction-for-the-clarence-valley>

to assist people who wanted to add their names to the paper petition with 2,537 signatures which was recently mailed to your office but, for various reasons, were unable to do so.

As we have no control over the possibility of dual signatures, I ask that you accept this petition as being totally separate from the paper version.

I note that the current number of on line signatures is 268.

While I have alerted People, via social media, that the Petitions have been sent to IPART, it is possible that this number may increase further.

Attached is a list of signatures and the comments many people have made.

Reading those comments makes it very clear that many people are facing financial difficulties and that the addition of this mammoth SRV is nothing short of crippling.

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Kind regards



Revenue Officer (Rates Valuations)

Clarence Valley Council

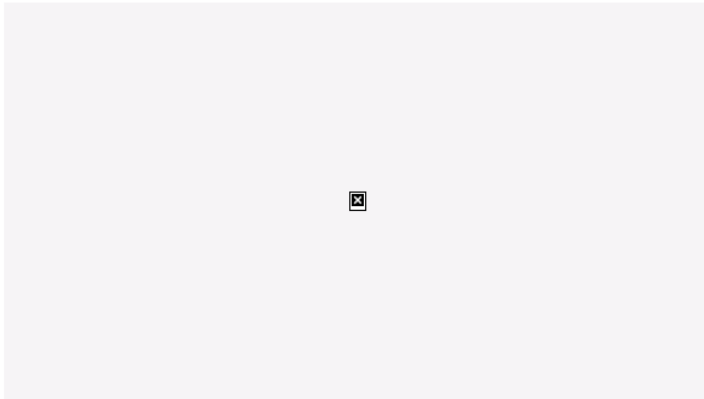
Locked Bag 23, GRAFTON NSW 2460

www.clarence.nsw.gov.au

Petitioning Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal and 1 other

Choosing a better direction for the Clarence Valley

[The Clarence Forum](#)



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WE live in a low socioeconomic area and Residents and Businesses do Not have the capacity to pay the proposed 37% Rates Increase, cumulative over the next five years.

WE note that Clarence Valley Council has rejected alternative options to Rates increases.

WE note that Clarence Valley Council has Not honestly explained the long term impact of the proposed Rates Increases on the local Community.

LETTER TO

Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
ipart@ipart.nsw.gov.au

Choosing a better direction for the Clarence Valley

Sign this petition

270 supporters

230 needed to reach 500

Australia



I'm signing because... (optional)

Share with Facebook friends

Sign

- Keep me updated on this campaign and others from The Clarence Forum
- Display my name and comment on this petition

By signing, you accept Change.org's [terms of service](#) and [privacy policy](#), and agree to receive occasional emails about campaigns on Change.org. You can unsubscribe at any time.

The Clarence Forum started this petition with a single signature, and now has 270 supporters. Start a petition today to change something you care about.

[Start a petition](#)

Updates

250 supporters

1 week ago

The Clarence Forum started this petition

3 months ago

[Over the last 10 years, rates in the Clarence Valley have already increased by approx. 100%. We have such a high rate of homelessness already. Studies show that single parents and their children, youth, pensioners and part time and casual workers make up a large portion of the homeless in the Clarence Valley. This rate increase is more than our low income ratepayers can bear. While our Councillors appear to be getting visibly larger around their girth, our low income earners and pensioners are being squeezed into fading insignificance as we struggle to keep up with CVC's spending and their refusal to be accountable. Shame on this negligent, arrogant and corrupt Council!](#)


[11 hours ago](#)

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[I believe this is just a money grab to make up for future lost revenue once the new highway bypasses Grafton. I do not believe that we should have to prop up a Council that has mismanaged things for years.](#)


[12 hours ago](#)

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[Its pretty obvious!](#)


[21 hours ago](#)

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[I can't afford current rates](#)

[REDACTED]
[23 hours ago](#)

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[Give us a break.](#)

[REDACTED]
[1 day ago](#)

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[I can not afford the rates as it is](#)

[REDACTED]
[1 day ago](#)

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[i've owned property at Glenreagh for the past 10yrs and it's a goat track to get there still and no services....what am i getting a rate rise for ???](#)

[REDACTED]
[1 day ago](#)

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[You have to be joking! The rates are already to high for our area. The Gold Coast is cheaper and has everything and we have nothing. I would like to know what you are spending our money on!](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 day ago](#)

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[I feel we are paying enough in rates now as its over \\$3000.a year already.. Where is all this money going from rate payers](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 day ago](#)

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[I'm a rare payer](#)

[We pay enough rates already for the service are inadequate](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 day ago](#)

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[I feel this increase is unsustainable for the whole of this community...](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 day ago](#)

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[Council appears to be spending money on white elephants & as a ratepayer I don't want to foot the bill by having such a huge rate rise applied.](#)

[Redacted]

[2 days ago](#)

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[I cant see what our rates are spent on now and with such a public disgrace of being named one of the poorest performing councils they should have to justify any increase](#)

[Redacted]

[2 days ago](#)

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[Rates increase every year!! Every year!!! And we get nothing extra for the increases. Its hard enough getting into the market these days without the added financial burdens the council want to throw our way. Give us something worth while to vote for!!](#)

[Redacted]

[2 days ago](#)

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[I care x](#)

[Redacted]

[2 days ago](#)

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[We already pay enough rates for minimal return. We get a garbage collection that's about it](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 days ago](#)

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[The residents of the Clarence Valley are struggling to remain living here already. We need to support locals to remain not increase the costs](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 days ago](#)

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[I feel the council fails to utilise the natural assets of the area for monetary gain. I also feel the general manager should be replaced with a person of appropriate competence, and that wastage within and by the council should be greatly reduced, if not ceased, prior to Clarence Valley Council increasing occupants rates](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 weeks ago](#)

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[I believe wastage within the council should be cut, and the general manager should be replaced with somebody competent, before increase in rates should be considered.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 weeks ago](#)

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When our cars are falling apart from holes and corrigation on a dirt road, we have to take our own garbage to the end of our road and collect our mail from the same place as drivers of these services will not drive our road. We do not get a council pick up although Grafton gets 2 a year, and they expect us to keep paying rates. For what? I have lived on this road for 10 yrs and NEVER seen council grade it yet. Have tried going to council and my local member about it to no avail - council still refuses to do it. Things have to change

[REDACTED]

3 weeks ago

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I'm a resident of South Grafton and aren't to happy about being ripped off by the CVC. The rates are higher than some very nice suburbs in the city. My dad pays less in rates to live in Cottesloe, WA. They have play areas,workout equipment, a beautiful beach pavements! And plenty plenty more and iys one of the richest suburbs in Perth. We don't have anything in comparison.

[REDACTED]

4 weeks ago

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Average rates in seaside Yamba for any property near the water already exceeds \$4,000 per annum. What do we get for our money? Very little, a rubbish collection, a ranger to chase stray dogs, a few libraries with limited books, occasional road maintenance, undrinkable water, sewerage - that's about it, and we pay more than \$80 a week already!

We have a huge number of staff already in council, over 600. Yet less than half of these are actually outside "workers", the majority are bureaucrats generating work for other bureaucrats, work that is of no value to taxpayers whatsoever. We need council to live within its means, reduce its staffing, start providing some value for the huge existing fees, rather than just increasing its income stream because it can. Lets open its market up to some competition and see if they can deliver effective, necessary services at a reasonable price or lose their business altogether.

[REDACTED]

4 weeks ago

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[As a home owner we can't afford rate rises](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[I believe we pay enough as it is, council needs to get their act together](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[The rise is excessive. People are finding it difficult now to pay the rates without any added expense. The services provided will not increase and there is no benefit to the average rate payer.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Low socioeconomic area, cannot bare an increase](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Pure & simply because Rates are too expensive as it is. We just cant afford more rises.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[If this increase goes ahead, I won't be the only one that will have to sell up and leave the area.. This council has only ever wanted the Clarence Valley to be a ghost town, and this will ensure that!](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[We want what's best for locals and small business](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Because it isn't right , What about the pensioners how are they meant to afford this. I don't see there pension rising by 37% in the next 5 years. Councils are just greedy , how many of them keep getting pay rises for what? How about the Council starts to do things for its community instead of taking constantly.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[We pay enough already](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Dont agree to such high increase in rates. Lot famlies are struggling to pay now](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[The rate rise cannot be justified while this council blatantly wastes rate payers money on consultants, projects that cost blow out every time due to incompetent planning.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Rates are already to high](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[CVC is just peanilising their ratepayers.They have wasted to much of our hard earnt dollars.](#)


[1 month ago](#)

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[Saving could have ben made in so many other ways, example the money spent on new council work yard etc.](#)


[1 month ago](#)

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[I live here. I look after my land here..and do not want to have to move because it has become unaffordable for myself and my family. Please keep it real!](#)


[1 month ago](#)

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[I'm signing because a rate that large is ridiculous and unjustified.](#)


[1 month ago](#)

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[We do not get any assistance from the council....my rates are \\$8000 per year just because I Will have to keep working till I'm 90 to pay the rates.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[I live in the valley and want the best for residents and small business.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Sick if the increases and lack of services for my money. Worst council I have ever dealt with.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Council need to look at their spending before attacking the ratepayers](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[This council has no clue what the community wants nor does it care. It's in major debt but spends money on things that has no benefit. Happy Paws is a perfect example, how many thousands of dollars has been wasted on court costs? Now they want to increase rates so much that people will have no choice but to leave the area? Grafton the ghost town here we come.](#)


[1 month ago](#)

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[A rate increase of this much is completely unreasonable & will impact greatly on people in our community.](#)


[1 month ago](#)

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[It's my home town](#)


[1 month ago](#)

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[It might be time to start managing the council as a business. Time to look for a competitive outsourcing system to manage costs and services. I think it is sad and disappointing that the council is the single biggest employer in the valley, time to become competitive.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[We have an out of control council, a council that is riddled with arrogance and contempt and deciet](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[The Council needs to start listening to the ratepayers](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[An increase of 37% on rates is downright shocking. Will they be working harder for the people, when they are robbing us blindly? Not a chance!](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[I'm a rate payer in Grafton area](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[I own 2 houses in grafton and 2 in Coffs grafton rates are already higher then coffs yet coffs receives loads more than grafton the increase is ridiculous](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[I am signing this because I believe that 'Council' has already shown it's somewhat financial inept and should work harder to find savings.](#)

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[They can not give good reason for this rise. Just not justified! !!!!](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[A 37% increase is too much!](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Being rural and practically ignored, no rubbish bins, no sewerage, dirt road "Graded" occasionally I think the rates are over priced as they are for what we receive.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Any rates increase will make owning our home simply unaffordable, we have no curb and guttering, yet pay more than many other regions. Any increase will mean things such as his insurance will be forfeited.](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[I'm signing this petition because I see many examples of squandered resources by council. I disagree with a rate increase, as this doesn't help solve the discrepancies in already mismanaged funds.](#)

[I recommend a serious audit of the CVC, so as to make them accountable for current spending patterns.](#)

[This is such a beautiful and unique part of Australia, sadly, the communities morale fails to reflect this...](#)

[More people are becoming homeless all the time, and there are a lack of opportunities for](#)

[people to feel they can have a say & make a real difference.](#)
[Council is not listening to it's people...](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Beryl burton](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[Don't want a rate rise just to keep an incompetent council in business](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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[I enjoy living in the Clarence Valley but a rate rise like this will doom the area for home owners and renters time for the people to elect a General Manager not the suits that don't care about the town](#)

[REDACTED]

[1 month ago](#)

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I believe that the council dont spend the money from rates on what they should as it is with taking more money. So often i have had dirty water, the road to Townsend is terrible and I dont see where they are spending what they have now. I pay more here in the clarence than I did in the Richmond Council but I could at least see where it was going. I dont earn enough now let alone with a massive price rise

[REDACTED]

1 month ago

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I THINK WE PAY ENOUGH
AND WE GET LITTLE SERVICE !!
FOR OUR MONEY..

[REDACTED]

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I rent a house in this area & if the rates go up so will my rent. The amount that the council is proposing is ridiculous.

[REDACTED]

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A Council with this much debt should file to be bankrupt.

[REDACTED]

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[council should look at savings else where.](#)

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[We should not be robbed !!](#)

[REDACTED]

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[Council do not discuss issues with rate payers. Council are Hopeless.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[Because I believe that these rate hikes are unjust & absurd & that council passed them regardless of public opinion.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[Rates are too high now](#)

[REDACTED]

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[We don't need another rise, we don't get any more extra services ...](#)

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[Outrageous increase in rates. Our rates are very high compared to other local councils. Council needs to stop spending rate payers money on projects that are not needed eg new Library.... Total waste of money. This increase is not right and we as rate payers need our voices heard!!](#)

[REDACTED]

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[Council should be finding savings and working harder! Rate rises of this magnitude simply means the council is incompetent.](#)

[REDACTED]

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[Rates are already overpriced and overpaid staffing.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[I live here as well ansld I'm sick of our goverment doing things without the vote of the third party, the 'common people.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[It's an unjustified rise, considering how many dollars are wasted, and projects that are not priority.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[The people of the Clarence Valley need to put a stop to the 37% rate rise & in doing so stand up to this council who think they can do wherever in planning and inferstructure to suits their interests and not that of the rate payers and residents.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[Already this year rent has](#)

[increased making it impossible for some local families to afford. Consider the locals rather than the investors. Provide foot paths and empty the red bin once a week and then consider rises.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[I do not support such a large increase in our rates. Council should've able to review its processes and find other ways of saving money. This is the easy way out.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[I'm signing this because Council do not use what they have efficiently, squandering money. Grafton have always been in the red until the merger of councils then they have the other councils wealth which is now gone.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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Completely ridiculous rate rise, already costs about \$90 a fortnight for us, an extra 37% would be very tough on our budget ... Council and governments need to stop wasting our hard earned money ..

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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The council is not listening to the voices of the ratepayers. Arrogant and disdainful would best describe councils attitude.

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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I live at Ashby Heights & I am effected by the rate increase. I believe the council has been inefficient in their spending and we the rate payer should not have to carry the burden of their mismanagement.

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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I am totally disgusted with the waste of funds that this council gets away with without any recourse to ratepayers. The Minister for Local Government continues to ignore the situation while the community begs for this council to be put under administration while its operations are fully investigated.

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[The Clarence Valley Community simply cannot afford any rise in rates. We've one of the lowest average income levels per family in Australia. The CVC has too many chiefs on expensive salaries - cut them instead.](#)


[2 months ago](#)

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[as a low income earner & husband being on an Age Pension... we just cannot afford the prices currently being charged. I don't always have work as a casual employee & Centrelink benefits do not pay out much either. I also believe we are not receiving enough QUALITY services from our Council to justify an increase of our rates.](#)


[2 months ago](#)

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[I am a rate payer and find the suggested rste increase insupportable.](#)


[2 months ago](#)

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[As a new home owner this is the last thing we need. These increases are another kick in the guts to the rate payers of the Clarence Valley. We seem to pay out more & see nothing in](#)

[result. This council has cost us so much in legal fees & other unnecessary expenses I have no confidence in them.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[The council's need to listen to the community and where does this money go to i already dont see much work done on the and the town ?? So where is the money going??? Hmmm.... There should only be allows to be one tax and not all these other taxes just like australia wanta everyone to get medical healthcare they are trying to make us more like America people listen to the people](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[living on a Pension is hard enough now, without having the Rates charges increased by over one third.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[I'm a single mum raising 7 young children, I can't afford a rate size, please give the poor people a break.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[Having been a resident of Clarence Valley for over twenty years and a carer of a 95 year old who moved here to be looked after, the atrocious spending by Clarence Valley Council is extremely stressful & any increase suggested by or imposed by council will be unaffordable by many. Pensioners do not have the opportunity to find more money. There are many homeless people here. Where do they go? This SRV & other charges rises are heartless. We do not use services 100km away in Grafton. Budget for local needs. Deamalgamate Grafton & Lower Clarence. Maclean Shire Council was financially stable.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

2

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[please sign this so that our rate dont increase via a special rate variation which is being sought by clarence valley council, please show that you care about the future of our community!](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[The Council is not listening to the people! They don't want the depot next to a high school! The proposed rates increase is devastating for people in this area where they are already grossly disproportionate to property values. This is a low income area where we need a council to care!](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[Im shocked at this councils lack of intelligent and ethical decision making capabilities. The residents local government area cannot afford to pay for the blatant mismanagement and mistakes of those whos job it is to protect residents interests.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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Delete

[stop the nepot! start the work!](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

2

Share

[Tweet](#)

Delete

[I'm signing because SOMETHING has to change to rescue The Clarence Valley from further stress.](#)

[REDACTED]

[2 months ago](#)

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[As a pensioner i cannot possibly afford this rate increase meaning i would have to sell and leave the area however i am to old to start thinking of selling and relocating.](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[The people of this area are struggling with low incomes and unemployment not to mention lack of positive incentives for the future! Trying to make a live in the Clarence Valley is very challenging and low property value with extraordinary high rates simply does not make sense!! We say no to the rate increase!!](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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Share

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Delete

[Our rates are already very high when compared to other council areas and are becoming unaffordable for the many low income earning citizens living in the Clarence Valley. Council continues to spend, spend, spend as if there will be no day of financial reckoning, we need some severe economic rationalism to hit them!](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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Share

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[This council seems to have its priorities around the wrong way](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[Since the amalgamation of councils in 2004 Clarence Valley Council has been in debt which has increased annually so nice then. At no time has this council or those in previous years attempted to reduce this debt. If a company was to be administered as has this current council those responsible for such neglect would have been fired by now. This council is run by](#)

[incompetent managers, by an autocratic administration and should be replaced by an administrator](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[Im signing because I have no confidence in the Clarence Valley council and believe their financial expertise is little to none leading me to have the opinion that a rate increase will not be used effectively](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[I believe this Council is out of touch with or simply doesn't care what the community wants. Decisions are made that benefit a very few and not the wider community. Nothing is done to promote a sense of community or provide street life or meeting places - eg unwelcoming park in the middle of town - deserted - why? Not happy](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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Share

[Tweet](#)

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[Because it is obscene.. we don't even get a choice.](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[Tweet](#)

Delete

[The GM claimed he didn't look for savings because he wasn't asked surely that would be part of his job](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

9

Share

[Tweet](#)

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[This council has ignored the residents views and continues to spend money on projects the community have rejected. Please make them accountable.](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

8

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[Is Council serving its ratepayers by making transparent and businesslike attempts to retain services that are important to the community, identifying inefficiencies and strategically investigating opportunities? Not sure who is serving whom here.](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

6

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[I agree with this petition and can't afford extra rate rises](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[This council is being run by incompetent management and the majority of councillor's. They are now admitting they have not looked improvements to efficiency. Management have no concept of pricing of major projects , many examples of this are available.](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[My circumstances are such that such an increase will definitely impact badly on my well-being.](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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[It is an outrageous rate rise by an incompetent council.](#)

[REDACTED]

[3 months ago](#)

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