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Corporate and Financial Services

Our Reference: HC-06-13-10
Contact: Lisa Oldridge
Telephone:

31 October 2013

009

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are invited to be part of a local solution in determining the future of our services and infrastructure provided by Holroyd City Council in the Holroyd Local Government Area.

Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. This is because we have more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are aging and our community growing.

Since 1977, the State Government has been restricting the amount rates can go up each year which has driven efficiency changes and created savings. This is called rate pegging. Back then, we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage. Today, we need to fund 100s of new services and infrastructure.

We have more infrastructure than ever before and because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only an increasing amount of asset maintenance but also an increasing level of asset replacement. We now have to think about the funds we will need to maintain our services and infrastructure today, as well as in the long term.

Since rates were pegged in 1977, the cost of just about everything has gone up each year. Our rates have only ever provided funds in excess of the pegged limit once. In terms of rate income, this makes Holroyd the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area (LGA) out of the 42 LGAs in the Sydney Metro region.

We are not in debt but over the past 36 years our growing community has enjoyed 100s of new services and items of infrastructure which we have stretched our limited funds trying to maintain. This leaves us with a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years.

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Enclosed with this letter is a Postcard outlining the Options for the future, we are asking you to identify your preferred option and post it back to us (no postage stamp required). If you would like to take part in a more in depth discussion, come along to a Public Meeting to be held on Thursday 28 November 2013 at the Holroyd Centre, 17 Miller Street Merrylands at 6.30pm.

For further information, please contact Council on 9840 9840 or visit our website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Yours faithfully

Merv Ismay
GENERAL MANAGER

a place for everyone



Email to Council database

Jaime Soprenic

Subject: Council's Draft 2013-2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the 2014/2015 Operational Plan)

Good Morning,

We are contacting you as you have previously registered to be kept up to date with the Living Holroyd Program through our Living Holroyd page on Council's website. As a member of our community, you will be aware that Council is currently seeking feedback on how best to secure the long term sustainability of the services and infrastructure required by the community. The feedback we are seeking is based on three proposed funding options to address the sustainability of the services and infrastructure provided to our community.

At its meeting of 17 December 2013, Council considered and adopted a Draft 2013-2017 Delivery Program for public exhibition which includes the three funding options under consideration to achieve the sustainability of Council's services and infrastructure.

Accordingly, Council would like to advise that the following documents are now on public exhibition:

- Draft 2013-2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the Draft 2014/2015 Operational Plan, Draft 2014/2015 Statement of Revenue Policy, Draft 2014/2015 Stormwater Management Program, Draft 2014/2015 Capital Works List);
- Draft 2014/2015 Operational Budget (reflected in the Delivery Program);
- Draft 2014/2015 Fees and Charges
- Draft 2014/2015 – 2023/2024 Long Term Financial Plan
- Draft 2014/2015 – 2023/2024 Asset Management Strategy
- Draft 2014/2015 – 2023/2024 Asset Management Plans – Parks and Recreation, Roads and Bridges, Stormwater and Buildings
- Draft 2013 - 2017 Workforce Strategy
- Draft 2014/2015 – 2023/2024 Proposed Works List
- List of Unfunded Capital Works and Services

These documents are available via Council's website at <http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au/your-say-contacts/public-exhibition/> and in hardcopy at Council's three libraries (Merrylands, Greystanes, Wentworthville) and at the Customer Service Unit at 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands.

You are invited to make submissions on the Draft 2013 – 2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the Draft 2013/2014 Operational Plan) and all other related documents. Submissions can be forwarded to Council in the following ways:

In writing: General Manager
Holroyd City Council
PO Box 42
MERRYLANDS NSW 2160

By Fax: 9840 9734

By e-mail: hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au

If you have any questions, please contact Corporate Planning on 9840-9840 or visit Council's webpage at www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Regards,

Big pool or local pool row heats up

PETITIONS, PROTESTS GROW

Chris Walker

PEOPLE are rallying to stop the proposed closure of Guildford and Wentworthville pools in favour of a centralised aquatic centre on the site of Merrylands Swim Centre.

Late last year Holroyd Council voted to provide in-principle support to shut Wentworthville Memorial Pool and Guildford Swim Centre to build a new centre at Merrylands Swim Centre.

Since then a "Keep our pools open" Facebook group has cropped up with almost 300 likes, along with a petition started by Greenway federal Labor MP Michelle Rowland and another by Holroyd Labor councillor Lisa Lake.

Ms Rowland said her petition to "Save Wentworthville Pool" had attracted almost 1500 signatures.

"Having an affordable local pool is critical, especially in this hot weather," she said.

"The idea that a Wet'n'Wild or a big multi-purpose swimming centre, with lots of services, (is better) than smaller more accessible pools is misguided."

Cr Lake, who started a petition of her own on Sunday, agreed the proposed "aquatic wellness centre" at Merrylands would not suit families and schools who she said preferred the more accessible and cheaper option of smaller pools.

She argued it was more important to retain and modernise the existing swim

WHAT YOU SAID

Comments on Facebook:

■ Alma Zerafa: Wenty is a great pool and it would be doing the local community a great disservice if the council closed it down

■ Michelle Zedan: I go there all the time with my family. It's such a great area with the kiddie pool and the playground. It must not be shut! Council need to rethink their views on closing the pool, it would be such a travesty

■ Jennifer Gaina: This cannot happen - we need this access to teach water safety and confidence

schools and swim classes.

Holroyd Council voted in October last year to provide in-principle support for the new centralised centre, after a report revealed it would cost \$30 million, with an estimated operating lifespan of at least 50 years.

The alternative option, and Cr Lake's choice, was to refurbish the existing pools to modern standards at a cost of \$20 million for an estimated operating lifespan of up to 15 years.

At the October council meeting the majority of councillors argued a centralised centre would be better for local schools hosting swimming carnivals, and attract others from outside of Holroyd, rather than have them go to Sydney Olympic Park or Fairfield.

Which plan do you prefer?
Tell us as

Our Reference: HC-06-13-10
Contact: Lisa Oldridge
Telephone: 9840 9840

20 February 2014

Dear Business Owner

You are invited to be part of a local solution in determining the future of our services and infrastructure provided by Holroyd City Council in the Holroyd Local Government Area.

Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. This is because we have more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are aging and our community growing.

Since 1977, the State Government has been restricting the amount rates can go up each year which has driven efficiency changes and created savings. This is called rate pegging. Back then, we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage. Today, we need to fund 100s of new services and infrastructure.

We have more infrastructure than ever before and because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only an increasing amount of asset maintenance but also an increasing level of asset replacement. We now have to think about the funds we will need to maintain our services and infrastructure today, as well as in the long term.

Since rates were pegged in 1977, the cost of just about everything has gone up each year. Our rates have only ever provided funds in excess of the pegged limit once. In terms of rate income, this makes Holroyd the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area (LGA) out of the 42 LGAs in the Sydney Metro region.

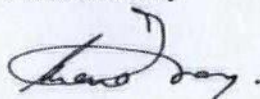
We are not in debt but over the past 36 years our growing community has enjoyed 100s of new services and items of infrastructure which we have stretched our limited funds trying to maintain. This leaves us with a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years.

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Enclosed with this letter is a Postcard outlining the Options for the future, we are asking you to identify your preferred option and post it back to us (no postage stamp required). If you would like to take part in a more in depth discussion, come along to a Public Meeting to be held on Monday 25 November 2013 at the Holroyd Centre, 17 Miller Street Merrylands at 6.30pm.

For further information, please contact Council on 9840 9840 or visit our website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Yours faithfully



Merv Ismay
GENERAL MANAGER



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ABN 20 661 226 966

Corporate & Financial Services

Our Reference:
Contact:
Telephone:

HC/06-13-10
Jaime Soprenic
9840 9938

18 October 2013

ATTENTION: BUSINESS OWNER

Dear Sir/Madam

FOCUS GROUPS

Like most growing cities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining its services and infrastructure. We are developing a local solution to meet these challenges, and are looking at gaining your feedback on a range of issues including the types and standards of facilities and services that Council provides its community.

The challenges identified have come out of a community survey and focus groups that were conducted throughout July 2013 which sought community feedback on Council's facilities and services.

Council is keen to hear your views on the areas for improvement that were both identified by the community and which you see as important to the sustainability of our City – let us know what is important to you, what we do well and where we need to improve. So please come along and be a part of a focus group that Council is holding for Council's business organisations at the following time and location:

Date: Thursday 31 October 2013
Time: 6.00pm – 7.30 pm
Venue: Holroyd City Council
16 Memorial Avenue
Merrylands NSW 2160

Please RSVP to Jaime Soprenic on 9840-9938 or at jaime.soprenic@holroyd.nsw.gov.au no later than Tuesday 29 October 2013.

Yours sincerely

Per:

MANAGER CORPORATE STRATEGY & ENGAGEMENT

PM: Attention Business Owner – Focus Groups

a place for everyone



Please indicate your preference by ticking the box.

☐ **Option 1: No rate increase above the State restricted level.**

Reduce services/infrastructure – Increase rates by State restricted level only, estimated at around 3% for the next six years. Small business ratepayers would pay on average \$119 more each year (\$29.75 per quarter) over the six years to 2019/2020.

	Annual % Rate Increase*	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Stormwater Charge	Total Average \$ Rate and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$3,456	\$25	\$3,481	-
2014/15	3%	\$3,560	\$25	\$3,585	\$104
2015/16	3%	\$3,667	\$25	\$3,692	\$107
2016/17	3%	\$3,777	\$25	\$3,802	\$110
2017/18	3%	\$3,890	\$25	\$3,915	\$113
2018/19	3%	\$4,007	\$25	\$4,032	\$117
2019/20	3%	\$4,127	\$25	\$4,152	\$120

☐ **Option 2: Increase rates by 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.**

Maintain services/infrastructure – Increase rates by a maximum 9% for 4 years, 8% for 1 year and return to the State restricted level of around 3% in the sixth year. Small business ratepayers would pay on average \$329 more each year (\$82.25 per quarter) over this 6 year period to 2019/2020.

	Annual % Rate Increase *	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Stormwater Charge	Total Average \$ Rate and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$3,456	\$25	\$3,481	-
2014/15	9%	\$3,767	\$25	\$3,792	\$311
2015/16	9%	\$4,106	\$25	\$4,131	\$339
2016/17	9%	\$4,475	\$25	\$4,500	\$369
2017/18	9%	\$4,879	\$25	\$4,904	\$404
2018/19	8%	\$5,269	\$25	\$5,294	\$390
2019/20	3%	\$5,427	\$25	\$5,452	\$158

☐ **Option 3: Increase rates by 9% for 6 years.**

Enhance services/infrastructure – Increase rates by a maximum 9% for 6 years . Small business ratepayers would pay on average \$390 more each year (\$97.50 per quarter) over this 6 year period to 2019/2020.

	Annual % Rate Increase *	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Stormwater Charge	Total Average \$ Rate and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$3,456	\$25	\$3,481	-
2014/15	9%	\$3,767	\$25	\$3,792	\$311
2015/16	9%	\$4,106	\$25	\$4,131	\$339
2016/17	9%	\$4,475	\$25	\$4,500	\$369
2017/18	9%	\$4,879	\$25	\$4,904	\$404
2018/19	9%	\$5,318	\$25	\$5,343	\$439
2019/20	9%	\$5,796	\$25	\$5,821	\$478

*includes annual rate increase set by IPART

A little bit about you:

Full Name:

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2:

Contact Number:

Email:

Are you a resident/ratepayer of the Holroyd City Local Government Area?

Resident

☐

Ratepayer

☐

What is your age range?

18 – 29

☐

30 – 45

☐

46 – 60

☐

60+

☐

Is your property residential or business?

Residential

☐

Business

☐

Both

☐

What is your gender?

Male

☐

Female

☐

How did you find out about this Listening Post?

Council's Website

☐

Newspaper

☐

Word of Mouth

☐

Other

☐

.....

.....

What is your country of birth?

.....

How long have you lived in the Holroyd City Local Government Area?

Less than 2 years

☐

3 – 5 years

☐

6 – 10 years

☐

10 years +

☐

Thank you for your feedback

PRIVACY NOTE: Council will collect and hold the personal information contained in this survey to consider your submission. The intended recipients of the personal information are officers within Council, and any third party service providers assisting Council in this campaign. The supply of personal information by you is voluntary, however if you cannot provide, or do not wish to provide the information sought, Council may be unable to consider your submission.

You may make an application for access or amendments to your personal information held by Council under the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIP Act)* or the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act)*. You may also make a request that Council suppress your personal information from a public register. Council will consider any such application in accordance with the PPIP Act.

Information provided to Council in correspondence, submissions or requests, including your personal information, may be made publicly available, including on Council's website, under the GIPA Act. Please notify us if you object to the disclosure of your personal information.



Please indicate your preference by ticking the box.

☐ **Option 1: No rate increase above the State restricted level.**

Reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Under this option, average rates will increase from \$5,998 in 2013/2014 to \$7,161 in 2019/2020, an increase of \$1,163 in total over the 6 years. In addition the Stormwater charge remains at \$112 per annum and is added to the rate charge.

	Annual % Rate Increase*	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Stormwater Charge	Total \$ Rate and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$5,998	\$112	\$6,110	-
2014/15	3%	\$6,177	\$112	\$6,289	\$179
2015/16	3%	\$6,363	\$112	\$6,475	\$186
2016/17	3%	\$6,554	\$112	\$6,666	\$191
2017/18	3%	\$6,750	\$112	\$6,862	\$196
2018/19	3%	\$6,953	\$112	\$7,065	\$203
2019/20	3%	\$7,161	\$112	\$7,273	\$208

☐ **Option 2: Increase rates by 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.**

Maintain our current services and renew our existing infrastructure.

Under this option, average rates will increase from \$5,998 in 2013/2014 to \$9,418 in 2019/2020, an increase of \$3,420 in total over the 6 years. In addition the Stormwater charge remains at \$112 per annum and is added to the rate charge.

	Annual % Rate Increase*	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Stormwater Charge	Total \$ Rate and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$5,998	\$112	\$6,110	-
2014/15	9%	\$6,537	\$112	\$6,649	\$539
2015/16	9%	\$7,126	\$112	\$7,238	\$589
2016/17	9%	\$7,767	\$112	\$7,879	\$641
2017/18	9%	\$8,466	\$112	\$8,578	\$699
2018/19	8%	\$9,143	\$112	\$9,255	\$677
2019/20	3%	\$9,418	\$112	\$9,530	\$275

☐ **Option 3: Increase rates by 9% for 6 years.**

Maintain our services, renew our existing infrastructure and deliver new services and/or infrastructure.

Under this option, average rates will increase from \$5,998 in 2013/14 to \$10,058 in 2019/2020, an increase of \$4,060 in total over the next 6 years. In addition the Stormwater charge remains at \$112 per annum and is added to the rate charge.

	Annual % Rate Increase*	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Stormwater Charge	Total \$ Rate and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$5,998	\$112	\$6,110	-
2014/15	9%	\$6,537	\$112	\$6,649	\$539
2015/16	9%	\$7,126	\$112	\$7,238	\$589
2016/17	9%	\$7,767	\$112	\$7,879	\$641
2017/18	9%	\$8,466	\$112	\$8,578	\$699
2018/19	9%	\$9,228	\$112	\$9,340	\$762
2019/20	9%	\$10,058	\$112	\$10,170	\$830

*includes annual rate increase set by IPART

Local Solutions

Our Options – Business Rates for Large/Medium Rate Averages

A little bit about you:

Full Name:

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2:

Contact Number:

Email:

Are you a resident/ratepayer of the Holroyd City Local Government Area?

Resident ☐

Ratepayer ☐

Is your property residential or business?

Residential ☐

Business ☐

Both ☐

How did you find out about this Listening Post?

Council's Website ☐

Newspaper ☐

Word of Mouth ☐

Other ☐

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.....

What is your age range?

18 – 29 ☐

30 – 45 ☐

46 – 60 ☐

60+ ☐

What is your gender?

Male ☐

Female ☐

What is your country of birth?

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How long have you lived in the Holroyd City Local Government Area?

Less than 2 years ☐

3 – 5 years ☐

6 – 10 years ☐

10 years + ☐

Thank you for your feedback

PRIVACY NOTE: Council will collect and hold the personal information contained in this survey to consider your submission. The intended recipients of the personal information are officers within Council, and any third party service providers assisting Council in this campaign. The supply of personal information by you is voluntary, however if you cannot provide, or do not wish to provide the information sought, Council may be unable to consider your submission.

You may make an application for access or amendments to your personal information held by Council under the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIP Act)* or the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act)*. You may also make a request that Council suppress your personal information from a public register. Council will consider any such application in accordance with the PPIP Act.

Information provided to Council in correspondence, submissions or requests, including your personal information, may be made publicly available, including on Council's website, under the GIPA Act. Please notify us if you object to the disclosure of your personal information.



Please indicate your preference by ticking the box.

☐ **Option 1: No rate increase above the State restricted level.**

Reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Increase rates by State restricted level only, estimated at around 3%. Residential ratepayers would pay on average of around \$38 more each year (\$9.50 per quarter). This would mean that by 2019/2020 the average annual rate charge would be \$1,431 (or a quarterly charge of \$358)

	Annual % Rate Increase*	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Waste and Stormwater Charge	Total \$ Rate Waste and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$744	\$458	\$1,202	-
2014/15	3%	\$766	\$471	\$1,237	\$35
2015/16	3%	\$789	\$485	\$1,274	\$37
2016/17	3%	\$813	\$499	\$1,312	\$38
2017/18	3%	\$838	\$513	\$1,351	\$39
2018/19	3%	\$863	\$528	\$1,391	\$40
2019/20	3%	\$888	\$543	\$1,431	\$41

☐ **Option 2: Increase rates by 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.**

Maintain our current services and renew our existing infrastructure.

Increase rates by a maximum 9% for 4 years and maximum 8 % for 1 year. Residential ratepayers would pay on average of around \$85 more each year (\$21.25 per quarter) over this 5 year period. This is would mean that by 2019/2020 the average annual rate charge would be \$1,711 (or a quarterly charge of \$428)

	Annual % Increase *	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Waste and Stormwater Charge	Total \$ Rate Waste and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$744	\$458	\$1,202	-
2014/15	9%	\$810	\$471	\$1,282	\$80
2015/16	9%	\$884	\$485	\$1,368	\$86
2016/17	9%	\$963	\$499	\$1,462	\$94
2017/18	9%	\$1,050	\$513	\$1,563	\$101
2018/19	8%	\$1,134	\$528	\$1,662	\$99
2019/20	3%	\$1,168	\$543	\$1,711	\$49

☐ **Option 3: Increase rates by 9% for 6 years.**

Maintain our services, renew our current infrastructure and deliver new services and/or infrastructure.

Increase rates by a maximum 9% for 6 years . Residential ratepayers would pay on average around \$98 more each year(\$24.50 per quarter) over this 6 year period. This is would mean that by 2019/2020 the average annual rate charge would be \$1,790 (or a quarterly charge of \$448)

	Annual % Increase *	Average Total \$ Rates Charge	Average \$ Waste and Stormwater Charge	Total \$ Rate Waste and Stormwater Charge	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$744	\$458	\$1,202	-
2014/15	9%	\$810	\$471	\$1,282	\$80
2015/16	9%	\$884	\$485	\$1,368	\$86
2016/17	9%	\$963	\$499	\$1,462	\$94
2017/18	9%	\$1,050	\$513	\$1,563	\$101
2018/19	9%	\$1,144	\$528	\$1,672	\$109
2019/20	9%	\$1,247	\$543	\$1,790	\$118

*includes annual rate increase set by IPART

Local Solutions

Our Options – Residential Rates

A little bit about you:

Full Name: _____

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email: _____

Are you a resident/ratepayer of the Holroyd City Local Government Area?

Resident ☐

Ratepayer ☐

Is your property residential or business?

Residential ☐

Business ☐

Both ☐

How did you find out about this Listening Post?

Council's Website ☐

Newspaper ☐

Word of Mouth ☐

Other ☐

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What is your age range?

18 – 29 ☐

30 – 45 ☐

46 – 60 ☐

60+ ☐

What is your gender?

Male ☐

Female ☐

What is your country of birth?

.....

How long have you lived in the Holroyd City Local Government Area?

Less than 2 years ☐

3 – 5 years ☐

6 – 10 years ☐

10 years + ☐

Thank you for your feedback

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Our Options

Please number in order of preference from 1 to 3.

Full Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

Number: _____

Email: _____

- ☐ **Option 1: No rate increase above the State restricted level.** Reduce our services and / or infrastructure standards.
- ☐ **Option 2: Increase rates by 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.** Maintain our services and renew our current infrastructure.
- ☐ **Option 3: Increase rates by 9% for 6 years.** Maintain our services, renew our current infrastructure and deliver new services and / or infrastructure.

See next panel for more detailed figures.

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Holroyd City Council

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Our Options - The Maths

The following tables show the year on year rate increase for all three options for businesses. The average total rates and increases would be more applicable to big businesses, opposed to small to medium businesses. In each of the three options, the standard Stormwater Levy is set at the static \$25 per 350m² (capped at \$500) for a business property and \$12.50 for a business strata property.

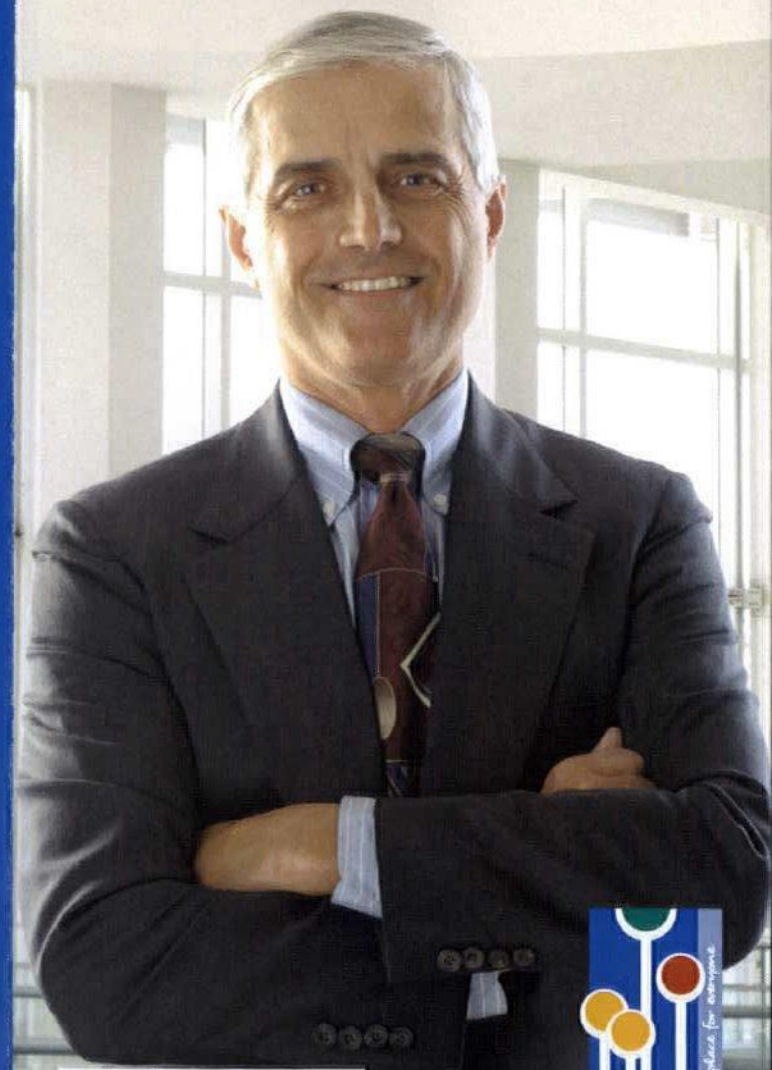
Option 1	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$6,110	-
2014/15	3%	\$6,289	\$179
2015/16	3%	\$6,475	\$186
2016/17	3%	\$6,666	\$191
2017/18	3%	\$6,862	\$196
2018/19	3%	\$7,065	\$203
2019/20	3%	\$7,273	\$208

Option 2	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$6,110	-
2014/15	9%	\$6,649	\$539
2015/16	9%	\$7,238	\$589
2016/17	9%	\$7,879	\$641
2017/18	9%	\$8,578	\$699
2018/19	8%	\$9,255	\$677
2019/20	3%	\$9,530	\$275

Option 3	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$6,110	-
2014/15	9%	\$6,649	\$539
2015/16	9%	\$7,238	\$589
2016/17	9%	\$7,879	\$641
2017/18	9%	\$8,578	\$699
2018/19	9%	\$9,340	\$762
2019/20	9%	\$10,170	\$830

Local Solutions

Our future in our hands



Information for
big businesses



Our Challenge and Your Say

Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. This is because we have more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are ageing and our community is growing.

We need a local solution...

A way to secure the services and infrastructure we need for today and the future. So, we need local businesses to tell us how they think we should achieve this.

To have your say, please read this brochure and:

- Fill out the survey in this brochure and return it to Holroyd City Council via mail, email or in person; or
- Fill out the online survey by visiting the Your Say – Local Solutions section of Holroyd City Council's website.

Keep our future in our hands.

Our Services, Infrastructure and Community

Back in 1977 when the State Government restricted the annual increase of all Council rates, we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage.

Today, we need to fund over 100 additional services in areas including:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Aged & disability | • Environmental health |
| • Building compliance | • Graffiti management |
| • Childcare | • Libraries |
| • Community development | • Multiculturalism |
| • Community grants | • Planning & development |
| • Companion animals | • Tree management |
| • Cycleways & bridges | • Waste & illegal dumping |
| • Economic development | • Youth |

We have more infrastructure than ever before and because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only maintenance but also an increasing level of renewals.

Our four main types of infrastructure are roads and bridges, parks and recreation, buildings and stormwater; including our:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| • 152 playgrounds | • 13 childcare centres |
| • 98 sportsgrounds | • 3 libraries |
| • 72 parks and 2 reserves | • 3 swimming centres |
| • 18 community centres | • 345km urban roads |
| • 12 function halls | • 309km stormwater pipes |

Since our community has grown by 19% over the past 10 years and is expected to grow by another 37% over the next 20 years; we now have to think about the funds we will need to maintain our services and infrastructure today, as well as in the long term.

Our Rates and Funding Gap

Since the State Government restricted the annual increase on council rates 36 years ago, the cost of just about everything has gone up each year. Our rates have only ever provided funds in excess of the restriction once.

In terms of rate income, this makes Holroyd the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area (LGA) in the Sydney Metro region.

The funds that could be used to maintain and renew our ageing assets have been stretched across delivering our additional services and infrastructure. So, we have a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years:

Asset renewal – \$57.1m
Asset maintenance – \$10.5m
Operational – \$29.5m

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.



Our Options

Please number in order of preference from 1 to 3.

Full Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

Number: _____

Email: _____

☐ **Option 1: No rate increase above the State restricted level.** Reduce our services and / or infrastructure standards.

☐ **Option 2: Increase rates by 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.** Maintain our services and renew our current infrastructure.

☐ **Option 3: Increase rates by 9% for 6 years.** Maintain our services, renew our current infrastructure and deliver new services and / or infrastructure.

See next panel for more detailed figures.

PRIVACY NOTE: Council will collect and hold the personal information contained in this survey to consider your submission. The intended recipients of the personal information are officers within Council, and any third party service providers assisting Council in this campaign. The supply of personal information by you is voluntary, however if you cannot provide, or do not wish to provide the information sought, Council may be unable to consider your submission.

You may make an application for access or amendments to your personal information held by Council under the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIP Act) or the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act). You may also make a request that Council suppress your personal information from a public register. Council will consider any such application in accordance with the PPIP Act.

Information provided to Council in correspondence, submissions or requests, including your personal information, may be made publicly available, including on Council's website, under the GIPA Act. Please notify us if you object to the disclosure of your personal information.

Holroyd City Council

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Our Options - The Maths

The following tables show the year on year rate increase for all three options for small businesses. In each of the three options, the standard Stormwater Levy is set at the static \$25 per 350m² (capped at \$500) for a business property and \$12.50 for a business strata property.

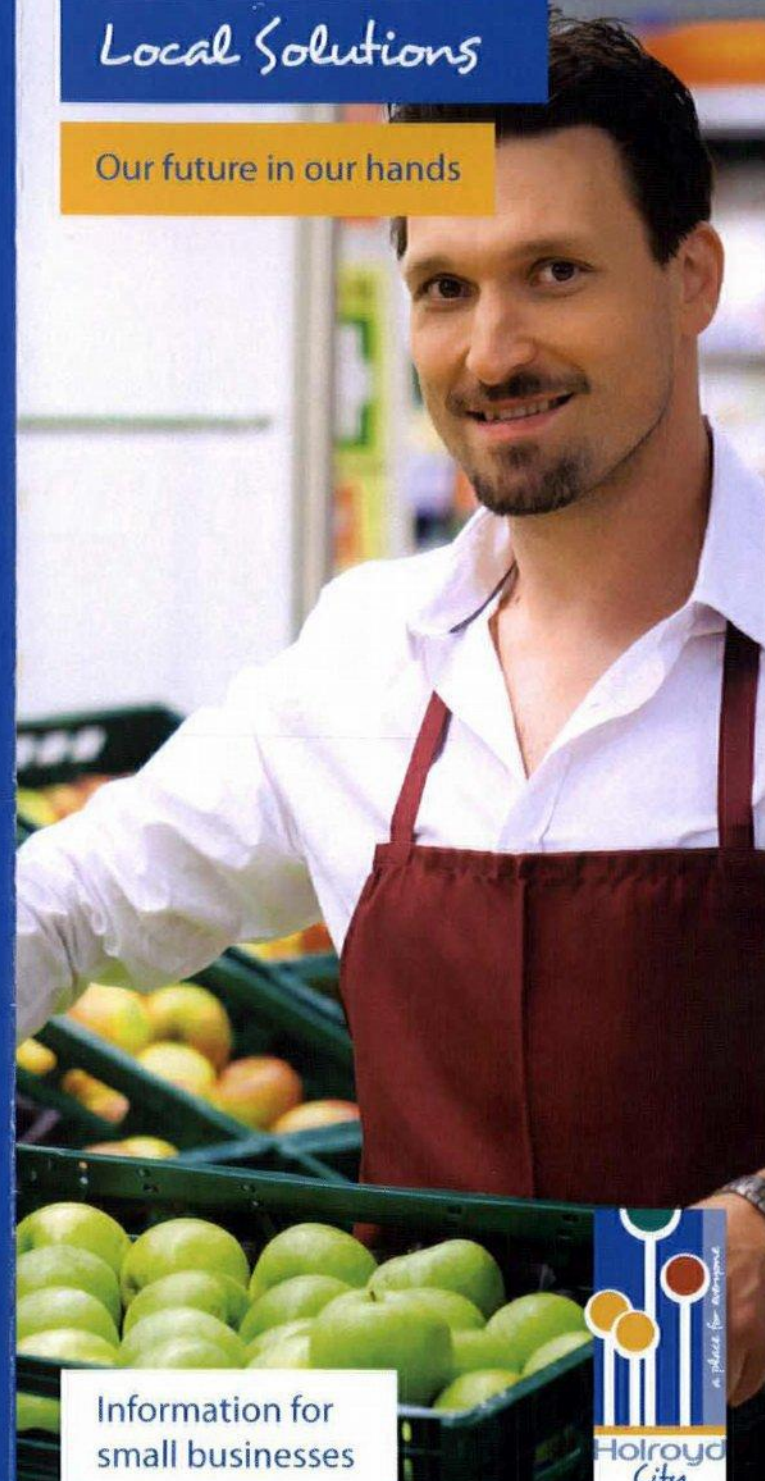
Option 1	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates, Waste & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$3,481	-
2014/15	3%	\$3,585	\$104
2015/16	3%	\$3,692	\$107
2016/17	3%	\$3,802	\$110
2017/18	3%	\$3,915	\$113
2018/19	3%	\$4,032	\$117
2019/20	3%	\$4,152	\$120

Option 2	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates, Waste & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$3,481	-
2014/15	9%	\$3,792	\$311
2015/16	9%	\$4,131	\$339
2016/17	9%	\$4,500	\$369
2017/18	9%	\$4,904	\$404
2018/19	8%	\$5,294	\$390
2019/20	3%	\$5,452	\$158

Option 3	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates, Waste & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$3,481	-
2014/15	9%	\$3,792	\$311
2015/16	9%	\$4,131	\$339
2016/17	9%	\$4,500	\$369
2017/18	9%	\$4,904	\$404
2018/19	9%	\$5,343	\$439
2019/20	9%	\$5,821	\$478

Local Solutions

Our future in our hands



Information for
small businesses



Our Challenge and Your Say

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- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
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- | | |
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Asset renewal – \$57.1m
Asset maintenance – \$10.5m
Operational – \$29.5m

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.



Our Options

Please number in order of preference from 1 to 3.

Full Name: _____

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

Number: _____

Email: _____

☐ **No rate increase above the State restricted level.**
Reduce our services and / or infrastructure standards.
Based on an expected increase of 3%, residential ratepayers would pay an average of \$229 per year more by 2019/20. This is an average annual charge of \$1,431 and quarterly charge of \$358.

☐ **Increase rates by 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.**
Maintain our services and renew our current infrastructure.
Residential ratepayers would pay an average of \$509 per year more by 2019/20. This is an average annual charge of \$1,711 and quarterly charge of \$428.

☐ **Increase rates by 9% for 6 years.**
Maintain our services, renew our current infrastructure and deliver new services and / or infrastructure.
Residential ratepayers would pay an average of \$588 per year more by 2019/20. This is an average annual charge of \$1,790 and quarterly charge of \$448.

See next panel for more detailed figures.

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follow us:



Our Options - The Maths

The following tables show the year on year rate increase for all three options for residents. In each of the three options, the standard Waste Charge increases are set at 3% annually and the standard Stormwater Levy is set at the static \$25 per residential property and \$12.50 per residential strata property.

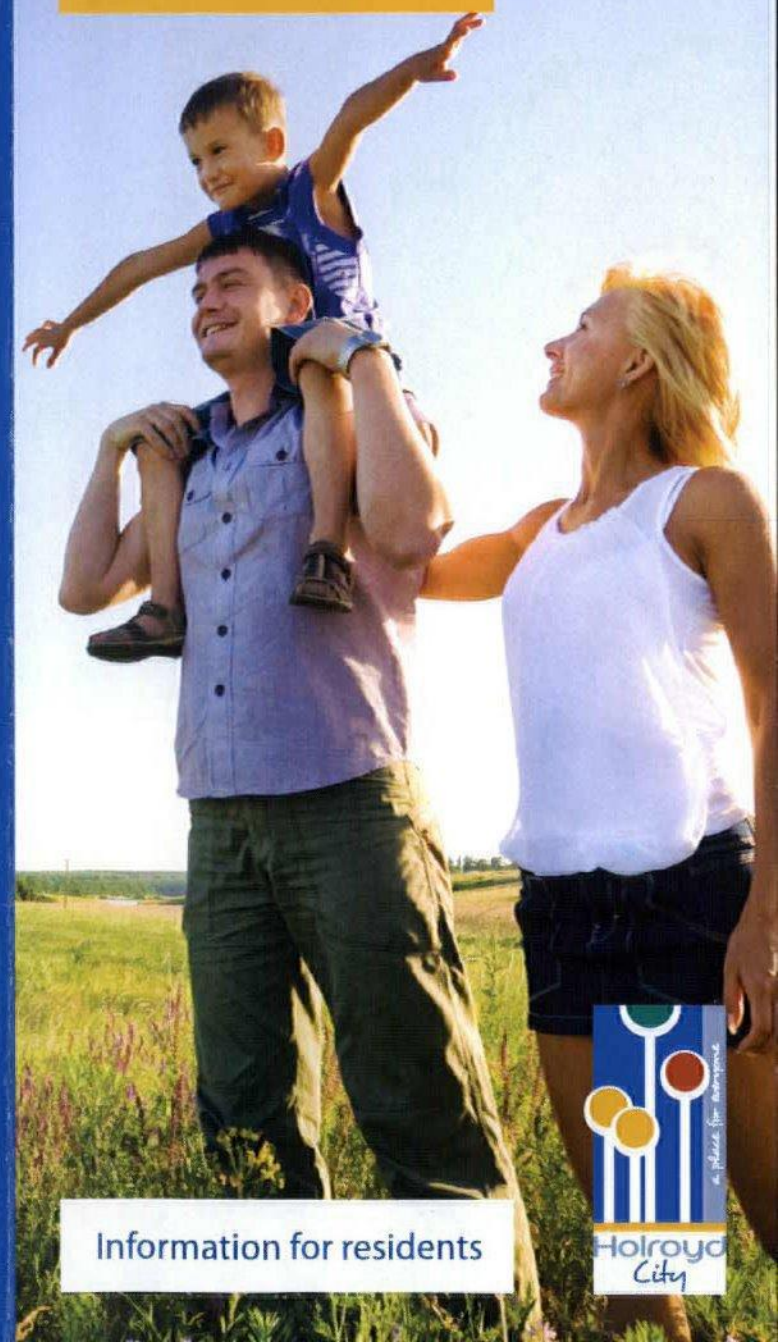
Option 1	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates, Waste & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$1,202	-
2014/15	3%	\$1,237	\$35
2015/16	3%	\$1,274	\$37
2016/17	3%	\$1,312	\$38
2017/18	3%	\$1,351	\$39
2018/19	3%	\$1,391	\$40
2019/20	3%	\$1,431	\$41

Option 2	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates, Waste & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$1,202	-
2014/15	9%	\$1,282	\$80
2015/16	9%	\$1,368	\$86
2016/17	9%	\$1,462	\$94
2017/18	9%	\$1,563	\$101
2018/19	8%	\$1,662	\$99
2019/20	3%	\$1,711	\$49

Option 3	Annual % Increase	Average Total \$ Rates, Waste & Stormwater Charges	Average Annual \$ Increase
2013/14	-	\$1,202	-
2014/15	9%	\$1,282	\$80
2015/16	9%	\$1,368	\$86
2016/17	9%	\$1,462	\$94
2017/18	9%	\$1,563	\$101
2018/19	9%	\$1,672	\$109
2019/20	9%	\$1,790	\$118

Local Solutions

Our future in our hands



Information for residents



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- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
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Asset renewal – \$57.1m

Asset maintenance – \$10.5m

Operational – \$29.5m

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.





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Local Solutions

Our future in our hands



Holroyd City Council
Reply Paid 42
MERRYLANDS NSW 2160

Full Name:

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2:

Number:

Email:

In each of the three options, the standard Stormwater Levy is set at the static \$25 per 350m² (capped at \$500) for a business property and \$12.50 for a business strata property.

Please number in order of preference from 1 to 3.



**Reduce services/
infrastructure**

**Increase rates by around
3%, in line with State
restricted level.**

*Outcome: Reduce
our services and / or
infrastructure standards.*

Average rates will increase
from \$3,456 in 2013/2014
to \$4,127 in 2019/2020, an
increase of \$671 in total over
the 6 years.



**Maintain services/
infrastructure**

**Increase rates by
maximum 9% for 4 years
and 8% for 1 year.**

*Outcome: Maintain our
services and renew our
current infrastructure.*

Average rates will increase
from \$3,456 in 2013/2014
to \$5,427 in 2019/2020, an
increase of \$1,971 in total
over the 6 years.



**Enhance services/
infrastructure**

**Increase rates by
maximum 9% for 6
years.**

*Outcome: Maintain our
services, renew our current
infrastructure and deliver
new services and / or
infrastructure.*

Average rates will increase
from \$3,456 in 2013/2014
to \$5,796 in 2019/2020, an
increase of \$2,340 in total
over the next 6 years.



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Holroyd City Council
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Full Name:

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Number:

Email:

In each of the three options, the standard Waste Charge increases are set at 3% annually and the standard Stormwater Levy is set at the static \$25 per residential property and \$12.50 per residential strata property.

Please number in order of preference from 1 to 3.

☐ **Reduce services/
infrastructure**
**Increase rates by around
3%, in line with State
restricted level.**

Outcome: Reduce
our services and / or
infrastructure standards.

Based on an expected
increase of around 3%,
residential ratepayers would
pay an average of \$229 per
year more by 2019/20. This is
an average annual charge of
\$1,431 (or quarterly charge
of \$358).

☐ **Maintain services/
infrastructure**
**Increase rates by
maximum 9% for 4 years
and 8% for 1 year.**

Outcome: Maintain our
services and renew our
current infrastructure.

Residential ratepayers would
pay an average of \$509 per
year more by 2019/20. This is
an average annual charge of
\$1,711 (or quarterly charge
of \$428).

☐ **Enhance services/
infrastructure**
**Increase rates by
maximum 9% for 6
years.**

Outcome: Maintain our
services, renew our current
infrastructure and deliver
new services and / or
infrastructure.

Residential ratepayers would
pay an average of \$588 per
year more by 2019/20. This is
an average annual charge of
\$1,790 (or quarterly charge
of \$448).



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Holroyd City Council
Reply Paid 42
MERRYLANDS NSW 2160



Full Name:

Address Line 1:

Address Line 2:

Number:

Email:

In each of the three options, the standard Stormwater Levy is set at the static \$25 per 350m2 (capped at \$500) for a business property and \$12.50 for a business strata property.

Please number in order of preference from 1 to 3.

☐ **Reduce services/
infrastructure**

Increase rates by around 3%, in line with State restricted level.

Outcome: Reduce our services and / or infrastructure standards.

Average rates will increase from \$5,998 in 2013/2014 to \$7,161 in 2019/2020, an increase of \$1,163 in total over the 6 years.

☐ **Maintain services/
infrastructure**

Increase rates by maximum 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.

Outcome: Maintain our services and renew our current infrastructure.

Average rates will increase from \$5,998 in 2013/2014 to \$9,418 in 2019/2020, an increase of \$3,420 in total over the 6 years.

☐ **Enhance services/
infrastructure**

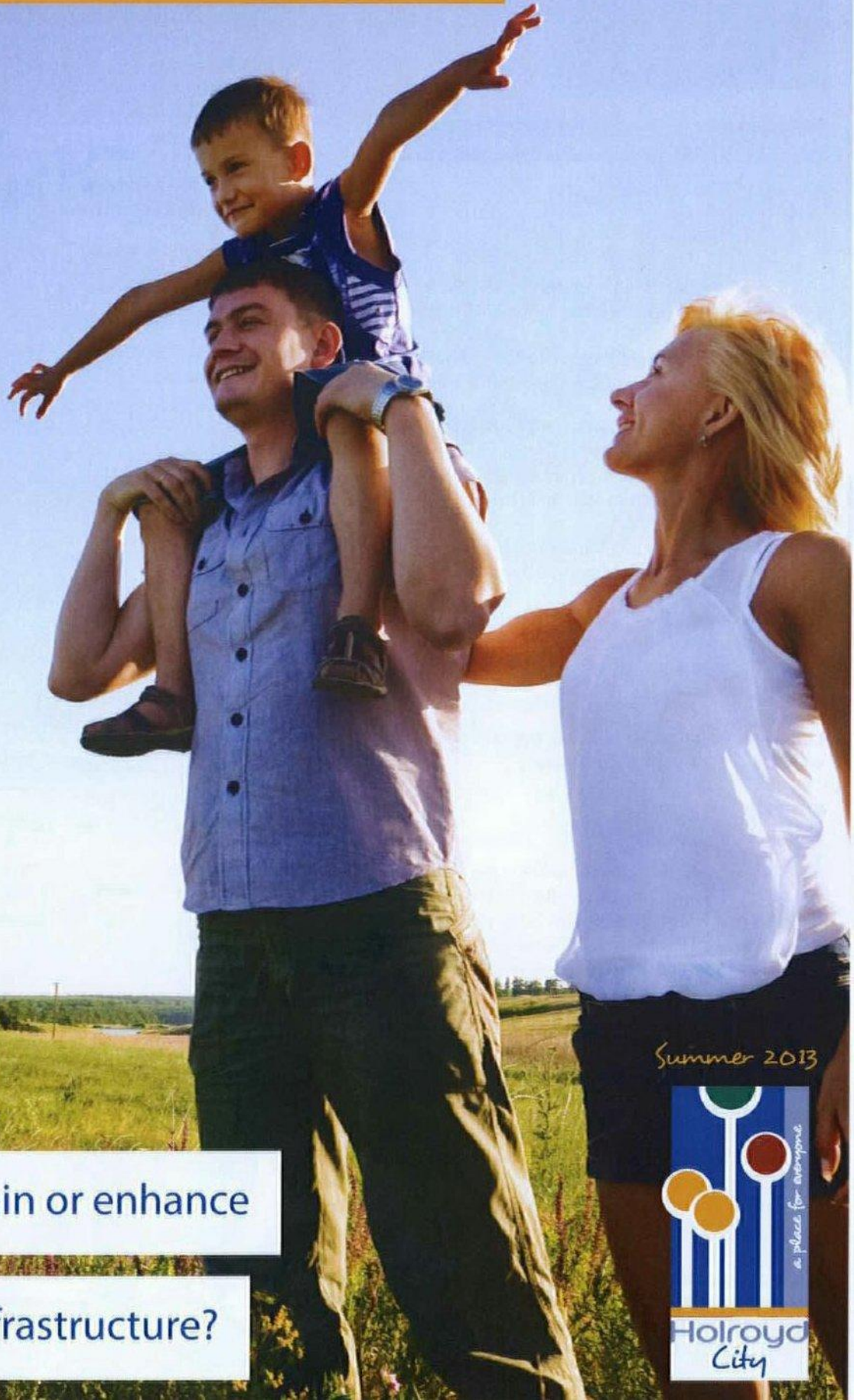
Increase rates by maximum 9% for 6 years.

Outcome: Maintain our services, renew our current infrastructure and deliver new services and / or infrastructure.

Average rates will increase from \$5,998 in 2013/2014 to \$10,058 in 2019/2020, an increase of \$4,060 in total over the next 6 years.

Holroyd Herald Special Edition

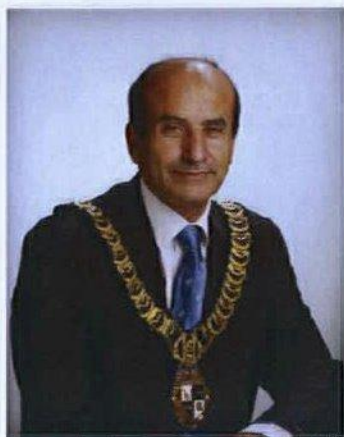
Local Solutions... Our future in our hands.



Reduce, maintain or enhance
services and infrastructure?

Summer 2013





Foreword from Nasr Kafrouni

Mayor, Holroyd City

Dear resident,

Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure standards.

This is because we have more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are ageing and our community is growing.

We are now at a critical point where we need to decide whether we want to increase our rates so we can continue to afford our current services and infrastructure standards; or reduce our services and infrastructure standards to live within our means.

We believe that local challenges need local solutions. So, we're asking our locals to tell us how you think we should proceed.

To have your say, please read this newsletter and complete the survey located at the 'Your Say & Contacts - Local Solutions' section of our website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au or contact Council on 9840 9938.

Let's work together on securing the services and infrastructure we need for today and the future.

The Change

In NSW, the State Government restricts the amount Council rates can go up each year based on inflation. This is called 'rate pegging'. It means that whilst rates increase each year, the increase is only enough to keep up with the increasing cost of goods and labour; not to fund additional services and infrastructure.

Over the past 20 years, rates have been pegged at around 3%. But alot has changed over this time. 20 years ago, our community was 20% smaller than it is today and we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage.

Today, we need to fund a growing number of services and infrastructure and because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only maintenance but also an increasing level of renewals.

Since our community is expected to grow by another 37% over the next 20 years; we now have to think about the funds we will need to maintain our services and infrastructure today, as well as in the long term.

Our Challenge

Since the State pegged rates at around 3% 20 years ago, the cost of just about everything has gone up each year. Our rates have only ever provided funds in excess of the peg once.

In terms of rate income, Holroyd is the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area in the Sydney Metro region.

The funds that could be used to maintain and renew our ageing assets have been stretched across delivering our additional services and infrastructure. So, we have a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years:

- Asset renewal - \$57.1m
- Asset maintenance - \$10.5m
- Operational - \$29.5m

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Did you know

Your rates pay for the operation,

maintenance and renewal of crucial

infrastructure?

This includes:

345km of urban roads

71 roundabouts

426km of footpaths

681km of kerb & guttering

23 road bridges

14 pedestrian bridges

107,000m² of carpark spaces

309km of stormwater

26 stormwater detention basins

34 gross pollutant traps pipes

3 hectares of wetlands

46 irrigation systems



Did you know

Your rates pay for 100s of recreation and leisure facilities?

This includes:

158 playgrounds
2 nature reserves
18 netball courts
3 swimming pools
15 childcare centres

407 items of play equipment
965 outdoor seating spots
23 cricket pitches
18 community centres
3 libraries

72 parks
98 sportsgrounds
10 cricket practice nets
12 public halls
24 tennis courts



The Condition of Our Infrastructure

The condition of our major types of infrastructure is assessed on a scale of 1 to 5, where:

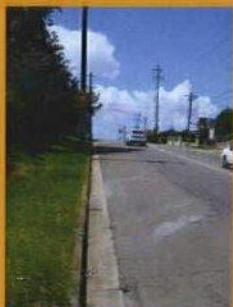
- Condition 1 – 2 = Very good to good condition. Maintenance required and minor repairs on up to 5% or less of the asset.
- Condition 3 = Average condition. Maintenance / repairs required to 10-20% of the asset.
- Condition 4 – 5 = Poor to very poor condition. Renewals required to 20-40% of the asset or 50% of asset unserviceable.

Most of our \$982m asset portfolio is in average to very good condition however because renewals are so costly, our condition 4 and 5 assets will still cost \$57.1m to renew over the next 10 years.

Roads



Condition 1 - 2
Croft Avenue



Condition 3
Walpole Street



Condition 4 - 5
Davies Street

Footpaths



Condition 1 - 2
Pemulwuy



Condition 3
Newman Street

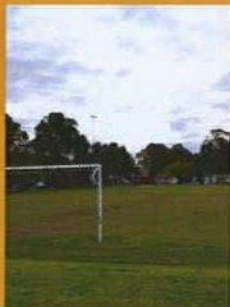


Condition 4 - 5
Beresford Road

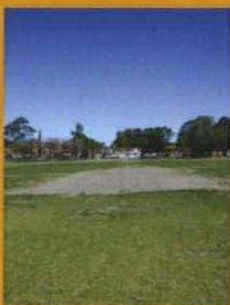
Sportsgrounds



Condition 1 - 2
Merrylands Oval -
Cricket Field

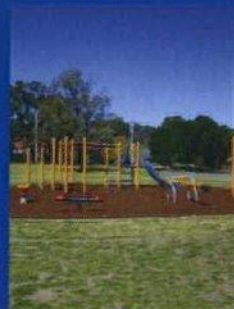


Condition 3
King Park

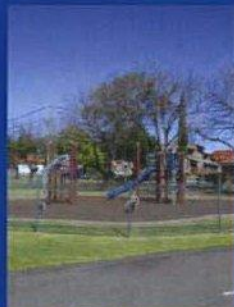


Condition 4 - 5
Merrylands Oval -
Soccer Field

Playgrounds



Condition 1 - 2
Alpha Road Park



Condition 3
Merrylands Oval



Condition 4 - 5
Nemesia Street

Our Options

Option 1: Reduce services/infrastructure – Increase rates by State restricted level only, estimated at around 3% for the next six years. Residential ratepayers would pay on average \$38 more each year (\$9.50 per quarter) over the six years to 2019/2020. This would mean that by 2019/2020 the average annual rate charge would be \$1,431 (or a quarterly charge of \$358).

Option 2: Maintain services/infrastructure – Increase rates by a maximum 9% for 4 years, 8% for 1 year and return to the State restricted level of around 3% in the sixth year. Residential ratepayers would pay on average \$85 more each year (\$21.25 per quarter) over this six year period. This would mean that by 2019/2020 the average annual rate charge would be \$1,711 (or a quarterly charge of \$428).

Option 3: Enhance services/infrastructure – Increase rates by a maximum 9% for 6 years. Residential ratepayers would pay on average \$98 more each year (\$24.50 per quarter) over the 6 year period to 2019/2020. This would mean that by 2019/2020 the average annual rate charge would be \$1,790 (or a quarterly charge of \$448).

Did you know

Your rates pay for a growing number of services?

Services cover areas including:

Aged care
Building compliance
Commercial waste and recycling
Companion animals
Economic development
Graffiti management
Illegal dumping
Public health
Roads and footpaths
Tree management

Art and culture
Development
Community development
Cycleways and bridges
Environmental health
Healthy living
Libraries
Public safety
Stormwater and drainage
Urban planning

Asbestos safety
Childcare
Community grants
Disability support
Facilities management
Heritage conservation
Multiculturalism
Resident waste and recycling
Traffic management
Youth



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Don't our rates just pay for rubbish collection?

A. No. In Holroyd, rate income contributes to funding the delivery of over 100 services and the maintenance of a \$982m asset portfolio. For more details on the types of services and infrastructure our community enjoys, please visit the 'Your Services' and 'Your Facilities' sections of our website.

Q. Why can't Council address our funding gap by saving money?

A. Councils first need to maximise all other avenues to increase income and savings before qualifying for a rate increase. From increasing income from property assets to saving by using recycled materials in road construction; we've maximised all other avenues and now need to consider the rate increase option.

Q. Why can't Council address our funding gap using other income sources?

Around 40% of our total income is provided by non-rate income sources, such as grants. Grant funding opportunities are pursued by Council however, most available opportunities are for funding specific projects (opposed to ongoing services and infrastructure renewals) and don't provide a guaranteed income source for the City over the long term. Without a guaranteed income source, service and infrastructure delivery also can't be guaranteed. A common non-rate income source which councils often increase to reduce their rate to non-rate income source ratio is 'User Charges', which include childcare fees, parking fees, facility hire charges, development application charges, etc. However even if there was to be a substantial increase in User Charges, this increase couldn't generate enough income to address Holroyd's funding gap.

Q. If there was to be a rate increase, would there be any concessions?

A. Yes, pensioner and hardship rate relief concessions would still apply.

Q. Why did Holroyd's rates rise above the peg once before?

A. To fund the building of Merrylands Library, renovations to the Holroyd City Council administration building and infrastructure maintenance. Even with this increase, Holroyd has the 38th lowest rate income out of the 42 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in the Sydney Metro region.

Q. Is Holroyd City in debt?

A. As at 2011/12, Holroyd City has \$0 debt. Our funding gap isn't a debt; it's the additional income we need to maintain our services and infrastructure for today and the future. Over the past 20 years our community has enjoyed 100s of new services and infrastructure which we've stretched all our funds trying to maintain. So we're now at a point where we need to decide whether to reduce, maintain or enhance our services and infrastructure.

Q. Does all this mean our City is in trouble?

A. No. We have a balanced budget and most of our infrastructure is in average to very good condition.

Q. Is Holroyd the only city looking at a rate increase?

A. No. 23 cities applied for a rate rise in 2013/14.

Q. Where would the income from a rate increase go?

A. The Option 2 rate increase would provide us with an additional \$95.5m over the next 10 years to maintain our services and infrastructure and renew our ageing assets. Option 3 would provide us with an additional \$110.2m over the next 10 years to maintain our services and infrastructure and renew our ageing assets; as well as build new infrastructure.

Q. When will the rate increase happen?

A. There's no rate increase at this stage. At this stage, we're asking locals to tell us how they think we should secure the services and infrastructure we need for today and the future. A rate increase is an option that can be pursued after all other ways to increase income have been maximised.

Q. What happens if most of our community wants to reduce our services and infrastructure standards?

A. Council will vote on whether to reduce our services and infrastructure standards in February 2014 and if so, we'll begin discussing reduction options with our community thereafter.

Q. What types of services would be reduced if we didn't have a rate increase?

A. If it's decided to leave rates and reduce our services and infrastructure standards, we'll begin discussing reduction options with our community.

Q. Why can't we know what types of services would be reduced if we didn't have a rate increase from now?

A. The challenge is that determining what service and infrastructure reductions would occur involves comprehensive planning and consultations with our community. We would need to provide our community with different reduction options, based on considerations such as cost-benefit analyses and financial sustainability, and then hand over to them to tell us what they believe should be reduced. So the process we are following is to first try to understand whether or not our community wants to increase our rates. If it is decided to reduce services and infrastructure standards, we will then go to our community to find out what reductions they want to occur.

Q. Why do we need a rate increase when we have funding coming in through Section 94 levies?

A. By law, Section 94 funding must be used to deliver new infrastructure, not on maintenance and renewal of existing infrastructure.

Q. Why did Council resolve an LEP that will lead to population growth if population growth is a problem?

A. Our community's projected growth is a positive for our City's future and so it's important that we address the challenges this growth presents now, rather than allow them to become problems later.

Q. Why should ratepayers get involved in all this?

A. What happens to our community's services and infrastructure should be a decision for our community. We are here to listen. Their future... their hands.

Did you know

Your rates pay for the sustainability and growth of the City?

In the past year, this includes:

498 development applications assessed

114 construction certificates issued

44,797 tonnes of waste collected

6 tonnes of asbestos collected

3,607 gigajoules energy saved

831 food shop inspections conducted

88 cooling towers inspected

19,913 animals microchipped

819 child immunisations given

\$274,848,427 worth of new developments processed

2,693,833 rubbish and recycling bins collected

22 tonnes of electronic waste collected

\$22,000 of asbestos tipping fees saved for residents

233 tonnes of carbon dioxide reduced

193 beauty and hair salon inspections conducted

367 environmental health assessments conducted

125 environmental protection cases managed

121 food handlers trained



How to Contact Your Councillors

North Ward



Cllr Lisa LAKE

Email: clrlisalake@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0427 955 589



Cllr Joseph RAHME

Email: clrrahme@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0427 855 693



Cllr Yvette WHITFIELD, JP, CMC (Deputy Mayor)

Email: clrwhitfield@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0419 254 855
Fax: 9896 3271

South Ward



Cllr Dr John BRODIE

Email: cldrbrodie@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0477 210 155



Cllr Pam COLMAN

Email: clrcolman@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0400 554 959
Fax: 9632 6750



Cllr Nasr KAFROUNI (Mayor)

Email: clrkafrouni@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0428 464 776
Fax: 9636 9273

East Ward



Cllr Peter MONAGHAN

Email: clrmonaghan@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0416 550 890
Fax: 9682 3608



Cllr Eddy SARKIS, JP

Email: clrsarkis@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0425 348 000
Fax: 9896 5599



Cllr Michael ZAITER

Email: clrzaiter@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0427 824 969

West Ward



Cllr Greg CUMMINGS

Email: clrcummings@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0404 081 397
Fax: 9631 6159



Cllr Ross GROVE

Email: clrgrove@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0412 897 130
Fax: 9756 1728



Cllr Nadima KAFROUNI

Email: clrnadimakafrouni@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0427 806 877
Fax: 9636 9273

Holroyd City Council

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Conversations

TALK WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

our say

“As a local, it will be a tragedy if Holroyd Council close this swim centre and Guildford pool to expand Merrylands pool.

- Alan

Your say

We use the Wenty pool regularly. It is very convenient for babies through seniors of all ages. The local pools should stay.

- Richard

write to us

ONLINE: parramattaadvertiser.com.auEMAIL: letters@parramattaadvertiser.com.au FAX: 9689 5357

POST OR DELIVER: 142 Macquarie St, Parramatta, NSW 2150

Letters should be no longer than 250 words. They must include the writer's full address (only the suburb is published) and a daytime phone number for verification. Letters should be concise and relevant to the local community. Letters are submitted on the condition that NewsLocal, as publisher of the Parramatta Advertiser, may edit and has the right to license third parties to reproduce them in electronic form. Responsibility for all election comment in this issue is taken by Bob Osburn, 142 Macquarie St, Parramatta, 2150.



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[twitter.com/
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Choose local pools

WENTWORTHVILLE is a great swimming location with three pools catering for young children to adults, with great access by foot, bike, train, bus or car.

As a local resident it will be a tragedy if Holroyd Council closes this swim centre and Guildford pool to expand Merrylands pool (Big pool or local pool row heats up, *Advertiser*, January 8).

That is great for the Merrylands community, but what about everyone else? This will make travel an issue for some, will undoubtedly be more costly for families and disadvantage a large number of people.

Not everyone wants to drive a car (if they own a car) to a location that is over 20 minutes from a local rail station or go through at least one bus change to get there.

To sell to land developers is a very narrow view of what the community needs, with the adjoining empty block that was once an RSL

club being developed is it a matter of another high rise versus a swimming pool (or other public space).

There is no thought or consideration to the number of people who swim for health reasons having to travel further, or even if they are able to make the journey at all.

What is the council thinking?

ALAN, via online

Revamp preferred

COUNCILLOR Lisa Lake's proposal to refurbish the pools is the best and most logical option.

We need more facilities for families in this area, not less.

It is an absolute disgrace to consider selling off the land for the almighty dollar. That is not what the community needs.

STACEY, via online

Bigger isn't better

WE USE the Wenty pool regularly. It is very convenient for babies

through seniors of all ages. The local pools should stay.

The benefit of a large central pool, especially when it would mean the closure of all other pools, is very questionable.

There are other councils that have some large pools, like Marrickville, but they also have other local pools.

Marrickville has a similar population to Holroyd and less area, so if people like the idea of large fancy pools, why don't they propose one along with leaving the local ones?

RICHARD, via online

Council needs clarity

AS YOU may know, it is almost that time again when our council increases rates anywhere up to the maximum allowed by Independent Pricing and Regulation Tribunal. This is known as rate pegging.

You may also have received a letter advising you that the Holroyd Council wishes to raise rates above

the maximum and is asking the community to decide from three options they have packaged together.

My fear is that ratepayers may perceive this as a money grab, given the information provided to them was not clearly detailed.

I have sat in many council meetings recently and have concluded that occasionally our council gives away money for purposes at odds with community sentiment.

In other ways Holroyd Council have acted well to keep out of debt and I applaud them for being proactive in maintaining this position.

I believe they should be more open in sharing their vision while keeping expenditure low and return on investment high. The maximum increase proposed (9 per cent for 6 years) represents a significant increase. I believe 6 years is a very long time for a citizen, especially if they are unaware of Holroyd Council's plans or what they get for their contribution.

My advice to the council is to provide citizens with an easy-to-understand road map (with time frames) that puts its best foot forward.

The proposal of the Wellness Centre that may be constructed in the future, is an example of something that is likely to give the community peace of mind.

It is proof the council intends to use ratepayer money wisely and gives confidence the council intends to make the best decisions for the community.

STEVEN LOPEZ, online

FOR THE RECORD

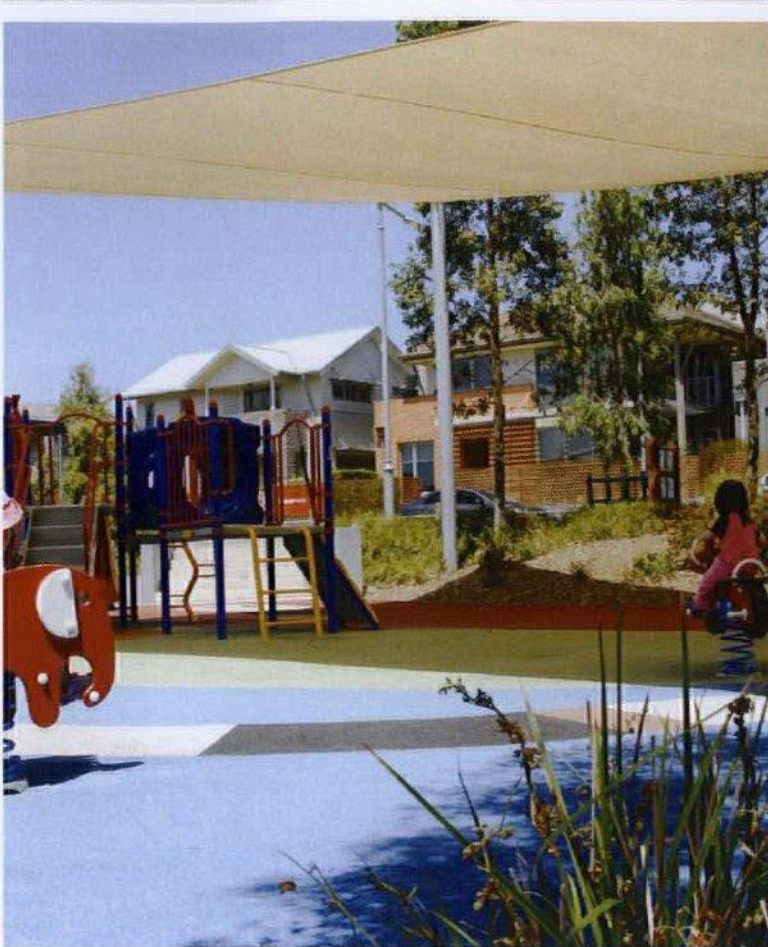
NewsLocal is bound by the standards of the Australian Press Council. If you believe the APC standards may have been breached you should approach this newspaper (see details above) or contact the council by email at info@presscouncil.org.au or phone 9261 1930. For further information www.presscouncil.org.au



Local Solutions

Frequently Asked Questions





Frequently Asked Questions

1. What exactly is the State Government restriction on annual rate increases?

Since 1977, the rate income for all Councils in NSW has been restricted under an arrangement known as rate pegging. Rate pegging means Councils can't increase their total rate income above the pegged annual increase level. The rate peg is a percentage set each year by the Independent Pricing and Regulation Tribunal (IPART) and has been around 3%.

2. Don't our rates increase every year anyway?

Yes, but this isn't because Council is increasing them to fund additional services or infrastructure. Every year, IPART increases rates to keep pace with inflation. This means although the State restricted annual rate increase allows us to keep up with the increasing cost of goods and labor; it doesn't help us to fund all our additional services and infrastructure.

3. Has Holroyd ever increased rates above the State Government restriction?

Once, to fund the building of Merrylands Library, renovations to the Holroyd City Council administration building and infrastructure maintenance. Even with this increase, Holroyd has the 38th lowest rate income out of the 42 Local Government Areas (LGAs) in the Sydney Metro region. This makes Holroyd the fifth lowest in the Sydney Metro region.

4. If there was to be a rate increase, would there be any concessions?

Yes, pensioner concessions would still apply. Council also has a Hardship Policy to assist those who cannot afford to pay.

5. Don't our rates just pay for rubbish collection?

No. In Holroyd, rate income contributes to funding the delivery of over 100 services and the maintenance of a \$982m asset portfolio.

Services include:

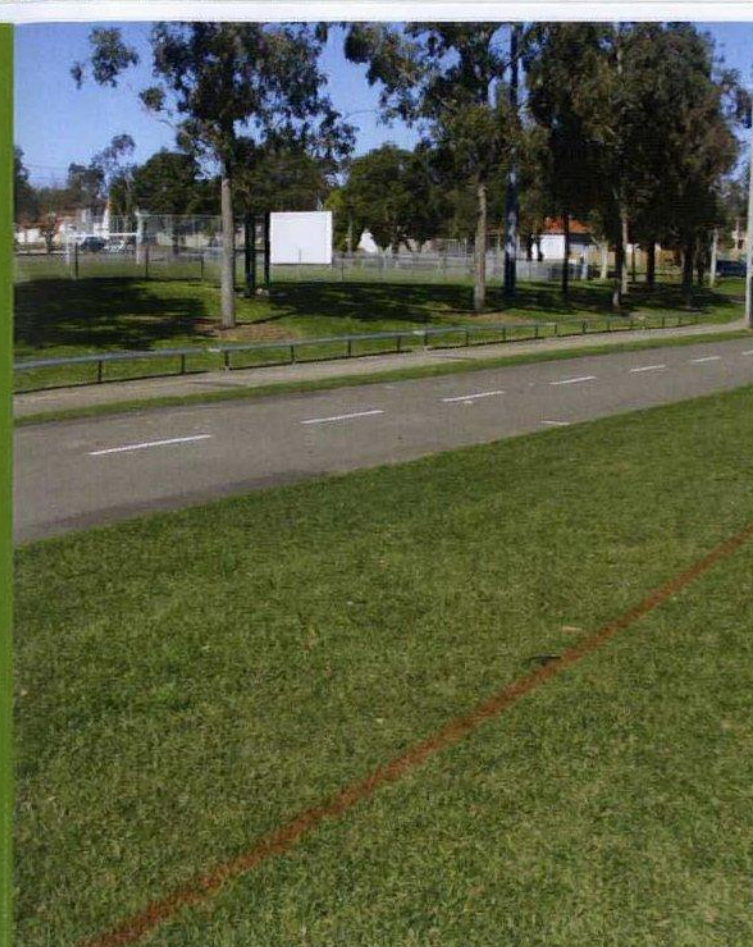
Aged and disability
Building compliance
Childcare
Community development
Community grants
Companion animals
Cycleways and bridges
Economic development
Environmental health
Graffiti management
Libraries
Multiculturalism
Planning and development
Tree management
Waste and illegal dumping
Youth

See the Your Services section of Holroyd City Council's website for a more detailed listing.

Assets include:

152 playgrounds	98 sportsgrounds
72 parks and 2 reserves	18 community centres
12 function halls	13 childcare centres
3 libraries	3 swimming centres

See the Your Facilities section of Holroyd City Council's website for more information.



6. What's the difference between infrastructure maintenance and renewal?

Maintenance is what assets in very good to average condition require. Renewal is what assets in poor to very poor condition require which in most cases, means the replacement of a substantial part of or the whole asset.

7. Why do we have an \$97.1m funding gap?

Since the State Government annual increase rate restriction was applied 36 years ago, our community has enjoyed 100s of new services and infrastructure which we have funded using income that could have been used to renew our ageing assets.

8. Is Holroyd City in debt?

As at 2011/12, Holroyd City has a balanced budget and a \$0 debt. Our funding gap is not a debt; it's the additional income we need to maintain our services and infrastructure for today and the future. Because our community has enjoyed 100s of new services and infrastructure over the past 36 years, we now need to look at how much we need to maintain them and renew the infrastructure that is ageing whilst maintaining a balanced budget.

9. Where would the income from a rate increase go?

In today's dollars, the Option 2 special rate variation would provide us with an additional \$95.5m to maintain our services and infrastructure and renew our ageing assets. Option 3 would provide us with an additional \$110.2m to maintain our services and infrastructure and renew our ageing assets; as well as build new infrastructure.

10. When will the rate increase happen?

There is no rate increase at this stage. Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. We're asking locals to tell us how they think we should secure the services and infrastructure we need for today and the future. A rate increase is an option but we won't pursue it if the majority of our community would prefer that we reduce our services and infrastructure standards instead.

11. What happens if the majority of our community wants to maintain our services and infrastructure standards?

Council will vote on whether to submit an application to IPART for a rate increase in February 2014 and IPART will begin assessing the application in March 2014.

12. What happens if the majority of our community wants to reduce our services and infrastructure standards?

Council will vote on whether to reduce our services and infrastructure standards in February 2014 and if so, we will begin discussing reduction options with our community thereafter.

13. Do we have any other options?

We have now maximised all our other options, including but not limited to:

- Increasing income from property assets;
- Increasing income through grant funding;
- Saving through building management efficiencies;
- Saving through using recycled materials in road construction.
- Saving through contestability of major supplier contracts;
- Saving through our continuous improvements program which looks at possible efficiencies across all operations;
- Accounting for all available funds in our reserve fund.

Holroyd City Council

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W www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

A photograph of a family playing in a grassy park. A woman in a yellow top and light shorts is on the left, holding the hand of a small child in a white shirt and red checkered skirt. A man in a white t-shirt and light shorts is on the right, crouching and reaching out with both hands towards the child. A young boy in a blue shirt and dark shorts is running towards the man. The background is a lush green forest.

Local Solutions

Our future in our hands

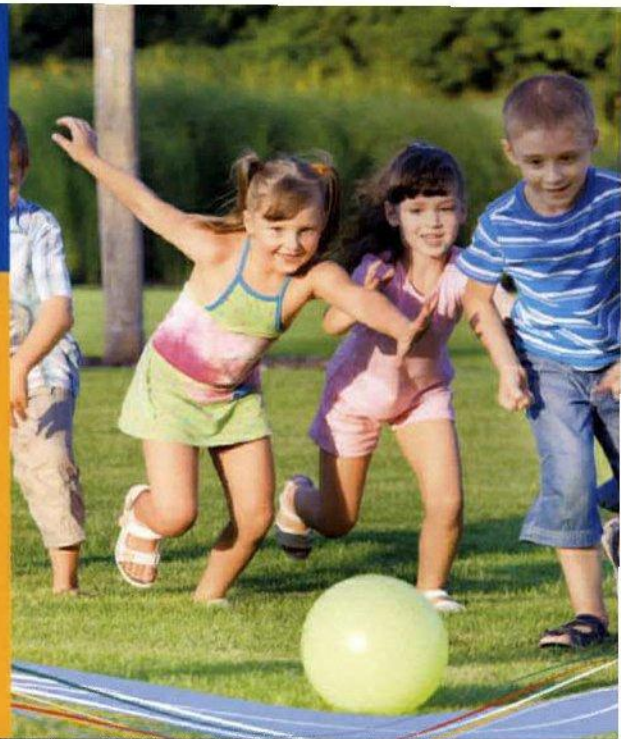


Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our infrastructure and services. This is because our population is growing, our infrastructure is ageing and we have more services than ever before.

We need a local solution. So, we need locals to tell us what they think about our options. Visit one of our community posts to have your say.

Date	Time	Locations	Address
16/10/13	9.00am – 3.00pm	Holroyd Community Services Expo	Redgum Centre, 2 Lane St, Wentworthville
20/10/13	1.00pm – 3.00pm	Stockland Merrylands	McFarlane St, Merrylands
24/10/13	3.00pm – 5.00pm	Pemulwuy Marketplace	Cnr Greystanes Rd & Butu Wargun Dr, Pemulwuy
26/10/13	10.00am – 3.30pm	King Park	Cnr Burford & Newman Sts, Merrylands
29/10/13	6.00pm – 7.30pm	Guildford Community Centre	90 O'Neill St, Guildford

For more information contact Corporate Planning via **9840 9840**,
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au



Holroyd Community Services Expo

FREE ENTRY!

Wednesday 16 October 2013

9:30am - 3:00pm

Redgum Function Centre

2 Lane Street, Wentworthville NSW 2145

The Holroyd Community Services Expo will provide you with the opportunity to:

- Speak personally with service providers in the Holroyd Local Government Area
- Find out about local services and resources available to you



The Expo will feature:

- Information Stalls
- Entertainment
- Free Sausage Sizzle
- Family Friendly

For more information, please contact Beatrice Sesay on 9840 9677 or email: beatrice.sesay@holroyd.nsw.gov.au

This event is organised in partnership with the Holroyd Interagency, YETI and other Community Services Organisations in the Holroyd Local Government Area



Family & Community Services
Community Services

Local Solutions

Our future in our hands

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For more information contact Corporate Planning via **9840 9840**.
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au





Holroyd City
a place for everyone

Weekly News

Holroyd City Council
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hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Mayor: Nasr Kafrouni
General Manager: Merv Ismay

Office hours: 8.00am to 4.30pm
Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays)
All correspondence to the General Manager

Reverse Garbage

Would you like to make unique Christmas decorations? Come along and release your creative ideas. Reverse Garbage will be holding a hands-on workshop showing participants how to use recycled material to make a truly original Christmas.

This is a hands-on class. Please leave young children at home.

Where: Merrylands Central Library

When: Monday, 11 November
from 10.30am–12 noon

Bookings: Call 9840 9960 or book online
christmasRG.eventbrite.com.au

Creative Writing Class

Are you an aspiring author? Have you got an idea for a story but don't know where to start?

Keith Wheilan is an experienced tutor who teaches writing workshops at the University of Sydney and ANU Canberra.

During this 2-hour class, students will learn how to develop stories from the initial stages of an idea to what ends up on paper.

If you have ever had writer's block or if you want to improve your writing skills – this is the workshop for you!

When: Monday, 11 November from 6–8pm

Where: Merrylands Central Library

Bookings: Call 9840 9960 or online at writing-lib.eventbrite.com.au

Fun Photobooth!

A state of the art Photo Booth will be visiting Merrylands Central Library for ONE DAY ONLY! For a small donation, you and your friends can dress up, pose and then capture the moment for all eternity. All funds raised will go to the Movember Foundation.

When: Thursday, 14 November from 11am–7pm

Where: Merrylands Central Library, corner Miller and Newman Streets, Merrylands

Call 9840 9960 for more information.

Since 1977, the State Government has been restricting the amount rates can go up each year which has driven efficiency changes and created savings. This is called rate pegging. Back then, we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage. Today, we need to fund 100s of new services and infrastructure.

We have more infrastructure than ever before and because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only an increasing amount of asset maintenance but also an increasing level of asset replacement. We now have to think about the funds we will need to maintain our services and infrastructure today, as well as in the long term.

Since rates were pegged in 1977, the cost of just about everything has gone up each year. Our rates have only ever provided funds in excess of the pegged limit once. In terms of rate income, this makes Holroyd the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area (LGA) out of the 42 LGAs in the Sydney Metro region.

Whilst Holroyd has a long history of adopting and maintaining annual budgets and currently has no debt, over the past 36 years our growing community has enjoyed 100s of new services and items of infrastructure which we have stretched our limited funds trying to maintain. This leaves us with a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years.

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Three options to manage these challenges are currently under consideration, being:

- **Option 1: Reduce Services/Infrastructure**
Increase rates by around 3%, in line with state restricted level.
Outcome: Reduce our services and/or infrastructure standards.
- **Option 2: Maintain Services/Infrastructure**
Increase rates by maximum 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.
Outcome: Maintain our services and renew our current infrastructure.
- **Option 3: Enhance Services/Infrastructure**
Increase rates by maximum 9% for 6 years.
Outcome: Maintain our services, renew our infrastructure and deliver new services and/or infrastructure.

Council needs your thoughts on how you would like these challenges tackled – our City, our solution.

A Public Meeting for residential property owners is being held to facilitate the gathering of your views on the options proposed to provide for the services and infrastructure that you require. Details of this meeting are:

Where: The Holroyd Centre, 11–17 Miller Street, Merrylands

When: Thursday, 28 November 2013 at 6.30pm

Whilst this meeting is intended for residential property owners, business owners should note they have been sent letters advising of a separate scheduled meeting for business property owners.

To find out further information and obtain more detail on the options under consideration and to take part in the survey, visit: <http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au/your-say-contacts/local-solutions/> or contact Council on 9840 9840 during business hours.

Proposed Developments

Residential Flat Buildings

The exhibition period for the following application is from 6 November 2013 to 27 November 2013.

File: DA 2013/441

Site: Lot 208, DP 3425 and known as 45–47 Windsor Road Merrylands

Proposed: Demolition of existing structures; consolidation of 2 lots into 1 lot; construction of a 4-storey residential flat building over basement parking

accommodating 2 x 1-bedroom and 18 x 2-bedroom units and 28 parking spaces

Contact: Lydia Markham, 9840 9623

Other

The exhibition period for the following application is from 7 November 2013 to 7 December 2013.

File: DA 2013/407/1

Site: Lot 3, DP 1185849 and known as 34–36 Britton Street Smithfield

Proposed: Removal of vegetation including remnant Cumberland Plain Woodland (CPW) and associated site works

Threatened Species Development: In accordance with Section 78A(8)(b) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, the proposed development is defined as 'Threatened Species Development'.

Submissions: Any person may make a written submission on this proposal. This submission should include:

- Your name and address;
- The reference number DA 2013/407/1
- A statement on whether you support or object the proposal; and
- The reasons why you support or object to the proposal.

Your submission must reach Holroyd City Council by Friday, 7 December 2013 and should be addressed to:

General Manager
Holroyd City Council
PO Box 42, Merrylands NSW 2160
Attention: Mark Stephenson

The plans and accompanying documents may be viewed free-of-charge from 8am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (except Public Holidays) for 30 days from 7 November 2013 to 7 December 2013 at Council's Administration Centre located at 16 Memorial Avenue Merrylands.

Contact: Mark Stephenson, 9840 9823

The applications and plans for these proposals may be inspected at the Council Chambers, Memorial Avenue, Merrylands between the hours of 8am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. However, should you wish to discuss the application with the responsible officer, they will be available between the hours of 8am to 9.30am or 3.45pm to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

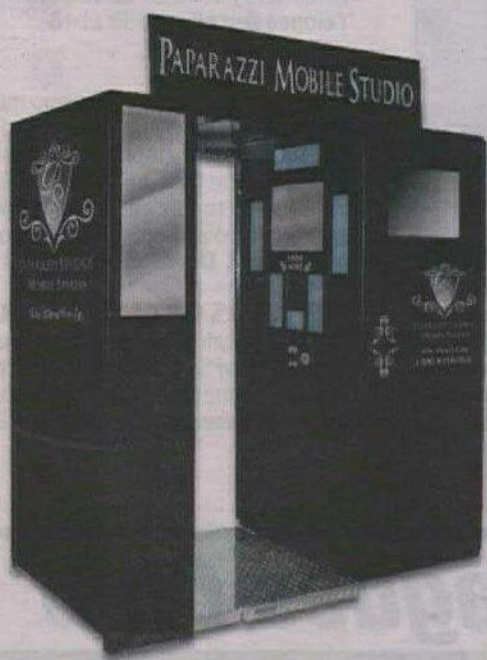
Any person who owns or occupies land and who contends that their enjoyment of the land will be detrimentally affected if the proposed development is carried out may lodge a submission in writing addressed to the General Manager on or before the close of the exhibition period. Please quote the relevant file number. **Any submission made in regard to an application may be accessed by third parties under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and may be reproduced in whole or in part in Council reports and in court proceedings.**

In the event that Council approves of the application and in order to preserve the amenity of Holroyd and restricting noise, which may affect neighbouring residents, the Council limits building operations to the hours of 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm Saturday and no work on Sundays. **Demolition works are limited to 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday only.**

Should you be affected by building or development work outside the above hours please telephone Council on 9840 9840 and ask for the Environmental and Planning Services Department. Calls to this number after business hours are automatically directed to Council's paging service when you should ask the operator to pass your complaint onto one of Council's Ordinance Inspectors.

Disclosure of Political Donations or Gifts

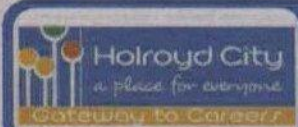
If you have made a political donation or gift to or for the benefit of a political party, an elected member, group, candidate, local councillor or council employee, you may be required to make a formal disclosure pursuant to section 147 to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP & A Act). For more information on your obligations and to obtain a disclosure form if needed, please visit Council's website: www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au



Local Solutions – Our City in Our Hands

You are invited to be part of a local solution in determining the future of our services and infrastructure provided by Holroyd City Council in the Holroyd Local Government Area.

Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. This is because we have more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are aging and our community growing.



Visit Holroyd Council's website for available positions



Find us on
Facebook

www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Council meets in the Council Chamber at 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands from 6.30pm on the first and third Tuesday of each month. For details of the meetings contact 9840 9731 or visit Council's website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au



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Weekly News

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Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. This is because we have more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are ageing and our community growing.

Since 1977, the State Government has been restricting the amount rates can go up each year which has driven efficiency changes and created savings. This is called rate pegging. Back then, we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage. Today, we need to fund 100s of new services and infrastructure.

We have more infrastructure than ever before and because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only an increasing amount of asset maintenance but also an increasing level of asset replacement. We now have to think about the funds we will need to maintain our services and infrastructure today, as well as in the long term.

Since rates were pegged in 1977, the cost of just about everything has gone up each year. Our rates have only ever provided funds in excess of the pegged limit once. In terms of rate income, this makes Holroyd the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area (LGA) out of the 42 LGAs in the Sydney Metro region.

Whilst Holroyd has a long history of adopting and maintaining annual budgets and currently has no debt, over the past 36 years our growing community has enjoyed 100s of new services and items of infrastructure which we have stretched our limited funds trying to maintain. This leaves us with a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years.

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Three options to manage these challenges are currently under consideration, being:

- **Option 1: Reduce Services/Infrastructure**
Increase rates by around 3%, in line with state restricted level.
Outcome: Reduce our services and/or infrastructure standards.
- **Option 2: Maintain Services/Infrastructure**
Increase rates by maximum 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.
Outcome: Maintain our services and renew our current infrastructure.
- **Option 3: Enhance Services/Infrastructure**
Increase rates by maximum 9% for 6 years.
Outcome: Maintain our services, renew our infrastructure and deliver new services and/or infrastructure.

Council needs your thoughts on how you would like these challenges tackled – our City, our solution.

A Public Meeting for residential property owners is being held to facilitate the gathering of your views on the options proposed to provide for the services and infrastructure that you require. Details of this meeting are:

Where: The Holroyd Centre,
11–17 Miller Street, Merrylands

When: Thursday, 28 November 2013
at 6:30pm

Whilst this meeting is intended for residential property owners, business owners should note they have been sent letters advising of a separate scheduled meeting for business property owners.

To find out further information and obtain more detail on the options under consideration and to take part in the survey, visit:

<http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au/your-say-contacts/local-solutions/> or contact Council on 9840 9840 during business hours.

Creative Writing Class

Are you an aspiring author? Have you got an idea for a story but don't know where to start?

Keith Whelan is an experienced tutor who teaches writing workshops at the University of Sydney and ANU Canberra.

During this 2-hour class, students will learn how to develop stories from the initial stages of an idea to what ends up on paper.

If you have ever had writer's block or if you want to improve your writing skills – this is the workshop for you!

When: Monday, 11 November from 6–8pm

Where: Merrylands Central Library

Bookings: Call 9840 9960 or online at writing-lib.eventbrite.com.au

Reverse Garbage

Would you like to make unique Christmas decorations? Come along and release your creative ideas. Reverse Garbage will be holding a hands-on workshop showing participants how to use recycled material to make a truly original Christmas.

This is a hands-on class. Please leave young children at home.

Where: Merrylands Central Library

When: Monday, 11 November from
10.30am–12 noon

Bookings: Call 9840 9960 or book online christmasRG.eventbrite.com.au

Fun Photobooth!

A state of the art Photo Booth will be visiting Merrylands Central Library for ONE DAY ONLY! For a small donation, you and your friends can dress up, pose and then capture the moment for all eternity. All funds raised will go to the Movember Foundation.

When: Thursday, 14 November from
11am–7pm

Where: Merrylands Central Library, corner
Miller and Newman Streets,
Merrylands

Call 9840 9960 for more information.

Want to know more about Asbestos?

Holroyd Council is organising a free information evening for residents who want to learn more about asbestos. The information presented will help attendees understand where they might find asbestos in their home, and how to safely remove and dispose of less than 10sqm of asbestos (perfect for anyone considering small scale home renovations!)

All residents who attend on the evening will be given a free asbestos removal kit (valued at \$100) which includes all the safety gear and information you need to safely remove small amounts of asbestos (but remember anything over 10sqm MUST be done by a licensed contractor!)

Where: Holroyd City Council, Merrylands

When: Wednesday, 27 November 2013 from
6.30pm–8.30pm (light refreshments
will be provided)

Who: Home renovators, and anyone
interested in learning more about
asbestos

Why: To get important information that
will improve the health and safety of
your home

Places are limited so give us a call on
9840 9664 or 9840 9715 to take advantage
of this great opportunity.

Holroyd residents are now saving Hundreds of Thousands on Power Bills with Fridge Buyback

Getting rid of the old fridge in the garage is one of the easiest steps you can take to cut your power bills. Old fridges and freezers are some of the biggest energy users in the home, costing you an average of \$300 a year to operate.

Fridge Buyback collects old energy-guzzling upright freezers, as well as the big old fridges in people's garages*. Fridge Buyback works with Holroyd Council and operating under the NSW Government's Energy Savings Scheme, is already saving Holroyd residents over \$220,000 on their power bills each year.

Collection of the fridge or freezer is conducted by professional removalists. If the removal involves less than six stairs a \$35 rebate is paid, if the removal involves 7 to 20 stairs then no rebate is paid.

To make a booking or for further
information ring 1800 708 401 or go
to www.fridgebuyback.com.au

If all Holroyd residents gave up their second fridges and freezers, they could save collectively around \$2.2 million every year!

*Second fridges or upright freezers must be in regular use, built before 1996 and 200 litres or greater in size.



Visit Holroyd Council's
website for available
positions



Find us on
Facebook

Council meets in the Council Chamber at
16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands from 8.30pm on the
first and third Tuesday of each month.
For details of the meetings contact 9840 9731 or visit
Council's website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Rate rise would bridge gap

MEMBERS of the community are being asked to "have a say" on how Holroyd Council should address a \$97 million funding gap.

In a statement, the council's director of corporate and financial services, Tim Butler, says if strategies aren't found the level of services and infrastructure would be reduced.

"Council is now funding more services than ever before, at a time when we need to start replacing and

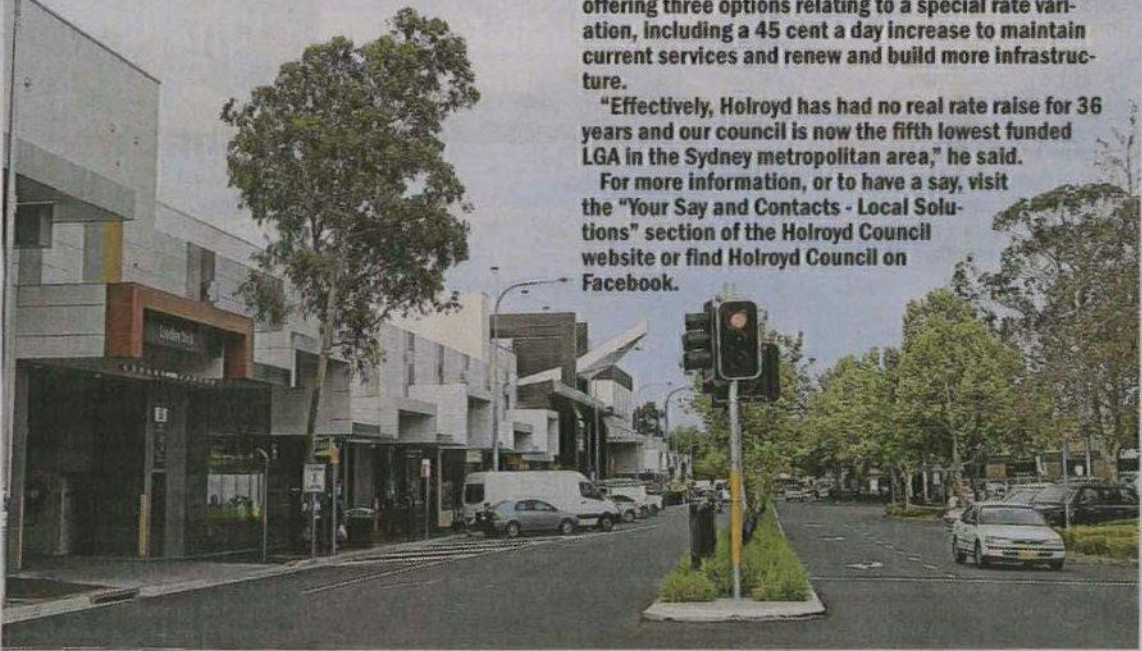
renewing ageing assets right across the LGA," Mr Butler said.

"The funds that could be used to maintain and renew our ageing assets have been stretched across delivering our additional services and infrastructure which has left us with a total funding gap of \$97.1 million over the next 10 years."

Holroyd Council, according to the statement, has started the process of engaging with the community, offering three options relating to a special rate variation, including a 45 cent a day increase to maintain current services and renew and build more infrastructure.

"Effectively, Holroyd has had no real rate raise for 36 years and our council is now the fifth lowest funded LGA in the Sydney metropolitan area," he said.

For more information, or to have a say, visit the "Your Say and Contacts - Local Solutions" section of the Holroyd Council website or find Holroyd Council on Facebook.





Local Solutions

Our future in our hands

Like most growing cities across NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining it's services and infrastructure standards.

We need a local solution... A way to secure the services and infrastructure we need today and into the future.

So, we need local businesses to tell us what they think of our options, one of which is a rate increase. If you own a business in Holroyd, please join our public forum to have your say.

Location

The Holroyd Centre, 11-17 Miller Street, Merrylands

Big Business: Monday 25 November, 6.30pm

Small Business: Wednesday 26 November, 6.30pm

For more information contact Corporate Planning via **9840 9840**
or visit the Your Say & Contacts - Local Solutions section of our website
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au





Holroyd City
a place for everyone

Weekly News

Holroyd City Council
16 Memorial Avenue • PO Box 42
Merrylands NSW 2160
T 9840 9840 • F 9840 9734
hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Mayor: Nasr Kafrouni
General Manager: Merv Ismay
Office hours: 8.00am to 4.30pm
Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays)
All correspondence to the General Manager

Local Solutions – Our City in Our Hands

You are invited to be part of a local solution in determining the future of our services and infrastructure provided by Holroyd City Council in the Holroyd Local Government Area. Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. This is because we have more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are ageing and our community growing.

Since 1977, the State Government has been restricting the amount rates can go up each year which has driven efficiency changes and created savings. This is called rate pegging. Back then, we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage. Today, we need to fund 100s of new services and infrastructure.

We have more infrastructure than ever before and because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only an increasing amount of asset maintenance but also an increasing level of asset replacement. We now have to think about the funds we will need to maintain our services and infrastructure today, as well as in the long term.

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Increase rates by around 3%, in line with state restricted level.
Outcome: Reduce our services and/or infrastructure standards.
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Increase rates by maximum 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.
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Outcome: Maintain our services, renew our infrastructure and deliver new services and/or infrastructure.

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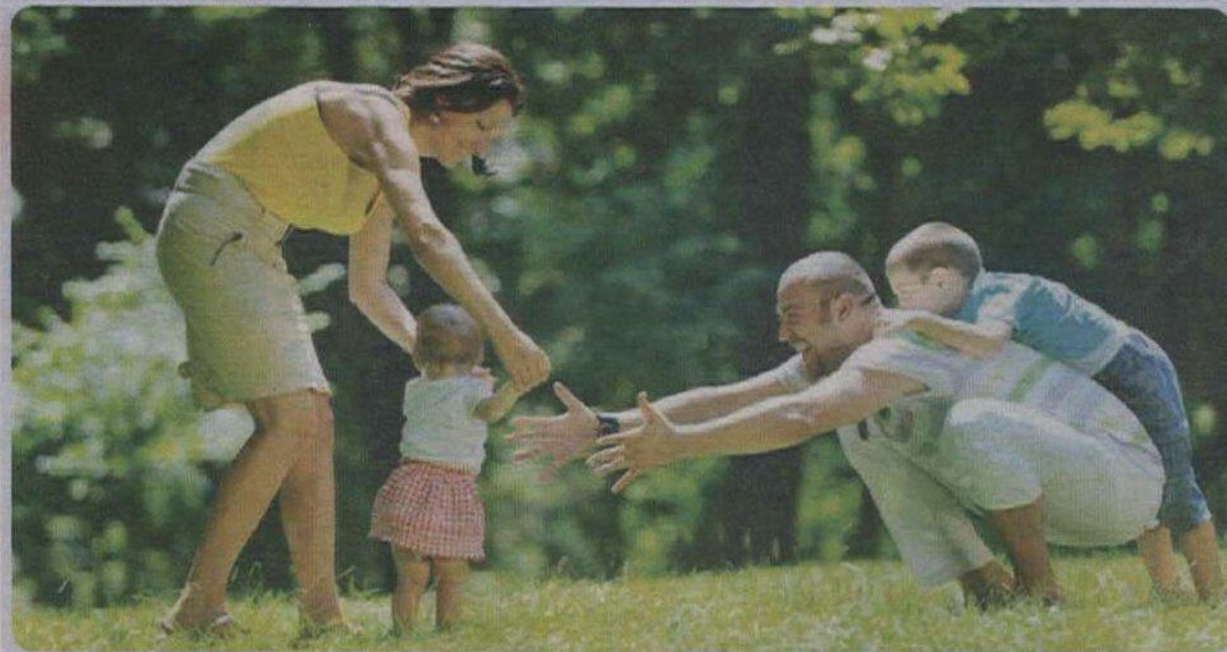
Where: The Holroyd Centre, 11–17 Miller Street, Merrylands

When: Thursday, 28 November 2013 at 6.30pm

Whilst this meeting is intended for residential property owners, business owners should note they have been sent letters advising of a separate scheduled meeting for business property owners.

If you wish to speak at the meeting, please register your interest by contacting Jaime Soprenic on 9840 9938.

To find out further information and obtain more detail on the options under consideration and to take part in the survey, visit: <http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au/your-say-contacts/local-solutions/> or contact Council on 9840 9840 during business hours.



Public Exhibition of Draft Code of Meeting Practice

Council has conducted a review of its procedures of conducting its meetings and has approved the public exhibition of an amended Draft Code of Meeting Practice to apply within Holroyd City Council.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council invites submissions on any aspect of the Draft Code as currently available on www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Submissions are to be made in writing and received by Council no later than Thursday, 12 December 2013.

Submissions received will be the subject of a report to Council and decisions will be made in open Council.

For members of the public who do not have access to the internet, copies of these documents will be available on request during working hours at Council's three libraries as well as the Customer Services Section in Council at 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands.

Any enquiries may be referred to Warren Taylor on 9840 9763.

Author Visit – Hugh Mackay

Spend an evening with Hugh Mackay – social researcher and the author of 14 books. Nine of his books are in the field of social psychology and ethics. His latest book, *The Good Life*, attempts to answer the question 'What makes a life worth living?'

In addition to his work on social psychology and ethics, Hugh Mackay also writes novels. His sixth novel, *Infidelity*, will be published in November 2013.

Where: Merrylands Central Library

When: Tuesday, 10 December, 6.30–8pm

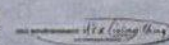
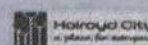
Bookings: Call 9840 9960 or online at: hughmackay-lib.eventbrite.com.au

Presented by Your Bookshop and Holroyd City Council Library Service.

Don't be a tosser.

Lit cigarettes can start bushfires.

5375 fine for dangerous litter thrown from a motor vehicle.



Proposed Developments

Medium Density Housing

The exhibition period for the following application is from 20 November 2013 to 11 December 2013.

File: DA 2013/461

Site: Lot 275, DP 8768 and known as 8 Carinya Road Girraween

Proposed: Demolition of existing structures; construction of multi dwelling housing consisting of 8 units above basement parking and strata subdivision into 8 lots

Contact: William Attard, 9840 9835

Other

The exhibition period for the following application is from 20 November 2013 to 4 December 2013.

File: DA 2013/458

Site: Lot 1, DP 902697 and known as 22 Stimson Street Guildford

Proposed: Demolition of existing structures; construction of a 4-storey boarding house containing 22 self contained rooms and basement parking accommodating 6 parking spaces

Contact: Lydia Markham, 9840 9623

The applications and plans for these proposals may be inspected at the Council Chambers, Memorial Avenue, Merrylands between the hours of 8am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. However, should you wish to discuss the application with the responsible officer, they will be available between the hours of 8am to 9.30am or 3.45pm to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Any person who owns or occupies land and who contends that their enjoyment of the land will be detrimentally affected if the proposed development is carried out may lodge a submission in writing addressed to the General Manager on or before the close of the exhibition period. Please quote the relevant file number. **Any submission made in regard to an application may be accessed by third parties under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and may be reproduced in whole or in part in Council reports and in court proceedings.**

In the event that Council approves of the application and in order to preserve the amenity of Holroyd and restricting noise, which may affect neighbouring residents, the Council limits building operations to the hours of 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm Saturday and no work on Sundays. **Demolition works are limited to 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday only.**

Should you be affected by building or development work outside the above hours please telephone Council on 9840 9840 and ask for the Environmental and Planning Services Department. Calls to this number after business hours are automatically directed to Council's paging service when you should ask the operator to pass your complaint onto one of Council's Ordinance Inspectors.

Disclosure of Political Donations or Gifts

If you have made a political donation or gift to or for the benefit of a political party, an elected member, group, candidate, local councillor or council employee, you may be required to make a formal disclosure pursuant to section 147 to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP & A Act). For more information on your obligations and to obtain a disclosure form if needed, please visit Council's website: www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au



Visit Holroyd Council's website for available positions



Find us on
Facebook

www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Council meets in the Council Chamber at 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands from 6.30pm on the first and third Tuesday of each month. For details of the meetings contact 9840 9731 or visit Council's website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Lisa Oldridge

From: warren taylor
Sent: Tuesday, 26 November 2013 2:49 PM
To: Lisa Oldridge
Subject: TRIM: FW: Local Solutions: Public Meetings for Local Business

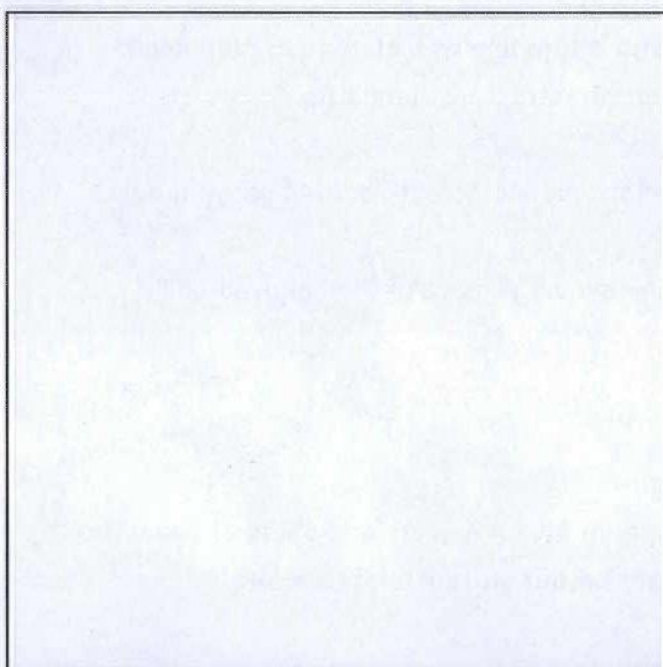
HP TRIM Record Number: ED13/63952

From: Ian Aird
Sent: Tuesday, 26 November 2013 2:47 PM
To: warren taylor
Subject: FW: Local Solutions: Public Meetings for Local Business

From: Cumberland Chamber [mailto:manager=cbchamber.com.au@mail183.wdc02.mcdlv.net] **On Behalf Of** Cumberland Chamber
Sent: Tuesday, 26 November 2013 2:00 PM
To: hcc
Subject: Local Solutions: Public Meetings for Local Business

Council Event

[View this email in your browser](#)



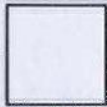
Cumberland
Chamber
Business
Advert on
web

Suite 16/695 The Horsley Drv Smithfield Tel: (02) 9757 4794 / 0418 257 394

Keep up to date with Chamber activities through our :



Facebook



Website

This wednesday: Public Meetings for Local Business

You are invited to be part of a local solution in determining the options for the long term sustainability of our services and infrastructure provided by Holroyd City Council in the Holroyd Local Government Area.

Three options to manage these challenges are currently under consideration, being:

Option 1: Reduce Services/Infrastructure

Rate Increase: Increase rates by around 3%, in line with state restricted level.

Outcome: Reduce our services and/or infrastructure standards.

Cost impact: Small Businesses – An average annual increase of \$111 per year until 2019/2020

Cost impact: Big Businesses –An average annual increase of \$194 per year until 2019/2020

Option 2: Maintain Services/infrastructure

Rate Increase: Increase rates by maximum 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year.

Outcome: Maintain our services and renew our current infrastructure.

Cost impact: Small Businesses –An average annual increase of \$329 per year until 2019/2020

Cost impact: Big Businesses –An average annual increase of \$ 570 per year until 2019/2020

Option 3: Enhance Services/infrastructure

Rate Increase rates by maximum 9% for 6 years.

Outcome: Maintain our services, renew our infrastructure and deliver new services and/or infrastructure.

Cost impact: Small Businesses – An average annual increase of \$390 per year until 2019/2020

Cost impact: Big Businesses – An average annual increase of \$676 per year until 2019/2020

Council needs your thoughts on how you would like these challenges tackled – our City, our solution.

Separate Public Meetings for big businesses and small businesses are being held to facilitate the gathering of your views on the options proposed to provide for the services and infrastructure that you require. Details of this meeting are:

Big Business

Date: Monday 25 November 2013

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: The Holroyd Centre

11-17 Miller Street

Merrylands NSW 2160

Small Business

Date: Wednesday 27 November 2013

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: The Holroyd Centre

11-17 Miller Street

Merrylands NSW 2160

If you wish to speak at the meeting, please register your interest by contacting Jaime Soprenic on 9840 9938.

Please find attached the following additional information:

1) Original letters addressed to both big business and small businesses.

[Letter Big Business.pdf \(16kb\)](#)

[Letter Small Business.pdf \(16kb\)](#)

2) The Maths – sheets for both big businesses and small businesses

[Maths Big Business.pdf \(111kb\)](#)

[Maths Small Business.pdf \(115kb\)](#)

3) The condition of our infrastructure

[Condition of Infrastructure.pdf \(1.1mb\)](#)

Jaime Soprenic | Corporate Planner | Holroyd City Council |

PO Box 42 | 16 Memorial Avenue Merrylands NSW 2160 |

T: 98409938 | F: |

E: jaime.soprenic@holroyd.nsw.gov.au | W: <http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au> |

***"Bring plenty of your business cards and promotional material for our Trade Table.
These Networking events are always great fun and will offer you opportunities to
develop worthwhile business relationships."***

---- Cumberland Business Chamber

Local Solutions: Public Meetings for Local Business

Big Business

Date: Monday 25th of November 2013

Location: The Holroyd Centre
11-17 Miller Street
Merrylands

Time: 6:30pm

Small Business

Date: Wednesday 27th of November 2013

Location: The Holroyd Centre
11-17 Miller Street
Merrylands

Time: 6:30pm

For Details please contact Jaime Soprenic at jaime.soprenic@holroyd.nsw.gov.au or

on T: 98409938

Cumberland Business Chamber's Members Directory

As part of our commitment in making the Chamber more active for all members, we are excited to announce that our Members Directory is now **live**. A listing of Chamber Members will now be available through our website.

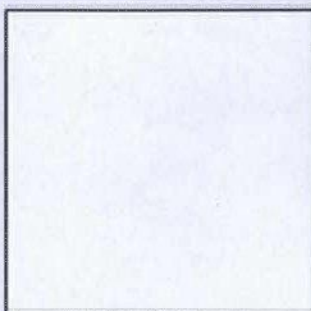
If you would like your details listed for all members and prospective members to see, please follow the link below to add your Company details.

*Please also note that an upgraded listing to include a logo, mobile number contact, email & business description will only be displayed for a small one-time fee of \$50.00 for Members.

[Apply Members Directory Form](#)

Coming up...

Keep an eye out for our emails, check our [website](#) or our [Facebook](#) page for latest updates.



Chamber Christmas Dinner.

Wednesday 27th of November

Click [here](#) for more details.

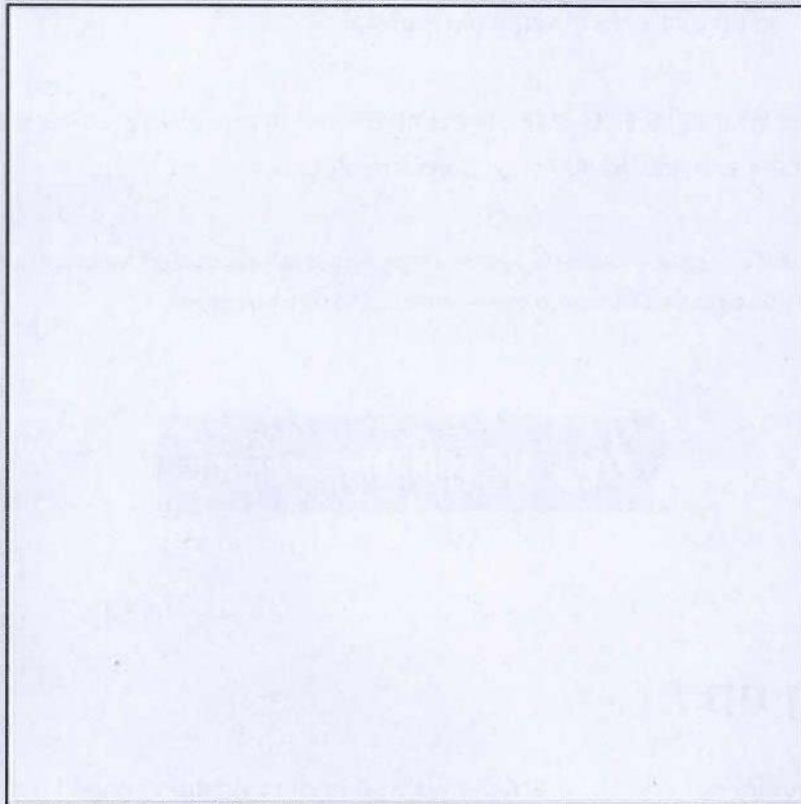


B3B - Crime Prevention in Your Business

December 12th of December

Click [here](#) for more details.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS...



Phone: (02) 9757 4794 / 0418 257 394 | Email: manager@cbchamber.com.au

Office Address: Suite 16/695 The Horsley Dr, Smithfield NSW 2164

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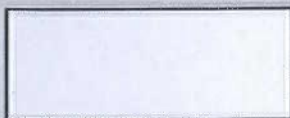
You are receiving this email because you are a member of the Cumberland Business Chamber.

Our mailing address is:

Cumberland Business Chamber
Suite 16, 695 The Horsley Dr
Smithfield, NSW 2164
Australia

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Ian Aird | Corporate Information Coordinator | Holroyd City Council |
PO Box 42 | 16 Memorial Avenue Merrylands NSW 2160 |
T: 98409735 | F: 02 9840 9734 |
E: ian.aird@holroyd.nsw.gov.au | W: <http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au> |

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warren taylor | Executive Support Officer - Consultant | Holroyd City Council |
PO Box 42 | 16 Memorial Avenue Merrylands NSW 2160 |
T: (02) 9840 9763 | F: (02) 9840 9703 |
E: warren.taylor@holroyd.nsw.gov.au | W: <http://www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au> |

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Council to address the funding gap

CALLS ON RESIDENTS TO HELP

Elias Jahshan

HOLROYD residents are invited to have their say on how council should address the city's \$97 million funding gap and maintain current services and infrastructure standards, or look into reductions.

Council's corporate and financial services director Tim Butler said the local government area had grown by 19 per cent over the past 10 years and was expected to grow by another 37 per cent over the next 20, creating an increase in the demand for services and facilities.

"Our key infrastructure and services are under enormous pressure," Mr Butler said.

"Our four main types of community infrastructure are roads and bridges, parks and recreation, buildings and stormwater drains, but the range of services we deliver has grown to include services for our seniors and residents with a disability, childcare, graffiti management, libraries, planning and development, sports facilities and playgrounds, tree management and waste and illegal dumping."

He said for that reason, the funds that could be used to maintain and renew ageing assets have been stretched, leaving council with a total funding gap of \$97.1 million over the next 10 years.

"That's why we urgently need to develop and implement strategies that will sustain council's funding of local services and infrastructure now and into the future," Mr Butler said.

"Otherwise, if we don't find solutions to our funding gap, we will need to begin reducing the level of services and infrastructure program across the LGA."

Mr Butler said council is offering three options relating to a special rate variation, including a 45 cent a day increase to maintain current services and renew and build more infrastructure.

"Effectively, Holroyd has had no real rate raise for 36 years and our council is now the fifth lowest funded LGA in the Sydney metropolitan area."

For more information on the three possible solutions, visit holroyd.nsw.gov.au

take a
number

20

year celebrations at the Sydney U3A Greater Western Region included a writing competition for regional schools. Prize winners from both independent and state schools received ebook readers and book tokens, while every student received a certificate of appreciation.

U3A is holding its AGM on Friday, December 5, at the Seniors Leisure and Learning Centre, old council chambers, Civic Place in Parramatta from 2pm, followed by a U3A Has Got Talent concert.



Holroyd City
a place for everyone

Weekly News

Holroyd City Council
16 Memorial Avenue • PO Box 42
Merrylands NSW 2160
T 9840 9840 • F 9840 9734
hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au
Mayor: Nasr Kafrouni
General Manager: Merv Ismay
Office hours: 8.00am to 4.30pm
Monday to Friday
(excluding public holidays)
All correspondence to the
General Manager

2013 Council's Operating Hours over Christmas & New Year

- Council and its libraries will be closed on the following Public Holidays over the Christmas and New Year Period.
Christmas Eve (from 12 midday) 24 December 2013
Christmas Day 25 December 2013
Boxing Day 26 December 2013
New Years Day 1 January 2014
Merrylands Central Library will close at 5.30pm on Tuesday, 31 December 2013.
- The Council Chambers will be in operation over the Christmas/New Year Period on Friday 27, Monday 30, and Tuesday, 31 December 2013.
- Council's pools located at Guildford, Merrylands and Wentworthville will be closed on Christmas Day, Wednesday, 25 December 2013 only.
- Council's children's and youth services will be closed at varying times during the 2013/2014 Christmas and New Year period.

Please contact Council on **9840 9840** or visit Council's website at www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au for further details.

Waste & Recycling Collection Services during the Christmas and New Year Holidays

Holroyd City Council's garbage and recycling collection services will continue unchanged over the upcoming Christmas and New Year period. Residents are advised to place their garbage and recycling bins out for collection the night before their scheduled collection day as per the usual arrangements, including all public holidays.

If you have unwanted bulky household items to dispose of prior to Christmas, Council also has a paid clean-up service available. Services can be booked through Council's Customer Service Centre. More information is available on Council's website - www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

For further information regarding Council's waste and recycling collection services please call Council's Customer Service Centre on **9840 9840**.

2013-2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the 2014/2015 Operational Plan)

Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. Council now provides more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are ageing and our community is growing. We are now in a situation whereby we need to make some decisions about the future.

Through the development of the Living Holroyd Community Strategic Plan, our community told us how they wanted the area to change and develop over time. Council is responsible for delivering the supporting services and infrastructure that the community wants but must do so within the limited pool of resources that are available whilst maintaining a fiscally sustainable position. In delivering on the community's expectations, Council has developed its 2013-2017 Delivery Program incorporating the 2014/2015 Operational Plan. This program/plan establishes the actions and priorities which Council will work toward implementing as we journey toward the community outcomes contained within the Living Holroyd Community Strategic Plan.

The 2013-2017 Delivery Program plan recommends three alternate funding options for community consideration, each of which will allow Council to provide services and infrastructure, to varying standards, over the next 4-10 years which are financially sustainable.

At its meeting of 3 December 2013, Council adopted the Draft 2013-2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the 2014/2015 Operational Plan) for public exhibition from 4 December 2013 to 7 February 2014.

This document may be viewed online, at your local library or at the Council chambers.

You are invited to make submissions* on the Draft 2013-2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the Draft 2014/2015 Operational Plan) and all other related documents. Submissions* can be forwarded to Council in the following ways:

- **Mail:** General Manager, Holroyd City Council
PO Box 42, Merrylands 2160
- **Fax:** 9840 9734
- **Email:** hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au

*Submissions will be accepted up to 4.30pm on 7 February 2014

Holroyd City Council's 2012/2013 Annual Report

Holroyd City Council is pleased to present the 2012/2013 Annual Report. The Annual Report focuses on Council's implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Copies of the 2012/2013 Annual Report can be accessed online via our website at www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au/your-council/reports/ or can be viewed at Council Chambers or at Council's Libraries.

For more information, please contact Corporate Strategy and Engagement on **9840 9840**.

Your Library's Christmas Gift to You!

The Library Service would like to thank you for your patronage this year. As our way of saying 'thanks', Merrylands Central Library is hosting free morning tea in the week leading up to Christmas.

Join us for a cappuccino, latte or Earl Grey and a slice of Christmas cake from Wednesday, 18 December to Friday, 20 December, and Monday, 23 December to Tuesday, 24 December, 10.30-11am in the foyer of Merrylands Central Library. We hope to see you there.

Proposed Developments

Residential Flat Buildings

The exhibition period for the following application is from 18 December 2013 to 15 January 2014.

File: DA 2013/493

Site: Lot 19, DP 793928; Lots 17, 18, 19, DP 8773 and known as 1-9 Florence Street, South Wentworthville; and Lots A, B; DP 376698, Lot 20, DP 8773 and known as 19-23 Quinn Street, South Wentworthville

Proposed: Demolition of existing structures; removal of trees; consolidation of 8 lots into 1 lot; construction of 1 x 7-storey mixed use building and 2 x 6-storey residential flat buildings over 3 levels of basement parking accommodating a total of 154 units; 212 parking spaces and 535sqm of commercial floor and new roadworks to connect Florence and Quinn Streets. The proposal has a capital investment value of more than \$20M and the consent authority is Joint Regional Planning Panel.

Contact: Mark Stephenson, **9840 9823**

The applications and plans for this proposal may be inspected at the Council Chambers, Memorial Avenue, Merrylands between the hours of 8am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. However, should you wish to discuss the application with the responsible officer, they will be available between the hours of 8am to 9.30am or 3.45pm to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Any person who owns or occupies land and who contends that their enjoyment of the land will be detrimentally affected if the proposed development is carried out may lodge a submission in writing addressed to the General Manager on or before the close of the exhibition period. Please quote the relevant file number. **Any submission made in regard to an application may be accessed by third parties under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and may be reproduced in whole or in part in Council reports and in court proceedings.**

In the event that Council approves of the application and in order to preserve the amenity of Holroyd and restricting noise, which may affect neighbouring residents, the Council limits building operations to the hours of 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, 8am to 4pm Saturday and no work on Sundays. **Demolition works are limited to 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday only.**

Should you be affected by building or development work outside the above hours please telephone Council on **9840 9840** and ask for the Environmental and Planning Services Department. Calls to this number after business hours are automatically directed to Council's paging service when you should ask the operator to pass your complaint onto one of Council's Ordinance Inspectors.

Disclosure of Political Donations or Gifts

If you have made a political donation or gift to or for the benefit of a political party, an elected member, group, candidate, local councillor or council employee, you may be required to make a formal disclosure pursuant to section 147 to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP & A Act)*. For more information on your obligations and to obtain a disclosure form if needed, please visit Council's website: www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au



Visit Holroyd Council's website for available positions



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Council meets in the Council Chamber at 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands from 8.30pm on the first and third Tuesday of each month. For details of the meetings contact 9840 9731 or visit Council's website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au



Holroyd businesses... Have your say.

Reduce, maintain or enhance services and infrastructure?

The Change

The NSW Government restricts the amount Council rates can increase based on inflation. This is called 'rate pegging'. It means that whilst rates increase each year, the increase is only enough to keep up with the increasing cost of goods and labour; not to fund additional services and infrastructure or renew ageing assets.

Over the past 20 years, rates have been pegged at around 3%. But 20 years ago, our community was 20% smaller and we only needed to fund basic services and infrastructure like roads, footpaths, rubbish and drainage.

Today, we need to fund a growing number of services and infrastructure. Because our assets are ageing, we now need to fund not only maintenance but also an increasing level of renewals. And since our community is expected to grow by another 37% over the next 20 years; we now have to think about the funds we need in the long term.

Our Challenge

Since the State pegged rates at around 3% 20 years ago, the cost of just about everything has gone up each year. Our rates have only ever provided funds in excess of the pegged limit.

In terms of rate income, Holroyd is the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area in the Sydney Metro region.

The funds that could be used to maintain and renew our ageing assets have been stretched across delivering our additional services and infrastructure. So, we have a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years:

- Asset renewal – \$57.1m
- Asset maintenance – \$10.5m
- Operational – \$29.5m

If we don't address our funding gap, we will need to reduce our services and infrastructure standards.

Your Say

We are now at a critical point where we need to decide whether we want to increase our rates so we can continue to afford our current services and infrastructure standards; or reduce our services and infrastructure standards to live within our means.

We believe that local challenges need local solutions. So, we're asking our local businesses to tell us how they think we should proceed.

We would encourage you to read through the information on Council's website at www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au/local-solutions. If you require more details or clarification, please do not hesitate to call 9840 9748.

Let's work together to secure the services and infrastructure we need for today and the future.

Holroyd City Council

16 Memorial Avenue
PO Box 42
Merrylands NSW 2160
T 9840 9840
F 9840 9734
E hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

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2013-2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the 2014/2015 Operational Plan)

Like most communities in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. Council now provides more services and infrastructure than ever before, our assets are ageing and our community is growing. We are now in a situation whereby we need to make some decisions about the future.

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2014 HCC Scholarship

Holroyd City Council is once again offering a University Scholarship commencing 2014. If you are enrolled at the University of Western Sydney for full time studies, you may be eligible. Full details are available on Council's website at www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au or by calling Sue Antoniolli on 9840 9908. Applications close on 28 January 2014.

Committee Nominations

Council has a number of committees which provide advice and make recommendations on service operation and matters relating to the target group.

Interested residents, workers, clients and community groups are invited to nominate for membership of the following Advisory and Consultative Committees for the two-year term 2014 and 2015:

- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consultative Committee:** First meeting: Wednesday, 5 February – 5.30pm
- **Aged and Disability Services Advisory Committee:** First meeting: Wednesday, 19 February – 5pm
- **Arts Advisory Committee:** First meeting: February Date TBA
- **Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Consultative Committee:** First meeting: Wednesday, 22 January – 5.30pm
- **Holroyd Access Committee:** First meeting: Thursday, 13 February – 5pm
- **Youth Services Advisory Committee:** First meeting: Wednesday, 5 February 2014 – 6pm

Each committee meets quarterly at Council and is resourced by Council officers. Terms of Reference/Guidelines and Nomination Forms can be obtained by contacting Sue Antoniolli on 9840 9908 or by visiting Council's website www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Written nominations on the official form should be sent to Sue Antoniolli by mail or fax to: Holroyd City Council, PO Box 42, Merrylands 2160, Fax: 9840 9915.

Nominations close on Friday, 24 January 2014.



Visit Holroyd Council's website for available positions



Holroyd City
a place for everyone

Weekly News

Holroyd City Council
16 Memorial Avenue • PO Box 42 Merrylands NSW 2160
T 9840 9840 • F 9840 9734 • hcc@holroyd.nsw.gov.au
www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Mayor: Nasr Kafrouni • General Manager: Merv Ismay
Office hours: 8.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday
(excluding public holidays)
All correspondence to the General Manager



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2013–2017 Delivery Program (incorporating the 2014/2015 Operational Plan)

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www.holroyd.nsw.gov.au

Clarification

➤ *The Advertiser would like to clarify a statement in last week's edition that stated "Holroyd Council has voted to seek a special rate variation to target the city's infrastructure ...". Holroyd Council is still engaging with the community's views on whether or not to submit a special rate variation application to IPART.*

UAC offers

➤ People who have applied to enter university will find out tomorrow if they have been successful. The University Admission Centre will release main round offers at 9pm through uac.edu.au. Further first semester offers will be released on January 30.

Print this page



Mariya Gojan President, Merrylands Chamber of Commerce.

12 JANUARY 2014

POSTED BY EDITOR

HOLROYD BUSINESSES WANT SRV TO FUND ASSET RENEWAL

Interview with Mariya Gojan President, Merrylands Chamber of Commerce.

Q. As a local business leader, do you think Holroyd City should apply for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) and if so, why?

A. Holroyd Council should apply for the SRV as it needs this funding to maintain and renew its current assets and not allow them to be neglected; therefore making Holroyd an unattractive city for business and the community.

Q. Having spoken with a number of local businesses about a SRV, do you think there is a general consensus for or against?

A. There is a consensus among local businesses that there is need for a SRV as the current streetscape in the Merrylands CBD and other shopping centres in Holroyd are in urgent need of attention to make it more inviting for the community to shop and do business here. Renewal of the current streetscape, which could be funded by the SRV, would also attract more valued business to Merrylands.

Q. From the businesses you have spoken to that are against a SRV, what do you think the main issues are?

A. The main opponents to the increase are concerned that the SRV would not be applied in upgrading the current streetscape and would just be added to income and used to pay for other inefficiencies. Secondly, some businesses were also concerned that Council should cut expenses in administrative costs before applying for a SVR.

Q. What do you feel a SRV would mean for local business and development in Holroyd?

A. The SRV would be a positive for local business as it would attract development and hence more people, who would spend in the local economy of Holroyd.

Q. Holroyd has the fifth lowest rate income in the Sydney Metropolitan region. Do you think this impacts local business and development and if so, how?

A. Yes, this does impact local business. It is very competitive and any development in Holroyd needs to be affordable.

Q. If a SRV is not pursued, how do you think local business and development would be affected?

A. This may affect new development decisions to invest in Holroyd if Holroyd Council cannot afford to maintain its roads and footpaths and other assets. Local businesses would also be affected as customers would choose to do business in other locations which have well maintained streetscape.

Q. If the lower end of a SRV is pursued; small businesses would pay around \$82.25 more each year for the 6-year period to 2019/20. Do you feel this would substantially affect small business in the area and if so, how?

A. Cost increases do affect all small business however if there is sufficient notice that this increase will come into effect from a certain time, then small business can budget for this in their forward planning model by adjusting costs or looking at their prices.

Q. It could be argued that a SRV would attract higher quality businesses into centres where there are high vacancy rates. What are your thoughts on this?

A. If the SRV was used for the maintaining and renewing the current streetscape, this would attract higher quality businesses into the centres and this would attract customers as well.

Q. Council is investigating three distinct funding options, including a SRV, to secure the long term financial sustainability of the City. What other avenues do you think Council should explore?

A. Council should also consider disposing of unprofitable or underutilised assets that are not part of the Councils core services.

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15 January 2014

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HOT NEWS

Business innovation centre a Crouch legacy



Mariya Gojan President, Merrylands Chamber of Commerce

12 JANUARY 2014

POSTED BY EDITOR

Holroyd businesses want SRV to fund asset renewal

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Local Solutions

Our future in our hands



Our Challenge

Like most areas in NSW, Holroyd is facing challenges around maintaining our services and infrastructure. This is because whilst the State Government increases Council rates each year, the increase is only enough to keep up with the rising cost of goods and labour at best; not to fund additional services and infrastructure. This is called 'rate pegging'.

Over the past 20 years, rates in NSW have been pegged at around 3%. However over the past 20 years, our community has grown by 20%, we have needed to fund a growing number of services and infrastructure and because our assets are ageing, we have needed to fund not only maintenance but also an increasing level of renewals.

In terms of rate income, Holroyd is now the fifth lowest funded Local Government Area in the Sydney Metropolitan region. So the funds that could be used to maintain and renew our ageing assets have been stretched across delivering our additional services and infrastructure. This has left us with a total funding gap of \$97.1m over the next 10 years:

- \$57.1m gap for asset renewals;
- \$10.5m gap for asset maintenance;
- \$29.5m gap for operations.

Our Options

We believe that we need a local solution; a way to secure the services and infrastructure we need today, as well as in the long term. A moderate rate variation will mean maintenance of our roads and parking, infrastructure, development and environment for today and the future.

Option 1: Reduce services / infrastructure. Increase rates by the State Government restricted level only, which will be 2.3% for 2014/15 and estimated at around 3% for 5 years after that.

Option 2: Maintain services / infrastructure. Increase rates by a maximum of 9% for 4 years, 8% for 1 year and return to the State Government restricted level in the 6th year.

Option 3: Enhance services / infrastructure. Increase rates by a maximum of 9% for 6 years.

Next Steps

Since October 2013, we have been asking the business community to tell us how they think we should address our funding gap. There will be a Council meeting held on 18 February 2014 to discuss what our community has told us and decide on which option to pursue. For more information or to keep up to date on this matter, please contact us via the details below.



Holroyd City Council

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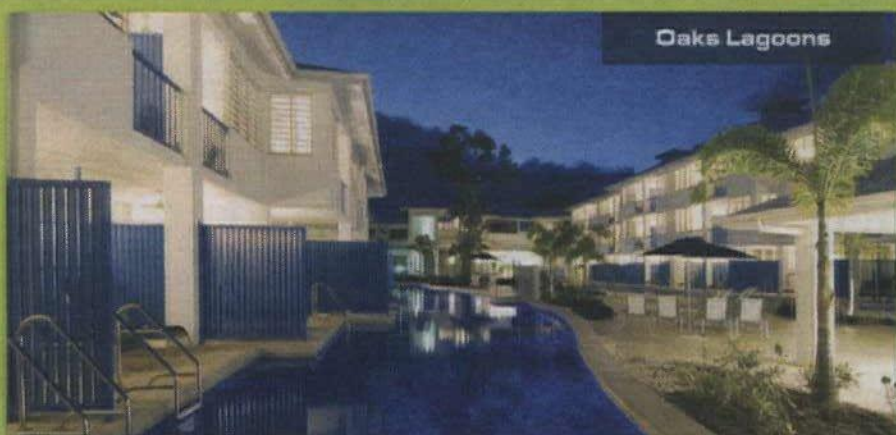


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3 Bedroom, Dual Key Apartments

\$290K less 30%

Interest FREE deposit



**2 Oaks Lagoons Langley Road
Port Douglas Qld 4877
MODERN THREE BEDROOM RESORT
DESTINATION**

Modern dual key properties with featuring professional on-site management, lush gardens and fantastic facilities. Ideally positioned with-in the popular Oaks Lagoons Resort this attractive property could be your own Port Douglas holiday retreat or the next addition to your investment portfolio.

Comprising three genuine bedrooms with built in robes, modern kitchen over looking meals and living room, main bathroom, European laundry and outdoor entertaining area overlooking resort pools. Additionally the studio apartment features an open floor plan, bedroom, kitchenette, bathroom and private balcony with luxurious spa bath.

Other features include split system air conditioning, modern decor, stone bench tops, stainless steel appliances, feature lighting, tiled living areas, Austar TV and plenty of storage.

Located in close proximity to the stunning Four Mile Beach; and with local shops, cafe, supermarket and two golf courses just minutes away this modern property won't last long and is priced to sell today.

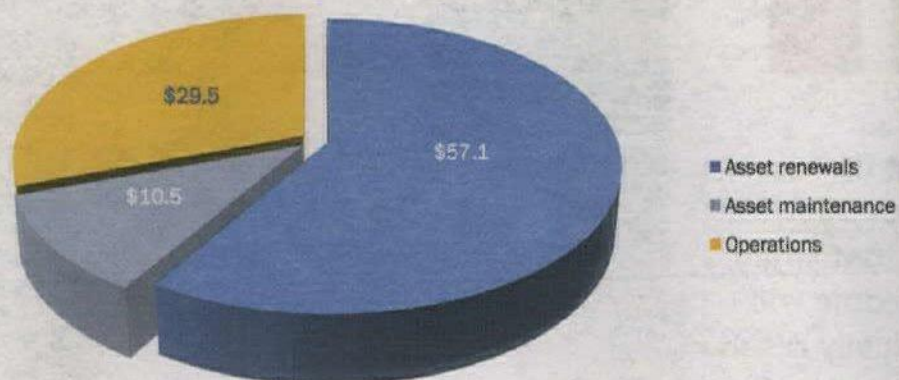


10 units available
The buildings only 5 years young.
Valuation \$290,000 to \$320, 000
Previously sold for \$400, 000 - \$500, 000.
Estimate NET return
\$12k to \$13.5k letting out long term.

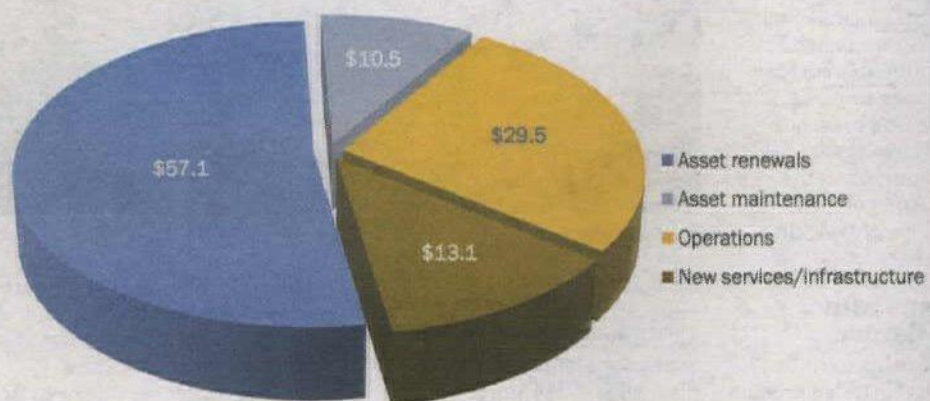
Contact Saviz Savisyar.
P: 02 9499 1127 E: saviz@ebbx.com

Where would the income from a special rate variation go?

Option 2 Expenditure:



Option 3 Expenditure:



What asset renewals would be funded by a special rate variation?

\$28.10m worth of roads and bridges renewals

\$3.09m worth of stormwater, flood mitigation and environmental quality devices renewals

\$7.85m worth of parks and recreation renewals

\$18.06m worth of building renewals

What business-related operations would be maintained with a special rate variation?

Include but not limited to:

Strategic planning
Development assessments
Construction certifications
Building safety inspections
Commercial waste services
Small business support
Property management
Beauty and hair inspections

Economic development
Public health services
Traffic management
Development controlling
Environmental assessments
Food handler training
Asset management
Streetscapes



Mariya Gojan
President, Merrylands
Chamber of Commerce

"A rate increase is positioned to attract new development, bring more people and consumers to Holroyd, strengthening our local economy. We should focus on building an inviting streetscape that is attractive to customers and shops."



Tom Kudinar-Kwee
Architect, Zhinar
Architects Pty Ltd

"A small rate increase in Holroyd will be absorbed by the ratepayer but improve development application processing times. This could lead to more developments and more activity. Increased dwellings and more people in Holroyd will have a positive and cumulative result."



George Marangou
Zag Seafood

"Holroyd is the place to be for small business because you know everyone's names in the community and you really feel like you are one big happy family. A rate increase will open the doors to new businesses who are hungry for success."



Vince Zumbo
Owner, Vince Hair Design

"A rate increase could be good for Holroyd because it will make sure that all the new people who are going to come in over the years have everything they need to live and work in Holroyd happily. More people and more business for shop owners."

Why it's easier to sell progress than products



By Tony Eades
Chairman Sydney Hills Business Chamber

ARE you leading your business and your team in the right direction? As a business grows and you're able to delegate more functions, it's tempting to rely a little too heavily on the expertise of those you've engaged.

But if you don't choose the direction and lead the way, things may not turn out as you'd hoped. An excellent example, and an area where a lack of leadership can have a serious financial impact on the business, is the sales function.

If you don't see yourself as a sales person, you're not alone. You may have handed over this role at the first available opportunity and then stepped back to focus on expanding your business.

Perhaps you now have several people looking after sales for you. Even so, you still need to be sure that your sales team is following the right path and that your approach to sales is strategic rather than disorganised.

If you don't have any understanding of sales strategy, or you know a little, but don't feel competent in this area, it's worth taking the time to expand your knowledge and to stay up to date with social and technological changes that affect buyer behaviour and sales approaches.

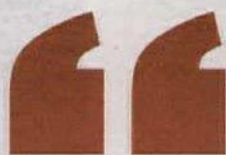
Many of the concepts are surprisingly simple and make perfect sense – once you know what they are!

Sell success to boost your sales

According to sales expert and speaker John Lees, there are two common misconceptions among business owners that often result in an under-performing sales team. "The first is that hiring nice people will automatically result in good sales. It won't. The second is that the business is selling a product or service. It shouldn't be – it should be selling success or progress, even though it's charging for a service or product."

Explaining the last concept further, John says: "There are three queues of businesses trying to sell. Those in the first queue are selling what customers expect and already have. Those in the second are selling the same, but with a slight improvement in service or price. And those in the third are selling what customers are quietly craving for – progress. The first two queues go nowhere."

John says that business owners and managers must lead the way to ensure that the strategy is right, and that the entire sales team under-



The first misconception in sales is that hiring nice people will automatically result in good sales. It won't.

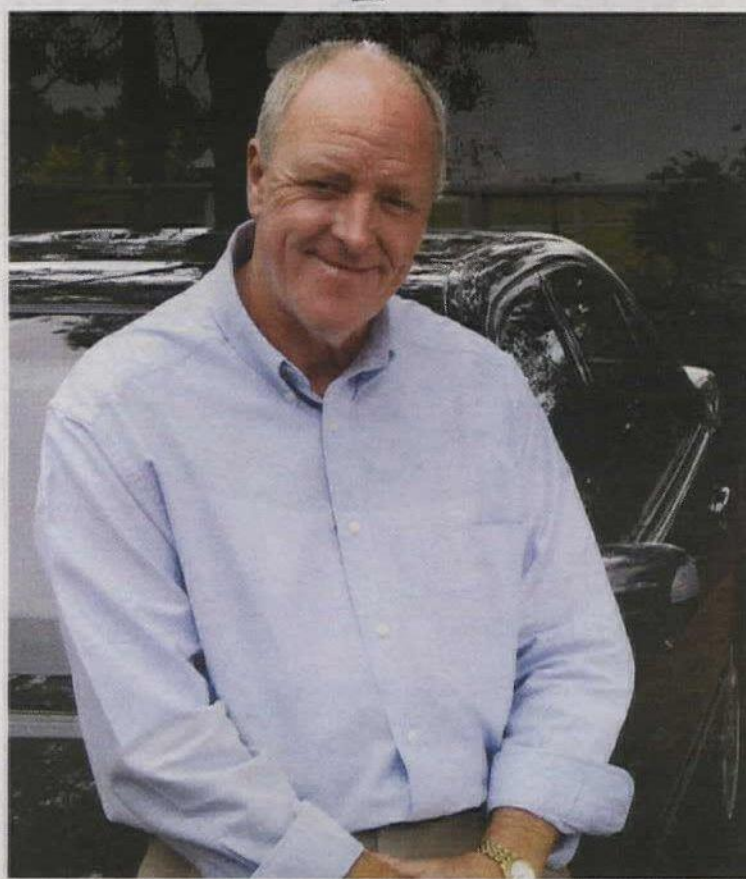
stands the company vision and strategy, whether those involved in sales are sales representatives, telemarketers, or retail assistants. Making improvements in this area can bring on a surprising turnaround.

John Lees will be presenting his views on this topic, with his usual touch of humour, at the Sydney Hills Business Chamber Business After Five networking event in February.

February events with a leadership flavour

Business leadership is the Sydney Hills Business Chamber's theme for the month and both February networking events will have a strong focus that topic.

The first event is a Business



Sales guru, John Lees.

Breakfast to be held at the Castle Hill RSL on Wednesday, February 12. Chamber representatives will announce events and initiatives planned for 2014 and discuss the concept of business leadership.

The second event is the Business After Five networking event to be held at the Mean Fiddler in Rouse

Hill on Wednesday, February 26, where John Lees will entertain and educate as he explains how to lead your sales team to success.

To register for one or both of these events, or to find out more about the Sydney Hills Business Chamber, visit www.sydneyhills-business.com.au.

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Turkish	Dayanisma	Wednesday	www.thaioz.com.au	extrainformativo@gmail.com
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Turkish	Milliyet	Tuesday	www.hurriyet.com.au	sydney@dunya.com.au
Turkish	The Turkish News Weekly	Wednesday	www.milliyet.com.au	info@hurriyet.com.au
Turkish	Yeni Vatan Turkish Newspaper	Wednesday	www.turkishnewsweekly.com	info@milliyet.com.au
Ukrainian	Free Thought - Ukrainian Weekly	Thursday	www.yenivatan.com.au	info@turkishnewsweekly.com
Chinese	Chinese Community News	Friday		info@yenivatan.com.au
Italian	La Fiamma			marks@mail2me.com.au
Greek	Greek Herald			info@ausdaily.com.au
Indian	Indian LINK			gbuttarello@lafiamma.com.au
Japanese	Nichigo Press			mystakidis@foreignlanguage.com.au
African	African Monthly	Monthly	www.belafrica.com	editor@indianlink.com.au
African	African Oz	Bi-Monthly	www.africanoz.com	tadasu@nichigo.com.au
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Mandarin	Australian Chinese Daily	Daily	www.singtao.com.au	mail@africanoz.com
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Chinese	Pacific Times	Thursday		sydney@eltelegraph.com
Croatian	Boka CroPress	Weekly		armenia8@tpg.com.au
Indian	Indus Age	Monthly	www.indusage.com.au	info@acceec.com.au
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Indonesian	Buletin Indo	Monthly	www.buletinindo.com.au	rajesh@indusage.com.au
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Korean	Sydney Korean Herald	Friday	www.koreanherald.com.au	editor@buletinindo.com.au
Maltese	Maltese Herald	Tuesday		admin@parasianaaustralia.com.au
Pakastani	Hamaray Rang		www.hamarayrang.com.au	herald@koreanherald.com.au
Polish	Express Wiczoyny	Weekly		tmh@the-vellas.com

list of community papers which were provided with all media releases.

Local Solutions

Special Rate Variation

Public mtg
presentation

Holroyd
City

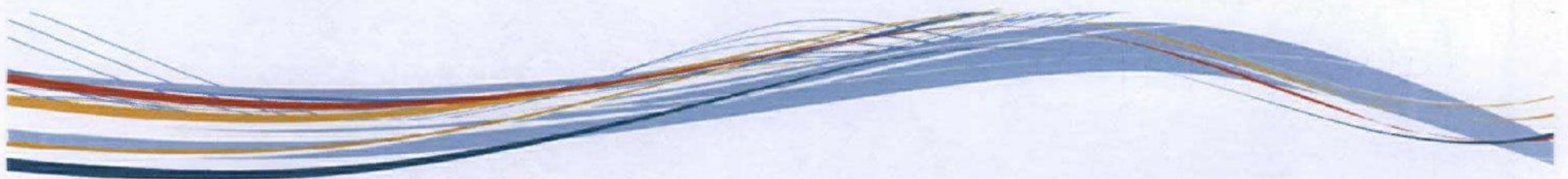
Holroyd
City

Holroyd
City



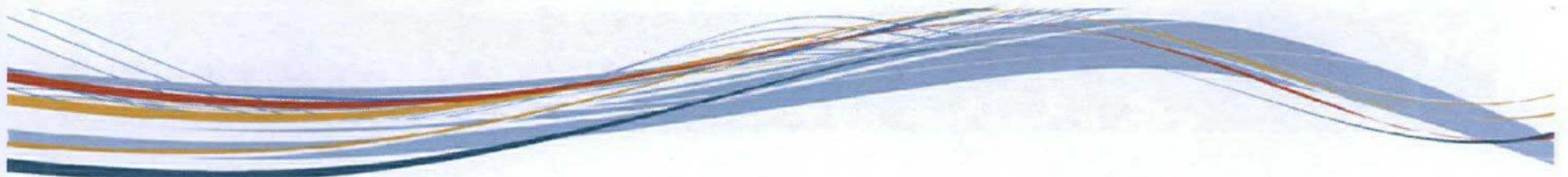
Agenda

- *Welcome and Introduction – Garrie Gibson, Facilitator*
- *Presentation – Tim Butler, Director Corporate and Financial Services*
- *Questions*
- *Invitation to Speakers*
- *Summary*



How did we get here

- *Costs of materials v revenue*
- *Rate pegging*
- *Changing Population*
- *Changing expectations of the community – demand for services*
- *Ageing Infrastructure*
- *5th lowest rate funded LGA in the Sydney Metropolitan region*



What is the current situation

- Council is not in debt
- Council has stretched its resources to meet the community's expressed levels of service within its adopted budget each year.
- However, the growing gap between costs and revenues currently leaves Council with a \$97.1 million funding gap over the next 10 years
- This \$97.1 million is required to maintain and renew our existing and future Infrastructure over the next 10 years

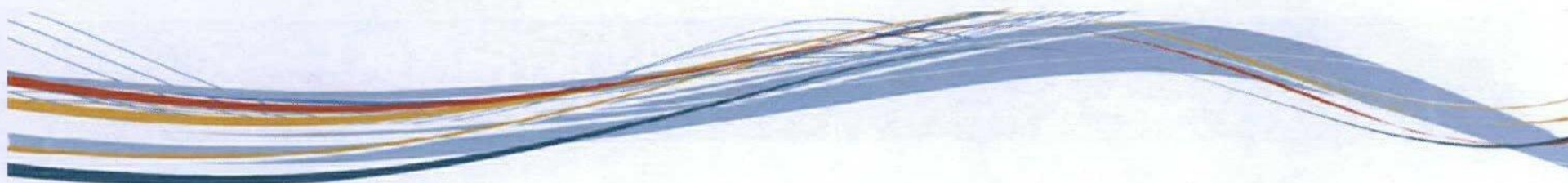


Roads

Good Condition



Poor Condition



Kerb and Guttering

Good Condition



Poor Condition

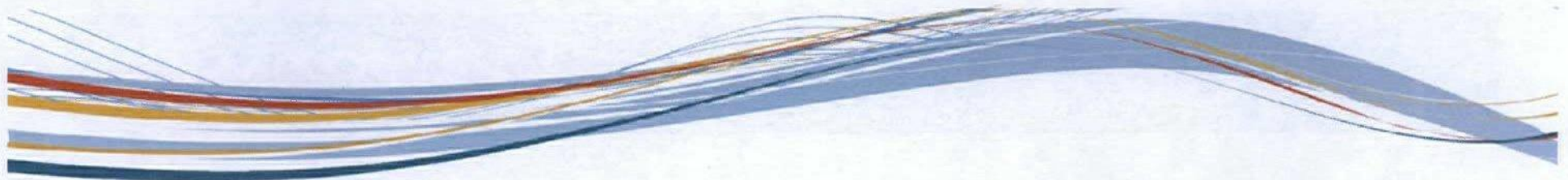


Foot paths

Good Condition



Poor Condition



Stormwater Pipes

Good Condition



Poor Condition



Parks - Sports ground

Good Condition



Poor Condition

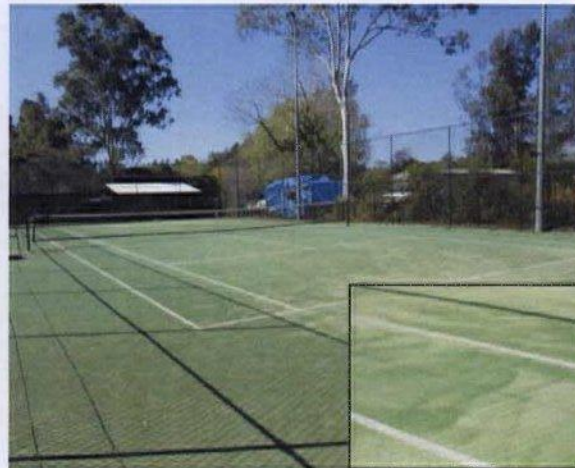
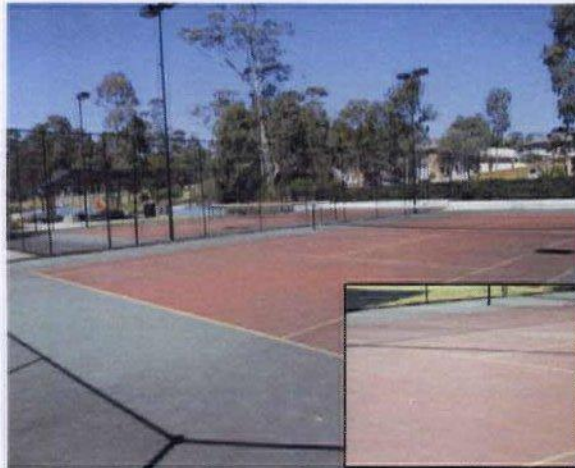


Parks - Playing Courts

Good Condition



Poor Condition

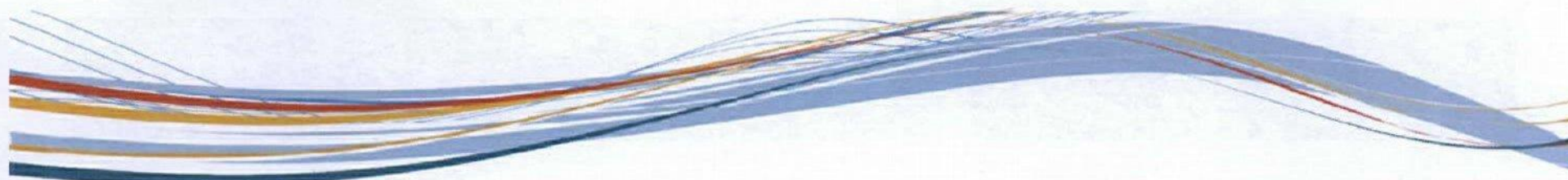


Parks - Playgrounds

Good Condition



Poor Condition

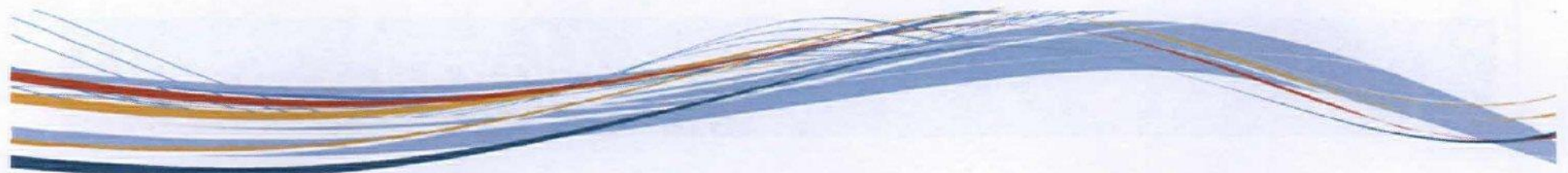


Buildings

Good Condition



Poor Condition



What are the Options

Option (1) No rate increase above the peg;

This would mean that Council will be forced to reduce our services and / or infrastructure standards expected by local ratepayers.

Option (2) Rate increase of maximum 9% for 4 years and 8% for 1 year returning to 3% in the 6th year;

This would allow Council to maintain our services and renew infrastructure.

Option (3) Increase rates by maximum 9% for 6 years

This would allow Council to maintain services, renew infrastructure and deliver new services and / or infrastructure.



Services - just to name a few

Community events
Environmental Health
Aged Services
Children's services
Youth services
Library services
Economic development
Financial Services
Development Services
Strategic Planning
Corporate Strategy
Tree Management
Landscape Services
Graffiti removal
Development compliance
Construction of new footpaths
Corporate Planning
Process Improvement
Administration

Human Resources
Executive services
Online communication
Community engagement
Customer service
Risk services
FoodWise Program
Public health and skin penetration
Immunisation services
Companion animals
Residential Waste Collection
Animal impounding service
Keeping of animals
Parking Patrol
Community education
Environmental Protection
Environmental assessment
Information Technology

Recycle waste collection
Kerb side clean up
Illegal dumped rubbish
Sharps collection program
Mattress recycling
Paid clean up services
Kerb and gutter renewal
Construction of new footpaths
Maintenance on parks, roads, stormwater, buildings and rec facilities
Streetscape and litter bins
Public Toilets
Facilities management
Function Centres
Swim centres
Sign maintenance
Central Gardens animal enclosure



The Options - the Facts

- Option 1 will result in a reduction in standards of services and infrastructure
- Option 2 and 3 will mean provide sufficient funding to maintain and/or enhance our existing services and infrastructure
- If Option 1 is chosen, Council's role will be a smaller one to determine the communities desires on what services and infrastructure need to be reduced.
- Selection of Option 1 will require a separate discussion with the community on what services and infrastructure need to be amended



Community Engagement so far...

Stage 1: Phone survey and 5 focus groups to determine options

Stage 2: Listening Posts and attendance at Community events, launch of Webpage, brochures, flyers and FAQ to raise awareness

Stage 3: Letter to all Rate Payers ,Postcard and media releases/online engagement calling for feedback on options and Public meetings

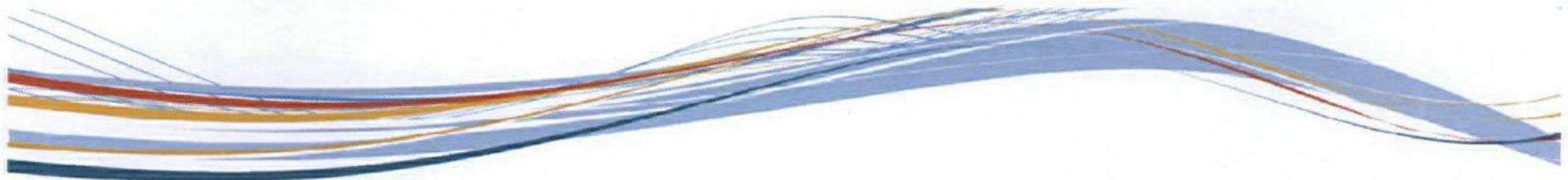


Where to from here

Stage 4: Information gathered to date will be reflected in the Draft Delivery Program and other supporting documents and presented to Council for consideration at its meeting on the 3 December 2013 .

Stage 5: If Draft Delivery Program adopted by Council , placed on public exhibition from 4 December 2013 til 7 February 2014

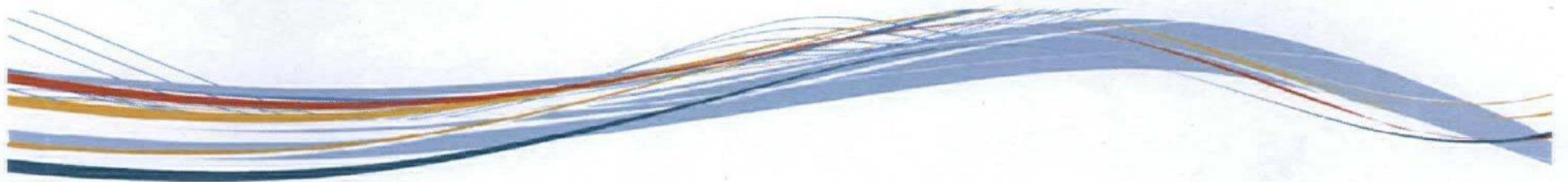
Stage 6: All feedback and submissions to Council for final decision on 18 February 2014



Questions



Invitation to Speakers



Summary

