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Submission: Maybe they could afford to pay for these infrastructure improvements if they weren't paying this ridiculous amount in wages....546,739 dollars paid to one male employee during the 2017 - 18  
282 005 dollars paid to 2 males and 1 female during 2018

regardless of the above the electorate of Port Stephens has recently had their council apply for a rate rise which we also wrote submissions in for and it was deemed that the area had too many people against the rate rise. The Council did their duty in informing the community what they were doing I feel that Hunter water has not given our community the same opportunity to have our say as I have not seen a survey nor have anyone I've spoken to seen any survey.

We can not afford to pay an increase in our water rates it will put us as a family behind yet again. We as a family are part of the redzone and have had Town water pushed on us for health reasons so it is already an added expense. Sydney and Gosford are currently paying less than Hunter water rates and they plan on reducing their costs why is Hunter water allowed to increase their costs. Our area is already under enough stress why would they want to put us under even more stress. As a family we are not taking holidays we are not living beyond our needs because of over spending our children are already behind other children, we are a working class family trying to live within our means and are finding it increasingly hard. Water is not a choice it's a necessity.