

Outcomes of Community Consultation

Council's Proposed Funding Strategy for Infrastructure Asset Renewal – including Special Rate Variation

Community consultation program, November 2013 – February 2014

Comments and feedback from the community consultation on the proposed funding strategy including the special variation are summarised under the following headings:

1. Community Telephone Survey
2. Consultation Website
3. Telephone Enquiries
4. Community Information Sessions
5. Written Submissions (including a full listing of submissions and main issues raised)

1. Community Telephone Survey (provided as Appendix 23)

The component of the Community Survey conducted in November 2013 relevant to the special variation sought the views of residents (not limited to ratepayers) on three options relating to Infrastructure Asset Renewal funding. In broad terms, the options were:

- Option 1 – Increase funding to Infrastructure Renewal by reducing other services.
- Option 2 – Allow the condition of Infrastructure to deteriorate over time.
- Option 3 – Maintain other services and increase funding to Infrastructure Renewal through a special rate rise of 3%.

In summary, the survey results indicated that Option 1 (reducing other services to increase funding to infrastructure asset renewal) and Option 3 (the option including a possible additional rate increase of 3%) were quite close in terms of the levels of community support. There was relatively little support for Option 2 (the concept of allowing the condition of infrastructure to deteriorate).

Option 3 (the rate rise option) was the 1st preference of 48% of respondents compared to 39% for Option 1 (reducing other services). However, a higher level of opposition was also recorded for Option 3 (with 34% of respondents ranking it as their least preferred option) compared to Option 1 (22%). The rate rise option therefore tended to be favoured or opposed by most respondents, with less neutral responses.

Overall, 68% of survey respondents indicated that they were very supportive, supportive or somewhat supportive of the special variation option.

2. Consultation Website

The primary purpose of the consultation website (www.yoursay.blacktown.nsw.gov.au) was to be a comprehensive and easy-to-use source of all information and documents on the proposed funding strategy and rate increase, to which all advertising and enquiries could be directed.

The website also allowed users to register in order to give their views on the proposal through an online discussion forum and through a "Quick Poll" which allowed "voting" for or against the rates proposal (on an informal basis). As registration could be anonymous, views recorded were not treated as formal submissions.

Usage statistics recorded by the website indicate that it was a useful and convenient means for a significant number of community members to access information, and for a smaller number to give their views and discuss issues. In summary, in the period 12 December 2013 – 3 February 2014, usage of the website was as follows:

- Registered active users – 80
- Non-registered users (any usage of website) – 2,926
- Hits on information pages / document downloads – 1,413
- Comments on the discussion forum and votes in the "Quick Poll" – 88

Of the 88 comments on the online discussion forum and votes in the informal "Quick Poll" the majority were opposed to the rate increase proposal.

3. Telephone Enquiries

In the period corresponding to the community engagement program, 10 December 2013 – 13 February 2014, there was no significant increase in the overall volume of telephone enquiries relating to rates issues.

Council recorded approximately 100 telephone calls relating, in whole or in part, to the rates proposal. The majority of these calls requested details of the impact of the proposal on individual ratepayers or properties, which were directly answered.

Of those calls where the view of the caller on the rates proposal was expressed (approximately 70 calls), all but a few callers were opposed to the proposed increase. Of the callers clearly opposed to the proposed rate increase, approximately 45 were residential ratepayers and 25 were business sub-category ratepayers.

4. Community Information Sessions

Five Community Information Sessions were held in January 2014, one in each Ward of Blacktown City.

The sessions and their attendances were as follows:

Date	Venue	Attendees
4pm - 8pm Tuesday, 14 January	Mount Druitt Hub	12
10am - 2pm Thursday, 16 January	Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre	13
4pm - 8pm Thursday, 16 January	Max Webber Library, Blacktown	18
10am - 2pm Saturday, 18 January	Jim Southee Community Centre, Kings Langley	5
10am - 2pm Monday, 20 January	Emerton Leisure Centre	2
	Total	50

These information sessions did not require attendees to formally express a view on the rate increase proposal, and attendees were encouraged to make a written submission to Council following the opportunity to discuss issues directly with officers.

A summary of issues raised and discussed with attendees at the sessions was recorded.

Overall, the majority of attendees expressed either opposition to or significant concerns with the rates proposal, among a range of issues discussed. In some cases, the concerns of attendees were mitigated following discussion with officers.

The most common issue raised at the information sessions. was concern over Council's Pension Rate Rebate policy. On that matter, many attendees were not aware that the Voluntary Rebate was still available, and several attendees were not previously aware that they were eligible for a rebate.

5. Written Submissions

Summary

Rating Category	Opposed	Support
Residential	62	5
Business - sub-categories	89	0
Business – general and sub-categories (<i>i.e. ratepayers with properties in both categories</i>)	3	0
Total	154	5

Overview

A total of 159 written submissions from individuals and businesses were received in response to the community engagement program.

Of these submissions, 154 expressed opposition to the special variation. This represents **0.16%** of the total of 95,227 ratepayers of Blacktown City Council who were directly notified of the proposed special variation.

Of the submissions opposing the special variation, 89 were from property owners in the proposed Business Sub-Categories. This represents **2.7%** of the ratepayers in this category who were notified of the proposal by Council in December 2013 and again in January 2014.

No submissions were received from community or business groups, however one online petition established by a community group had 83 listed supporters up to 13 February 2014.

Main Issues Raised

The two most common categories of submissions were residential ratepayers opposing the rates proposal and business sub-category ratepayers opposing the rates proposal. In these submissions, the most common concerns and views noted were as follows:

- Residential ratepayers opposing the rates proposal
 - Impact on Pensioners – in many instances, citing the reduction of the Pensioner Rate Rebate by the amendment to Council's policy from 1 July 2013.
 - Council should live within its means or make other reductions to find the necessary funding.
 - Dissatisfaction expressed with various specific Council services, including existing maintenance standards.

- Business sub-category ratepayers opposing the rates proposal
 - Unduly large size of the proposed increase imposing an unfair burden on businesses / business property owners.
 - Rate proposal unduly targeting one section of the community.
 - Difficult economic climate meaning that this additional cost increase would be unsustainable for business.

Details of Submissions

The following detailed tables are provided below:

1. Residential Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase (62)
2. Residential Ratepayers Supporting Proposed Rate Increase (5)
3. Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase (89)
4. Business Ratepayers General and Sub-Category Opposing Proposed Rate Increase (3) (*i.e. Businesses identifying both General Category and Sub-Category properties*)

Table 1

Residential Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Name	Suburb	Particular Comments
1	[REDACTED]	Blackett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
2	[REDACTED]	Blackett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
3	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
4	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
5	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
6	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
7	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
8	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
9	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
10	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability. Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
11	[REDACTED]	Bungarribee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should consider revaluating what services it provides.
12	[REDACTED]	Doonside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
13	[REDACTED]	Doonside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
14	[REDACTED]	Glenwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
15	[REDACTED]	Hassall Grove	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability. Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
16	[REDACTED]	Kings Langley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
17	[REDACTED]	Kings Langley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
18	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
19	[REDACTED]	Marayong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
20	[REDACTED]	Minchinbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability. Council to consider services provided.
21	[REDACTED]	Mount Druitt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
22	[REDACTED]	Oakhurst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
23	[REDACTED]	Oakhurst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should be more financially responsible.
24	[REDACTED]	Oakhurst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
25	[REDACTED]	Plumpton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. Doesn't support reducing services.
26	[REDACTED]	Plumpton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.

Table 1

Residential Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Name	Suburb	Particular Comments
27	[REDACTED]	Plumpton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
28	[REDACTED]	Plumpton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
29	[REDACTED]	Quakers Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
30	[REDACTED]	Quakers Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council should provide the required services within its resources.
31	[REDACTED]	Quakers Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
32	[REDACTED]	Quakers Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
33	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase.
34	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability. Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient in Ward 1.
35	[REDACTED]	Rooty Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
36	[REDACTED]	Rooty Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
37	[REDACTED]	Schofields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific concerns raised with particular Council services.
38	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
39	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
40	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
41	[REDACTED]	The Ponds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
42	[REDACTED]	Toongabbie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
43	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
44	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
45	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required further information on Council finances.
46	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
47	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
48	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
49	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned about future affordability.
50	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
51	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
52	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to consider finding further efficiencies.

Table 1

Residential Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Name	Suburb	Particular Comments
53	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
54	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should be more financially responsible.
55	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned about future affordability. • Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
56	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase.
57	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase.
58	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase.
59	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider finding further efficiencies
60	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.
61	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase.
62	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on Pensioners and concerned about future affordability.

Table 2

Residential Ratepayers Supporting Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Name	Suburb	Particular Comments
1	[REDACTED]	Minchinbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure. • Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient
2	[REDACTED]	Quakers Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure.
3	[REDACTED]	Quakers Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient
4	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure.
5	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider finding further efficiencies • Concerned about future affordability

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
1	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
2	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
3	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Council should consider raising rates by a smaller %.
4	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
5	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
6	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
7	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community. Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
8	[REDACTED]	Arndell Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Not appropriate to increase rates on small section of community.
9	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
10	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Will consider moving business to another LGA.
11	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
12	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
13	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Will consider relocating business.
14	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
15	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Doesn't consider services provided by Council sufficient.
16	[REDACTED]	Eastern Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
17	[REDACTED]	Glendenning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
18	[REDACTED]	Glendenning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Businesses will consider moving or closing.
19	[REDACTED]	Glendenning Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Businesses will consider relocating.
20	[REDACTED]	Huntingwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposed to rate increase. • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
21	[REDACTED]	Huntingwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
22	[REDACTED]	Kings Langley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
23	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
24	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
25	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
26	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
27	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider services provided.
28	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Council should consider a once only special levy.
29	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
30	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
31	[REDACTED]	Kings Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
32	[REDACTED]	Minchinbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase.
33	[REDACTED]	Minchinbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Council to consider finding other alternatives to rate rise.
34	[REDACTED]	Minchinbury Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
35	[REDACTED]	Prospect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
36	[REDACTED]	Prospect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Concerned that business Sub - Category rate increase will apply to home based business – Council has clarified that the property referred to is classified residential.
37	[REDACTED]	Prospect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider other options for revenue raising.
38	[REDACTED]	Prospect Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
39	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
40	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
41	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
42	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
43	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to consider finding further efficiencies. Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
44	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
45	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
46	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
47	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
48	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to consider services provided and to consider finding further efficiencies.
49	[REDACTED]	Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
50	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
51	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
52	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
53	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Businesses will consider moving or closing
54	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Council should consider implementing increase over a longer period of time to allow businesses to adjust.
55	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
56	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Will consider relocating business.
57	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
58	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
59	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
60	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider finding other alternatives to rate rise.
61	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non profitable charity opposed to rate increase. • Council has contacted them to follow up on eligibility of exemption of rates.
62	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
63	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase.

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
64	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
65	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objected to inadequate notice received of Councils proposal.
66	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
67	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase.
68	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. • Council to consider finding further efficiencies.
69	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
70	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
71	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
72	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider finding other alternatives to rate rise.
73	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the need to invest in infrastructure but opposes rate increase. • Council to consider finding further efficiencies. • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
74	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community. • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
75	[REDACTED]	Seven Hills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community. • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
76	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
77	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opposed to rate increase. Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Businesses will consider moving or closing.
78	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
79	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will consider relocating business.
80	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
81	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
82	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
83	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General opposition to rate increase.
84	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to consider finding further efficiencies. Council to consider reducing services.
85	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.
86	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Council should consider other revenue raising options.
87	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of infrastructure so don't think rate rise is warranted.
88	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses. Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community.

Table 3

Business Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
89	[REDACTED]	Suburb - not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to rate increase. • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.

Table 4

Business General and Sub-Category Ratepayers Opposing Proposed Rate Increase			
<i>(Note: Ratepayers identifying both General Category and Sub-Category Properties)</i>			
No	Business/Rate Name	Suburb(s)	Particular Comments
1	[REDACTED]	Blacktown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.
2	[REDACTED]	Blacktown Arndell Park Seven Hills Mount Druitt Quakers Hill Stanhope Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considers increase on business substantial and Council should consider less substantial increases over a longer period of time to allow businesses to adjust.
3	[REDACTED]	Blacktown Riverstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not appropriate to increase rate on small section of the community. • Rate increase excessive and will put strain on businesses.