

Transcript

Station: **ABC ILLAWARRA** Date: **08/02/2018**
Program: **MORNINGS** Time: **08:53 AM**
Compere: **NICK RHEINBERGER** Summary ID: **X00073524115**
Item: **CALLER WARREN SAYS HE WANTS TO ENDORSE WHAT KERRY
[MCMURRAY] FROM KIAMA COUNCIL SAID.**

Audience:	Male 16+	Female 16+	All people
	N/A	N/A	N/A

NICK RHEINBERGER: Warren is in Kiama.

Morning.

CALLER WARREN: Good morning Nick.

NICK RHEINBERGER: What's on your mind?

CALLER WARREN: Look, I'd like to endorse what Kerry from Kiama Council said. He came along to a meeting at the South Precinct – that's the Gerringong, Gerroa et cetera area – and he presented it very well. And at the end of his presentation, I would say the majority of people there were very much in favour of the rate rise. Now, that's unusual, Nick, because ...

NICK RHEINBERGER: [Interrupts] It is completely unusual. I don't know how Kiama does it. They have never been in danger of sacked, whether the mayor and councillors come from the right or the left or the Greens, they seem to take the community along with them, and you've noticed that, Warren.

CALLER WARREN: They do communicate, and they communicate well. I went up at the end of the meeting. I researched it in-depth, and everything that he said was correct. And yes, it is going to cost me more, but look Nick, you'll see it all up and down the coast. I just hope these councils, who really are running short of funds- I mean, I think it's 3 per cent otherwise increase. It's not enough to keep up with all the costs, and I think good on Kiama Council for being proactive and telling us the reason why these rate increases are needed.

NICK RHEINBERGER: Okay. You can see that, just in general- it happened in Melbourne as well. They had a citizen's jury with the Melbourne Council who were given all of the books, basically. They opened all the books to them, and they ended up recommending that rate rises be proposed, rather than continuing to oppose them. You can see, you can take the community along with you, but it's a bit of a dark art about how you do it, isn't it?

CALLER WARREN: Well, it is, but I think, in the past, some prime ministers have been very good at explaining the reason why taxes may need to rise, and in this case rates, which is basically another form of tax anyway.

NICK RHEINBERGER: Yeah, of course. Yeah.

CALLER WARREN: And I say good on Kiama Council for communicating, and for everyone listening, and understanding that, yes, it's going to cost more, but in the long run it's a worthwhile investment.

NICK RHEINBERGER: Righto. Cheers. Thanks for your call.

CALLER WARREN: Thanks Nick.

NICK RHEINBERGER: That's Warren from Kiama.

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