

Author name: Name suppressed

Date of submission: Monday, 4 March 2024

Please write your submission below:

I do not believe this rise should be passed on to the public. The Council needs to demonstrate they are working on ways to save money, but currently they are extremely inefficient, leading to considerable cost blow-outs. These inefficiencies should be addressed, rather than the community paying higher rates. As an example, when council recently decided to "revamp" Unwin Street, they hit gas lines and burst water pipes by accident more than once, despite having surveyors come and mark out where everything was with spray paint. They also had more staff than necessary, with one person working and 5 others standing in a circle talking. Of course, this is just one example. It is completely unfair for Council to pass increase rates above the standard amount before ensuring they are operating efficiently. We are in a cost of living crisis, and these rises have a significant impact on the community.

Author name: Name suppressed

Date of submission: Wednesday, 6 March 2024

Please write your submission below:

Thank you for the opportunity to write a submission against the dramatic increase in our rates. Whilst I understand inflationary pressures the services we currently receive do not demonstrate the need to increase charges- 1. Our dirt road is more often than not in disrepair with corrugations and potholes that can severely damage a car. We operate accommodation on our property and the road can be quite dangerous for those not familiar with its degradation. There is a very dangerous corner on our road that is made up of dirt and bitumen. It is blind and slippery with erosion on one side. Despite complaints to council, this remains in a substandard condition. 2. In our 7 years living here, I have only recently seen weed management taking place. Some of the blackberries sprayed of late were enormous and scratch cars whilst driving past. The St Johns Wart are very rarely managed. As a result, it makes it hard to manage the spread of these noxious weed. There needs to be an improved service from council in order to justify this increase.

Author name: Name suppressed

Date of submission: Sunday, 10 March 2024

Please write your submission below:

I don't agree with the rate increase. You're going to hurt a lot of young families. This rate increase will drive people out of town and force them to live elsewhere. How about you think of the families and people that are doing it tough.

Author name: [REDACTED]

Date of submission: Sunday, 17 March 2024

Please write your submission below. (Before starting, please ensure that you have chosen the correct council from the dropdown list of councils, at the very top).

To Whom it may concern My submission against rate rise in Blayney Shire Council I believe Blayney shire Council should be allowed to put rates up to the NSW Governments recommened rise of 5.3% plus money from loan intrest \$1,000,000 to cover the rateable year from 1/7/2024 to 30/6/ 2025 to be able to look at he financial trouble the council have found them selves in. The shire has not got a large rateable base we rely on Cadia gold mine for 50% of our ratesif something happens at the mine council will never be able to operate as a financial concern Council have made a assumption that if anoth mine opens at Kings Plains the council will still need support from NSW Government to keep council viable .Mr Dicker told me even if we do get okay to open mine we will be short of funds I believe coucil have not at any stage tryied to cut costs Council have a office staff ratio of 1 office worker to 1 outside employee ratio being 1 to 1 very top heavy for small council Garden and lawn maintance is a large part of budget mow parks on weekly rotation i believe they could cut back to every second week mow the parks and town entrances using the staff on the week no mowing is needed they could do other jobs spraying weeds road maintance again saving this council will not do The swimming pool costs rate payers \$1000 a day in money \$360.000 a year have asked our general manager Mr Dicker could there be a way of cutting the money lost at the pool i have recieved no comment from him i believe the only way the pool can stay open is use unpaid help from the towns .The pool is leased to YMCA but rate payers still pay the short fall Council cars they just purchased 3 utes for \$65.000 each the council could have bought 3 Chinesse built utes for \$35.000 each the council to me seem to have no understanding of cost savings Why buy any plant items when we are told by council we have no money they keep spending on these items The council has no people skills when you email or speak with them you get your questions are never answered just get told there is a way around it or never answer your emails so i have worked out you must put a time you want your reply and state if no reply sent to a goverment department that handles the question you get a reply . You could sit here and write problems about this council To Finish i believe with the lack of rateable income to keep council virable we should be investigated to see if the council can stand alone into the future as Mr Dicker said at a meeting about rate rise council will have to ask in 3 years for a nother hand out from the goverment as i said to him that wont happen for ever at some stage we will have to join another council There is a amalgmation plan already for Blayney to join Orange Council I believe the NSW Government should send qualified people to go through councils financial records and make a decision on what to do with this small council