

**From:** Amanda Glen  
**To:** [Local Government Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Clarence Valley SRV  
**Date:** Tuesday, 6 March 2018 8:57:26 PM

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Dear IPART,

I am a welfare worker/counsellor in the Clarence Valley and work on a regular basis with the underprivileged of this socio economic sector.

I see so many people who cannot afford to feed their children well and are struggling to afford to pay their bills.

Clarence Valley has not accepted alternative proposals made by the Local Community to reduce Councils spending to affordable levels. Their full time staffing levels are atrocious by comparison to other local councils of comparable size. They appear to have deaf ears when the community says they are stretched to their limits and cannot afford any further increases in their rates.

Council are misleading the community with misinformation of the actual cost of a 26% increase stating that it would be an average rate rise of \$19.00 - 50.00 per annum. This is a totally ludicrous mathematical error.

They have not accepted alternative proposals to cease their excessive spending of the public purse, to a more affordable level and we carry a huge debt for the whole community to try and repay. If the average citizen has to work within a budget and live within their means, it would seem logical that a local government organisation should be better able to do a similar thing.

We currently have an influx of FIFO road workers which is temporarily boosting the economy, however, this will be short lived when the highway and bridgework are finished and will leave the permanent residents of the area, stretched beyond their means to pay further increases in rates.

I would like to register my displeasure on how these actions by Clarence Valley Council will impact negatively on the residents here. Neither I nor the clients that I see, can afford any further increases.

Yours faithfully

Amanda Glen