

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Lack of Confidence In Bellingen Shire Council
Date: Saturday, March 10, 2018 10:26:16 PM

Dear IPART,

My name is [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] in Bellingen. I heard that I need to contact you by 10 March about the recent request by Bellingen Shire Council to raise our rates.

Our Council has been wasting money on banners for Same Sex Marriage and other events, they have mispent their last rate rise on other things than roads and now want to raise them again to what will be another 20% increase in three years, as a pensioner, I and many others will not be able to afford this. They got grants to put stupid flower beds all over town and take away parking. They say they want to lease a useless carpark behind the Federal Hotel which will cost us forever in maintenance and create now new parking. They made the bus stop smaller and more dangerous. They want to put another flowerbed in two 15 minute parks in front of the post office. They spent thousands on glossy brochures delivered all over the shire during Christmas when most people would have been distracted or on holidays etc, explaining in unclear language why we "needed" yet another rate rise (after 2 in the past few years)... They submit that 90% of the population agree to their rate rise if only 10% complain, which is a misrepresentation of the truth and a blatant lie. The entire population of the shire has been misinformed or uninformed.

Bellingen Shire Council has more staff and costs more to maintain than any other local council. They are out of control and extravagant and wasteful.

My phone number is [REDACTED], I hope you can help us.

Thank you, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]