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Date of submission: Monday, 22 February 2016

Submission: Councils are notorious for being unable to live within the constraints of their budgets. Too often they cite the usual excuses and seek extra revenue from special variations (increases) to rates. It is the easy way out rather than adopt a disciplined approach, and work within the revenue collected via current arrangements.

One has only to take a cursory glance at the size of WSC's executive team, to realise it's bloated and top heavy for an entity of its size. Of course they're all busy, busy...justifying their existence in a wonderful example of "Utopia".

In making their case Wingecarribee Shire Council (WSC) hope that their ratepayers have forgotten about their appalling mismanagement of council reserve funds, causing them to lose a reported and never refuted amount of \$30 million during the GFC. How different things would be if these hard-won reserves had not been squandered. To make matters worse, more ratepayers monies have been wasted with futile court action, chasing blood out of a stone, although they know not who or where the stone lays.

Until they can demonstrate proper management of their affairs, WSC should NOT be granted any special rate increase.