

**From:** Brian Hudson  
**To:** [Local Government Mailbox](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Randwick Council Special Variation 2018-2019  
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I object to the undemocratic manner in which Randwick Council canvassed the views of the ratepayers. The response rate to the survey was approximately 5%. Many residents would not have understood the need to vote on the matter. I cannot now remember the items which the Council described as worthwhile but I remember that undergrounding of power was one element. This surely cannot be an important issue and I can only imagine that the process refers to main roads. It was not explained that the increases proposed were permanent which means that they would form the base rate for any future increases. I see around me at sites on Carrington Road to the west of my property, on Marcel Avenue to the north and on Alison road to the south major unit development. This development is welcome because it allows the Council to spread the ongoing running costs among a greater pool of ratepayers without adding to the need for new infrastructure. In other words the rate base of the Council is constantly being strengthened, allowing for the moderation of rate rises. I think back to a programme dreamt up by the Council to foster community spirit by establishing so-called precincts. The Council sent brochures specific to each precinct to the ratepayers. These were 5-colour extravaganzas and must have cost a small fortune. To my knowledge only one precinct voted to agree to the Council's proposal! My wife and I have been ratepayers in Randwick since early 1973. We are now retired. [REDACTED]

Randwick Council gives rate relief to pensioners but my wife and I must pay the full rate. I don't believe that it is fair if the Council causes us to have to move because we cannot afford the increased rates. Please consider our objection to the proposed increase!

Brian Hudson