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Submission: objection to HCC 31.29% rate increase. I object to council increasing rates. Some rate payers had rate increases of 180% whilst 80% of rate payers had a rate drop. Council stated in the IPART submission that they protected some rate payers so that they only get an increase of \$90, but did not state that to do this they would give some areas increases of \$6500. Council has been running operating losses for seven years and have not managed their fiduciary responsibilities and neglected our assets. Council spending is out of control, pandering to minority interests and neglecting the needs of long term ratepayers in rural areas. Many of these rate payers are long term occupants, now retired, unable to pay such an impost and stay on their properties. It seems council have changed rate structure to gain support of the urban areas, and force rural areas to pay for it. People in rural residential areas are dealing with hardship imposed by Council, with people paying between \$4000 and \$9000 before an SRV. It is unfair and council are out of control.