

From: Kerry Hewson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 30 March 2017 1:10 PM
To: Local Government Mailbox
Subject: RE SHOALHAVEN COUNCIL SPECIAL VARIATION SUBMISSION

>
> RE SHOALHAVEN COUNCIL SUBMISSION FOR SPECIAL VARIATION

>
>
> To whom it may concern

>
>
> I was made aware of the dates for submissions today when i contacted the ipart office on this matter today so please accept my apologies for lateness re sending this in however as a constituent of the shoalhaven council LGA I would like to have an opportunity for my concerns on the application by council to raise council rates by an outrageous and unacceptable 30% to be tabled for the tribunal's attention.

Under the criteria guidelines as per your website point 5.1 /2 clearly states that there should be evidence that the community is aware of a rate rise - this was not adhered to. 5.1/3 points out council consideration of community capacity & willingness to pay and their affordability which also has been ignored.

>
> I try stay up to date with what council does but I am now extremely concerned that shoalhaven council have voted to apply for such a huge rise as there was no consultation with residents in my area of [REDACTED] so when hearing this on the ABC radio by chance being discussed I contacted one of the councillors who lives nearby who had voted against these over the top rises. There was no notification/public forums (which i have since found out they don't need to do) of any application to ipart for this increase and as an ex resident of the city of Sydney for many years i was shocked at the way this was handled. I do not believe there is justification of such a huge rise and after speaking with many of my neighbors who are just as angered at not being informed of this, let alone the closing dates for submissions to ipart it should be taken into account that any rise like this would put many in financial hardship in an already quite depressed area wages wise. I will be making my concerns known directly with all councillors including the general manager at SCC as I am angered about the entire lack of due process. With the recent change of council last year I now believe this is more about politics than revenue as I normally have to resort to contacting our local state member to get any priority on what should be local matters.

>
> Therefore I respectfully ask that my email be forwarded on for consideration that the shoalhaven submission for this massive 30% rate rise be REFUSED and a much more reasonable rise be approved over the appropriate time frame.

>
> regards
>
> Kerry Hewson

>

[REDACTED]