

From: Sandy Birch [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 23 March 2014 1:50 PM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: Variation of Council rates

Dear ipart,

I wish to strongly oppose an special variation rate to Coffs Harbour City Council.

This council is well known for mis- management of rate payers money.

They seem to think that they can spend it on any frivolous thing then when the money runs out the rate payers get slugged again so they carry on in a devil may care attitude.

Instances off over zealous spending:

- 1, Bought a run down property to rehouse the museum at a cost of \$800,000 in August 2010. Nothing done to the building until the beginning of 2014 when re construction started to the tune of \$650,000, \$200,000 of which is still to be funded. Rate payers do not want this white elephant.
2. Funding SYDNEY football teams to set up training camps in a local holiday resort all paid for by the rate payers.
3. Car rally ran at a huge loss to the rate payers.,
4. 10s of thousands of dollars spent on feasibility and impact studies, most were not feasible or had little impact.

There are many other unknown expenditures that we are unaware off.

To add insult to injury the Mayor is taking a delegation, including an interpreter, to our "Sister City in Sasebo" for a junket to the tune of \$25,000. This sort of jolly has been scrapped by most councils and is totally unwarranted. \$25,000 is 15 months pension that I have to live on.

When I pay my rates I have to budget carefully for the year, something this Council is incapable of doing.

There is no money tree at the bottom of the garden, we have to budget to live, the Council should be doing the same.

This local council is run by fat cats with their noses well in the trough and we, the rate payers, have had enough.

Regards Keith Sneding, on behalf of many, many pensioner ratepayers