

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Local Government Mailbox](#)
Subject: Calculations for Minimum Rates
Date: Saturday, 7 April 2018 10:00:45 PM

To: IPART

Re: Advalorem Calculations for Minimum Rates:

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

I am 78 and I live purely on the pension. I have worked since I was 16 and I have been careful and prudent with my money, but unfortunately lost all my savings 6 years ago. There are many, many others in this shire, who for one reason or another, also live on my kind of budget, so I speak for them also.

Some 16 years ago I bought myself a very small, modest house with no views, not flash, but now comfortable. The selling value of this street, has moved very little these past 5-7 years, yet the value of the land has sky-rocketed from [REDACTED] K to [REDACTED] k. In 2012 the base rate was [REDACTED]. Now our council is proposing that it mushrooms to more than twice that. Yet the selling price of these properties has not matched that growth.

IF you allow this unfair system to be applied to small value properties, this will seriously compromise our budgeting. Already, we are struggling with an escalating cost-of-living which is hardly matched with any increases in our pensions. To add more taxes, is exacerbating the struggle to a point where it will truly impact on our health. With age comes the need for health maintenance, and despite the assistance we receive, one cannot escape the 'gap' that most specialists add to the Medicare costs. I, for one, already have to put up with painful conditions, because I just cannot afford to pay for treatment which is only offered outside of a hospital.

As you are no doubt aware, this is a poor shire, and many are in the situation where they are sitting on valuable land, but cannot afford to sell and buy elsewhere, even if they had the energy to do it.

If we are put in the position of having to pay even more for a roof over our heads, we may have to start eating at Maccas, which is the only cheap food available, with the attendant health issues it would create.

Is this what we deserve?

I sure hope you do not think so.

Yours faithfully,

Marie Boler