

**From:** Ron Hutchins  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 March 2015 5:23 PM  
**To:** IPART Mailbox  
**Subject:** Opposition to rate increases

Sirs,

We have lived in the Blue Mountains for the past 15 years and we feel that the Council could save money in lieu of increasing the rates by cutting down on the following:

1. Cutting down on highly paid and excessive staff
2. Cutting down on garbage collection, up to recently we lived at Blackheath, and we had a weekly collection of both garbage and recyclables, most residents had only a half bins to empty. Garbage could be collected weekly and recyclables fortnightly
3. Contracting out garbage collection in lieu of owning garbage trucks and staff.
4. Recently Council asked all residents to vote for 3 alternatives, (i) Large increase, (ii) smaller increases or (iii) no increases.

According to Council the majority of residents voted for (i). I gusted this would happen because of the large percentage of residents being on welfare have their rates subsidised.

Residents like ourselves being self funded retirees just can not afford any further increase in rates

The Council in the past has had a record of poor financial management and we feel that we must protest against any further increase in rates.

Regards

Ron & Elizabeth Hutchins

