

From: Robin Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 3 March 2017 11:21 AM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: Shoalhaven Council Rate Rise

Tribunal Members,

You will soon be making a judgement on the rate rise of the Shoalhaven Council. I would like to take this opportunity to present my case against such a move.

I will be brief, as I know or hope you will receive many letters expressing similar grievances.

I am a 73yr. old woman on an Aged Pension which you realise is a fixed income and under new Government rules rises at a very low rate, which I realise is the way it is. However, when I am pressured to accept unnecessary outgoings of money which will alter my living conditions, I feel I must protest and hope someone will listen.

I have been to meetings to listen to both sides of the argument to be fair and I have read the published financial report of the Council [which leaves one mystified as I assume it is supposed to so no one knows exactly where the money goes.]

Information gained

- State Government has had all properties revalued. I would think in the current climate will increase my value, thus increase my base rates.
- On top of this a rate rise of 11% will be added to the above figure.
- Emergency Services Levies are to be added to the rates bill and while not a part of rates will increase the amount owing and has to be found.
- The council is in a healthy financial position and has enough money to pay for all projected works.
- Monies raised by the rise will be banked and used for purposes other than those to benefit all rate payers. I have not seen any printed matter to dispute this information.

Taking into consideration all the above points I find it difficult to see reason in accepting a further unnecessary erosion to my limited income. I am being told that I can apply for a disadvantaged package if the rise affects me badly, this I'm afraid just leaves me devastated, to think a government body is prepared to put its people unnecessarily in this position.

Yours sincerely

Robin Taylor.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]