

Hepburn Shire Council higher cap application

Submission received via email

Date submitted: 29 March 2025

Submission written by: Su Hauck

To whom it may concern,

I am a rates payer in Hepburn Shire. Recently our community has become aware of councils decision to apply for an increase in rates above the rate cap of 3%.

I, and many others in the community, are against this increase of 10%. I have seen the results of the so-called community consultation, which was based on a very small selection of the community, and which was completed without many community members awareness. Many community members have been discussing, in social media, how they were not informed of this consultation process.

Also, the results of this process clearly show a high percentage of voters were against the rate hike, yet council has skewed it's view of the results and interpreted statistics to say the opposite. I hope that when you read the statistics, you will see this clearly.

As a community, we have been talking about and criticising our council and its past decisions that have put our shire in debt, when it could have avoided such a situation, especially with the Rex debacle.

Here we are now, with council claiming we need this rate hike, while still chasing and implementing grand ideas of new council premises.

Our community is enraged at the many incompetencies we have had to deal with and the hidden information, that were it not leaked, we would have been none the wiser.

Council needs to find other ways to recoup costs of past mistakes and hold off on spending yet even more money on plans and proposals for council offices. The community is over it! Some have even begun pushing for intervention from other govt agencies.

For me, this isn't solely about saving a few dollars on my rates notice. For me this about a highly incompetent council thinking they can take the easy way out and make us all bear the load. We have all already suffered because of their actions. Please don't allow them to do more of the same.

Respectfully,

