

Hepburn Shire Council higher cap application

Submission received via email

Date submitted: 8 April 2025

Submission written by: Joanna Mason

Hello.

I am writing to object to the Hepburn Shire Councils application to increase rates above the approved cap.

As a rate payer I have not been consulted by the Hepburn Shire about the rate increase and only heard about it when raised on a community social media page.

Our rates increased by close to 40% 2 - 3 years ago as a result of inflated house valuations post COVID. I was unaware of the process to object to this rise however some neighbours were aware and were able to have their rates reviewed. I found this to be an inequitable process as some of us still had to pay the higher rates while others did not. If it had been determined that some properties values were inflated surely this should have applied to all properties in the area.

While our valuations were reviewed in the following year the rates were still high.

I live on a VicRoads road and am only entitled to fortnightly rural rubbish collection, which barely meets the needs of my household. We are also not eligible for the newly introduced 'green bins' for organic waste. The council does little to nothing for the money I pay in terms of 'roads and rubbish'.

I cannot see the justification for the over inflated rate rise proposed.

Thank you