

Essential services Commission

RE:- Capping of Council rates VERY NECESSARY

I am in my 50's, long term unemployed and have no hope of finding work again, given the poor state of the economy and worsening job crisis.

I own and occupy a very old strata title unit and live off the dole (approx. \$250 pw) which is much less than the pension.

I am fed up with paying for spiralling upwards council rates and the fact that the council spends on huge salaries for their executives and department heads

I also am against council spending on non-core services eg greek festivals and soccer clubs (I am not greek)

Solutions:-

- 1) Cap council rates to inflation as proposed
- 2) Revalue properties every 4 years (not every 2 years) as was previously the case; otherwise I get slugged an additional 5% every 2nd year (unsustainable)
- 3) Pensioners have access to discounts for their rates; I don't. Introduce Council rates discounts for all Health Care Card Holders (I am on the dole and struggling) not just the pensioners.

Regards

Mr M Mirski