

To Whom it may concern,

I, the undersigned ratepayer of the City of Karratha, wish to express my concerns around the proposed increase in the dollar value for the 2018/19 rates.

I feel that I have already contributed a substantial amount of money over the past years with the introduction of the PUPP payments. Many of us are still paying off this exorbitant and unfair service charge and interest on a loan you never had to take.

I have lost around 42% off the current value of my house and am now paying for an overpriced property, a cost which I don't expect I will never regain. The government has failed me by allowing the prices to become so inflated and have taken far too long to react to the lack of housing in boom times. Now they are asking me to pay again as the entire community is trying to recover.

What assurances do I have, in the event of a rapid property value increase, that the Council will decrease the rate percentile to align with what they are currently collecting?

I feel that given the current climate the Council needs to readdress their own spending and stop passing on the costs to the ratepayers all the time.

Spending money on more properties and the homemaker's centre is not going to help us reduce our rates. \$111,125 has already been spent on a feasibility study for another building you haven't even purchased or built yet. The people living here need a break and a reprieve from the current cost of living in the City of Karratha.

I believe that the proposed increase in the dollar value for the 2018/19 rates is unfair and poorly timed with many of us struggling. How many people have gone bankrupt in the past few years due to the recent price fall in property and PUPP costs? Will I be the next?? I'm not sure you even care.

Last year when the council approved the purchase of the Quarter, it was to help reduce the financial struggle for ratepayers on their rates. What has happened to the money it has generated?

The Council last year wanted to increase the rates 3.3% then reduced it to 1.5% then finally to 1% after big companies made submissions to you. When does it stop? Does the Council only listen to the big companies and not the rate payers?

We voted in a new Council because we wanted a change and we wanted a voice for the ratepayers and people of Karratha. Now is the time to listen to us, stand up and make a change. Please listen to those that voted you in and work in the best interests of the ratepayers.

Thank you

Regards

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