***SURVEY FORM – ex TSC website***

**Please return to TSC by 1 May 2022 to:**

**council@tenterfield.nsw.gov.au**

**copy** **info@osoci.org**

**TSC po Box 214, Tenterfield NSW 2372**

**Tenterfield Council office counter.**

**If you need a hand, please phone council, the councillors or if you prefer its OK to phone me**

***VERY clear Jan 2022 results =*** *NO rates increase, YES reduce services.*

*Important feedback to the council is:*

* ***‘how much extra are you prepared to pay for same or more services***
* ***what services do you suggest be reduced to avoid a $50 Million 10 year deficit or over 200% rates increase?***

**Question 1: Which part of the Tenterfield Shire Council (TSC) area are you from?**

**Question 2: what do you see as the most important TSC activity to be maintained?**

**Question 3: what are 3 activities you would like to see changed, *removed or reduced* by TSC?**

**Question 4: what 3 facilities or services would you most like to see improved or added to TSC budget?**

1. **How much extra in rates (or separate) charges will you pay to cover this extra expenditure year by year over the 10 year $ plan?**

**Question 5: on average, are you satisfied with the ‘services’ or activities currently delivered by TSC?**

1. **Not satisfied**
2. **General not satisfied**
3. **Satisfied**
4. **Satisfied most of the time**
5. **Very satisfied**

**Question 6: council has to deliver community’s ‘vision’ in a financially responsible manner to ensure council is sustainable into the future. TSC rates are on average cheaper than the following councils (uralla, glen innes, Gwydir and kyogle.) (*NOTE: vision often includes ‘aspirations’ or is provided by passers by not ratepayers*)
How supportive would you be to an increase in rates to allow council to deliver the community’s vision?**

**How supportive would you be to an REASONABLE increase in rates to allow council to deliver RATEPAYERS required services. Defined: A reasonable rate increase being <10%**

1. **Supportive (of a reasonable rates increase)**
2. **Willing to consider a reasonable (rates) increase**
3. **Not supportive (of reasonable rates increase)**
4. **What rate increase do you think is reasonable?**

**Question 7: council has to operate in a financially responsible manner to ensure it is sustainable into the future. Council manages a large asset base (e.g roads, bridges, community buildings, parks etc) and delivers a large number of services (eg planning, library, community services etc) without the funds to maintain these at current service levels. Noting this, council is constantly balancing between increasing revenue and reducing service levels (eg fixing roads slower). TSC rates are on average cheaper than the following councils (Uralla, Glen Innes, Gwydir and Kyogle.)**

**To help us manage this balancing act better, using the sliding scale below, please let us know if you would prefer to see reduced service levels, are supportive of any of the following increases to rates or to a compromise of the 2 options to remove the estimated operating deficit of $50 million over 10 years?
CJJ has Defined: in options below based on 2022 TSC staff proposed rate increases (to date).**

1. **Increase service levels (*Very significant* increase in rates) eg 300% over 10 years**
2. **No service levels reduction (*Significant* increase in rates) eg 200% over 10 years**
3. **Minor reduction in service levels (*Large* increase in rates) eg 48, 58, 80% over 10 years**
4. **Major service levels reduction (*small to medium* increase in rates) eg 20%**
5. **Significant service levels reduction (*minimal* increase in rates) eg 5-10%**
6. **Other – please specify**

**Questions need to relate to Tenterfield Shire COUNCIL area services.
Not Tenterfield REGION. NOT Tenterfield Shire**

**Questions need to be focused on RATEPAYER IMPACT, RATEPAYER AFFORDABILITY & RATEPAYER acceptance of Rate Structure as required for an IPART NSW submission for approval of any special rate variation (eg over 200% in draft LTFP).
The Rate Structure is how the staff propose to allocate the proposed rate increase over rate categories .
If one category pays less than an equal share of the increase, then others will have to pay the ‘shortfall’.**

**Staff have made it clear the over 200% proposed rate increase only covers expenditure which is already included in the budget/plan documents being considered at the moment.
No new, extended expenditure for cost shifting, weather events, new initiatives, grant support etc.**

It is suggested you either complete this, send other written feedback, complete the online survey or text your councillors, so there is a written record of your feedback, if you don’t want mandatory staff recommended rate increases of 48%, 58%, 79.56%, 110%, over 200% or even possibly over 300% (depending on the eventual staff proposed rate structure).

Please provide your rate #, address, name so staff don’t think one person has completed multiple surveys.

Based on the consultation meetings, no one has to identify if they are a ratepayer, resident, community member or passer-by.

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