



Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates 2025-2026

Tabled Public Submission Report June 2025



City of
Melville

Executive summary

Each year, the City issues a Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates as required under Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. This notice is supported by a statement outlining the objects and reasons for adopting differential rates across various categories of property within the City.

As part of the 2025–2026 Annual Budget process, public consultation on the proposed differential rates was conducted from 21 May to 12 June 2025. During this period, electors and ratepayers were invited to provide feedback on the proposal. Submissions were accepted via the City's website (www.melvillecity.com.au/differentialrates), as well as through alternative methods including written submissions, telephone, in-person feedback, and hard copy forms.

While the legislative requirement is for a minimum 21-day advertising period, the City extended the consultation to 23 days to maximise community participation. The consultation was widely promoted through both traditional and digital communication channels.

A total of 449 valid submissions were received. Respondents were asked to indicate whether they supported, objected to, or neither supported nor objected to the proposed rates.




This report provides a summary of the feedback received, including an overview of overall community sentiment and levels of support by suburb, and tables all comments for Council's consideration.

Engagement findings

449 submissions were received, with 97.8% expressing objection to the Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates.

Object	Support	Neither support nor object
n439 / 97.8%	n5 / 1.1%	n5 / 1.1%

Communication and engagement participation and reach

 How we communicated	 How we engaged	 Participation and reach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Melville Talks engagement webpage ○ Latest news article ○ Public Notice • CIVIC building public notice poster • Direct emails issued to Melville Sounding Board and a random community sample • Social media (Facebook) • eNews publications (Melville Matters and Melville Talks) • Newspaper articles in Melville Herald and Perth Now 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online submission form • Hard copy submission form • In person at CIVIC Building • Over the phone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 449 submissions received • 5,088 website visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5,053 Melville Talks page visits ○ 35 news article page views • 5,052 direct emails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4,916 random community sample ○ 136 Melville Sounding Board • 1,434 social media reach • 18,766 eNews subscribers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12,748 Corporate subscribers ○ 6,018 Melville Talks subscribers • 45,016 Newspaper distribution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 20,000 Melville Herald ○ 25,016 Perth Now Melville

Participant demographics

To ensure the engagement/public comment process reflects the City's diverse community, submitters were asked to share their demographic information.

- 99.11% of submissions received indicated they resided within the City of Melville.

Analysis of submission content

Submissions were reviewed to identify key themes and concerns raised by community members. The analysis reveals a predominantly negative sentiment toward the proposed rate increase, with several recurring issues consistently highlighted across responses.

Theme	Mentions	Summary	Example comments
Cost of living pressures	229	Many submissions highlighted financial hardship, including difficulty affording essentials, mortgage stress, and the rising cost of living. Respondents expressed concern that the proposed increase would exacerbate these pressures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "We are struggling to live pay check to pay check. You will place more pressure on our shoulders." - "We are a family of 4 with a mortgage and rising bills. Please consider the burden this puts on working families." - "Raising rates in this economic climate shows a lack of empathy for people already doing it tough."
Value for services	100	Respondents questioned the value received for current rates, raising concerns about maintenance, infrastructure, and service delivery not meeting expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "We are paying more in rates, but still have broken footpaths and poor lighting. What are we paying for?" - "No visible improvement in community services despite yearly increases." - "I don't mind paying more if we get something in return. But nothing has changed on my street in years."
Lack of justification	90	A significant number of comments pointed to a lack of clear rationale for the increase, with calls for greater transparency and comparison against CPI/inflation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "For residential rates, I am objecting to the stated increase with no justification." - "The increase is nearly double inflation. Where is the breakdown of how this is calculated?" - "There has been no clear rationale presented for why rates need to go up by 4.5%."

Calls to reduce spending	43	Ratepayers urged the City to reduce internal costs or find efficiencies rather than increasing rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>"When will anyone actually reduce spending? Pretend it's your own money."</i> - <i>"Before raising rates, the City should cut unnecessary expenses."</i> - <i>"Look internally for cost savings before turning to ratepayers again."</i>
Equity and fairness	25	Concerns were raised around the fairness of rate distribution, particularly for corner blocks, unimproved land, and properties with reduced amenity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>"As a corner block, the majority of land belongs to Council...yet I maintain it at my own cost."</i> - <i>"Unimproved land should not be rated the same. There are no services provided."</i> - <i>"It's unfair to charge the same for high-density areas with fewer amenities."</i>
Disconnection and trust	19	A smaller but notable group expressed a lack of confidence in Council decision-making, suggesting a perceived disconnect between the City and its residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>"You are driving the community into the ground and should all be ashamed."</i> - <i>"It's frustrating to see the City in the media for spending issues, then be told we need to pay more in rates."</i> - <i>"Council needs to earn back trust before asking for more money."</i>

**Note: Individual submissions often addressed more than one theme.*

Sentiment overview

The overall sentiment across submissions was predominantly negative, with most respondents either objecting to the proposed increase or expressing frustration at the lack of justification or perceived value. A small number of submissions offered neutral or constructive feedback, and a limited number expressed support for the proposed changes.

Support by location

	Object	Support	Neither support nor object
Alfred Cove	15		
Applecross	21		1
Ardross	12		
Attadale	15		
Bateman	15		2
Bicton	25		
Booragoon	16		
Brentwood	5		
Bull Creek	10		
Kardinya	34	1	
Leeming	35	1	1
Melville	47		
Mount Pleasant	28	1	
Murdoch	6		
Myaree	10	1	
Palmyra	81	1	1
Willagee	32		
Willetton	1		
Winthrop	28		
Not supplied	3		
	n439 / 97.8%	n5 / 1.1%	n5 / 1.1%

Tabled comments

A total of 461 submissions were received, with 12 identified as duplicates. These were merged and counted once to ensure data accuracy, leaving 449 submissions for consideration.

The following comments are presented as submitted, with identifiable personal information replaced with [removed].

During the review, several submissions contained repeated or highly similar wording. Further investigation, including contact with some respondents, confirmed that a social media post on an external platform had circulated example wording for community use. Some submissions were also completed by multiple members of the same household, such as a husband and wife, using similar content. These were treated as separate submissions, as they were lodged by different individuals.

Number	Level of support	Submission comments
1	Object	Please justify the increase. What factors have contributed to this rise and why? What savings is the city making to reduce costs?
2	Object	As a ratepayer and owner of two homes in the City of Melville, I find it incredulous that the City would propose such a steep increase in rates without providing adequate rationale and a supplementary proposal for the additional funds' use. I'm also deeply concerned that the City of Melville is not taking residents' concerns of safety and security seriously and addressing the crime problem with said funds (or at least not communicating any plans to do so).
3	Object	[Address removed]. As a corner block, majority of the land belongs to the Council. However, the Council does not maintain the land. In addition to the rates, I have exorbitant amount of water usage and mowing and maintenance cost to pay. I will appreciate if the Council will look into this and see if you give me some form of compensation for maintaining your property. I have lived here since mid 1995. Thank you. Regards, [name removed]
4	Object	For residential rates, I am objecting to the stated increase in rates when it is almost double the CPI (currently sitting at 2.4%) with no justification. I have no issue with commercial increases, but residents shouldn't be responsible for making up a budget deficit if the City has failed to appropriately fiscally plan.
5	Object	The rate does not reflect dwelling density and boxed in properties that have differential quality of life. Recent zoning changes and electoral outcomes are going reduce quality of life. Subcategorisation is essential for both property types to equity based sqm rates.
6	Object	Why are rates going up faster than inflation? What about reducing rates as the dwelling density increased in my area? Just doesn't make sense.

7	Object	Hello. We are struggling to live pay check to pay check. You will place more pressure on our shoulders. If anything, please reduce our rates. Or find ways to tighten your belts to not have to pass on the cost to us. Thank you. [name removed]
8	Object	When will the elected representatives in our local state and Federal governments finally realise that you cant endlessly raise taxes and rates? When will anyone actually, for just one year, reduce spending?? You are driving the community into the ground and should all be ashamed. I know you think you are doing the right thing but you are wrong. Reduce spending and fund cost of living reductions. Its not that hard. Pretend its your money.
9	Object	All unimproved land should have zero rates! The council does not provide any services to unimproved land. If an owner of unimproved land lodges a building application this should be done on a fee basis. Rates should be charged at commencement of building.
10	Object	Rates should be frozen given the current (and sustained) cost of living crisis and the impact it is having on many City of Melville ratepayers. It would also be of use if the city can better explain, and breakdown the reason(s) for increasing the Residential Improved/ Unimproved Land rate in the dollar. The City of Melville already has some of the highest rates in the state.
11	Support	We are family of 4 and I feel I'm paying too much in council rates for my property. In this current situation it is very hard for young family to survive and raise 2 children. To top it have a huge mortgage to pay. Appreciate Council considers my plea and do their best to my request and give some consideration.
12	Object	The rise is significant and above CPI. Consideration needs to be given to reducing spending!
13	Neither support or object	Cost living is high and we need to adjust the levy to link to the services, currently we are not getting better services from the council.
14	Neither support or object	As a resident with dependent children, we use few city resources but face daily safety concerns due to poor footpaths and inadequate street lighting in our area. Before supporting the proposed rates, I would like to understand how this budget will improve local infrastructure and better distribute funds to under-served residential areas. Transparency and equity should guide the city's priorities in allocating rates.
15	Neither support or object	This proposed 4.5% increase is a joke. The council does not have to increase rates at all. Has it ever thought about tightening its belt rather than continuing with a mindset to spend more and more every year? Remember, you are servants of the ratepayers of the City of Melville. So, at this time of the year, think more about cutting back not spending more.
16	Object	My objection is very simple. As As a retiree, there is no way the my income has gone up by 4.5% this financial year. I can't see a noticeable improvement in the services provided. So why should my rates automatically increase?

17	Object	I Strongly Object to the 4.5% increase in rate payments. The Federal Government is responsible for the increase in the cost of living and inflation so why should the tax payer / rate payer have to pay the extra costs for increase in materials and labour to maintain the Melville area. The Federal Government should be "picking this up" Full Stop!
18	Object	What is the justification for a 4.5% revenue increase, which is significantly greater than the CPI increase?
19	Object	Local Government Act 1995,Section 6.32 "When adopting the annual budget, a local government – a) in order to make up the budget deficiency, ...etc" Information does not indicate a budget deficit, the application of differential increase of 4.5% . I do object to a rate increase without adequate identification of exactly what the deficit is,if there is no deficit a differential rate increase cannot be included in the budget.
20	Support	I acknowledge the increasing costs of delivering services. I support increases that relate to the core business of the council including increases in wages for essential staff. I do not support increases for wages for non-essential management or any addition of management roles that are not core to the role of the council. I suggest that non-improved residential land that does not have any applications in to build on has a rate-based penalty applied.
21	Object	With all the cost of living pressures/increases currently this would just be more financial stress.
22	Object	This is more than wage increases given to most in one year, more than the current CPI, more than the current interest rate. The increase is too much given the current economic climate and many (including me) will not be able to afford it.
23	Object	I object to the 4.5% increase in rates Times are tough and a lot of people and families are struggling
24	Object	I believe in today's environment that this levy increase is way beyond the current CPI, most people's wage increases, more than the current interest rates. How is one meant to survive if you keep pushing things up like this when we're struggling to feed and cloth our kids and ourselves. [Attached more information] Times are tough and if it keeps going we might just become another homeless statistic cos we can't keep affording these costs of living going up more than the CPI and our take home pay. Please reconsider this figure as it's just causing more stress on us than the stress we're already feeling.
25	Neither support or object	Please allow weekly rubbish collections, this fortnightly collection is ridiculous
26	Object	Whilst the cost of everything is going up it's extremely hard to support an increase nearly twice the level of inflation.
27	Object	I don't see the council requirement to increased rates whilst everyone is struggling to meet current cost of living. Austerity measures need to be in place, project evaluation needs to be tightened. Big business is doing it, the council needs to also.
28	Object	A rate increase of more than wage increase is unaffordable to many. Can't afford, please stop spending \$ including champagne lunches.

29	Object	I would first look at the salary of senior City of Melville staff - ie, CEO as a way to reduce costs. Also look at areas to save costs including waste management and other areas of efficiency.
30	Object	I cannot fathom how the council can justify such a large increase in rates. We always seem to be paying more but getting less in return. I would like to know what cost cutting measures the council are taking to minimise the extra financial burden of all rate payers.
31	Object	We are in a cost of living crisis and this increase is above inflation. It is difficult enough for households to afford basic food and electricity in the current climate and these enormous rates will only increase stress on families.
32	Object	I'm against the proposed rate increase. Like any household or business, if funds are insufficient, the solution should be to reduce non-essential spending—not raise taxes.
33	Object	With cost of living crisis everything is too expensive as it is plus we have to always pay for anything regarding the council it's like a double dip
34	Object	Not great with cost of living crisis. Give me bigger red bin, without charging for it. Fix up parent parking at Melville high school. Put my rates to good use.
35	Object	Disgraceful that 8 of think it's a reasonable increase when so many individuals and families are doing it tough at the moment. While the council needs to operate functionally and be sustainable it should not be at the expense of the community.
36	Object	CPI should be applied and cost control measures applied.
37	Object	4.5% is a significant increase that will negatively impact most com residents, us included.
38	Object	I object to the proposed rate increase. The cost of living is already putting pressure on our households this will add to that. Not to mention I am unclear where our current rate contribution is allocated when we are far behind other councils in terms of waste collection and community amenities. Manage your current budget better.
39	Object	That's a lot to increase for a cost of living crisis. Specifically because a lot of the things supported with this funds do not benefit the community. I think rates should be reduced considering the circumstances not increased
40	Object	I strongly object to the COM rate increase. This is more than wage increases given to most in one year, more than the current CPI, more than the current interest rate, and just adding to the difficulty many are currently experiencing.
41	Object	500 characters doesn't cut it... see the file attached! [Attachment] Rates should not rise! The cost of living crisis is real first of all. Second, we have been requesting the council come and update Olding park play equipment which is falling apart and they refuse to do it as it's only 8 years old. It is falling apart, rusted, and terrible. We have had to pay extra rates already to get larger bins other councils provide as we have a family of 5. It is also higher than the CPI rise which means my family will be even worse off. So for the council to try and hike rates above that threshold, and lag behind in providing what many believe are normal services is not good enough. No way!

42	Object	You can't increase rates and decrease services and expect the ratepayers to be happy. In general, the city is a great place to live, but you've taken away verge side collections. The current booking system is a nightmare for most of us. Cockburn still do verge collections, have all their bins collected each week (except green), and they get free tip passes. Be more like Cockburn and we won't whinge about you as much online.
43	Object	Outside of increasing wages by 12%, what are you actually doing to improve living in palmyra? You have taken away roadside collection which is increasing illegal dumping. If a park is away from marmion road, they are neglected, there is no shade for children(sorry trees 2ft tall are not good enough) at playgrounds. Playgrounds sit empty in summer as a result. This is a family area and you're taking from palmyra to give to the richer suburbs. Not happy with increase
44	Object	Absurd to have such an increase considering we as rate payers get very little for our money. Booking system for junk collections that are booked out months in advance a bin collection that isn't suitable for fortnightly collections. The cost of living is increasing and wages aren't so how are people able to pay so much more for rates and being one of or the highest in the state definitely not desirable and makes the councillors look very greedy.
45	Object	As a current elector and future ratepayer in the City of Melville, I object to the proposed 4.5% rate increase. Many residents already face higher rates due to property revaluations and rising living costs. The additional increase will cause undue financial strain, especially on low-income households. Interest on overdue payments further burdens those in hardship. Given the City's stabilising finances, I urge the council to reconsider or reduce the increase and explore other funding options.
46	Object	We have not used any of our valet collection opportunities over the past 2 years when the council unilaterally decided to change from verge collection to valet. The new system doesn't suit us at all, yet we still have to pay for it. We are not alone. And you want to increase our rates!!!! Listen to the community for a change
47	Object	This rate increase is excessive and will put more pressure on families cost of living.
48	Object	The percentage rate of increase (4.5%) is excessive in the current economic climate. It exceeds current CPI figures, inflation figures and wage increases. Families when faced with increasing costs economise - curbing expenditure and deferring planned projects. COM should be considering the same before exposing rate payers to increases of this magnitude. Elected representatives need to reconsider this proposal.
49	Object	4.5%!!!!!! Why are you doing this???? In this current climate where many people are struggling, I cannot see how this increase is necessary - especially as the 4.5% is above CPI. Perhaps look at what you are budgeting for and make changes.
50	Object	So many families and people are struggling, it's so unfair to add an extra burden during these tough financial times
51	Object	Unreasonable

52	Object	Is not in favour of the rate rise as there is a noticeable decrease in service delivery to justify a higher than CPI increase in rates
53	Object	Rate increase? I'm at a loss to what my current rates go towards. A red bin / recycling bin that gets emptied only fortnightly. No tip passes or curb side collection. Parks and playground equipment that is in serious need of upgrading.
54	Object	I object to any increase in rates. The current streetscaping budget is not being used to appropriately manage the verge trees outside my property - substantial pruning is and has always been required to keep from encroaching continually into my property however it doesn't happen, why would I agree to increased rates when what I pay currently doesn't provide a quality service?
55	Object	This council should be embarrassed by considering this increase. Clearly no understanding of the struggles families are facing. I cannot see where my current rates are being spent. This council can't even maintain the trees surrounding our property, at a park! Leaving me at a huge financial loss!! And now you want to increase our rates!!! You are thieves!! Do better. The City of Melville has lost complete perspective of the struggles of its ratepayers. People are battling to feed their families. How can this rise be justified? I hope all councillors who voted for this increase can sleep at night knowing that they are destroying lives.
56	Object	This is absolutely crazy that the City of Meville are choosing to do this at times when cost of living has sky-rocketed. I'm a single parent on a single income, trying to pay off a house and raising 3 children. To be advised that rates, which are already extremely high, are expected to go up a further 4.5%, which is also well above the inflation rate, is absolutely frightening. Who can possibly afford to live or survive these days? Come on City of Melville. Retract this please.
57	Object	This rate increase proposed is excessive.
58	Object	We already pay enough for rates. I had asked that my dying tree out front which is ugly be removed and replaced but the answer was no. In these times of cost of living being ridiculous- how can u expect to put rates up- especially for single parents trying to make ends meet! Ridiculous Melville!
59	Object	Not the right time for such a large raise during a difficult time for everyone. The cost of living is still hurting us.
60	Object	An increase of more than the inflation rate doesn't seem fair at all especially with a cost of living crisis and most peoples wages not increasing.
61	Object	I understand increases but this increase is far higher than the cpi increase. I find that terribly unfair.
62	Object	All the bullets points on why you want the rates to increase are bullocks, these are all the points you make when you are getting state funded grants! You've received over \$400mil for 2024/2025 financial year plus a further 90mil of rates and all the other stupid admin fees you charge people where everything now is electronic!

63	Object	I object to the rate rise; I don't see any improvements being made, it takes months for booked waste to be removed and only puts more pressure on families already struggling the the cost of living crisis where basic groceries continue to rise but not our wages.
64	Object	A raise above CPI in a cost of living crisis is absolutely disgusting. Cost saving from the council internally should be looked at first and cutting silly spending on road art works and painting should be done before making residents pay for your silly choices
65	Object	I strongly object to the proposed 4.5% residential rate increase, which exceeds inflation amid a cost of living crisis. This is unjustified given reduced services—fortnightly bin collection, verge pick up system with significant delays, refusal for park safety upgrades to parks eg shade sails.
66	Object	The increase rate is too high, I don't believe we will receive enough care even after the extra money spent!
67	Object	Stop putting up rates & not providing for the council.
68	Object	In a cost of living crisis with people struggling to pay ever increasing bills and expenses, a rate rise is a slap in the face. Council have reduced red and yellow bin collections and scrapped the junk verge collections en masseuse which has caused many more incidences of illegal dumping. I wish to strongly urge council to reconsider this rate rise and put it on hold for at least the next 12 months.
69	Object	[Attachment]Dear Councillors, Regarding the proposed increase in council rates that exceeds the current rate of inflation. At a time when many individuals and families are struggling with the escalating cost of living – including rising food, fuel, energy, and housing costs – it is deeply concerning that the council is considering a rate rise that further burdens already stretched household budgets. Increasing rates above inflation is not only unjustifiable under current economic conditions but also demonstrates a disconnect from the lived realities of residents in our community. While we acknowledge the need for the council to fund essential services, it is imperative that this be done in a manner that is equitable and sustainable. We urge the council to explore cost-saving measures, improve efficiency, and seek alternative revenue streams before passing on additional costs to ratepayers. Now, more than ever, our community needs leadership that prioritizes compassion, fiscal responsibility, and genuine consultation with residents. I respectfully request that the council reconsider this proposal and instead algin any increase with or below the current inflation rate.
70	Object	I strongly disagree with a rate rise of any amount. A large percentage of people are struggling financially and increasing rates is going to increase the pressure on their families. I can't see how the council can justify this proposed increase. As a resident I am very disappointed in the lack of empathy for the people who live in the city of Melville. Yours sincerely [name removed]
71	Object	The city takes enough money and they needs to look at the level of resources they currently have and reduce accordingly. I am very disappointed as I have had building permit issues and when they are reviewed by different

		areas within council and all have varied response and opinion. Nil uniformity nil alignment that equal gross waste of ratepayers monies.
72	Object	Cost of living has increased significantly and now the council does this. You only collect rubbish fortnightly. Your verge collection system hasn't been working for us, we haven't even used this once in the past couple of years. I am not sure what I am paying for!
73	Object	This is far above the rate of inflation and is not justifiable during cost of living crisis.
74	Object	Living costs are high, we have young children to raise, the rate increases are further burden to our family. Instead of increasing rates, I prefer alternative ways like volunteer in community to improve our suburbs wellbeing. Thanks for your consideration!
75	Object	Expensive enough as it is. No access to recycling centre like Montreal street. No tip passes, not enough street cleaning. Parks looking run down
76	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position** , with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66** , indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M** , with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision.
77	Object	I would like the council to look inwards to identify opportunities for efficiencies before adding to the charges for rate payers. If these have been identified and applied then a rise in line with inflation would be acceptable. But I would appreciate more evidence that it is required.
78	Object	This seems unnecessarily high at a time when people are struggling. A CPI increase would be more than enough.
79	Object	We are receiving less services, not more. How are you helping relieve the cost of living pressures by adding to household outgoings by increasing shire rates. This makes no sense.
80	Object	Why is this well above the rate of inflation when we are in a cost of living crisis? Lgs are supposed to support their constituents!
81	Object	Rates should not be increased- keep at the same price. You already have a buffer. Halt some of the projects you are planning like excessive spend on things like Moreau mews in Applecross
82	Object	The rates should not increase higher than inflation unless there is an increase in services. If recurring costs are increasing faster than inflation, cost efficiency should be the primary method to cap increases
83	Object	Dear council. You start this notice with "we understand the cost of living pressures" only to the recommend at hike of 4.5%, well above the Australian CPI increase of 2.5%. Essentially telling us you understand, but obviously just don't care! The council are in a good financial position and I employ you to look at efficiencies rather than sting your residents with increase of almost double CPI. Regards [name removed]
84	Object	A rate rise higher than inflation seems excessive in the current climate

85	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position** , with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66** , indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M** , with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
86	Object	Households are struggling enough, there's no extra funds coming into houses to support this under the current government.
87	Object	I'd like to understand what I am getting as a ratepayer from this increase? Interactions with the council are sub-optimal whether it is for building applications or verge collections. Would also be interested to hear what other options the council have considered? What cost cutting exercises have been done internally rather than impact rate payers?
88	Object	Over the twelve months to the March 2025 quarter, the CPI rose 2.4% however the City is increasing rates by 4.5%? Surely during a cost of living crisis, the City would be looking to reduce its costs to keep bills to a complete minimum. I am disappointed the City isn't doing more to reduce costs and therefore not push higher rates into its already struggling ratepayers.
89	Object	This is too much, what are we getting for this increase? This increase is unjustified and puts unnecessary pressure on rate holders
90	Object	Cannot support an increase above CPI.
91	Object	As you noted we are all under pressure with the rising cost of living Any increase should ONLY be in line with the CPI
92	Object	I oppose the proposed 4.5% rate increase. It's above inflation and poorly timed, given the current cost of living pressures. Asking ratepayers to pay more while many are struggling is insensitive and unjustified. Please reconsider.
93	Object	Things are already challenging enough as it is with the high inflationary environment and we do not wish to see a rate increase at this point in time. Please consider our objection.
94	Object	Rate increase is too high when services are reduced and with current cost of living increases.
95	Object	That is a massive increase to our rates when cost of living is so high, interest rates are high, and we have had no wage increases to keep . Where do you think the money comes from? It will come out of our food budget.
96	Object	Please see attached Objection to Levy increases!: [Attachment] I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City increased residential rates by 4.5% in the previous financial year if we include commercial increases, this increased total revenue by over 5%. Has the city investigated efficiency within teams and processes rather than the need for further increases? This increase is far higher than the average CPI within WA and Perth of 2.9%

		reported to December 2024. How is a figure of and additional 4.5% justified? Even projected CPI for FY25-26 is below the city's proposal at 2.75% as reported by the WA Economics profile and WA Government statement. This further increase of 4.5% YOY places a huge strain on residents that are already struggling amid rising costs and rate increases from the previous year. This is without factoring in unknown GRV increases. Residents' incomes are not increasing alongside GRV or your proposed rate of increase! Please reconsider this decision.
97	Object	Too high
98	Object	I object to an increase that exceeds inflation, as a council you have removed green waste and hard waste removal opting for constituents to book a pick up, this to me is a significant cost saving to the council. As a rate payer I have used one green waste removal, I don't contribute to hard waste often. I'd look at further cost savings than increase rates, as you're contributing to the hard times that most people are struggling with already.
99	Object	The Melville council already take a huge amount of money from ratepayers and continually use it to install "traffic calming" implementation in the most wasteful way and in places entirely inappropriate to have any meaningful effect, it appears to be a plan to use up funds in order to justify further rate increases.
100	Object	If anyone wants a out the box reply:Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position** , with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66** , indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M** , with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
101	Object	Rates well above annual CPI during tough financial times. Over last few years all requests to councils met with delay after delay so I find efficiencies are something to consider rather than additional revenue. Application process for renovation expensive and huge delays in approvals. Requests for local reserve improvements now 5years and waiting.
102	Object	The proposal to increase rates by this % is outrageous in Leeming. The impact on families at the moment on the general cost of living is intense with significant cutbacks to family life/budgets. What you try and save with one hand is then wiped out. I'm personally outraged and so very disappointed at our council.
103	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position** , with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66** , indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M** , with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
104	Object	For goodness sake. Give us a break. The rising cost of living is breaking us as it is. We do not need this as well.
105	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a strong financial position. With an LGFI score of 92 and a current ratio of 5.66, indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, revenue sits

		at \$131M, with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
106	Object	Quite frankly I don't see com using the funds appropriately or efficiently. Still haven't made any progress on tree canopy. Still can't get footpath fixed which contributes to flooding at my address.
107	Object	I object to rate rise above inflation. I feel Melville council does not provide a good service compared to other councils. A friend has just bought a house in Melville. He is shocked we don't get tip passes. And have tiny red bins. It's a shock for him. I object and I am angry that Melville council does not look after residents. Bowling club not upgraded as agreed with council. Where are the improvements ?
108	Object	A park that is neglected compared to all others, paths in said park that are a HUGE tripping hazard , lack of parking for palmyra apartments causing a traffic hazard are just a couple of areas this shire fails. No value for money, you cannot justify any percentage increase. A drop is what you should offer,
109	Object	I can't understand how you can justify a 4.5% rate rise with the cost of living at the moment. I fett egg I you are completely out of touch with your community.
110	Object	I wholeheartedly do NOT support the rate increase. It is excessive especially in today's financial climate. I will not be able to afford such an increase.
111	Object	I have a young family and a 4.5% increase in rates, which is more than CPI and certainly more than my husband and my salary will increase by, is significant to us - especially as the cost of everything continues to rise. I believe there are non-essential activities that could be removed from Council's budget (sadly, community events comes to mind) or at least have the spend reduced in order to avoid such an increase.
112	Object	Cut down unnecessary spending instead of having 4.5%increase.
113	Object	A rise that is higher than inflation during a cost of living crisis, whilst similarity providing the bare minimum in service, (lack of community sports, no upgrade in streetscape anywhere, complete lack of community engagement) is a disgrace.
114	Object	The cost of living is already a struggle for many. We don't need a rate rise as we are struggling already enough to pay our bills.
115	Object	No way should you be increasing rates, it should be less seeing you are doing less verge collection. The amount of money you have wasted buying expensive trees then not watering them and letting them die is atrocious. I don't know who put up the sign about collinson way resurfacing but what a waste of money. I won't be voting for anyone who supports a rate increase. I have also heard you plan to close the well used Leeming rec ctre, that better not be true! [name removed]
116	Object	Any increase should be in line with inflation and no higher

117	Object	This is ridiculous. With the cost of living going up and our income does not support this cost of living rise you now want to take more money from us. I struggle every year to pay my rates and now I have to pay monthly. I'm a single parent paying school fees etc. I'm full time and still find it hard to make ends meet. Absolutely disgusted
118	Object	Please consider how this rate increase will impact those already struggling to make ends meet. It's unreasonable to increase rates when we are barely making enough money to pay mortgage on top of other expenses. The rate increase is too much.
119	Object	Such an increase doesn't seem warranted. It's been pointed out that it's well above inflation, salaries have increased well above this and rates in this council are one of the dearest per size. Efficiency within the council should be addressed first.
120	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position** , with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66** , indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M** , with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
121	Object	We literally are on the bones of our backsides with the costs of everything. How are we expected to find extra money when we don't have any to start with? Seriously. Everyone is paying so much more for very little. Please don't add another nail into us. It's really not fair.
122	Object	If anyone wants a out the box reply: Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position** , with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66** , indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M** , with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
123	Object	<p>Please see attachment: [Attached] As a resident and ratepayer, I believe the proposed rate increase by the City of Melville is unjustified given the current level of services and infrastructure maintenance. Many neighbouring councils provide more frequent and higher quality services while maintaining lower or comparable rates.</p> <p>For instance, councils such as Canning offer weekly red bin collection and additional waste services like free annual skip bins, which directly support residents with higher waste needs—especially families with young children. In contrast, Melville's fortnightly general waste collection is insufficient for households with babies in nappies or larger family units. There are also ongoing concerns regarding infrastructure maintenance and responsiveness. I submitted a Snap Send Solve request about a damaged slide at Kadidjiny Park months ago. It remains broken, merely covered in tape, posing a safety risk. This highlights delays in addressing even basic community infrastructure issues.</p>

		<p>Further, essential family services such as council-operated crèche or early years programs remain limited, leaving local parents with fewer support options. Despite growing population density and higher property values, many services have not scaled accordingly.</p> <p>Ratepayers are willing to pay when there is clear value. At present, many are seeing reduced services, delayed maintenance, and limited community engagement in decision-making. A rate increase under these conditions Appears to be driven by financial mismanagement or revenue-focused strategy, not community need.</p>
124	Object	See attached [no attachment received]
125	Object	My family and I strongly object to the proposed rate increase, especially given the current cost-of-living pressures. Rising expenses for insurance, utilities, and groceries already strain households, and this increase adds to theburden. Has the Council considered reducing non-essential costs before raising rates? Additionally, the FAQ states this item was presented in June 2025, though June has not yet arrived. Can this be clarified?
126	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position**, with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66**, indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M**, with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
127	Object	With the monies squandered on the COM Bowling Club it's clear to see that the coffers are already full enough. A more prudent and suitable approach to funding issues in this current cost of living crisis would be to look at eliminating all the inefficiencies within the organisation and implementing a more cost effective system.
128	Object	We can not afford a 4.5% price increase in a cost of living crisis!!! We all are at breaking point already. Our rates are astronomical as it is. Do the right thing and support your residents.
129	Object	We are struggling as it is and can not afford a rate increase Also fortunately red bin empty is not enough
130	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a strong financial position, with ample liquidity and diverse income streams. This proposed increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
131	Object	Dear Council,I strongly oppose the proposed rate increase. The City of Melville is in a solid financial position, with an LGFI score of 92, a current ratio of 5.66, and \$131M in revenue from diverse sources. This increase is unnecessary and places added pressure on residents already facing rising costs. Please reconsider. Sincerely, [name removed]
132	Object	Considering there is a cost of living crisis, reject this rate rise that is well above inflation! CPI was 2.1% per your report and you want to increase by 4.5% - not acceptable

133	Object	With the cost of living crisis already affecting so many peoples ability to pay bills and afford quality food this increase is going to have a negative impact on so many households. There have been cost savings from reducing the verge collections to households having to book. If an increase is needed but this could be kept to the CPI.
134	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a **strong financial position** , with an **LGFI score of 92** and a **current ratio of 5.66** , indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, **revenue sits at \$131M** , with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
135	Object	I object to the rate increase as have not seen a level of maintenance or development in the area of Leeming comparable to other suburbs of Melville. The state of the neighbourhood development - drainage, parks, playgrounds, roads and even the fact there is no walking path in many roads are a clear display that this suburb of Melville has been neglected for some time. The bus-stop ID 10532 near me on South Street constantly smells like sewage which can be smelt when driving past too.
136	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a strong financial position, with an LGFI score of 92 and a current ratio of 5.66, indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, revenue sits at \$131M, with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. I'd also like to have a report on any efficiency reviews to ensure expenditure has been optimised. Please reconsider this decision.
137	Object	See attached [no document attached]
138	Object	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rates Increases should NOT exceed 2.5% -The cost of living is real and hurting many people and their families - The Council needs to focus on improving efficiencies and effectiveness of each department to reduce costs -If necessary Cull underperforming staff and where necessary reduce staff numbers that are not needed
139	Object	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cost of living pressures in the community are real -4.5% is too excessive an increase. Must No higher than 2.5% - Reduce costs internally rather than excessive hiking of rates -There will be fallout at the next Council election if this passes.
140	Object	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The opposed increase of 4.5% is excessive and must NOT be passed through -A 2 to 2.5% increase is reasonable -People in the community are suffering due to reckless government spending and the high cost of living -Review your internal costs and reduce them
141	Object	I strongly object to this increase as it is well above CPI and a significant increase.

142	Object	The proposed percentage of 4.5% is far too high. With a very high cost of living, and general expenses, this percentage rate is not justified and also not required. I strongly oppose it and a more reasonable 1.5% -2% would be appropriate. Thank you.
143	Object	I fell a higher than cost of living increase during the cost of living crisis is unacceptable. I have just submitted plans and a building application which the service I received was well below what I expected. I cannot see where \$97 on our already high rates can ho towards I certainly cannot see any benefit for myself or my family
144	Object	Cost of living already is very high. Please consider this. The current council rate is already high. So many changes already being done and now this.Changing the way curbside collection makes it hard for residents. Very small red bins pocked for fortnightly is not enough for one house hold.
145	Object	Dear Council,I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a strong financial position, with an LGFI score of 92 and a current ratio of 5.66, indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, revenue sits at \$131M, with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision.Kind regards, [name removed]
146	Object	There has been a steady decline in the service from the City of Melville over the last 5 years. Increasing rates is ridiculous.
147	Object	Rate increases are above cost of inflation and spending is not adequately justified by council, at a time when cost of living is extreme for most families.
148	Object	Only 3.5% please. More of a fair share for Willagee More trees
149	Object	<p>I object to the proposed rates increase. Recent service reductions (e.g. Verge collection and 3-bin system) were introduced under the promise of cost-efficiency, yet residents are now asked to pay more for less. This is unfair during a cost-of-living crisis. My full statement is attached for your consideration.</p> <p>[Attached]: Subject: Objection to Proposed Differential Rates Increase</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>I am writing to formally object to the proposed rates increase for the 2025/2026 financial year.</p> <p>Over the past several years, the City of Melville has implemented multiple changes to core community services in the name of cost-efficiency. In 2019, residents were required to adapt to the new three-bin FOGO system, which reduced the frequency of general waste and recycling collections. More recently, the popular verge collection service was significantly reduced and restricted, despite a letter from the council stating this change would deliver greater cost efficiency.</p> <p>Now, amid a cost-of-living crisis, ratepayers are being asked to pay more while receiving less. This creates a clear disconnect between what residents value and the services being prioritised. Many of us feel that decisions are being made without meaningful community consultation, and without transparency around the financial outcomes of previous service reductions.</p>

		I urge the Council to reconsider this proposed increase, publicly account for the cost savings from past changes, and engage more deeply with community voices before further shifting the financial burden onto residents.
150	Object	The cost of living has risen too much, and it is a burden to residents to increase the rates on top.
151	Object	The council has reaped huge increases on year on year rates , shameful to be seeking an above inflation increase during time of difficulty for residents. Greedy. Look at reducing running costs- unnecessary road "improvements" e.g. Speed bumps on Somerville drive, or just give residents a break to improve the quality of life in the catchment? Work on the multiple examples of unnecessary expenditure to reduce the inertia of overheads.
152	Object	Why the rate increases far more than CPI? And fuel price is coming down, why you need to increase the rate far.hhigher than CPI? Unacceptable.
153	Object	Rates continue to rise every year. The cost of living crisis deepens.
154	Object	Too high. Above CPI
155	Object	Firstly, I would consider supporting this increase if I could actually see where the additions funds would be spent. The standard of some of our facilities and park lands in the city of Melville, most notably Winthrop are quite terrible. If you can actively demonstrate that these funds are being spent to improve the areas we live then fine, but I suspect it won't.
156	Object	A 4.5% increase plus a GVR increase will result in some paying >25%++ on what is an unrealised gain if you are owner occupier. Perth CPI 2.8%!!! You should be doing everything you can to reduce or at worst minimise rises to cpi levels or lower. 4.5% is totally unjustified. Find ways to cost cut and review services instead of the lazy option of asking us to pay more, more, more. E.g. Stop building unnecessary and dangerous speed humps on arterial roads.
157	Object	As stated above, there are cost of living pressures. The current rates are already difficult to manage for a lot of households an increase of rates will further accentuate this.
158	Object	Melville Council is very poor value for money. Rates in Pelican Waters QLD same but far far superior service in all amenities, What's the take up for this service, publish the 'cost savings'. 3 road sweepers but 2 not working in Feb waiting repairs. Rarely spotted endangered road seeeper attached. What an 8 wk surprise. Be transparent with ALL your fees, wages etc before shifting increases onto 'your customers'. Meville - terrible value for money !!!

			
159	Object	Unrealistic increase. Not in line with CPI.	
160	Object	You have zero justification to raise rates. As a council you continue to squander rate payer money on frankly useless projects. Instead of penalizing the residents within the city of Melville for your poor financial decisions, maybe you need to manage our rate payer money better and funnel it towards amenities and improvements we the rate payer ask for instead of what you “think” is what we want from the echos of your obtuse thought chamber...	
161	Object	<p>Please see attached. [Attached] I have observed no tangible evidence that ratepayers’ funds are being used effectively to improve household and living conditions within our community. One of the clearest examples of this is the ongoing decline in essential waste management services. Waste collection and recycling—basic services that should be reliable and well-maintained—have noticeably deteriorated over time. This situation has only worsened following the recent removal of green waste and household waste collections, a decision that has had far-reaching and negative consequences for residents.</p> <p>The removal of these critical services has not only made waste disposal more difficult for everyday households but has also led to a visible increase in illegal dumping across neighbourhoods, public spaces, and bushland areas. Without regular and accessible waste collection options, many residents—especially those without the means to transport waste to landfill or who face limitations due to age, disability, or lack of resources—are left with few viable alternatives. As a result, it’s not uncommon now to see piles of rubbish dumped on roadsides, near parks, or in secluded areas, creating serious public health concerns and environmental risks.</p> <p>The irony of the situation is striking. Ratepayers continue to contribute significant amounts of money under the expectation that these essential services will be delivered and maintained. Yet the return on that investment appears to be declining. Instead of improvements, residents are experiencing reduced services and poorer living</p>	

		<p>conditions. The waste management system, which is fundamental to community wellbeing and hygiene, has been undermined to the point where it can no longer adequately serve the needs of the population.</p> <p>Moreover, the lack of transparency about where ratepayer funds are being directed adds to the frustration. Without clear communication or accountability from local councils or service providers, it is difficult for residents to understand the rationale behind such service cutbacks. It raises legitimate concerns about financial priorities and whether those responsible for managing public funds are truly acting in the best interests of the community.</p> <p>Proper waste collection and recycling services are not luxuries—they are basic requirements for any functioning municipality. They help maintain clean, safe, and healthy environments and contribute to sustainable practices that protect our natural surroundings. When these services are cut back or removed entirely, the impacts are immediate and far-reaching, affecting not just the appearance of our communities but also public health, local ecosystems, and overall quality of life.</p> <p>In summary, I am deeply concerned that ratepayers are not receiving the essential services they are funding. The decline in waste collection, coupled with the rise in illegal dumping, reflects a system that is not working as it should. I urge local authorities to reassess their priorities and reinstate the essential waste management services our community relies on. We deserve better stewardship of public funds and a genuine commitment to maintaining basic living standards for all residents.</p>
162	Object	Totally unreasonable. The RBA cash rate has been cut twice this year with more underway, the inflation rate is within the RBA band of 2-3%. The increase should be no more than 2.5%. People are hurting financially and this is unacceptable
163	Object	Please provide justification on what the funds will be spent for as it is much higher than the inflation rate. We are also in period of hardship for many individuals and families with increased cost of living.
164	Object	I believe this increase is too high. I would be ok with 2% increase
165	Object	Whilst not against an annual increase I am strongly against increases higher than the norm inflation figure. Would suggest an internal review looking for areas of internal wastage as a first step.
166	Object	Above CPI, cost of living crisis and no improvement to services. Look at cutting costs like the movie night program, festivals, stop redoing multiple revisions of master plans that never get approved or implemented. Get back to basics that is council.
167	Object	4.5% is way above cpi of 2.4%. We already pay really high rates in Melville
168	Object	I object to yet another increase above CPI levels. Year after year, each annual increase is more than CPI. I feel that the council is not being held to account for these larger than necessary increases. If you were to limit the increase to at most CPI, the council would be encouraged to be more efficient in it's operations and with residents funds.
169	Object	Just plain greed!

170	Object	You have taken away our verge collections with a piddly little pile upon us having to book??
171	Object	Outrageous
172	Object	How can the City justify a rate increase higher than the rate of inflation when we are receiving less? Bulk waste collections are fewer than before, streets that don't need resurfacing are resurfaced - and the lines STILL haven't been repainted, more than 6 months after the work has been completed? The City needs to focus more on opportunity creating economic revenue rather than continually slugging ratepayers.
173	Object	<p>The local council has reduced services (verge collections made impractical in reality that most don't use it, yet it feels the need to lift rates. Less service on one hand and more cost on the other. Doesn't stack up from a. Rate payers perspective. Roads flood because the council doesn't keep them cleaned out is another example How about council provide the service they are elected to provide then offer improvements with notification of potential cost. lots of reasons not to increase at the moment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. cost of living is just (maybe) starting to come off the boil. There should be a 12 month rate freeze to give Melville residents some peace of mind. 2. services have been cut like verge collections etc so that reducing costs 3. lots of new apartment complexes going that means lots of developer contributions coming in so the coffers should be healthy at this stage.
174	Object	Council must prioritise identifying and implementing genuine cost-saving measures, rather than continually shifting the financial burden onto ratepayers, who have little choice or control in the matter.
175	Object	No annual increase in rates should exceed CPI. No matter what the historical changes have been. This during a cost of living crisis shows how out of touch the current councillors are. Names of those voting for these exorbitant changes shall be remembered come the next election.
176	Object	CPI 2.5% and you're raising by 4.5. Ridiculous
177	Object	Increase is way too much
178	Object	Too high. Cost of living crisis
179	Object	I'd be happy with a small increase but 4.5% is crazy. The safety and security is at the lowest its ever been. Constant break ins and teenagers on escooters and motor bikes hooning past. You allow the campers down at Point walter but we can't leave a trailer in our own driveway! Constantly see city of melville workers sitting in their cars/trucks on their phones doing nothing. No thanks to rate hike unless there's improvements.
180	Object	Shouldn't be higher than 2.5%. The RBA cash rate has been cut twice this year with more underway, the inflation rate is within the RBA band of 2-3%. The rate increase is not justifiable
181	Object	Object
182	Object	Way above CPI, excessive considering cost of living for numerous years

183	Object	Increases should never exceed inflation, and in this instance due to the high value this area pays, should be a touch under inflation.
184	Object	The increase is far higher than CPI, it is not a reasonable increase for any reason
185	Object	I object to the proposed ridiculous and unjustified rates increase!
186	Object	How much did those painful speedhumps cost in palmyra? Instead of increasing our rates, you could have saved some money on them. How much did they cost (all up) anyway? Also are there any more plans for more of them?
187	Object	We get less in mellville, Cockburn residents get tip passes, curb side pick ups, larger bins. You made picks a booking process and you can't even book one. We don't have parks or facilities anything like other areas, skate parks, outdoor theatre, outdoor concert area, night markets, shopping centre, breweries etc etc. Tell residents what that money will improve then maybe people will say yes. The best thing you can do if you want to have fun is drive out of mellville.
188	Object	Willagee has not had the funding or support that the other suburbs get. We don't even have footpaths in half of Willagee yet have our roads and kerbs we're just replaced for no reason. We are about to fork out a stupid amount for underground power when western power should be helping or paying. The kerb side collection also sucks
189	Object	I object to the council rates being increased. It is hard for everyday families to afford an increase in council rates. Everything over the past 5 years has gone up in price and we are going into slight recession where people are loosing their jobs and wages are not increasing at the same rate to afford these increase costs. Please consider leaves council rates as is without a % increase.
190	Object	Why such a big increase in rates. You need to live with in your means. Can't just putting up rates. Why not consider cutting cost. We are all ready over governed. 1 in 5 Australians work for Governments Unsustainable. Australia is going down the tube. Like a sinking ship.
191	Object	Absolutely no
192	Object	Increase over the last few years has been excessive, our street has no footpath and I'm told it won't be coming anytime soon. With a primary school close by, students are forced to ride on the road. Rate increases should be no more than CPI.
193	Object	Why are you above CPI for the second year in a row ?
194	Object	Outrageous increase, way above the CPI
195	Object	I feel that the increase is higher than reasonable, if it is to go ahead I would like to see greater benefit to individuals if this is to go ahead.
196	Object	The council finances are stable and this proposed increase is not justified in a cost of living crisis. The council would be adversely affecting its residents.
197	Object	This is a ridiculous proposal. People are struggling as it is! You are very out of touch with the community!

198	Object	See attached: This is an outrageous increase given council decisions to turn revenue producing council owned land on Moreau Mews and The Esplanade into public open space when those sites were never intended for that purpose. Those decisions have directly resulted in this proposed rate increase being excessively high. The council must move to commercialise those sites as soon as possible to keep rates as low as possible. It makes one wonder whether there is some sort of corruption afoot to increase the value of developer land and ratepayer land near those sites, to the detriment of all other ratepayers. If this rate rise passes surely there will be a demand for an authorised inquiry to be initiated by the Department of Local Government.
199	Object	The council needs to look first on how to manage increase in costs. Savings can range by increasing number of competitors to increase competition, 3 bins waste segregation, is it working ? If not get rid of it and move on, number if workers in the council. The rate increase at best should be inline with inflation.
200	Object	What is the justification for a 4.5% rate increse? CPI is running at 2.4% and as far as i can see the council is proposing to provide zero additional sercices.
201	Object	This rate hike is too high. I see roads being replaced where existing seems fine. Planned spend of millions in a new community facility at Garden City is a joke. Develop some land assets such as the old bridge club site to create revenue and limit rate rises.
202	Object	Life is very tough for most people and we already pay higher rates than most councils and get very little in return. We are struggling you survive and pay bills and eat. This ride would push us over the edge.
203	Object	This is a ridiculous proposal - the cost of living is already unmanageable for the majority and this is an enormous increase that makes it completely unaffordable.
204	Object	Please see attached submission. [Attached] Dear Council, We strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. Having lived in the City of Melville for decades, we have not witnesssd responsible spending of our rate contributions. In the past 12mths, we have seen/heard the road sweeper twice, and a security vehicle less than a handful of times. Meanwhile, our oldest tree canopies are felled, we're losing mature parkland and wildlife, and crime rates in our community have skyrocketed. We have no use for leisurefit and many other "community services", and find the increased number of speed reductions are dumbing down our population - the future generation should be educated about common sense and traditional road rules. We had streetlights out for months at a time, and although we support the new verge pick-up system, the lack of availability of collections (booking 4-6wks in advance!) Is unreasonable. There have been tree plantings here and there but efforts are wasted when the saplings don't get watered and they die. I have copped a parking fine twice within a month around my work premises near Ardross St cafe strip (for the first time in 4yrs that i've worked there!) Where parking was not only sorely lacking already in lieu of the number of businesses in the area, but it's now busier than ever and new signs preventing parking in places that were previously permitted has now reduced options further. These are but a few simple things that don't shout

		Accountability or care. The City of Melville holds a strong financial position with ample liquidity. Revenue sits at \$131M so this rate increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Perth's inflation rate for the first quarter of 2025 is 2.8% and our minimum wages are not even matched by this. Please reconsider this rate increase and focus on more effective, responsible spending with the revenue already in place.
205	Object	As a resident who seldom use the services offered, who have not had salary increase due to layoffs, the rate is already very high especially during these times. The inflation rate should be dwindling. So why add this additional burden of increased rates? This is not advantageous to everyone especially for those who are doing it tough and suffering from mental health.
206	Object	White goods collection, garbage bin sizes downgraded - no tip collection tokens. Limited green waste compost bin bags. No cover provided over Elizabeth Manion Park - or proper fencing off for dogs and children, so dogs do not defecate in sand play areas. Footpaths uneven. On Karel avenue a lump of kerbing has been jutting out - not fixed in the last 14 yrs I have been here. If you live in the posh end of town, there may be a difference in quality of service .
207	Object	As, has been pointed out, families are struggling with the high cost of living, which is the worse it has ever been. 4.5% increase is too high, a much lower increase would be more acceptable. No increase at all, would be the best outcome.
208	Object	We think that the 4.5% rate increase is too much and would appreciate anything less due to the already higher cost of living.
209	Object	4.5% is high considering the inflation rate and the cost of living.
210	Object	Given the already under pressure households increasing the rate will only add to struggling families and increase homelessness. You should definitely offer an interest free payment system like Cockburn to help families make small weekly payments towards their rates.
211	Object	Compared to other suburbs in Melville Leeming does not receive a fair share of the benefits council provides with rates. Leeming is also infested with rats and council provides no support for this. The new Murdoch precinct has caused more traffic congestion for Leeming with no improvement to public transport or parking
212	Object	Hi I'd like to object to a 4.5% increase to our rates. Whilst I think the council does a good job this is a significant amount in a cost of living crisis that many won't be able to afford
213	Object	There has been substantial spending by council, please refer attachment.[Attached]: I am against the proposed 4.5% rates increase due to the councils spending and investment land losses, examples being: \$1.2 million pottery building Alfred Cove (has a small membership including non ratepayers), \$180k self supporting loan being wiped for the Mt Pleasant Bowling Club, The Melville Bowling Club lease renewal included the com taking over repairs and maintenance with the signing of the lease implement immediate works to the value of over \$200k, major investment land at both The Esplanade Mt Pleasant and Moreau Mews Applecross being converted to pos

		creating substantial capital loss and lease income loss. These examples of expenditure/losses have now created rate increases; this is unfair as the investment land assets were put in place to reduce rate increases. The current proposed rate increase can be reduced a modest amount by not allowing any future facility renewal or upgrades such as the proposed Melville Bowling Club \$20 million redevelopment to go ahead, a slight reduction in the proposed rate increase can be taken from current reserves and then allow the reserve investments to grow over the next 10 years recouping and rebuilding to a point whereby the original intent of the reserves was to provide substantial investment income to actually reduce rates.
214	Object	How about actually being fiscally responsible and cutting some of the waste from the budget, sacking some staff, cutting programs and initiatives that aren't being utilised. Ratepayers should not have to shoulder the burden of your financial mismanagement.
215	Object	Dear Sir/Madam, I wish to object to the proposed 4.5% rate revenue increase for 2025–2026. Ratepayers are already experiencing increased costs due to the recent GRV (Gross Rental Value) revaluation by the Valuer General's Office. This has resulted in higher rates, and any further increase by the City would place an unfair additional burden on residents. I urge the City to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative budget strategies that do not compound existing financial pressures.
216	Object	Dear Sir/Madam, I wish to object to the proposed 4.5% rate revenue increase for 2025–2026. Ratepayers are already experiencing increased costs due to the recent GRV (Gross Rental Value) revaluation by the Valuer General's Office. This has resulted in higher rates, and any further increase by the City would place an unfair additional burden on residents. I urge the City to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative budget strategies that do not compound existing financial pressures.
217	Object	This level of increase is not sustainable and something first needs to be done to address the city's operational spending.
218	Object	Supportive of 3.5% not 4.5%
219	Object	Higher rates making it very difficult for pensioners even with our rate discount. Young families need support too and raising rates is not helping anyone. Cut back on non essential improvements within the city.
220	Object	During this cost of living crisis I don't believe rates should be increased at all! There must already be a huge increase in rates collected due to infill in COM eg many apartments and new homes on subdivided blocks. Services have been reduced (eg biannual verge collections). How about reducing the number of excess council employees and employee perks instead eg the security patrol service who have no power to help in any way.
221	Object	GRV has already increased which would lead to an increase in rates already.
222	Object	I acknowledge and respect the Council's decision, but I do not support this increase which is well above inflation during a cost of living crisis. I have real concerns about this significant increase. Please have a heart and think of


		all your ratepayers who are single income earner households such as me, I cannot afford it. How do you justify such a huge increase?
223	Object	Dear Council, I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. The City of Melville holds a strong financial position, with an LGFI score of 92 and a current ratio of 5.66, indicating ample liquidity. Additionally, revenue sits at \$131M, with diverse income streams. This increase places unnecessary strain on residents amid rising costs. Please reconsider this decision. Sincerely, [name removed]
224	Object	The council needs to show degree of fiscal responsibility rather than taking the easy option of increasing rates. What cost savings have been made by council? What reductions in personnel to reduce costs? What reduction is discretionary spend / programs has been made by council? Households are already suffering from financial strain with increased cost of living etc, The council needs to start learning to live within its means rather than simply treating rate payers as a source of free money.
225	Object	Current Australian Inflation Rate for the last 12 months, reported in Q1 2025 is 2.4% (source abss.gov.au). No reason for the Melville Shire to increase rates to 4.5%. There are no new initiatives that residents will benefit from. The main amount of raised taxes is going towards operational and maintenance costs. What have you done to optimise these costs?
226	Object	This is a large increases when you say you understand everyone is currently struggling in this financial crisis! Our rates go up every year yet our essential infrastructures, such as water, is still the same old 1950's pipe work which bursts all the time, pressure is low and inconsistent, and water quality is appalling! Just one example! I don't know where all the last increases have gone?? Or are we just funding all the richer suburbs of Melville to be improved??
227	Object	I object to rate increases
228	Object	Why is this increase so high. My street has no footpath and pot holes. The residential footprint in Melville has increased but the roads are the same as when we moved into the city 22 years ago. This seems to be a money grab. My services haven't improved, they have actually declined. No green and white goods waste pick ups any more. Bins only collected every fortnight. Where is all the money going? Probably to prop up the Melville bowling club.
229	Object	Strongly object, refer attached. Attached: I strongly object to the proposed rate fee increase. In the past 3 years you have cut services including, but not limited to: - street sweeping (which I might add is still listed under the "request a service" part of the site) - vergeside collections - failed to take traffic calming measures to stem the almost routine occurrences of median strip trees being taken out by distracted / speeding drivers on Beasley Rd.

		You are continuously cutting services, yet expect us, the rate payers, to pay more. At a time when everybody is under cost of living pressure, you feel it necessary to not just meet inflation, but exceed it by almost double. This is incredibly tone deaf. I suggest the council looks internally to reduce costs as opposed to fleecing its ratepayers...
230	Object	I understand the council needs to keep up with what is provided to the community I feel 4.5 %is a little excessive and needs to be lower. It wouldn't be a problem if the wave park was built as the council would have had another income stream, look to find other opportunities like that instead of over charging residents.
231	Object	Unaffordable for people
232	Object	I object to the proposed 4.5% rate increase given current cost-of-living pressures. Many residents are already struggling, and this rise places further financial strain on households. The City should explore alternative funding or cost-saving measures before passing on additional costs to ratepayers.
233	Object	<p>I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 4.5% increase in annual council rates as outlined in your recent notice of intention to levy differential rates. Please see my response attached. Attached: I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed 4.5% increase in annual council rates as outlined in your recent notice of intention to levy differential rates (Melville Talks – Differential Rates Proposal).</p> <p>1. Unacceptable Increase Amid Cost of Living Crisis</p> <p>Many households in our city, including mine, are already under significant financial pressure due to rising living costs, inflation, and interest rate hikes. A 4.5% increase in council rates at this time is insensitive and unjustified, and risks pushing more families into financial hardship. Ratepayers should not be penalised during an economic downturn.</p> <p>2. Ongoing Maintenance Performed by Residents</p> <p>Residents in our area already contribute significantly to the upkeep of council-maintained verges, parks, and public areas adjacent to their properties. We mow, weed, and manage these green spaces with little to no support from the council. It is unjust to ask for higher rates while shifting more maintenance responsibilities to the community.</p> <p>3. Reduced Services – Yet Higher Charges</p> <p>The proposed increase comes despite a clear reduction in services, most notably the cancellation of the annual bulk waste collection. This long-standing service was essential for many households, especially those without trailers or vehicles suitable for tip runs. Removing services while increasing rates is contrary to community expectations and good governance.</p> <p>4. General Opposition and Lack of Justification</p> <p>There is a growing sentiment among ratepayers that this council is failing to deliver value for money. The community deserves a more transparent breakdown of how these additional funds will be used to directly benefit residents. Without clear justification, this increase appears to be a revenue-raising exercise rather than a reflection of service delivery needs.</p>

		In light of the above, I urge the council to reconsider the proposed 4.5% rate increase and instead explore cost-saving measures within the current budget. Any changes to rates must be matched with improved service levels and community consultation.
234	Object	We struggle with services provided - insufficient red bin pick up frequency not to mention already high rates. Object till services are kept at same level.
235	Object	I don't see how this is justifiable when you've not really done anything in recent times. All you need to do is maintain parks, collect bins, provide some basic facilities. If you're over spending on your current budget estimates it's because your fiscally irresponsible.
236	Object	The change to kerbside collection is meant to be more economical so I challenge the city to come up with other measures. The abandoned kindy on mckimnie St allegedly received no support to maintain operations or improve amenity. The only fenced area to enable dogs off lead on the palmyra school is now banning dogs further disengaging community members. Where are increases to facilities such as skate areas or bike paths for kids, supporting more kids riding or walking to school?
237	Object	Cost of living is hitting us hard. We don't want another increase.
238	Object	In a time when things are tight and interest rates are finally dropping you as a council propose to up our rates for services that are diminishing not increasing
239	Object	CPI for 12 months up to April 25 is 2.4%. Why should rates increase more than CPI?
240	Object	4.5% rates increase is a blatant money grab. It is higher than inflation and reflects poorly on the council if you need to do this. There have been so many new houses/units in recent years so rateable income would be increasing. Very poor decision from those councillors who support this move.
241	Object	I do not support the rate increase.
242	Object	It was apparently cheaper to do verge valet than verge collections. Use the money saved from taking away that yearly service and leave the rates as they are. I would be all for a rate increase if the project undertaken were planned out properly - a bunch of trees were planted on verges and then another project to put footpaths through meant those trees had to be removed/paved around... Better project management and communication might save the council money.
243	Object	I have requested the option of a fenced in dog park in the MCC so would like to see this as an option please
244	Object	Give us a break. We can't afford this rate increase.
245	Object	People are already struggling during this cost of living crisis and this increase is only going to put more pressure on families. As a single mum with 2 daughters I personally cannot afford an increase like this. People will stop paying their insurance etc to be able to afford food. Do not do this.
246	Object	After living in City of Melville for 20+ years, our rates have increased but services and quality of services has not improved. Other councils provide so much including better and newer libraries, volunteer opportunities, multiple

		free classes and workshops on weekends, free children's activities and bigger and better maintained parks and verge collections plus more reactive security services.
247	Object	The rate of inflation is around 2.8%. Any increase to ratepayers above that figure needs to more specifically explained before being imposed. The Mayor makes mention of the "increased costs of doing business" but does not present any further information which supports that statement. The State Government has foreshadowed that it will NOT be increasing its utility costs to properties over the CPI for 2025/26. Surely, our local governments should be adopting a similarly responsible position.
248	Object	I don't agree to the increase of 4.5%. Currently we get very little for our current rates. Our e-waste disposal options are terrible and amenities not well maintained. We have some of the highest council rates in WA and yet, our amenities and services don't seem to show that. I think there's need to be a rethink on budgeting to use existing fees and prove you can utilize the funds better before proposing rate increases. I don't agree to the rate increase.
249	Object	To Whom It May Concern, I oppose the proposed 4.5% council rate increase. I support funding for services, but this rise isn't justifiable in this climate. The City acknowledges a cost of living crisis, yet adds pressure with a rate hike. Most wage increases are 3–4%, if any, so this rise outpaces incomes. I urge Council to reconsider and seek fairer alternatives. We need leadership that eases, not household burdens. Investment must be balanced with affordability. Yours sincerely, [name removed]
250	Object	We are in a cost of living crisis. With the development of hundreds of new high rise apartments in the Melville Council area this council is already getting a substantial boost to rate income from new residents. A rate increase of this much is not necessary.
251	Object	I do not believe that a 4.5% increase can be justified, this is more than CPI and is just another thing in which will cause a financial burden on us, as a young family. You will be aware from statistics that the older generation of Leeming are moving out and younger families are moving in. It's completely unfair to put more strain on families. I'm sure there are plenty of other ways in which the City of Melville can save some money, without putting the burden on the local residents.
252	Object	Given the GRV will increase, this feels like double dipping and effectively is a 10% increase on rate when I don't see an extra 10% of benefits.
253	Object	In a cost of living crisis the local government should be doing all it can to keep rates the same, particularly when they are so much higher than other local councils! \$1.86 per week is a lot for many families when added onto all other cost increases.
254	Object	In Australia, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose by 2.4% annually in the March 2025 quarter. 4.5% is too high, it look like the city is not capable of controlling it's spending. It needs to be back towards CPI.
255	Object	Cost of living rises affecting all residents. This rise is beyond inflation and not sustainable.
256	Object	I object. Cost of living is very high for us.

257	Object	<p>Please see attached. Attached: Dear City of Melville Council, I acknowledge the complexities involved in managing our local government area and appreciate the efforts to maintain and improve community services. However, I am concerned about the proposed 4.5% increase in council rates. In the current climate of cost-of-living pressures, this increase appears substantial. Notably, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Perth rose by 2.8% over the 12 months to March 2025, which is significantly lower than the proposed rate hike. Given this discrepancy, I respectfully ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Prioritisation: Are there specific projects or initiatives that could be deferred or scaled back to alleviate the need for such a rate increase? • Operational Efficiency: Has the council conducted recent assessments to ensure staffing levels and operational capacities are optimised? • Community Impact: What measures are being considered to support residents who may struggle with the increased financial burden? <p>I believe that transparency in these areas will foster greater community understanding and trust. Thank you for considering this feedback. Kind regards.</p>
258	Object	<p>Increase should only be cpi of 2 to 3 % maximum. As cost of living is way too high now and this only adds more pressure on people who can't afford it. Get a new accountant as this one is absurd and not looking at what's happening all over Australia at present.</p>
259	Object	<p>With a cost of living crises currently in play I think that it is irresponsible for the Council to seek a 4.5% rates increase. My wife got a 2.1% pay increase and I am unemployed and we already= have had to cut back onj what we can buy in the way of groceries and living expenses. If my family has to do that why can't the council? If Rockingham can hold off on rate increases, then why can't Melville? Cut the expenses to suit and reflect the harsh economic times being felt by residents.</p>
260	Object	<p>The increment of 4 5% is exorbitant . Could you please send me the audited financial statement so I can review how our rates are managed?</p>
261	Object	<p>Thanks for the opportunity. I'm open to a smaller increase—it's above inflation and wage growth. To justify it, services should expand. For example, leisurefit memberships could be discounted for Melville residents. I'd also like to see safety addressed on Garling Street—over 80% of vehicles speed (your data), and semi-trailers use it regularly. Chicanes, roundabouts, or speed humps could make it safer.</p>
262	Object	<p>I strongly oppose the proposed rate increase. Services are being cut – verge collection has stopped, and the recycling centre has long wait times. With the rising cost of living, increasing rates will only add to the burden on households. There's no clear improvement in services to justify this. Please reconsider.</p>
263	Object	<p>I strongly oppose the proposed rate increase. There is no justification when basic services are being cut or ignored. Verge collection has stopped, and the recycling centre has long queues just to get in. On top of that,</p>

		common issues between neighbours, like boundary fences or trees falling into gardens, are not being addressed. With the rising cost of living, increasing rates will only make life more difficult for residents. Please reconsider.
264	Object	I have lost on street parking and paid for burst water pipe which should have been the councils expense not mine
265	Object	No to the increase. We pay enough and I personally feel the services we receive is decreasing. Scheduling verge collections with long waits and one per annum seems ridiculous. Youre increasing prices and we get less. Bring back road side bulk collections and 2 x per year!
266	Object	Price increase no warranted, especially as so many are doing it tough already. What you're proposing doesn't marry up with a further 4.5% increase. It's unfair and unjust.
267	Object	I believe a rate increase of 4.5% in these troubled times is simply unaffordable. A rate increase of 3.5% is bordering on unaffordable, but slightly more palatable than 4.5%. The level of service we are receiving from the City of Melville is in my view decreasing, but the rates are increasing??? Spend OUR money more wisely and DO NOT give us poor ratepayers a 4.5% increase.
268	Object	4.5% is ridiculous. Its above the rate of inflation and we are in a cost of living crisis. Not to mention the extremely inefficient use of funds within the Melville Council. You cannot increase rates without providing extra benefit. Genuinely the worst council in Perth.
269	Object	Low income and can't afford
270	Object	Cut services rather than increase rates. Cut staff functions and meals. Cut non core programs. Be fiscally responsible in a cost of living crisis.
271	Object	No underground power, 3 bin system half the size and now emptied half as much as the 2 bin system. Bulk verge collection system changed less households access, not able to be booked at short notice when actually needed. But City of Melville can spend \$86 000 on food and drinks!? And \$665000 on general retail?! Attachment: 

272	Object	<p>I urge you to reconsider the proposed 4.5% rate increase. While financial sustainability is important, many residents are already struggling with the cost of living. Please prioritise essential services and delay non-critical projects like the new Library and Cultural Centre. A more measured approach would show empathy and fiscal responsibility. Please see attached for further detail. Thank you. [Attached]: Dear City of Melville Council,</p> <p>I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed 4.5% increase in council rates as part of the 2024–2025 budget. While I appreciate the need for financial sustainability and understand the pressures of inflation, I believe this rate increase is ill-timed given the current cost of living crisis affecting many residents. For households already under financial strain, any additional burden can have a significant impact.</p> <p>I urge the Council to consider whether all planned capital projects are essential at this time. While maintaining core services is vital, I believe that some projects—such as the design of a new Library and Cultural Centre—could be postponed until economic conditions improve. These types of upgrades, while valuable in the long term, are not immediately necessary and could be deferred in favour of easing the financial pressure on ratepayers.</p> <p>A more measured approach that prioritises essential services and delays non-critical spending would demonstrate both fiscal responsibility and empathy for the community’s current challenges.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. I hope the Council will take these concerns into account and explore ways to reduce or delay spending where possible. Regards</p>
273	Object	<p>Not everyone in our community can afford this increase. We have an ageing community in COM who simply do not have the income stream to manage this increase. Furthermore, the increase is WELL above CPI and therefore unjustified. COM has in no way explained what extra services or improved facilities will be funded buy said increase. Meanwhile the creditspending by staff and councillors, as per the auditor general report</p>
274	Object	<p>The annual CPI to the March quarter was 2.4%. An increase of 4.5% is excessive. Ratepayer salary increases are typically tied to the CPI. An increase over CPI is not only unwarranted it is unethical. Like ratepayers the COM should focus on controlling costs and not passing the buck to ratepayers. Particularly in respect of paying for expenses on credit cards.</p>
275	Object	<p>The rate payers don’t feel that the increase is reasonable based on CPI increases, we are all experiencing cost of living increases plus this increase on top of it.</p>
276	Object	<p>I object to a 4.5% rate increase. The council has many area of waste expenditure and inefficiencies where savings and reassigning of funds for priority works. You simply cannot keep increasing rates to cover the poor choices made by the many levels of management.</p>
277	Object	<p>We have been residing in the Melville City area since 1994 and have never objected to any increases by the council. We are now retired and every dollar saved helps us with rising costs. The council is already saving by reducing the annual bulk and green waste collections. We urge the council to help us by not passing this increase in rates to retirees.</p>

278	Object	I object to the proposed rates increase. It is too high and unjustified.
279	Object	Poor use of rate payer money, from expensive luncheons to poor road resurfacing works (Robertson rd and adjoining streets). Rate payers are not here to serve the lavish lifestyle of the council , rate increases above cpi, and above many peoples pay rises (if any), Melville council, living up to it's reputation as a poor council, do better.
280	Object	With the cost of living increasing, we can't afford any more increases as melville rates are excessive as it is
281	Object	Rates are too high already! I live in a 2 bedroom apartment and am horrified that my rates are the same as when I owned a 3 bedroom house . There are 196 apartments in my block and rates are probably about \$2000 each or more- money grabbing at its finest! So disgusting by Melville Council!
282	Object	I can't afoard more increases in the cost of living. I don't feel the waste management is a good service as I can't order a skip bin to pick up my verge rubbish. The old system had Bateman at the end of the year. To hear by the media of the waste of money the council is spending then ask us to find this lifestyle is an insult.
283	Object	I would like to see some severe improvements in the programs that city of Melville offers. We have playgrounds that need repairing, roads that have been "improved" that look terrible. My bins are overflowing each week. We do FOGO but why don't we get access to the compost. City of melville has poor waste disposal, and now its near impossible to book verge collections.
284	Object	I feel that rather than increasing rates, the council could show and suggest ways to reduce spend, as a result of not increasing rates. I believe in current day, residents would rather pay less and reduce some council benefits, such as library upgrades, unnecessary planting and open grassed areas that get minimal use,
285	Object	Rein in your spending rather than just increasing fees. If we have to work within a budget, so should you
286	Object	After seeing the council miss spending money i dont think we ratepayers should be covering that cost
287	Object	We have incredibly high rates as it is. The council hardly ever runs free events or activities, we do not get yearly verge collections - it is such a hassle to organise a pick up now. There are cost of living pressures and more apartments which are meant to soften our rate rises as there is more income with more density. It makes no sense to increase rates at a time where councils should be helping with cost of living!
288	Support	If rates aren't increased to meet the service level requirements the City of Melville will be in a financially worse position in the future. I would hope efficiency and removal of unnecessary red tape is being investigated with all operations to effectively manage costs.
289	Object	I do not support a rate increase because an official inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the City of Melville, including poor complaint handling and questionable land acquisitions. Until there is evidence of cultural change and greater accountability, I don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't shown it can manage it responsibly.
290	Object	How about the Council try and cut down their entertainment expenditure? You are increasing our rates so that you can increase your entertainment expenditure !

291	Object	The rate increase is too high, we are all struggling with the cost of living crisis and don't need another rate hike that is not warranted. 4.5% is too much
292	Object	Rates are high and with inflation and high tax, it will be hard
293	Object	The rates do not need to be increased. You need to be more careful with ratepayers money, budget better, I do not want to hear my rates were fritted away on oysters and champagne. Be responsible and transparent.
294	Object	I object to a rates rise. Unnecessary
295	Object	We don't support a rate increase for a number of reasons. An official inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the City of Melville, including poor complaint handling and questionable land acquisitions. We are a young family and have just had to pay to upsize our red bin just to fit nappies. Until there is evidence of greater accountability, we don't believe more money should be entrusted to the City.
296	Object	I believe 4.5% is too large an increase, especially as many people are struggling financially. I would like the council to review its budget and look at cost cutting measures across the board before they introduce large rate increases. The proposed rate does not align with CPI.
297	Object	I object to the increase in rates
298	Object	How about you try cutting costs for a change, put your foot down with suppliers and workers like we all do it's not your money waste.
299	Object	I do not support a rate increase because an official inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the City of Melville, including poor complaint handling and questionable land acquisitions. Until there is evidence of cultural change and greater accountability, I don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't shown it can manage it responsibly. Melville council has a poor history of fiscal management
300	Object	Not much has been done around the Winthrop area.
301	Object	I have no faith in this council to spend my rates wisely and a consistent lack of response to valid feedback. This council should review what they are spending money on and if it is cost effective instead of just slugging ratespayers
302	Object	Given the current cost off living this is extremely unreasonable
303	Object	As a com ratepayer I do not agree with the 4.5% increase to ratepayers for the 25/26 FY. It is too much of a jump for the current cost of living pressures many of us are experiencing and there are multiple services which could be realistically cut back or procured with more financial scrutiny. This includes the entertainment expenses the Council have used over the past year.
304	Object	I do not support a rate increase because the City of Melville has let us down in reduction of services- namely verge collection. I have never used my allocated spots - much easier to go to the Cockburn tip with one of my tip passes

		than have to book weeks or months in. Advance, COM has history of questionable decisions and I don't believe ratepayers should be responsible for footing the bill for the huge cost of Q fly response. Thank you
305	Object	I have a serious lack of trust in the current Melville council to adequately handle the community's funds. The Melville bowls club serves as a prime example, very non transparent and only looking out for their own best interests and not those of the wider community. To trust them with more money would be lunacy!!!
306	Object	See attached. Attached: City of Melville Council Rates Rise To City of Melville Council, I'd like to start by quoting the recent auditing of six City Councils, recently published in leading papers: '...three entities where pre-approvals were not obtained in line with the entities' requirements for specific items (e.g. Alcohol), purchases over a certain value or permission to use another person's card (City of Fremantle, City of Melville and City of Subiaco)' The list goes on, unaccountable public money spent with zero consequences, closely followed by the same Council who has the audacity to raise rates by 4.5%. I also quote a paragraph from your Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates: "The City understands we are currently in a cost of living crisis, and that many households are feeling financial pressure." Clearly, The City does not understand anything, including how hard some households have it. Furthermore, the cost of living crisis is looking very likely to get worse as more and more people are laid off work and the world slips into war. I was made redundant in December 2024 and I am still looking for work, as are hundreds more who were recently laid off within the mining sector - the largest industry in WA. I recommend the Council read the room and take what they know is the right action - to drop the increase rates until the economy / world events stabilise. I recommend you instead reimburse residents with the funds taken from the public purse by City's Councillors'. It's time to end the corruption, the sense of entitlement and arrogance to think they do not answer to anyone - they answer to us - their City. Kind regards,
307	Object	The City constantly wastes our tax payers rates on things like exorbitant lunches, dining and alcohol. I also think the security patrols should be scrapped and funds be redirected back to ratepayers as they do absolutely nothing to reduce crime.
308	Object	Not supporting increase, please efficiently spend money instead of spending on lavish food and parties.
309	Object	I are struggling to put food on the table and buy necessary items for my children. For the first time in years living pay check to pay check. Please reconsider until we are in a more stable financial climate.
310	Object	Before implementing a rate increase it would be better practise for MCC to be looking at increased efficiencies and productivity before levying rate payers.
311	Object	Show the rate payers the city has done everything possible internally to cut costs before just slugging them with a rise.

312	Object	I object to this increase as it has no substance. The council should declare what steps it has taken to increase operational income YOY
313	Object	I object to the 4.5% rise in rates this year as it seems an excessive rise at this time and will increase hardship with the current cost of living. Even a 3.5% rise may be a struggle, I feel it is a fairer amount for families at this time.
314	Object	I do not support a rate increase because an official inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the City of Melville, including poor complaint handling and questionable land acquisitions. Until there is evidence of cultural change and greater accountability, I don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't shown it can manage it responsibly.
315	Object	Are your services efficient? My experience is that they aren't, multiple groups covering same info and duties of others. Is there no essential expenditure occurring- auditor general has found there is. Has the council undertaken its own DOGE type review??
316	Object	I object to the rate increase.
317	Object	Please review internal expenses, review staff benefits, review ongoing contractors!!! AVOID passing on the costs to rate payers as a quick fix. We are in a cost of living crisis, and families are struggling.
318	Object	The cost of living is already high enough and we're in a crisis as you mentioned above. So have a little compassion for your constituents and manage the funds you already have better. Stop indulging at rate payers expenses as reported recently.
319	Object	We get nothing already. No request completed on time and new verge collection is useless.
320	Object	Lived in com for all my life. I don't think the services of the Council have been that much improved of late that rates deserve to be raised. Also, can you possibly find within your current budget to open the toilets at Heathcote reserve early EVERY morning? Also, the disabled toilet by the river down there is always locked.
321	Object	I do not support a rate increase because an official inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the City of Melville, including poor complaint handling and questionable land acquisitions. Until there is evidence of cultural change and greater accountability, I don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't shown it can manage it responsibly.
322	Object	We all can't afford it
323	Object	Rates increase annually already & many residents especially retirees already find hard to cope with cost of living pressures which shows no signs of abating. Hence rates should increase by no more than 2% to ease the already burdened rate payers
324	Object	Would prefer not to receive an increase of rates after reading about council drinking French champagne and eating oysters.

325	Object	There are considerable number of opportunities for increasing rates with ill managed and unwelcome number of high rise buildings in the area. Generally these projects have negatively impacted ratepayers. There is no requirement to increase rates . This only serves to give the Council an opportunity to increase rates further in the next rate assessment. How much more negativity and cynicism are Council members prepared to take from a disillusioned and disappointed electorate? A firm No.
326	Object	4.5% is much higher than australia's level of inflation currently therefore, rates should not be increasing this much.
327	Object	We are in a cost of living crisis and this is a massive jump in rates
328	Object	Cost of living pressure is still high.
329	Object	Ludicrous, especially after the article on COM's spending on staff. We are all struggling how do you justify this increase??!
330	Object	Should be in line with CPI
331	Object	This rate rise is coming at an extremely bad time with the living costs already at a staggering height. 4.5% seems particularly high. Surely like all of your rate payers a bit of budget restraint would be sensible at this point of time. Wasteful spending on expensive dinners, trips etc. Should be looked into.
332	Object	Collections have been rubbish and difficult to book. Time to revert to the old system.
333	Object	Until you reinstate bulk verge collection rather than the useless booking system I object to rate rises
334	Object	Cost of living is increasing drastically, we are unable to afford a new extra expense.
335	Object	Strongly object. Firstly, you have not provided any basis for the avg increase of 4.5%. What was the driver of the increase: inflation, growth in population or new services? There is no information on how often you've raised rate previously nor if the current rise would be sufficient for the budget in the future. Where is the alternative balanced budget? [Attachment] Strongly object. Firstly, you have not provided any basis for the avg increase of 4.5%. What was the driver of the increase: inflation, growth in population or new services? There is no information on how often you've raised rate previously nor if the current rise would be sufficient for the budget in the future. Where is the alternative balanced budget to compare with the one requiring a rate rise - so that rate payers can make an informed decision on whether we support the planned projects? Where is the information on cost cutting, efficiency improvements (either now or in the future) that give rate payers confidence in the council's ability to manage these funds wisely? I can't see this evidence from the material you provided with this announcement but I can see examples of the council wasting rate payers money online. Many in our community are struggling and managing their own budgets on fixed income. I see no evidence the com is doing the same. The cost of living is likely to get much worse in the future and com needs to absorb its share of that Burden.
336	Object	I do not support a rate increase because an official inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the City of Melville, including poor complaint handling and questionable land

		acquisitions. Until there is evidence of cultural change and greater accountability, I don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't shown it can manage it responsibly.
337	Object	Cost of living is already an issue.
338	Object	We feel that we are paying enough for the servicing that we receive
339	Object	I object city of Melville's plan to increase rates for 2025/2026. Cost living is already hitting us hard!
340	Object	In a time of financial crisis and with the level of reserves currently held by the City, a 4.5% increase is unnecessary. The latest reports of spending by the City on dinner and alcohol (I object to the use of ratepayers money for alcohol in particular) also give cause for concern that the City does not spend money wisely or where necessary.
341	Support	Appropriate given previous reductions and static rises in the past 5 years
342	Object	4.5% is more than real wage growth over the last twelve months leaving already struggling families worse off.
343	Object	Council is to provide items to maintain and upgrade the city's environment, not to push agendas. Please just govern. The many special group days and events are not a city's domain, just govern as required.
344	Object	<p>See attached. Attached: Objection to Proposed 4.5% Rate Increase for 2025–2026 I strongly object to the proposed 4.5% increase in council rates for the 2025–2026 financial year. This increase is neither reasonable nor responsible in the context of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis and the cumulative financial pressure it places on residents. While the City frames this as a modest rise in general rates—from \$1,980 to \$2,077 annually—this overlooks the true cost of living in Melville. My total 2024–2025 rates bill, for example, was approximately \$2,400 once the Emergency Services Levy (\$385.99) and the Property Surveillance and Security Fee (\$62) were added. These charges are not optional, yet the City has been silent on whether they too will rise. Without clarity on these additional charges, residents are being asked to accept a 4.5% increase on just one part of the bill—without knowing the full extent of what we'll actually pay. That lack of transparency undermines trust in the process. Increases above CPI are particularly concerning when residents are already facing record-high costs for housing, fuel, groceries, and healthcare. According to the ABS, cost-of-living indexes have increased between 2.4% and 3.5% over the past year. Why is the City asking households to absorb more than that—again? Furthermore, while investment in capital works is important, it should not come at the expense of financial sustainability for ratepayers. Are projects totalling \$69.9 million genuinely essential right now? I urge the City to explore more sustainable alternatives such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferring non-essential capital projects; • Identifying internal cost savings; • Seeking state or federal co-funding; • Reviewing fees charged for services to ensure fair distribution of costs. <p>A rate increase of this scale, in this climate, sends the wrong message: that the financial wellbeing of residents is secondary to internal budget planning. Now is the time for restraint, innovation, and transparent governance—not</p>

		automatic increases. I call on the Council to reject this proposed increase and adopt a more balanced, compassionate approach.
345	Object	Proposed rate increase is too high, especially as we have waste services that are inadequate to our needs. Bring back verge collections on the calendar and collect red bin every week.
346	Object	Please refer to attachment. [Attachment] Perth CPI over the 12 months from March 24 to March 25 was 2.8%, with the last quarter increase being only 0.5% (ABS website), it will take a lot of explaining why our rates need to be increased by 4.5%. My rates in the previous calendar year (2023/24) increased by \$180 at 5.5%. The council needs to be transparent to the Melville residents that they have applied spending efficiencies and cost reductions in the budgeting process, and what needs to be done to restrict the annual rate increase close to or equal to the Perth CPI rate of 2.8%. We are all tightly managing our domestic budgets, making decisions on what we can do with and without - there is no reason why the Melville council can't do the same.
347	Object	The council provides a poor service for the rates it already charges
348	Object	Yes we're all struggling with a cost of living crisis. The fact that Melville has been named as a council of note for unnecessary, extravagant expenditure is a slap in the face.
349	Object	I object as the City of Melville has a history of questionable decisions, including the 50-year lease given to the Melville Bowling Club, this raised concerns about conflicts of interest, transparency, and responsible use of public funds. An inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the COM. Until there is evidence of change and greater accountability, I don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't manage it responsibly.
350	Object	I object as the City of Melville has a history of questionable decisions, including the 50-year lease given to the Melville Bowling Club, this raised concerns about conflicts of interest, transparency, and responsible use of public funds. An inquiry in 2019 revealed significant governance and financial management issues within the COM. Until there is evidence of change and greater accountability, I don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't manage it responsibly.
351	Object	Im totally against the rate increase as i have seen nothing good happening from last year especially with the verge collection which i haven't booked since the change happened because i can't find a date when im available. Dont mention the crazy spending that has been discovered in melville council which shows clearly why the increase is intended mostly rather than doing a proper improvement. Im totally against the rate increase
352	Object	The City of Melville have provided no valid reasons for the rate increase. In your document Objections and Reasons you have outlined: "When adopting the annual budget, a local government- in order to make up the budget deficiency, is to impose a general rate on rateable land within its district." If I approached my employer for a pay rise based on my ineptitude to manage my household budget I would be laughed out of the room. Do better City of Melville.

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354	Object	It seems highly inappropriate to suggest a raise in rates well above inflation at a time that the council has just been called out for \$86K on food a drinks over the last financial year.
355	Object	Until there is evidence of cultural change and greater accountability, we don't believe more money should be entrusted to a system that hasn't shown it can manage it responsibly.
356	Object	Act in the best interests of your ratepayers and assist with the cost of living crisis by looking at your budget and cutting the 'nice to have' but not essential requirements, and becoming more efficient.
357	Object	Have less lunches and watering trees in winter to save budgets!
358	Object	I object this increase
359	Object	I object the rate increase
360	Object	See attached file [Attachment] There can be no possible reason why the city can justifiably increase rates at the very most any greater than inflation. After the high cost of living increases, we have had to endure over the last 4 years, mainly caused by excessive government and semi government spending, the City of Melville is repeating this again. After the very recent criticism in the West Australian newspaper of the wasteful spending in WA Councils haven't you learnt anything. The amount of time and red tape Council imposes on building approvals is another area that Council should expand their efforts on reducing rather than just adding costs. Also, after the stupid loss of verge side pickups, which to me is just a cost cutting exercise and a loss to the community, rather than the recycling one it previously provided; you people need to do a whole lot better.
361	Object	Cost of living is too much, far too much pressure for people to pay extra in rates.
362	Object	You have not upgraded infrastructure Westfield Booragoon is completely delapidated. Amara was strongly opposed by rate payers. You do not listen to the rate payers at all. We are not your personal construction fund. Start listening to feedback. People can not afford a rate increase and the mismanagement of money is atrocious. Read the room
363	Object	When individuals or businesses suffer difficult economic circumstances they reduce expenditure by eliminating "wish list" projects & poor performing programs, and limit expenditure to only that which is necessary. But not com, who carry on regardless with no regard for the impact of their expenditure on the level rates required to fund it, and in turn the financial impact on ratepayers. Sharper pencils are required at com so the first step is to invest in a pencil sharpener!!

364	Object	I object as for the money being charged we still get charged if we want a bigger red bin. We also don't get weekly red bin pickups, and only 1 verge pickup a year. In a cost of living crisis when people are doing everything they can to tighten up their belts this is not justified.
365	Object	Or at least bring back verge collection!!
366	Object	4.5% is much greater than current inflation/consume price index (2.4-3%) .Therefore 4.5% only adding to the cost of living pressure as it is more than the current CPI.
367	Object	Base on current living cost I don't see it fit for a increase to homeowners
368	Object	Proposed increase is excessive. Reasonable increase would be 2.5%
369	Object	I don't support the 4.5% rate rise because people are already doing it tough with higher bills, groceries and rent or mortgage costs. The council hasn't clearly shown where our money is going or if they've tried to cut their own spending first. Big projects like a new library sound nice but maybe now isn't the right time. The minimum rates are also too high for people with smaller homes and there hasn't been enough time or clear info for the community to have a proper say.
370	Object	I don't see any value being added to warrant any increase
371	Object	With the increase of cost of living I feel it would be extremely unfair to increase the rates currently . Thank you
372	Object	I strongly object to the proposed rate increase. In the midst of a cost of living crisis, residents are under significant financial strain. At the same time, services such as verge collection have been reduced, and community dissatisfaction with council performance is growing. Increasing rates under these conditions is unjustifiable and out of touch with residents' needs.
373	Object	Increase of 4.5% is excessive for what is proposed. I cam understand an increase but up to 3% is more aligned.
374	Object	Object due to cost of living pressures. Com should consider rate increases in the following years once ratepayers have felt the full relief of reduced interest rates.
375	Object	You reference a cost of living crisis affecting many residents and in the same breath slap an increase of 4.5%, which is greater than the current rate of inflation. How does that help residents with the cost of living?
376	Object	Cost of living crisis
377	Object	Rates are too high, with the cost of living an increase would not be acceptable.
378	Object	I object to raise increase.
379	Object	We can't afford it
380	Object	Cost of living crisis!!!!
381	Object	No need to increase the annual rates, we all are paying too much already with no results, the crime rate, the nbn situation is shocking, powerlines above my property, verge collection doesnt happen anymore unless i book and only once a year, my bins need replacing but you wont change them and much more. With some a big council and

		full of people that dont want to change anything, not paying anymore. Cut the salaries of the council high members and you see how much more we can do.
382	Object	Please don't increase the rates. They are so high already!
383	Object	Against the rates rise
384	Object	No increase in rates supported when quality of services is decreasing - no more road side collection, have to book curb side bin months in advance, mosquitoes rampant, rats rampant, parks in poor condition. Cut money from corporate administration and expense spending (eg food) to provide better services.
385	Object	I do not support the proposed rates rise by the City of Melville
386	Object	Not supported. Bring back road side curb collection.
387	Object	Obviously the rates go up each year which we do not want. Cost of living goes up quite a lot, compared to the wages, so it would be nice if these rates didn't go up. It already is a lot of \$ we pay.
388	Object	I can't afford to feed my family or use heating, please don't do a rate rise this year while everything is so expensive
389	Object	The cost of living is still high maybe it would be better to consider the rise after the next interest rate drop
390	Object	After the review on council spending, and Melville being rated so terribly, it's a joke to increase rates. To save money, maybe councillors could cut back on their gorging on oysters and champers - using ratepayer funds.
391	Object	We pay enough
392	Object	I don't think the rates should be increased, the park across the road from us isn't well looked after, the street we live on is always full of dumped rubbish!! Poor from Melville council.
393	Object	With the council withdrawing services yet wanting to increase rates is ludicrous. I strongly object
394	Object	We pay enough in this area. The cost of living is costing everyone too much. This does not help the situation at all.
395	Object	No need for an increase
396	Object	The inflation rate is nearly half the proposed rate increase and also the GRV will have increased as well and so there is a chance the rates will increase significantly.
397	Object	Let's keep the increase to the minimum this year please.
398	Object	4.5% is drastic in a cost of living crisis. My wage didn't even rise that much following a four year freeze. Little has been done to address residents concerns of waste management. Red bins not frequent enough and bulk waste needs to go back to yearly dates.
399	Object	I do not support a 4.5% pay rise. We are in a cost of living crisis and the rates should only be going up by CPI or preferably less. The CPI is at 2.4%. Increasing rates by 4.5% is almost double, that is ridiculous. Rein in your spending like everyone else has had to. Please.
400	Object	I would rather see you reduce what is offered than increase rates further

401	Neither support or object	We are increasingly disappointed to have old amenities, a disused building at Geo Thompson Park and no fenced dog exercise areas in Palmyra. Geo Thompson Park should be renovated, with a community centre. Town Team Movement, Pally6157, found that residents yearn for better amenities.
402	Object	Object
403	Object	My rates are already about double what someone in an older house pays. It's really not fair that I pay so much more for the same services just because my house is newer.
404	Object	I object, especially as you have taken away curbside collection which I thought was the best thing that this council did. So why should I pay more for less. Bring back curbside and I might reconsider.
405	Object	The rate has been increasing yearly. For the past few years, like many individuals, I am currently navigating a tight financial environment. Sudden increase in regular expenses, without any pay rise, can cause significant strain and make it very challenging. With the rate hike, I have not observed any improvement in service or quality to justify them too.
406	Object	Furious!
407	Object	I do not support the proposed rate increase of 4.5% as I believe it is excessive. Industry costs have risen about 3% for the council, therefore the increase should be no more than this, also a figure more similar to CPI. Measures to review procedures and reduce spending should be implemented. For example, did the booked verge collections save money? If not, get rid of it. Please look after your rate payers, especially the ones who don't get a reduction due to concessions.
408	Object	I had to lodge a complaint with the council and received no feedback or resolution of the issue. Called them on many occasions,. Finally received a response after escalation of the problem. I do not believe this huge increase is justified in view of my personal experience.
409	Object	Object
410	Object	Opposed to
411	Object	The city does not need extra funds to do as they please. Cost of living impact is huge and city are not efficient as is or timely. Demonstrate good management and governance, work with the people that are actually paying rates and live in the city, rather than waste time and resources on irrational decisions.
412	Object	The cost of living crisis is already out of hand. We have 2 young kids and everything is beginning to add up. We don't need any more increases. Wages haven't caught up!!!
413	Object	Cut costs like entertaining. We can't afford this rise.
414	Object	Too much of an increase especially since the government is spending so much on luxury items such as dining out, drinks and retail.
415	Object	Don't raise rates during periods of financial hardship

416	Object	We can not have a council thinking its ok to spend nearly \$90,000 on food and drink and then appropriate to impose a rate rise well beyond inflation.
417	Object	<p>Objection to Proposed 4.5% Rate Increase – City of Melville. Comments attached. Attached: Objection to Proposed 4.5% Rate Increase – City of Melville</p> <p>The City of Melville is proposing a 4.5% rate increase at a time when Perth’s inflation rate sits at just 2.8%. This proposed rise significantly exceeds the cost-of-living increases faced by households, and lacks justification when considering the City’s own financial data.</p> <p>According to publicly available budget information, 87% of the \$27 million in rate increases over the last four years has gone to just two areas: employee costs and materials/contracts—not to service improvements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee costs alone have risen by 33%, increasing by \$16.2 million from \$48.4M to \$64.6M. • Materials and contracts increased 23%, or \$7.3 million, over the same period. • The 2024–25 budget itself admits that "Operating Expenses are budgeted to exceed the City's conservative rates increases"—a clear sign of poor cost control. <p>Residents are being asked to foot the bill not for improved services, but to support unchecked internal cost growth. Programs like “Healthy Melville,” digital strategies, and carbon initiatives are bundled into budgets without clear cost-benefit transparency or public reporting.</p> <p>Before raising rates yet again, council must demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How staffing costs are justified, and what value has been added; • What’s driving contract and materials growth well above inflation; • What firm cost control actions are being implemented; • How new initiatives are being evaluated for effectiveness. <p>Bottom line: If 87% of rate increases are going toward internal expenses, not community benefit, then cost management—not rate hikes—must come first.</p>
418	Object	I object to a rates increase, this does not help with the cost of living for our household.
419	Object	Cost of living rises are impacting everyday Australians. Please revise internal spendings as with the OAG audit findings instead of passing it onto the rate payer
420	Object	I am a pensioner. I find my funds will not stretch any further
421	Object	I see so much wastage. Crews sitting idle and parks Vehicles not being utilised.Look at efficiency to save money rather than automatically increasing budgets which flow into increased rates for residents
422	Object	I see so much wastage. Crews sitting idle and parks Vehicles not being utilised. Look at efficiency to save money rather than automatically increasing budgets which flow into increased rates for residents
423	Object	This rate increase is overly excessive. With the cost of living pressures from all directions (ie. Services, fuel, groceries etc). Please do not raise it this high.

424	Object	Object.
425	Object	I object the 4.5% rate rise - I really don't see the justification for this in the current climate, and additionally I have not seen any uplift in services provided to residents in the past year.
426	Object	Please help the people who are struggling on a daily basis
427	Object	I object to a 4.5% rate increase city of melville should try harder to stay within budget.
428	Object	The increase is more than the current inflation rate, why don't you bring back the weekly bin removal rather than fortnightly. You are offering nothing for the extra money.
429	Object	It's a cost of living crisis - everyone is already doing it tough. Please don't make it harder on everyone. Our rates are already outrageously high.
430	Object	Not trying hard enough to manage costs within inflation. Painting murals on roads doesn't help
431	Object	I strongly object to the proposed 4.5% increase in rates. Many residents are already under financial strain due to rising living costs, and this additional burden is unreasonable. The council should prioritise efficiency and cost-saving measures before passing on more costs to ratepayers. Please reconsider this increase and explore more sustainable alternatives.
432	Object	Everything is increasing except wages! How are we supposed to keep with these increases if companies aren't passing them on? I feel residential owners are being punished for lack of income through commercial avenues. I'm sure you are seeing a big reduction in bulk waste and green waste collections, where are the savings for that?
433	Object	I question you on how the increased rates will benefit me as a home owner. Cost of living is out of control. I understand there are costs for the council however I fail to see how an increase will add any benefit as a rate payer. You need to do something to improve the intersection of Findlay Road and South Street, improve parking at Murdoch Train station, and improve crime in Leeming. The garbage collection is ineffective. I want to see a return on the increase.
434	Object	I'd like to see a public inquiry into the current spending before being asked to pay more. At present I see very little expenditure that benefits our community. We no longer have verge collections, our local parks are substandard compared to other suburbs and our verges, medium strips are barren and overgrown. You don't respond to complaints, and your councillors do not have a public profile in the area.
435	Object	I feel that the council would be better to cut some costs rather than increase rates, I am appalled by the wastage of money within the council. In our street they chopped down all the street trees, citing they were not right for the location and then replanted new trees. The trees should never have been planted in the first place if they were unsuitable. Also, the community should have been notified of your intentions. I totally object to the rate rise.

436	Object	With high cost if living and rate rises that were had. A rate increase, let alone an almost 5% increase, will put a substantial amount unnecessary economical strain on residents. Along with economical strain, come various mental health challenges. It is well documented that mental illness is left untreated due to economical hardship. By unnecessarily increasing rates, the City of Melville is inadvertently playing a role in the increase on mental health hardship. I oppose a rate increase.
437	Object	If rates are increasing so much what services or improvements to existing services are brought into line with this? People are already struggling with cost of living and to put food in the table. As a single parent too every dollar counts but never do we see a reduction or support for those working hard to keep a roof of their own over their families heads. Please consider this for all residents young and old in the City of Melville.
438	Object	<p>Please see objection comments attached. [Attached] Objection to Proposed 4.5% Rate Increase – City of Melville</p> <p>The City of Melville is proposing a 4.5% rate increase at a time when Perth’s inflation rate sits at just 2.8%. This proposed rise significantly exceeds the cost-of-living increases faced by households, and lacks justification when considering the City’s own financial data.</p> <p>According to publicly available budget information, 87% of the \$27 million in rate increases over the last four years has gone to just two areas: employee costs and materials/contracts—not to service improvements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employee costs alone have risen by 33%, increasing by \$16.2 million from \$48.4M to \$64.6M. • Materials and contracts increased 23%, or \$7.3 million, over the same period. • The 2024–25 budget itself admits that "Operating Expenses are budgeted to exceed the City's conservative rates increases"—a clear sign of poor cost control. <p>Residents are being asked to foot the bill not for improved services, but to support unchecked internal cost growth. Programs like “Healthy Melville,” digital strategies, and carbon initiatives are bundled into budgets without clear cost-benefit transparency or public reporting.</p> <p>Before raising rates yet again, council must demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How staffing costs are justified, and what value has been added; • What’s driving contract and materials growth well above inflation; • What firm cost control actions are being implemented; • How new initiatives are being evaluated for effectiveness. <p>Bottom line: If 87% of rate increases are going toward internal expenses, not community benefit, then cost management—not rate hikes—must come first.</p>
439	Object	How can you say to balance the cost of living you recommend the rise of 4.5%. You should be saying you won’t increase. Perhaps \$20m on the bowling club needs to be cancelled. I won’t be paying any increase if this goes ahead.

440	Support	I understand the need to increase the rates. I only ask for transparency and open communication regarding how the money is spent.
441	Object	20 mil spend on MBC is absolutely disgraceful. MBC have a gifted a lease if they can't do the Reno/repairs then bye. I pay rates to support all com residents, not a handful of influential people who think they are above the rest of us. Further, com needs to reduce internal spending, you may not have been the oyster council but you were definately up there with excessive spending. It's a privilege to be a councillor not an opportunity to abuse funding either internally or for your MBC mates.
442	Object	I object to the proposed rate rise due to poor transparency, declining trust in governance, inefficient service delivery, and subpar facilities compared to neighbouring councils. The City must address these core issues before increasing rates.
443	Object	You are spending far too much money on niche projects that many ratepayers will never see, use, benefit from. For instance, the bowling club, will benefit a small number of people but the cost is in the millions. Plus you zoning valuable land at the esplanade as public open space losing substantial revenue.
444	Object	A rate rise of this level will be fair when you aren't being named as the council with the highest internal entertainment spending.
445	Object	Object. See attachment please. Attached: Hello My comment below re: the rate increase of 4.5 is a few characters over your 500 limit.Comment: 4.5% is excessive. Make increase to more in line with CPI. Recent publicity hospitality expenses not providing confidence that such an increase warranted. What being done to rebuff these accusations and increase productivity within the council? Yes, public engagement seeking feedback on proposed council projects is difficult. Respectfully suggest that we are not getting value for money from this process. Eg recent publicity on engagement Moreau Mews Town Square Response compared to community reach was very poor. Does the methodology of Public engagement need a shakeup?
446	Object	Too much wasted ratepayers money on fancy lunches for overpaid useless Councillors! Give us back regular verge collections and larger red bins. Fix our roads. More security patrols!
447	Object	With budgets as tight as they are today and Melville Council listed as one of the biggest spenders on extravagant dinners, maybe cut down on this kind of spending so rate rises kept as low as possible. Doesn't look good to the ratepayers.
448	Object	The increase is substantial & impacted cost of living, we have not seen an improvement with services & lost out yearly white goods pick up (booked out) & 2 green pick ups. After recovering from the under ground power charges a nil increase of slight increase would be more acceptable to suffering rate payers !
449	Object	WA Treasury Corporation reports (April 2025 "Monthly Market Highlights") that the annual rate of inflation in Perth was 2.8%, which is well below the 4.5% increase in rate revenue proposed by the Council. In my view, anything above a 3% increase in rates is excessive.

