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Subject: Council Rate Capping - Submission No 6 from Adrian Jackson

After reading Port Phillip City Councils latest submission agreed at a council meeting held on 12 May 15 it is painfully obvious that councillors are not listening to the community nor do they care what we ratepayers and residents think.

Port Phillip is little different to other councils except we have some beaches and a huge state park within its boundaries. They are not a special case council what-so-ever. The last time I checked, the average age of residents was about 38 years old and the number of children and old people is less than in many other councils on a per capita basis.

Their submission states that rate capping will reduce service delivery but I say a fair bit of it needs to be reduced or even ceased.

Why have the costs of service delivery sky rocketed in 20 years when the amalgamation of three former councils (Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St Kilda) plus a section of Prahran was meant to reduce management costs, cause the rationalization of the service delivery in the three former municipalities and reduce waste?

Poor planning and knee jerk decision councils veiled speech calls "irregular costs". This council pokes its nose into far too many things that they have no right or need to get involved in like the Palais theatre, F1 GP and the use of crown land like the St Kilda Triangle site.

Successive councils have had a spend now and worry about the money later attitude and this was evident in the \$10 million debt St Kilda Council brought to the amalgamation. Since then their schemes have treated ratepayers as an ATM with an unlimited credit limit.

Not only should rate capping be ruthlessly enforced I would go as far as saying the council needs to be put into administration by the government.

On amalgamation Commissioner Des Clarke and two other Commissioners not only had to run the day to day service delivery of the new Port Phillip but had to amalgamate the three councils in about two years. They ran the council far better than any elected council has since, including the current council. A mostly left wing rabble often attend the commissioners council meetings and disrupted proceedings which was a disgrace.

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