

Your Details	
First Name:	Glen
Last Name:	Smitheram
1	
Do you think we should decrease our day-to-day levels of service to reduce the average rate increase? :	No
Why / Why not?:	Service is fine the way it is ,why would anyone want a poorer service? Present services must have been thought out and necessary.
If so, what should we do less of?:	
2	
Do you agree with using \$1.7 million from our forestry reserve to pay for major roading repairs?:	No
Why / why not?:	Don't agree with selling the family jewels for a short term gain then a long term loss. Better to borrow money to achieve requirements. Interest is way cheaper than the ever increasing cost to carry out requirements and inflation kills the value of the money borrowed over time.
3	
General comments:	By and large I think the Council does a great job. I feel that some roading repairs could be done to a better standard rather than endlessly spending money on inferior patch ups which cost more in the long run. Rather than sell off existing assets such as the present Council building and the Library once the new building is completed probably for way less than their replacement cost Council should look at retaining them for future upgrade and use. I personally believe the new council building and Library also the improvements to the center of town was more of a want than a need. I would have preferred existing buildings were upgraded to earthquake standard to save money, and town center improvements put off until all the old dangerous brick buildings were removed in the course of time to prevent further hold ups and damage however done is done. I am impressed to learn that only around half of council revenue comes via rates. Please keep it this way and don't sell the family jewels. Very serious research needs to be done before the council employs any extra staff. The numbers have a habit of growing like topsy and the job expands to meet the number of people available to do the work.