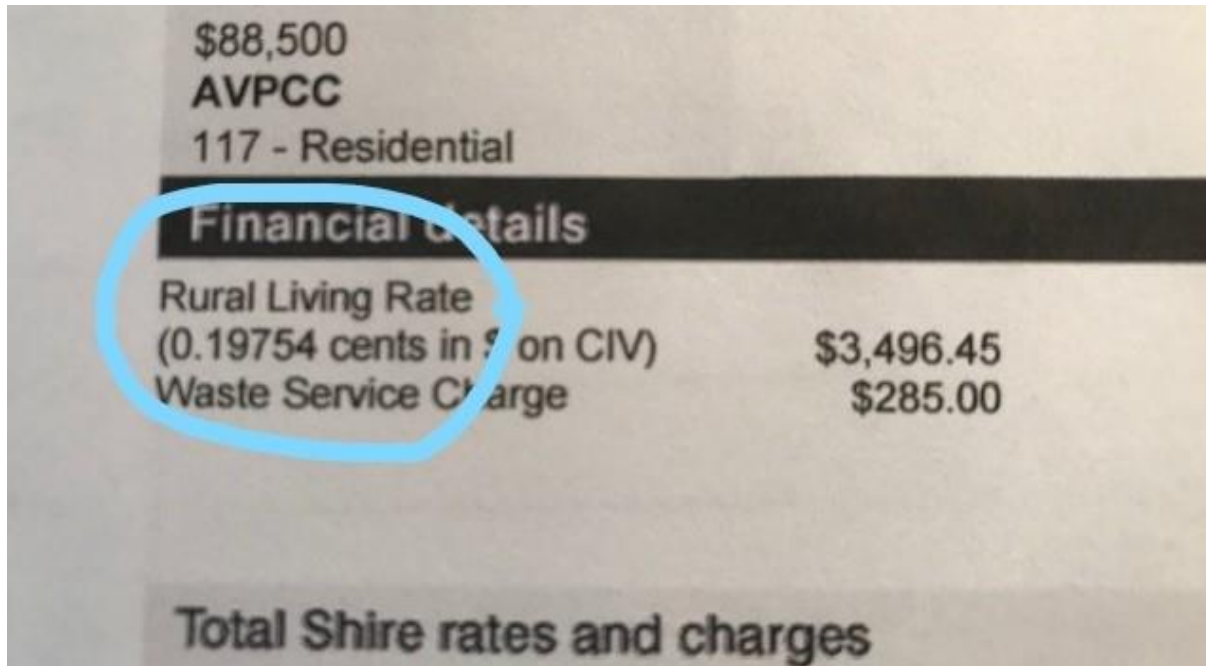


RATES INCREASE OF 20%

This year Mornington Peninsula Shire Council imposed a **20% rates surcharge** on a small scattered group of properties within the Shire. There was no prior notification to these ratepayers and many of them **still do not realise** that they are paying 20% more than their neighbours.

If your property is less than 2 hectares and is situated in the Green Wedge you are paying this!

Check your main rates notice – if you see the words **Rural Living Rate** you are paying a 20% surcharge – you are paying 0.19754 cents in \$ on CIV instead of the 0.16462 cents which your neighbours are paying.



\$88,500	
AVPCC	
117 - Residential	
Financial Details	
Rural Living Rate (0.19754 cents in \$ on CIV)	\$3,496.45
Waste Service Charge	\$285.00
Total Shire rates and charges	

This surcharge has been imposed on the grounds that these ratepayers benefit unfairly from the amenity of the Green Wedge without making any effective contribution through agricultural use or conservation-based activity.

Many of their neighbours use their properties in exactly the same way but do not pay this surcharge.

Only 755 properties out of a total of 4,944 ratepayers in the Green Wedge have been charged with this new rate. There was no prior notice to ratepayers and no public consultation in relation to this new **amenity tax**.

It is unfair and a dangerous precedent which allows Council to depart from the accepted basis of property valuation and impose discriminatory taxes on small select groups of ratepayers.

Whether you are personally affected or not please:

- send an email to the Council complaining and asking for the abolition of this unfair rates surcharge [CEO@mornpen.vic.gov.au CEO; sam.hearn@mornpen.vic.gov.au; Mayor; david.gill@mornpen.vic.gov.au Red Hill Ward Councillor]

- sign the petition which is circulating (There is one at Cellar & Pantry)