

## Jacky Smith

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**From:** jacvisser <jacvisser@mweb.co.za>  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 April 2026 10:19  
**To:** TWK Budget  
**Subject:** Objection to budget  
**Attachments:** Objection to Draft Budget 2026\_2027 (1).pdf

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jacvisser@mweb.co.za. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good day,

Please can you kindly delete my previous correspondence, I accidentally sent my incomplete letter. Attached is the correct one.

Best regards  
Jacqui Visser

16 de la Vigne Street  
Riviersonderend, 7250

Date: 18 April 2026

To: Theewaterskloof Municipality

**Objection to Draft Budget 2026/2027**

To whom it may concern,

Following the public participation meeting in Riviersonderend on the 8th April, I wish to object to the proposed increases.

When asked how these figures were decided upon, considering that the rate of inflation for 2025/2026 was never higher than 3,7%, TWK informed that part of the process involved comparisons with neighboring municipalities, as well as Cost of Supply studies. These studies focussed primarily on electricity and water, and did not address refuse, sewage or rates.

Following is a table which compares the TWK increases with neighbouring municipalities:

	TWK	Overstrand	Langeberg	Hessequa	CAM
Assessment Rates	5	5	3,7	4,5	3,7
Water	8	5	3,7		3,7
Sewerage	4,5	5	3,7	4,5	3,7
Refuse	11,92	5	8	4,5	3,7
Electricity	8	8,5	9	7	9

TWK has the highest increase in the region.

Riviersonderend has historically been very affordable, and has therefore attracted mostly lower income and retired property owners. Job opportunities are extremely limited. The town's potential for expansion beyond the urban limit is zero. TWK have earmarked the town as an area with little or no growth potential. Most property owners are retired on fixed pensions. My concern is that these year on year, above inflation increases are simply not sustainable in the long term. Faced with paying rates or putting food on table, TWK will find their rate of revenue collection falling lower than the current 80%.

Looking at actual figures over the last 10 years, the average increase in rates was 9%, which is double that of the average rate of inflation over the same time period, being 4,5%. These figures exclude electricity.

The level of service delivery over the last 10 year period, in which I have been a resident of Riviersonderend, has become less efficient and more wasteful of resources. There is no evidence of preventative maintenance, which would save money in the long term. It seems that it is far easier to continue to place the burden completely on the taxpayer than to implement basic management procedures.

I respectfully request that you consider lowering the increases in line with other municipalities, if not in line with inflation.

Best regards  
Jacqui Visser  
Resident and Business Owner