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Submission: I am a resident in the local area of Portland NSW and I am against this rate variation that has been proposed by the Lithgow Council. The initial increase and ongoing increase has made it difficult for a pensioner to live as rates have been slowly creeping up but the services that they say they will deliver has never arrived.

I have worked for state government for over 40 years and I have no confidence in the Lithgow Council and their budgeting capabilities or their ability to carry out works that are precise, accurate and well done. All their work is mid-standard and the roads in Portland are a testament to the [REDACTED] that are hired. No work is ever completed to a standard that is worth noting.

I believe they need to go back to basics and start again. Talk to the people and ask them what they want. Stop wasting money on things they want. Tender to the area and find reputable contractors not ones that belong to [REDACTED] from Bathurst area. Stop this rate increase and ask them to look at Community consultations and then go from there. Start fund raising and stop paying the [REDACTED] of Lithgow Council a huge amount of money when the rest of the area is struggling and heading into depression. Find the root cause of the misspending before handing them more money to misspend.

NO NO NO!

Thank you

PS I would prefer to join with Bathurst Council rather than stay with Lithgow Council the way it has been mishandled.

[REDACTED]