

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 13 March 2019 10:05 PM
To: Local Government Mailbox <localgovernment@ipart.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Lithgow Council Special Rate Variation

Please see the attached

Sent from Samsung tablet.

I'm not happy about having Lithgow Council increasing rates by 9% per annum. When I compare with other LGA's I believe we are already paying some of the highest rates in the state with extremely low value level of service for what you pay for. Examples include poor local roads, failing storm water infrastructure after introducing a storm water levy, lack of basic development controls on new developments including basic environmental protection, one of the highest water rates with the lowering of the annual basic limit which puts a huge strain on larger families, I pay more for water per quarter than gas or power.

A common issue that seems to arise is when any new businesses starting or enquire about the local area they always have difficulty working with the council in any aspect of developing and generally move elsewhere which has a negative impact on growth and employment.

Community services and engagement are generally poor with a lot of younger people leaving the district for better opportunities. Other community groups including sporting groups are often having difficulty with council to provide a basic level of service and are generally charged excessive fees for service with voluntary help for upkeep of facilities including community fundraising support.

Other points of concerns are the use of councils resources for the maintenance of non council assets ie Lithgow Golf club are Lake Lyle recreation area which are privately operated.

I couldn't support a rate increase of any type until council can improve in lot of areas and provide a better level of service for what you are already paying for.