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Submission: Lithgow Council currently charges me \$2500 a year for the various rates levies. They are requesting an increase of 9% when my wage rises are capped at 2.5%. This disparity will significantly affect my households ability to meet our mortgage, with other utilities also increasing their costs.

Lithgow Council has also displayed poor financial performance in their management of major projects in the area. The refurbishment of the CBD is a prime example of high costs with little real benefit or improved appearance achieved. The towns swimming complex is also not her example, comparing facilities to neighbouring councils we gave been severely let down. Our infrastructure is continually failing with repeated burst water pipes, damaged streets and rural roads. The local parks are poorly maintained, with only Queen Elizabeth park receiving significant maintenance.