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Date of submission: Thursday, 21 February 2019

Submission: As a resident of the Lithgow LGA I am deeply disappointed in the Lithgow Council's (Council) decision to seek a further special rate variation (SRV) given their current position. Council remains not "fit for future" even with the intervention of the OLG. Council found itself in this position mainly due to its ongoing financial mismanagement. None of the the information provided by Council seeking support for the SRV demonstrated how council will not mismanage any additional rates income.

Council needs to become more strategic and undertake a detailed service review before looking for a quick fix with an SRV. My reservations of council's sincerity for a thorough consultation process in relation to their request to seek a SRV were raised when I received the phone call from their Consultants. The introductory question from the consultant was "are there any 18 to 24 olds in the home?". How many rate payers are in that age bracket?

Council needs to regain its community's trust by demonstrating improved management of the funding it currently receives and hold itself accountable and being transparent about it.

I call for IPART not to support the SRV application from Lithgow City Council.