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Submission: I own a home and live in the upper hunter shire. I believe the rate rise should not be approved. The amount seems unfairly large and the rates within the region are already quite high. Although our region has the mining industry not all residents are employed and earn that level of income or even the level of income that most council workers earn. I believe the council needs to reassess and look at their current spending. For the amount of rates already being paid they do not provide a level of service that most residents are happy with. I know this carries a negative tone, but they seem to do very little and the little that they do do is in Scone itself not in the smaller surrounding towns. They have built an oversized, overpriced new building which they didn't have the funds for and the community is paying for their decisions to self indulge. It is simply unfair.