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Submission: I do not support this increase. I commute for work everyday for over an hour because I can't get work in Lithgow. This increase won't help me get a job. I mow my own nature strip out the front because Council won't do it. This increase won't change that. The footpath over the road from my house to the shops is so overgrown the grass now meets in the middle because Council won't mow it. This increase won't change that. My water is borderline undrinkable because Council over chlorinates it. This increase won't fix these things. This is a knee jerk reaction without little thought put into it. There are many ways the council can save money, but if they're really struggling why did they create those new middle management jobs? They haven't demonstrated to the residents that they are trying to economise, they're just demanding more money from us. They need to prove that there is no other way, that they cannot possibly find the money through other efficiencies before increasing our rates. Or at the very least ask for a reasonable increase, 9% is insane.