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Submission: I find it hard to believe that Lithgow City Council has put in a special variation application for 9%. Lithgow is not an overly prosperous community. Lithgow rates 22 nd out of 152 LGAs & in the 2nd Percentile in the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage, by LGA, 2011. It has a high proportion of fixed income families. While not all these families own property they will see rents increase if this application is upheld. I think that council needs to manage their current income better rather than increasing rates at a proposed 3.5 times annual inflation rate.