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Submission: I am TOTALLY against the rate rise being sort by Lithgow City Council. My partner & I own a shop in Main Street Lithgow. The shop is rented to a business. There is constant interruption to the business due to work being conducted in Main Street. No compensation was offered or received by shop owners for this major interruption to their business income. The footpath along Main Street is appalling, with very uneven payers, bitumen wholes and trip factors everywhere. The shop owners have been told to upgrade their front awning to comply with engineering specifications. This is an additional cost to shop owners, with no compensation or concessions available. Why should shop owners have to bare the cost for the incompetence of Lithgow City Council to maintain Main Street. Many shops have become vacant due to the added burden of Council performing work which is totally disruptive to all businesses in Main Street who rely on passing traffic and pedestrians for their livelihood. Let Council bare the cost from the Cash Reserves and leave the rate payers to a more reasonable rate increase.