

31 July 2015

IPART
Online Portal

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**RE: SUBMISSION TO IPART
ARMIDALE DUMARESQ COUNCIL FIT FOR THE FUTURE SUBMISSION**

The Fit For the Future submission provided by Armidale Dumaresq Council to IPART includes a resolution of the Armidale Dumaresq Council from 27 April 2015 (page 34 of the submission): *"That Council submits an attachment to Option A which includes merging with Guyra and Uralla Shire Councils, subject to agreement of the boundary adjustments proposed by Glen Innes and Inverell Councils..."*

The said attachment has not been made publically available through the submission process to afford the community, affected Councils, or other stakeholders an opportunity to review this 'supplementary proposal'. As such this additional information should not be considered as part of the Fit For the Future submission of Armidale Dumaresq Council as no community consultation has occurred, nor any agreement between the affected Councils been made.

Additionally, Guyra Shire Council objects to the declarations made in the resolution of Armidale Dumaresq Council on 27 April 2015 (page 34 of the submission); naming the new Council, and stipulating that "Council work with Glen Innes Severn, Inverell, and other adjoining Councils to establish future Council boundaries...". These matters, should they arise under a forced amalgamation situation, would be for determination of the newly elected Council, and not predetermined by the Armidale Dumaresq Council. These decisions should be made openly and in full consultation with the community.

Guyra Shire Council has prepared a Fit For the Future submission in accordance with the NSW Government's guidelines to remain a Rural Council and has worked strategically to develop the most effective, efficient, and collaborative proposal to ensure the future sustainability of our Council and our community.

Yours Sincerely,



PETER STEWART
GENERAL MANAGER