

Barbara Hoffman

Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal  
Local Government Division  
Review of Local Council Fit for Future Proposals  
PO Box K35  
Haymarket Post Shop NSW 1240

19 July 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Objection to IPART proposal to create a mega council**

Your proposal to amalgamate Botany Bay, Randwick, Waverley, Woollahra and Sydney will create a 'mega-council' which will contain a population of half a million people (at current population figures). To do this without also increasing the City of Sydney's responsibility and authority is bad planning.

The current City of Sydney has since 2004 been accountable, transparent, progressive and has been a Council of action, not just talk. Their 2007 community consultation-generated report 'Sustainable Sydney 2030 - a comprehensive, visionary plan' plus their ongoing, radical transformations of some depressed areas into community spaces right across their jurisdiction, clearly show that the City of Sydney, as it stands, is 'fit for the future'. Indeed, their vision for the future of George Street will be transformative for the city.

Examples of such amalgamations across the world consistently show decreases in efficiencies and a wasting of public money. As populations grow in our inner city areas, it's smaller, responsive teams we need not huge, groaning bureaucracies. How many times do you need to see this doesn't work before you stop making these 'change for change's sake' proposals?

I want to make it clear that this rate-paying, long-term resident of 2011 (since the early 1990s) says NO to amalgamation and I urge you to reconsider this reckless proposal.

Yours sincerely

  
Barbara Hoffman