



31 July 2015

FIT FOR THE FUTURE – No amalgamation for the City of Sydney!

I have followed this enquiry, reading material and attended meetings.

From both a financial and governance perspective, the City of Sydney easily fulfils the expectations for continuing viability as an entity.

In fact, it would be disadvantageous to amalgamate this rapidly growing LGA. Moreover, parts of South Sydney and Leichhardt were already handed over to the City in recent years, so further amalgamation is unwarranted.

As a resident, I was appalled at the erosion of our franchise by extending the franchise to business. Further, I have lived and worked in other Council areas.

What is the problem IPART is trying to fix?

The City of Sydney's experience with amalgamations enables a numerical analysis and rebuts the assumption by the earlier Sansom review that financial benefits are obtained by amalgamation. It is a crude assumption that is not applicable to this place at this time.

I refer IPART to the authoritative, independent analysis of the state of City of Sydney's finances, e.g. Treasury Corporation and PriceWaterhouseCoopers. For those reasons, I do not believe there is any credible basis for amalgamation.

Further, as both a resident and house owner (educated in environmental science) I am strongly supported of the effective governance, and sustainability – environmental, economic and social – of the City of Sydney.

Time permits me no more points.

