

Fit for the Future Compulsory council amalgamation

17th July 2015

Leichhardt Municipal Council

To whom it may concern,

As a resident and ratepayer, I strongly endorse Leichhardt Council's view that ratepayers are best served by retaining the Council in its current form and rejecting the proposed amalgamation.

"Fit for the Future" proposals as defined by the state government do not address issues of considerable importance to the community.

1. **Rates increase** to cover cost of amalgamation and to improve performance of the merged entity.
2. **Local representation** would be greatly diluted by the proposed merger.
3. **Local facilities** such as libraries, pools and playing fields, maybe lost to Leichhardt under any rationalisation program in the merged entity.
4. A constituency increase of greater than six times will unreasonably **reduce consultation** with community.

On the basis of the evidence presented in Leichhardt Council's submission, I oppose this council being pressed into any forced amalgamation, particularly when the outcome penalises its existing good performance and reduces the future representation and service level for the Leichhardt municipality.

Regards

David Anderson