

Author name: G. Sui

Date of submission: Sunday, July 19, 2015

Submission: Dear Council members:

I am writing in support of Strathfield's desire to be a stand alone council.

I believe if Strathfield merged with the other councils it is unlikely to deliver the same level of service to the residents as it use to be able to without a increase in fees. I do not believe the savings will be achieved from simply cutting the amount of administration.

One example I have as the owner of properties that I can give is the body corporate fees between smaller and larger buildings. It would be easily assumed that smaller building would naturally pay a higher body corporate fee that larger buildings as there will be only one management fee to pay, resulting in less fee per unit. But this has never been the case. People pay fee depending on the service and utilities used, as a building gets larger there are more wastage of electricity and water that services the common areas. Common areas are often at risk of being abused and larger complexes often need to have security cameras and security personnel which would increase the cost of management for all owners.

This lesson is often true for companies as well; the lager the company gets the more complicated it is to run them therefore the need for greater oversight and bureaucracy which in the end will all cost more money rather than a net saving.

As organizations gets larger there will be new challenges arising that wasn't an issue when it was small. Councils will not be an exception.

Therefore, I am opposed to the council mergers. I would like Strathfield council to remain a standalone council into the future.

Yours sincerely

Shan