

Author name: M. Johnson

Date of submission: Sunday, 26 July 2015

Submission: Dear Tribunal

WHAT WE KNOW:

Leichhardt Council is the third-most financially sustainable council in Sydney, according to NSW Treasury Corporation figures.

In contrast, the five biggest Sydney Councils all rank at the bottom.

WHAT IS INCREASINGLY EVIDENT:

The NSW Government's attempt to merge councils under the guise of "financial efficiency" is just a blatant attempt to eliminate - or at least dissipate/dissolve - community opposition to its neo-liberal policies by:

- 1) Gerrymandering council boundaries to increase conservative concentrations, and
- 2) Making councils so large that "community" consultation and activism - will be much harder.

WHAT I BELIEVE:

The NSW Liberal "government" - directed and backed by its business, financial and federal political stakeholder allies - has an aggressive neo-liberal agenda bent on "destroying" (it mis-uses the word "developing") aspects of Sydney that its communities hold dear. Its aim is to "maximise returns" to its Stakeholder\$ - not the communities affected, represented by their democratically elected constituents.

WHAT I WANT:

As a voter and ratepayer, I WANT LEICHHARDT COUNCIL TO REMAIN INDEPENDENT.

Regards

Michael Johnson

[REDACTED]