

**From:** Ray Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 22 July 2015 11:06 AM  
**To:** IPART Mailbox  
**Subject:** Wollondilly Shire Council.

Dear Sir.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a brief submission regarding Wollondilly Shire Councils fit for the future status.

I note that Wollondilly council was granted a rate increase of 6 percent every year for the last 3 years by IPART, and recently granted an increase of 10.8% percent every year for the next 4 years, at councils February meeting 2015 there were 3 rate increases on the table, the rate peg amount and an increase of 8.6% percent and the granted 10.8% percent, councils staff at this meeting recommended councillors adopt the 10.8% percent increase because it would make the council look good under the state governments Fit for the Future program.

The reasons for this massive rate increase is mismanagement and economy of scale, this council over the years has been notorious for its anti-development attitude, three years ago a planning proposal came before council for 350 homes in station street Menangle, council planning staff recommended the development be approved, the councillors deferred the proposal numerous times citing dubious reasons forcing the proponents to apply for a Joint Regional Planning Panel hearing which is still pending 3 years later.

The population of the Shire should be at least 65,000 not 45,000 which it is now. Wollondilly Shire is larger in area than Camden, Campbelltown and Liverpool local government areas combined but has only a fraction of the population of these LGAs to source revenue from to maintain roads and infrastructure etc.

People living in Appin are paying to maintain the roads in Warragamba, to drive from Appin to Warragamba you would pass through two foreign local government areas namely Camden and Campbelltown, it defies logic and common sense.

I note in the NSW governments Local Government Review Panels final report October 2013, it states section 13.7, that Wollondilly Shire Council should undergo boundary adjustments so as to facilitate sound planning of Metropolitan growth, they also go on to say there may be a case for the shire to be amalgamated with adjoining local government areas, I believe the panels findings are absolutely spot on.

I believe we do not need 152 councils in NSW and that Wollondilly Shire Council should be amalgamated into adjoining local government areas, or at the very least undergo significant boundary adjustments in the immediate term, councils such as Camden and Campbelltown would better facilitate the projected growth the state government has planned for the Shire fringe.

Yours Sincerely.  
Ray Smith.

[REDACTED]