

From: Teena Clerke [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 20 July 2015 2:59 PM
To: Local Government Mailbox

Leichhardt Municipal Council should remain a standalone council. Its business case meets the Fit for the Future criteria and its strong position would be diluted if forced to amalgamate with other councils.

Overwhelmingly at council meetings discussing proposed amalgamations, community representatives and residents have urged councillors to remain standalone. This is reiterated in council's meeting minutes.

An example of recent mergers include that of Canada Bay, as a result of amalgamation between Haberfield and Drummoyne. As a result of this amalgamation, rates rose and the local library closed. This does not bode well for a broad stroke move to force councils to merge.

The NSW State government's motive at the heart of forced amalgamations needs to be examined. Larger councils do not make for better local services, advocacy or diversity in representation. Leichhardt must remain standalone.

Please forward a receipt of its lodgement,

Thank you,
Teena