

Warriewood Residents Association Incorporated



30 July 2015

Dr Peter Boxall
The Chairman
Local Government Team
Local Government Team IPART P.O. Box K35
Haymarket Post Shop NSW 1240

Dear Dr. Boxall,

Supportive Submission on Pittwater's Fit for the Future (FftF) Improvement Proposal

I, as do 89% of my fellow Pittwater residents, support Pittwater's FftF proposal to stay as it is with its current boundaries.

The best thing about Pittwater's proposal is the fact it is not just a Council proposal. The Pittwater community has worked with the Council every step of the way. This is how a democracy and a strong community should work. You can especially see this in Attachment 6 in Pittwater's proposal.

However we need to do some reform and I see us going to great length to do this *BUT* changing our boundaries is not going to help this process.

Pittwater is working to improve:

- Engagement between residents, community groups, council and state government to ensure the local voice is heard, listened to and acted upon with its Placemaking processes
- Spending on projects, infrastructure, services, the environment, etc to better reflect and balance the needs and wants of the local people, businesses and planning
- · Communicating local needs with the



State Government via structures such as SHOROC, request for State Grants, etc

In fact the NSW Government's main focus on councils' scale and capacity has harmed the FftF process already.

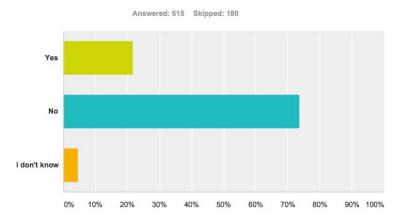
It has greatly damaged the NSW's Liberal brand. FftF and IPART have become dirty words. Councils are against councils. There is in-house fighting on State and council levels, and the NSW Upper House is in the process of conducting an expensive inquiry. NOT a good look at all!

State Government needs to take a step back and start listening and acting on the wants and needs of the people. The people's voice is an asset.

So please listen to what is being said in the <u>Upper House Inquiry in its</u> survey results:

58% don't support the FftF program 58% think the FftF timeframe too short 59% think the FftF evaluation process invalid 79% don't support forced amalgamation 65% support local govt reform 75% think councils should have more say in regional issues 67% are satisfied or highly satisfied with their current council 73% think services will be compromised by amalgamation 75% think their council size and scale is appropriate 76% think their council financially sustainable 75% think amalgamation

Q8 Do you support the forced amalgamation of local councils, if IPART finds that they do not have sufficient scale and capacity?



will not improve financial sustainability 72% do not support the amalgamation of their council

Yours faithfully,

Chris Hornsby

President WRA