

INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Jane Harris

Date received: 1/07/2015

The Director
General Purpose Standing
Committee No 6,
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
NSWales 2000.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Enclosed please find my
submission regarding the
proposed amalgamation of
Councils.

Numerous residents
have strongly opposed this
high handed action, and
I urge you to take note of
public opinion re this matter.

To. The Director
General Purpose Standing
Committee No. 6.
Parliament House -
Macquarie Street
Sydney 2000

SUBMISSION RE AMALGAMATIONS

I have recently been informed of the State Government proposal to amalgamate different councils with very little in common as far as the demographics and cultural groupings are concerned.

I and numerous others do NOT want this to occur in the council of Marrickville. The council provides extremely good services and there is a vibrant community spirit which would be totally destroyed by such an action.

This proposal will not save money and according to a survey by an independent body will almost certainly increase rates.

At an extremely large meeting held some days ago at Petersham Town Hall all the residents save one were totally against the proposal to force us into an amalgamation. This system has been tried in both parts of the US and the UK and has not proved successful. Why does Australia not take note of such reports before rushing into an ill-prepared idea?

Where is the democracy if in spite of the excellent report on our council we are overridden by the Government? For those of us who pay rates, and also those who rent in the area we do not want such action to take place. If other councils are happy with the proposal, fine, but you need to realise that this type of action will have a result on the voting patterns in our area when the next State election occurs.