

The Director  
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6  
Parliament House  
Macquarie St  
Sydney NSW 2000  
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Dear Madam/Sir

**Parliamentary Inquiry into the State Government's Fit for the Future Local Government Reform Agenda**

In my local government area of **Lane Cove** the State Government is proposing that our Council be merged with Hunter's Hill, Mosman, North Sydney, Willoughby and two-thirds of Ryde.

**I support what my local Council is proposing:** for Lane Cove to stand alone and continue to deliver local services and address local issues, in addition to working in partnership with neighbouring Councils, City of Ryde and Hunter's Hill on regional matters to achieve efficiencies through shared services.

I support this **Joint Regional Authority** approach for the following reasons:

- It is a superior alternative to a one-size fits all model;
- A Joint Regional Authority would mean local issues stay local and regional matters are dealt with at the regional level by the three Councils working together;
- The State Government will achieve the capacity it wants, which is to deal with one organisation on subregional matters instead of three, with local government working together in planning and identifying priorities for the region;
- Through a regional partnership with City of Ryde and Hunter's Hill the community will get a more powerful voice to advocate on critical regional planning and infrastructure matters like schools, hospitals and transport issues;
- A regional partnership also means that Councils could share delivery of some services and save money.
- Above all it means we can keep the local in local government and can continue to be represented with quality services at a local level

I believe that the Committee should consider the benefits of this alternate model, a model which was only made available to regional councils.

Regards,