

**Submission  
No 13**

**INQUIRY INTO GREATER SYDNEY PARKLANDS TRUST  
BILL 2021**

**Name:** Mr Michael Streatfeild

**Date Received:** 13 December 2021

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I am a retired father of four and a regular user of the Western Sydney Parklands. Particularly the most southern part, Shale Hills which is a remnant of the endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland ecological community. This area is threatened by invasive weeds while there is virtually nil maintenance of the endemic species. I enjoy this area and it needs to be properly preserved.

I oppose the draft Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Bill and call for it to be dropped because:

The Bill contains next to no imperative to maintain green open space, habitat and biodiversity. These parklands were set aside to provide green lungs amongst the intensive development in Western Sydney. This need has only increased with the continued development and this draft legislation offers little protection.

I oppose that the bill gives the Greater Sydney Parkland Board the power to acquire public and private land compulsorily. This means any existing council parks, reserves, playgrounds, or my own land.

I believe the proposed legislation concentrates too much power in the hands of any Minister without adequate oversight. Leaving our parks vulnerable to politics, lobby groups and associated developers.

I also oppose this Bill because it allows the Disposal and surrender of Parklands to other government departments (to allow sale and development). Which I have observed occurring in housing developments in Ruse 10 years ago destroying critical Koala habitat.