

AW (F2012/00406)
(Contact Officer: Ray Brownlee - 9399.0803)

14 March 2013

The Chair
Independent Local Government Review Panel
C/- Locked Bay 3015
Nowra NSW 2541

Dear Mr Sansom,

Re: Randwick City Council Submission: 'The Case for Change'

Randwick City Council welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Independent Local Government Review Panel on the second consultation paper – 'The Case for Change'. The Council will be making a further submission to the Panel regarding governance issues subsequent to the release of the 'Future Directions' paper.

Randwick City Council's formal position is no forced amalgamations, which was resolved in-line with the State Government's commitment.

While the Council's preference is to retain its current boundaries, evidence based options for structural change have also been considered. In June 2012 the Council commissioned a report by SGS Economics and Planning on consolidation options relative to eastern Sydney around the following criteria:

- Financial sustainability
- Strategic capacity
- Metropolitan planning
- Asset planning and renewal
- Services provision
- Local representation and participation
- Communities of interest
- Environmental sustainability

The SGS independent report explicitly addresses elements of an effective system of local government and logical boundary considerations as identified by the Panel. The report is based on Randwick Council's service delivery model, with our costs per service modelled across the region.

The attached report will be reported to Council at its April meeting, at which time it will become a public document, we will then provide you with an electronic copy. The Council would welcome the opportunity to discuss the report with the Panel.

Should you have any questions regarding this submission please contact Ray Brownlee, General Manager, on 9399 0803 or Ray.Brownlee@randwick.nsw.gov.au.

We look forward to working with you further regarding local government reform.

Yours faithfully,

Ray Brownlee
General Manager

CONFIDENTIAL Attachment: SGS Economics and Planning, *Eastern Sydney Local Government Review*, February 2013. (Hardcopy report delivered to the Panel)