



From the Office of the Mayor

Clr Jerome Laxale
Mayor

The Hon. Mike Baird MP
Premier of NSW
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

13th November 2015

Dear Premier,

I refer to your letter of 11 November 2015, requesting that Councils carefully consider the best interest of their communities in determining merger preferences with neighbouring Councils.

It has always been Council's intent to pursue and propose options which will be in the best interests of our ratepayers and the broader community.

In order to allow Council to make an informed decision about a matter of such significance, and to ensure that any proposal will address the longer term interests of our community, Council requires further critical information which has not yet been made available to local government.

The report released by IPART on 16 October 2015 declared City of Ryde unfit in relation to scale and capacity, however the assessment criteria used to make this determination remains unclear.

In order to allow Council to address the needs of our community, it is imperative that we have access to the detailed criteria and analysis used by IPART.

How can Camden Council, with 58,400 residents be fit on scale and capacity, when City of Ryde with 108,700 is not?


In the absence of IPART's criteria, how can we have faith in this process?

On behalf of the City of Ryde, I request that you immediately instruct IPART to release all relevant information pertaining to the criteria on which it has based its decisions in determining Council's Fit for the Future status.

City of Ryde remains committed to working closely with government, our community and key stakeholders to provide the best return on investment for our ratepayers, and I urge your assistance in this regard.

Please contact me on 9952 8332 should you require any further information in relation to this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerome Laxale', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Jerome Laxale
Mayor