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Submission: I am a resident of Leichhardt Council and I do not support Leichhardt Council remaining independent- and strongly suggest that it is amalgamated and greater accountability for the spending of public money is put in place.

The fact this council are trying to suggest that they are now financially viable when only 12mth ago they attempted to impose a 20% rate increase due to an arbitrary financial crisis is comical- they must think their constituents all have dementia!.

The new development review panel in place- costing the council \$100k/yr, all to make the councillors lives easier. They never cared in the past anyway- but the ratepayers get to pay for another layer of bureaucracy so the councillors can delegate their responsibilities.

The use of external consultants to defend council staff/officer decision in court needs to end immediately. This is one way to make this council accountable for it's decisions, not palm it off to a consultant/s, who basically can't defend the ridiculous decisions this councils development team make.

Please, please get rid of this toxic, incompetent council.