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Submission: As a rate paying resident of Marrickville since 2009, I am opposed to Marrickville Council being forced to become part of an Inner West Super Council. I do not want Marrickville Council to be amalgamated.

I'm concerned that the supposed savings and benefits of the amalgamation will not be realised, as this has been a common occurrence in other amalgamations.

No objective reasoning has been provided to explain the 'Fit for the future' guidelines and no rational discussion around the relevance of the inquiry has been publicly held.

I'm concerned that under amalgamation costs for ratepayers and the community will increase, while service types and levels will change as council's attempt to align their services with each other.

In addition the ratio of council member to rate payer will be significantly reduced in a merged model which will result in a drastic lowering of representation of community needs.

It is so far unclear as to how many elected representatives will exist under a super-council, and how they will be elected. I'm worried that local residents will lose access to their local representatives who will be overseeing a much larger number of residents. I'm also concerned that these local Councillor positions will be taken over by career politicians with vested interest in their own career progression, rather than those living and working in the local community whose vested interest is for the wellbeing of their community.

I am very concerned that the Fit for the Future process is being rushed and is deeply flawed. Marrickville residents need 'Local' Government - we already have two levels of big government.

In addition I find it insulting that major changes are made to the manner in which our local community is serviced and ran without any transparent or clear documentation provided as to the final form of implementation. There has been no publication of the final form that a super council will take. This makes it very hard to consider this initiative as anything other than a political power play to simplify planning laws by re-aligning councils with the agenda of state planning bodies.