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Submission: Dear Sirs

We are the Shea family who have lived in Belfield since 1918 when our grandfather migrated from England. Tonight we were informed of the proposed Bankstown Council boundary change. This was the first we had heard of this – there has been no other communication – we were informed by a fellow resident door knocking to make people aware that today is the last day to object to the proposal. This is most unacceptable and undemocratic and is big business pushing people around. We have lived in our family home in [REDACTED] since 1918 firstly under Enfield Council which then merged with Strathfield Council. We are totally satisfied with the services which have been provided to us by Strathfield Council over the past decades. Our rates are amongst the lowest in Sydney and in comparison to other Councils in our area which is important to us. Strathfield Council area does not have a large component of high density “flats”. However on going into the Bankstown Council area you are confronted by a very high level of high density residential buildings (“Flats”) – our concern would be that this could happen in Belfield and change the ambience and property values. Below are some other points which concern my family:

1. lack of consultation and consideration of the views of affected residents and businesses by Bankstown Council.
2. I am satisfied with Strathfield Council's management of the area and OBJECT to having my property and services transferred to Bankstown Council.
3. I identify with the Strathfield community NOT the Bankstown community.
4. I am concerned this takeover would result in my area becoming part of a large council and my access to councillor representation and my voice in local issues would be reduced.
5. I am concerned this takeover would result in INCREASED COUNCIL RATES because land values of properties in the Strathfield Council area are considerably higher than Bankstown Council. This may also affect property values .
6. I am concerned this takeover would result in a loss or decline in services and the management of the areas assets and infrastructure.
7. I note that Bankstown Council has revenue shortfalls and are proposing significant RATE INCREASES to pay for its own revenue shortfalls debts and asset backlogs.
8. I am concerned for the loss of community facilities, parks and open spaces and declines in standards or services and infrastructure management if taken over by Bankstown Council.

**WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSAL OF THE BANKSTOWN COUNCIL BOUNDARY CHANGE AFFECTING BELFIELD, 2191**