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Submission: The residents of Belfield were not asked, informed or given adequate opportunity to voice our opposition to this land grab. Finding out about it was a matter of luck. We have nothing in common with Bankstown and want nothing to do with Bankstown, and even less now than before. Why would we want to belong to a Council that has no respect for us, as shown by their underhanded attempt to separate us from our community. To Bankstown we are simply land and ratepayers to be grabbed in their attempt to look after themselves: pawns in their attempt to ensure future viability. I like every other resident I have spoken with am horrified by Bankstown's actions. We are not part of Bankstown . We are part of the larger Strathfield community. My family's experience is common for many Belfield residents - my siblings and I have attended preschool in Strathfield, attended schools in Strathfield, played sport and for and been coaches of Strathfield's many sporting teams - soccer, cricket, netball. My parents have been members of the managing committee of the preschools, belonged to the P&C s of the schools we attended, coached & managed many of Strathfield's sporting teams and even played for these teams themselves. We have participated in many of Strathfield's many community days and generously supported Strathfield fundraising activities. We are members of the Strathfield community, like so many of the Belfield residents. We have no connection with Bankstown and would never engage with the Bankstown community as we do with that of Strathfield.

Lack of consultation and consideration of the views of affected residents and businesses by Bankstown Council, I am satisfied with Strathfield Council's management of the area and object to having my property and services transferred to Bankstown Council, I identify with the Strathfield community, not the Bankstown area., 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, 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, I am concerned this takeover would result in a loss or decline in services and the management of the areas assets and infrastructure, 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, I am concerned for the loss of community facilities, parks and open spaces and declines in standards or service and infrastructure management if taken over by Bankstown Council,