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Submission: Bigger councils are not necessarily more efficient. With a population of 58000 Leichhardt council is the 3rd most financially sustainable council in the Sydney metro area.

With regard to the fit for the future indices defined by state government Leichhardt council meets 5 of the 7 indices now and will meet all of the indices by 2018/2019.

Local representation would be greatly reduced by the proposed merger of 6 councils

Leichhardt council already participates in SSROC thereby gaining many of the financial benefits that might apply to the negotiating power of larger councils

Rates may increase substantially if Leichhardt is forced to merge with a less financially viable council.