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Submission: Dear IPART,

I do not wish Leichhardt Council to merge with surrounding councils.

I note that Leichhardt Council has sought independent financial advice and it has shown that the best financial outcome is for it to remain alone.

Local government is the mechanism by which individuals can most easily have contact with government. The effect of merging Leichhardt will dilute the amount of representation individuals have.

Leichhardt has developed its own identity that represents its diverse groups within the local community. It has consistently developed cultural and environmental programs that are well received in our community. A merger would hamper Council's ability to continue these programs.

Regards

Neil Tonkin

