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Your submission for this review:

While I agree with the existing terms of reference, I would suggest that the following be added to strengthen them. Meeting Agendas should be published much earlier to allow both Councillors and the Community time to research the details of Agenda items. Whether Council staff fully understand the requirement to supply open access information, free of charge in a timely manner. Whether Councillors and Staff are suitably qualified to make appropriate decisions within the legislative requirements on matters which have major effects on Councils long-term financial viability. In the interests of transparency, Council workshops should be open to the public or live streamed to allow the public to hear the full discussions regarding financial decisions made by Councillors. Should there be more community consultation regarding major financial decisions to tap into the knowledge and experience of the entire community, to achieve best possible financial outcomes? Are Councillors and staff fully cognisant of the concept of budgeting within their financial means? Have Councils strayed from their core responsibilities of essential infrastructure needs while pandering to the wants of minority groups? Are Councils stealing from committed funds to secure grant funding for less urgent projects to which they must commit a proportion of their own funds? The Government Departments overseeing Councils operations need more powers to ensure that Councils abide by the recommendations of the IPARTs Final Report on the Financial Model for Councils in NSW. Should Councils be allowed to apply for Special Rate Variations without having demonstrated best practice financial management and not just making hollow promises indicating their intentions? Whether staff and Councillors are aware of their obligation to report irresponsible and inappropriate financial management. While I consent to this submission being published, please withhold my name and personal details.