

12 December 2022

The Hon Wendy Tuckerman MP Minister for Local Government NSW Office of Local Government GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister W MM

Inner West Council de-amalgamation Business Case Submission

Council at its Ordinary Council meeting held on 6 December 2022, resolved to submit the Inner West Council de-amalgamation Business Case, in accordance with Section 218CC of the *Local Government Act 1993*, for your consideration.

Council's de-amalgamation business case is submitted on the basis that should a de-amalgamation occur, that it only take place on the following terms:

- That the full costs of the de-amalgamation, being between \$178 million \$190 million, be
  paid in full by the NSW Government, prior to the commencement of the deamalgamation, with no costs to be borne by Inner West ratepayers; and
- That the duly democratically elected representatives of Council remain in office for the duration of this term and the NSW Government does not install an interim unelected administrator.

I note that we have not received assurances from you in response to letters dated 4 March, 30 June and 20 September 2022 in relation to the commitments sought by Council on the above points.

If a de-amalgamation is to occur it is of the upmost importance that our residents are protected and do not incur the substantial costs associated with the de-amalgamation process and that they maintain their democratically elected representatives to ensure their interests are represented throughout this process.

Please find attached the Inner West Council de-amalgamation Business Case Report by Morrison Low and the Inner West Council Demerger Risk Identification Project Summary by Ernst & Young.

Should you wish to discuss this matter please do not hesitate to contact Council's General Manager, Peter Gainsford on 9392 5200.

Your sincerely,

Clr Darcy Byrne Inner West Mayor