

ATTACHMENT A

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**IPART REPORT
KEY CONCLUSIONS**

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IPART Report key conclusions

METROPOLITAN SYDNEY

Despite the NSW Government's media release which stated that almost two-thirds of NSW Councils are not 'fit for the future', of the 36 metropolitan Sydney Councils that did not submit merger proposals:

- 91.7% met the financial criteria overall;
- 91.7% were found to be sustainable;
- 97.2% met the criteria for infrastructure and service management; and
- 94.4% were found to be efficient.

The only reason most were deemed 'unfit' was because they did not support the political view that bigger automatically means better. Tellingly councils that were deemed to be 'big enough' but who failed the financial criteria were described as 'fit'.

Of the City of Sydney, the IPART report said:

"City of Sydney meets the financial criteria overall as a stand-alone council and its current and projected financial performance is strong. It also demonstrated it has the ability to proactively partner with the government to undertake significant infrastructure and urban renewal projects, such as the Green Square development."

"The council satisfies the financial criteria overall. It satisfies the sustainability, infrastructure and service management, and efficiency criteria."

"Other data also suggests City of Sydney is a well-run council with significant scale and capacity. It has pro-actively partnered with governments, undertaken significant CBD-based urban renewal, and approved a large range of development projects to grow the CBD."

"The City of Sydney is unique in that it is Australia's major finance and business centre. There are approximately 1.2m people in the area daily including residents, workers, students and visitors."

"We received 520 submissions in relation to the City of Sydney. This is the largest number of submissions for any council region and approximately a third of all submissions received. All submissions (except 8) opposed a merger of the City of Sydney with any other council."

"The main reasons provided stated the council is performing well; the Global City Council would be too large and would not be able to meet or adequately represent the needs of residents."