

Public Forum Question and Response

Subject: Council Ward Boundaries

Question From: Mr Vincent De Luca

Meeting Date: 13 November 2007

Question: Alteration of Council ward boundaries

a) Is council aware that the previous dismissed Council altered the ward boundaries placing areas like Narraweena and some parts of Beacon Hill into "C" ward, and other areas previously in "A" ward into "B" ward? Will Council pursuant to section 210 (3) and (7) of the *Local Government Act 1993* review this with a view to restoring the wards back to what they were before the dismissed Council changed the boundaries?

b) Is Council aware of a Private Members Statement in the NSW Parliament by the former Member for Manly, Mr David Barr on 9 May 2003 concerning the placement of Warringah's 'B' ward into Manly Council to accord with catchment boundaries and a Petition submitted to the Minister and Department for Local Government supporting this proposal? Will Council consider holding a Poll pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1993* posing the question of "B" ward going into the Manly Council area?

Response:

The Director Strategy and Policy advised that the ward boundaries are reviewed on an annual basis and the last time that this occurred was in September of this year. The State Electoral Commission requires Council to ensure that boundaries do not result in a variation of more than 10% between the number of electors in each ward, and the number of electors in the ward having the least number of electors must not be more than 10% fewer than the number of electors in the ward having the greatest number of electors. At present this figure is 5.6%, which is below the maximum 10% threshold supported by the State Electoral Commission and the Department of Local Government. The Electoral Commission has advised Council that the current boundaries will be used in the September 2008 elections. Council is not considering holding a Poll regarding B ward.