

23 December 2015

Subject: Warringah to spend more on its campaign for one Council

The article (23.12.15) claiming that in some way Warringah Council must spend rate-payers' money to communicate the Government's two northern beaches Councils proposal is simply wrong. Mayor Michael Reagan and his Councillors wish to continue their expensive campaign for one Northern Beaches Council using rate-payers' money. The State Government will pay for mandatory notifications.

Richard Michelle was correct in his letter to the Daily yesterday that all that has been done by Mayor Reagan and Council with its submissions and campaigns is to "trash its neighbours" and use "voodoo economics" to justify why Warringah should take over the northerners beaches.

Warringah has spent over \$360,000 of ratepayers' money to date on its campaign -this includes the \$100k report it commissioned for the Council meeting of 15.12.15 against the two Council proposal. At the meeting on 21.12.15 Mayor Reagan moved for a further \$100k "to facilitate Warringah Council's participation in the consideration of the merger proposals".

I moved several times over the last 5 years that a referendum be held to properly consult the people. Mayor Reagan and his Councillors defeated this saying it would cost over \$100k and this was excessive!

Well, Mayor Reagan's motion means more advertising and mail outs resulting in rate-payers being slugged nearly half a million dollars. This is not right and why I moved for the Auditor General to investigate such excessive use of rate-payers money.

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