

I refer to the article (Manly Daily 21.1.17) that Michael Regan has "launched" yet another registered political party.

Many residents have always been in the dark that Mr Regan has always been a member of a Registered political party. Originally elected as a "Wake Up Warringah" registered party representative in 2008, his Party's name was changed for the 2011 election to "Your Warringah".

Throughout my many years on Warringah Council I have never been a member of a Registered major Political party and indeed in the last term was the only Councillor not a member of a political party.

Local Government needs people with independent minds and voices not bound to party caucus votes and to a leader on a quest for power. A Councillor's only consideration should always be the best interests of the people and community they represent.

During Mr Regan's reign he and his political party colleagues voted in support of increasing height limits in Dee Why (which was overturned by the Land & Environment Court), increasing rates, commercialising surf clubhouses and other buildings and introduced a \$1.7m pa car fleet with him having a Jaguar. These decisions went through on block votes of his party which disappointed those numerous community members and leaders who came before Council speaking in opposition.

The amalgamation has already seen certain suburbs of the northern beaches marginalised, having political parties dominating the Northern Beaches Council will see further marginalisation of grass roots democracy.

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