

**Report to General Manager**

Attachments:

1. OLG Letter dated 1 November 2019
2. Proposed North/South Ward Boundary (as exhibited)
3. NSWEC Letter dated 9 December 2019
4. OLG Email Advice dated 6 January 2020
5. Summary of Submissions Received During Public Exhibition Period

**SUBJECT:** Ward Boundaries – Update and Post Exhibition**AUTHOR:** Ian Curry, Manager Governance and Committee Services**ENDORSED BY:** Margaret Palmer, Director Corporate Services**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

After submitting the proposed Ward boundaries for the 2020 election to the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC), Council was advised by the Office of Local Government (OLG) on 1 November 2019 (Attachment 1) that it needs to take immediate steps to review its Ward structure.

At its meeting on 18 November 2019, Council considered an amended proposal for the Ward boundaries and resolved:

1. *THAT Council note the advice from the Office of Local Government regarding the number of civic offices to be elected at the 2020 elections and the need to alter the Ward structure.*
2. *THAT Council endorse the revised two (2) Ward boundary proposal attached to this report.*
3. *THAT the proposed two (2) Ward structure be placed on public exhibition in accordance with s210(A) of the Local Government Act.*
4. *THAT a further report be provided to Council to consider any submissions received.*

A further resolution was made:

1. *THAT Council name the proposed two new Wards St Leonards (North) and Cammeraygal (South).*
2. *THAT Council specifically seek community feedback through the exhibition period on the naming of the Wards.*

The proposal endorsed by Council (Attachment 2) was placed on public exhibition from 27 November 2019 until 8 January 2020. A total of 174 submissions were received. The majority of submissions support the North/South ward boundary proposal. In accordance with the above resolution, a summary of the submissions received is attached.

Council must now adopt a final Ward boundary structure consistent with the requirement of the *Local Government Act 1993* prior to the 31 January 2020 deadline to enable the NSWEC to calculate and announce election expenditure caps in accordance with the *Electoral Act 2017*.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

As previously reported, Council has received a cost estimate from NSWEC of \$491,557 (excluding GST) to conduct the 2020 Council elections. This quotation was provided prior to the advice regarding the number of Councillors to be elected and is subject to change should extra costs be incurred, such as the preparation of new electoral rolls.

In consultation with NSWEC, Council staff will attempt to minimise the actual cost as more detailed planning takes place and bookings for polling places are finalised.

Costs will also be incurred in completing a review of governance policies in preparation for the 2020-2024 term. The *Local Government Act 1993* requires a range of policies and structures to be reviewed and presented to the new Council for their consideration following the election. An additional temporary senior governance resource will be sourced to assist with the preparation and election process.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1. THAT** Council adopt the North/South two (2) Ward boundary proposal as exhibited and attached to this report.
  - 2. THAT** Council confirm that the proposed two new Wards be named St Leonards (North) and Cammeraygal (South).
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## LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

Direction: 5. Our Civic Leadership

Outcome: 5.3 Community is informed and consulted

## BACKGROUND

At the 2012 Council elections, the following question was asked:

*Currently North Sydney Council has four wards and 12 Councillors (three per ward), plus the popularly elected mayor, elected for a four year term. Do you favour a reduction in the number of wards from four to three and the number of councilors from 13 to 10, inclusive of the popularly-elected mayor?*

The 2012 Constitutional Referendum was passed 69.99% in favour to 30.01% against and the changes took effect from the 2017 election.

The following question was asked at the 2017 Council elections:

*Do you favour election of the Mayor by Councillors for a term of two years?*

The 2017 Constitutional Referendum was passed 52.43% in favour to 47.57% against and the changes will take effect from the 2020 election.

Council resolved on 25 February 2019 to engage the NSWEC to conduct the 2020 North Sydney Council elections. The agreement was signed by both parties prior to Christmas 2019.

At its meeting on 23 September 2019, Council considered a report submitted to the Governance and Finance Committee regarding the Ward Boundaries and resolved:

- 1. THAT Option 1 be selected as Council's preferred option for the revised North Sydney Council Ward boundaries.*
- 2. THAT the NSW Electoral Commission be advised of Council's resolution.*
- 3. THAT a further report be submitted to Council following public advertising of the approved option.*

The adopted Option 1 made minor boundary alterations to the current three ward structure to ensure the number of electors in each remained within quota.

After submitting the proposed boundaries to the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC), Council was advised that, due to the impact of the result of the 2017 referendum regarding the election of the Mayor by Councillors, Council will continue to have ten (10) civic offices or Councillor positions (including the Mayor) at the next election and not nine (9) as previously thought. As there must be an equal number of Councillors in each ward and the Mayor is no longer to be elected by all the electors of the Local Government Area, it is necessary to alter the number of wards.

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At its meeting on 18 November 2019, Council made two separate resolutions regarding this matter:

1. *THAT Council note the advice from the Office of Local Government regarding the number of civic offices to be elected at the 2020 elections and the need to alter the Ward structure.*
2. *THAT Council endorse the revised two (2) Ward boundary proposal attached to this report.*
3. *THAT the proposed two (2) Ward structure be placed on public exhibition in accordance with s210(A) of the Local Government Act.*
4. *THAT a further report be provided to Council to consider any submissions received.*

A further resolution was made:

1. *THAT Council name the proposed two new Wards St Leonards (North) and Cammeraygal (South).*
2. *THAT Council specifically seek community feedback through the exhibition period on the naming of the Wards.*

## **CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS**

Community engagement was undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol. The endorsed proposal was placed on public exhibition from 27 November 2019 until 8 January 2020. A total of 174 submissions were received.

Should Council seek to adopt an alternate Ward structure it will be necessary to:

1. Consult with NSWEC in accordance with LGA s.210; and
2. Exhibit the alternate structure for a period of 28 days and consider submissions after 42 days (LGA s.210A).

The NSWEC has previously advised it has a hard deadline of 31 January 2020 in order to comply with the *Electoral Act 2017* and finalisation of the Ward structure must occur prior to this date.

## **SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT**

The sustainability implications are of a minor nature and did not warrant a detailed assessment.

## **DETAIL**

Following the Council resolution on 23 September 2019, the Ward boundary proposal was submitted to NSWEC for concurrence of the Electoral Commissioner. While the proposal was initially accepted, the NSWEC subsequently advised the General Manager that they had asked the Office of Local Government (OLG) for clarification regarding Council's number of civic offices (i.e. Councillors) as a result of the successful 2017 referendum question regarding the election of the Mayor by Councillors rather than by a popular vote.

The advice received from the OLG, subsequently confirmed by Senior Counsel, was that the 2017 referendum result means that Council has retained the pre-existing 10 civic offices with

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the Mayor now to be elected from among that number. In order for Council to comply with the requirement under section 280(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* which requires the same number of Councillors to be elected for each Ward, the number of Wards had to be amended. As Council had previously resolved to reduce the number of wards, changing back to a five-ward structure was considered a retrograde step. Additionally, the limited time available and complexity of a five-ward structure over the densely populated area of only 10.5km<sup>2</sup> gives rise to practical limitations in complying with electoral requirements and quotas.

Two (2) options for a two-Ward boundary proposal - a “North/South” option and an “East/West” option - were therefore prepared and presented to Councillors. The North/South option is considered to be the preferred option as it results in less variation in numbers between Wards than the East/West option (5.38% compared with 8.1%) and allows for expected future population growth in the northern sector of the LGA.

Although Council was required to have finalised its Ward boundaries by 9 December 2019, under the circumstances the NSWEC agreed to extend this period until 31 January 2020. In order to minimise any further possible delays, the preferred North/South option was sent to the NSW Electoral Commission for comment.

### **NSWEC and OLG Advice – Legislative Requirements**

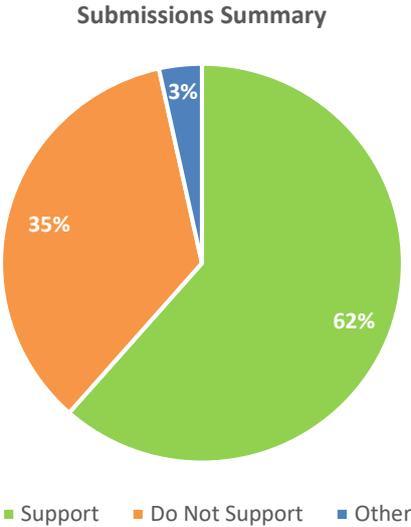
The NSW Electoral Commissioner has written to Council to formally advise that the North/South Ward boundary proposal complies with the sections of the *Local Government Act 1993* (sections 210 and 210A), relating to consultation and ensuring equity of numbers between Wards. A copy of the Commissioner’s letter is attached (Attachment 3).

Contact was also made with OLG to determine their views on the impact should Council wish to significantly vary the current exhibited Ward structure when it meets on 20 January 2020, e.g. if it were to resolve to swap to a two-Ward East/West structure or a five-Ward 2 Councillor per ward structure. The response from OLG states that Council would need to restart the consultation, public notice and exhibition processes required under section 210A of the *Local Government Act 1993* in relation to the proposed new structure, which would adversely impact on preparations for the Council’s election this year. OLG has strongly encouraged Council to finalise its Ward boundaries as soon as practicable. A copy of the OLG advice is attached (Attachment 4).

### **Summary of Submissions**

During the exhibition period 174 submissions were received, comprising 149 online submissions and 25 written submissions; with majority support for the exhibited proposal as demonstrated in the following graph.

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**i. Public Exhibition**

In accordance with the resolution of 18 November 2019, the proposed ward boundary changes were public exhibited and submissions invited. The exhibition period ran from 27 November 2019 to 8 January 2020 (42 days). Efforts were made to generate wide-spread awareness of the opportunity to have a say during the engagement period including the following means:

- E-newsletters including Council E-news, Precincts E-news and Business E-news;
- Corporate advert in the Mosman Daily – 28 November and 5 December 2019; and
- Memorandum to all Precinct Committees.

The project specific webpage (on Your Say North Sydney) allowed the community to provide feedback online at any time, via the online submission form. During the engagement period there were 369-page views. The following shows the number of document downloads:

Document Name	No. of Downloads
Map - Proposed Ward Boundaries	138
Council Report 18 November 2019	34
OLG Circular 19-24	19

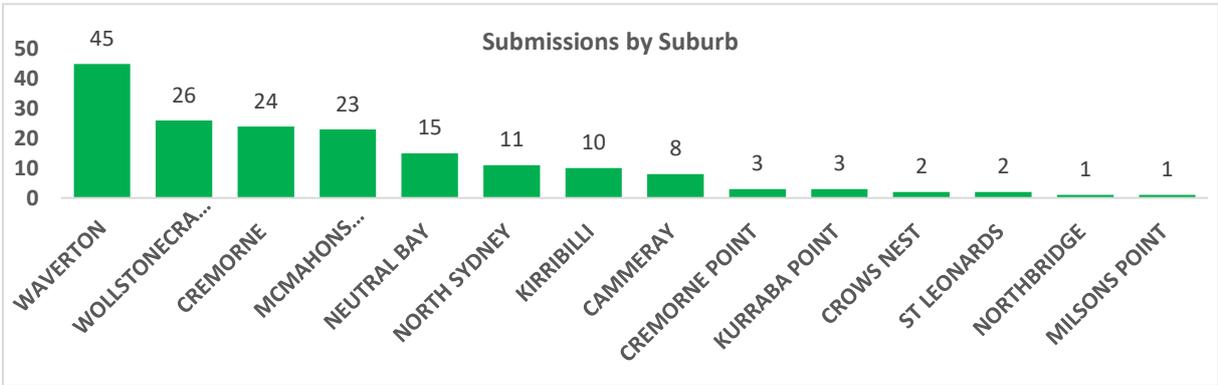
**ii. Submissions Analysis**

All submissions received have been collated, analysed and summarised below. Attachment 5 details submissions and analysis.

In summary:

- 174 submissions were received within the submission period, comprising 149 online submissions and 25 written submissions.
- Majority of submissions (62%) support the exhibited proposal, further detailed below.
- Most submissions were from individual residents. 5 were from Precinct Committees and 1 from the North Sydney Residents Alliance. Note: Group submissions hold no more weight than an individual submission.

- Several submissions had the same content as another. In particular, 19 submissions had the same content as No. 43.
- 9 submissions raised concern at the timing of the consultation and Extraordinary General Meeting i.e. held during the end of year/school holiday period. Some of the submissions however did acknowledge the limitations placed on Council by the legislative requirement to finalise the Ward boundaries.
- 24 submissions expressed disappointment at there being no public forum prior to the Extraordinary Council meeting/requested the ability to speak at the public forum prior to the Extraordinary Council meeting.
- 29 submissions indicated long term preference for 3 Wards/3 Councillor structure inclusive of Mayor.
- Submissions were received from across the North Sydney local government area (as detailed in the following graph), demonstrating wide-spread awareness of the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal.



**Endorsement of Preferred Ward Boundary Option**

The reasons for the North/South option being the preferred over the East/West option are discussed below.

**i. Proposal Meets Legislative Requirements**

The proposed North/South boundary was recommended to the Council following consultation with the NSW Electoral Commission. Under s.210(7) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, there can be no more than 10% variation between Wards.

The NSW Electoral Commission requires Ward boundaries to follow the Statistical Area boundaries set by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The route has been adjusted to allow for these boundaries.

Under the North/South boundary proposal, there would be a variance of 5.38% while under the East/West proposal there would be a variance of 8.1% (see table below). As the majority of growth in the LGA is expected to be in the St Leonards/Crows Nest area in the next few years, the East/West proposal would be redundant by the next election, requiring Council to spend money changing the boundary yet again. Any change to an East/West boundary could not rely on the geographical certainty of the Warringah Freeway and would inevitably lead to more confusion for residents.

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<b>North/South</b>		<b>East/West</b>	
<b>Ward</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>St Leonards</i>	23,404	<i>St Leonards</i>	23,053
<i>Cammeraygal</i>	24,736	<i>Cammeraygal</i>	25,087
<b>Variance</b>	<b>5.38%</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>8.1%</b>

As previously stated, the proposed North/South Ward boundary option has been conditionally approved by the NSWEC, subject to the exhibition process.

### **ii. North /South Boundary Maintains Ward Equity**

The proposed North/South boundary places the North Sydney CBD and St Leonards CBD in separate wards. This separation of the CBDs ensures that one ward cannot become more powerful than the other because it represents influential business interests. There are no advantages for one group of Councillors to represent both CBDs – both are unique and their needs quite different. The proposed boundary gives both wards a CBD and village centres.

### **iii. A North/South Boundary Breaks Down Social Barriers**

Over the years there has been ongoing debate in the community about the allocation of resources, including open space, on either side of the Warringah Freeway. A North/South boundary ensures both Wards represent areas on either side of the Freeway and may assist to align electoral interest with Councillors' obligation to represent the municipality as a whole.

### **Ward Names**

As previously noted, at its meeting on 18 November 2019, Council unanimously voted to call the new Wards **St Leonards** and **Cammeraygal**. The proposed names acknowledge our history and the traditional owners of the land. Each small acknowledgement plays a part in bringing reconciliation and a greater understanding of Aboriginal history and culture.

The public exhibition period also sought feedback on the proposed Ward names. 43% of the submissions provided feedback regarding the names, with the majority of responses supporting the proposed names.

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## Office of Local Government

5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541  
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

Our Reference: A678106  
Your Reference:  
Contact: Doug Friend  
Phone: 02 4428 4201

Mr Kenneth Gouldthorp  
General Manager  
North Sydney Council  
PO Box 12  
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059

By email: [Ken.Gouldthorp@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ken.Gouldthorp@northsydney.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Gouldthorp

I am writing in relation to correspondence between North Sydney Council and the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) about the need for the Council to review its ward structure to ensure compliance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

The Office of Local Government (OLG) understands that there have been two constitutional referenda that have made changes to the Council's constitution in recent years.

The first, held in 2012, approved a proposal for a reduction in the number of wards from 4 to 3 and a reduction in the number of councillors from 13 to 10 *"inclusive of the popularly elected mayor"*.

At the 2017 election, a second constitutional referendum was held at which the following question was put: *"Do you favour election of the Mayor by councillors for a term of two years?"*. The proposal to change the method of election for the mayor was approved by the community.

Section 224(3) of the Act provides that a council cannot change the number of councillors without obtaining approval for the change at a constitutional referendum.

Unlike the 2012 referendum, the community was not asked at the 2017 referendum to approve a reduction in the number of councillors. Given the question asked, the effect of the approval of the 2017 referendum was simply to change the method of election for the mayor. Because the community was not asked to approve a reduction in councillor numbers, the referendum outcome cannot be construed as having this consequence.

Nor can the outcome of the 2017 referendum be construed as having the consequence of reducing councillor numbers by implication as has been suggested. The mayor of a council is, for the purposes of the Act, also a councillor of that council. In particular:

- the dictionary to the Act defines "councillor" as *"a person elected or appointed to civic office and includes a mayor"*, and
- section 224(1) provides that the mayor is included in determining the number of councillors.



Because a popularly elected mayor also holds civic office as a councillor for the purposes of the Act, approval for the alteration of the method of election for the mayor at a constitutional referendum cannot, on its own, have the effect of automatically removing the civic office occupied by the mayor as a councillor, thereby reducing the total number of councillors in a council. For this to occur, a separate question would need to be put and approved for there to be a corresponding reduction in councillor numbers.

Absent such a question being put and approved at the 2017 referendum, as of the 2020 election, the Council continues to have 10 councillors, with the office of mayor to be elected by councillors from among that number.

If the Council wishes to reduce councillor numbers from 10 to 9, then a separate question will need to be put at a constitutional referendum to that effect. If approved, the reduction in councillor numbers will take effect at the next ordinary council election. Given the logistics involved, it is difficult to see how this could occur prior to the September 2020 election.

Absent approval at a further referendum to reduce councillor numbers, the Council now needs to take immediate steps to review its ward structure ahead of the September 2020 election to ensure that it complies with section 280(2) of the Act. This requires the same number of councillors to be elected for each ward. Given that the Council now has 10 councillors and no longer has a popularly elected mayor, the only way this can be done is by altering the number of wards. This can be done without the need for approval at a constitutional referendum by following the process prescribed in section 210A of the Act.

OLG has recently provided guidance on the process for reviewing and determining ward boundaries in [Circular 19-24 - Ward boundary and name changes](#). As noted in the circular, councils must review their ward boundaries and notify the NSWEC of any finalised changes to ward boundaries and/or names before **9 December 2019**. It is therefore important that the Council takes immediate action to address this issue.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated. I would ask that you advise me with 14 days of the date of this letter of the steps the Council is proposing to take to ensure compliance with section 280(2) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



**Tim Hurst**  
**Deputy Secretary,**  
**Local Government, Planning and Policy**

1/1/19

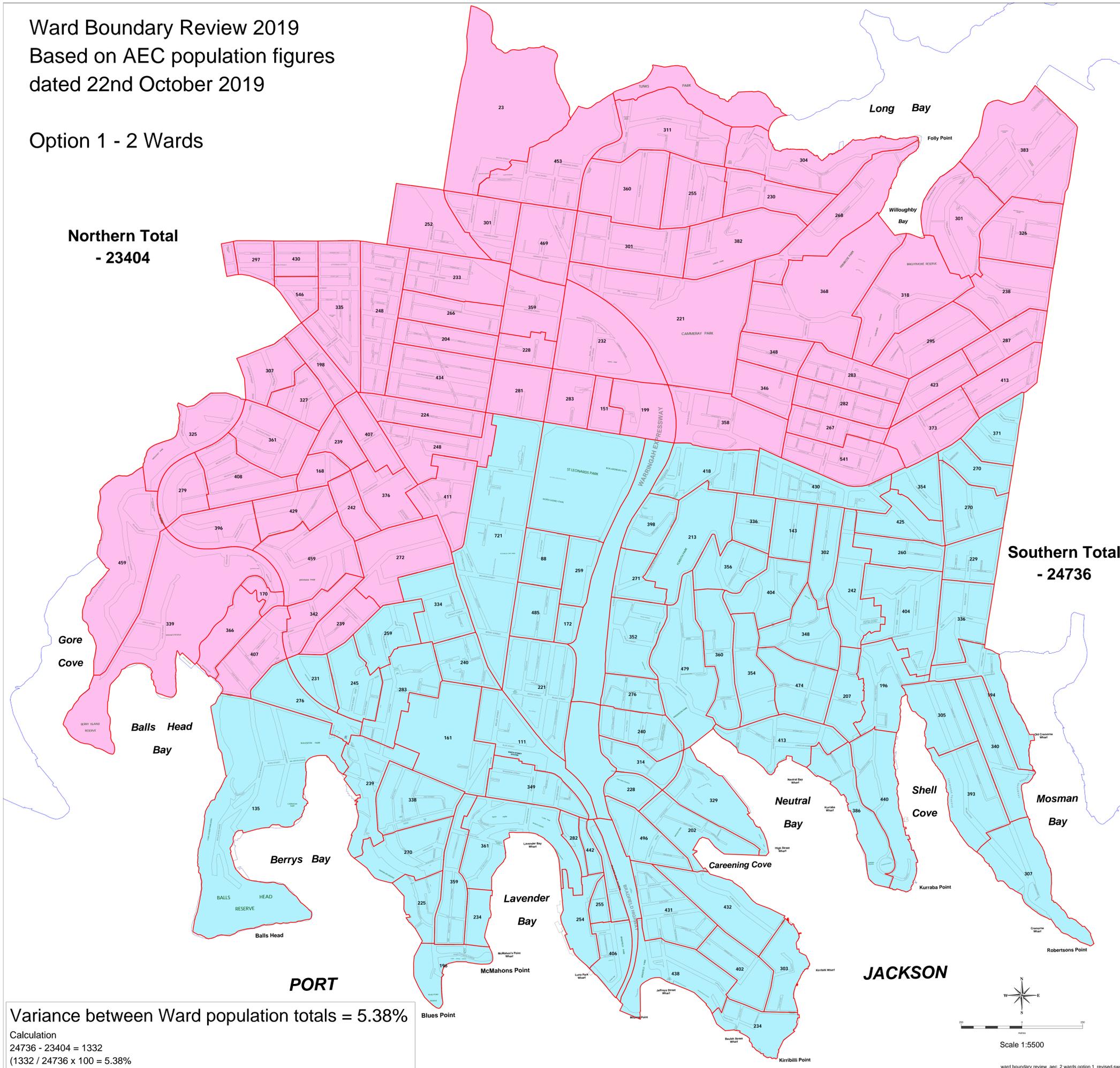
cc Steve Robb, Director Customer Service & Relationship Management, NSW Electoral Commission, email: [Steve.Robb@elections.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Steve.Robb@elections.nsw.gov.au)

Ward Boundary Review 2019  
Based on AEC population figures  
dated 22nd October 2019

Option 1 - 2 Wards

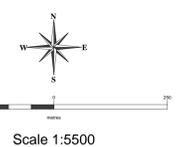
Northern Total  
- 23404

Southern Total  
- 24736



Variance between Ward population totals = 5.38%

Calculation  
 $24736 - 23404 = 1332$   
 $(1332 / 24736 \times 100 = 5.38\%)$





9 December 2019

Mr Ian Curry  
Manager Governance & Committee Services  
North Sydney Council  
PO Box 12  
North Sydney NSW 2059

Dear Mr Curry,

**Review of Council Ward Boundaries  
Section 210A Local Government Act 1993**

Thank you for your letter advising that North Sydney Council has commenced a review of its internal ward boundaries.

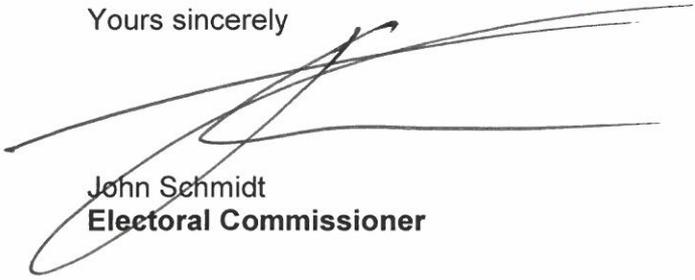
I note that pursuant to section 210A(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act), Council is required to consult with the Electoral Commissioner to ensure that, as far as practicable, the proposed boundaries correspond to the boundaries of appropriate districts (within the meaning of the *Electoral Act 2017*) to ensure that the proposed boundaries comply with section 210(7) of the LG Act.

My office has now considered the proposed ward boundaries and I am advised that they are consistent with the above requirements.

When Council has settled the new ward boundaries, I would appreciate receiving the completed ward boundary report and maps of the boundaries so that we can plot the boundaries into our geographic information system (GIS). Holding Council's internal ward boundaries within our GIS will streamline the process for advising the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) of any changes. The NSWEC will be able to provide this information to the AEC directly, in accordance with our joint roll arrangements, to support the expeditious transfer of electors to the new wards and the production of rolls.

If you have any queries regarding this request please telephone Ms Bronwyn Butland at the New South Wales Electoral Commission on 9290 5928.

Yours sincerely



John Schmidt  
Electoral Commissioner

Sensitive: NSW Government

**From:** [OLG Office of Local Government Mailbox](#)  
**To:** [Ian Curry](#)  
**Subject:** Correspondence from the Office of Local Government (Our reference: A686470)  
**Date:** Monday, 6 January 2020 11:54:35 AM

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Doc ID: A686470  
Contact: Doug Friend  
Phone: 02 4428 4201

Mr Ian Curry  
Manager Governance & Committee Services  
North Sydney Council  
Email: [Ian.Curry@northsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Curry@northsydney.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Curry

Thank you for your email of 18 December 2019 about proposed changes to North Sydney Council's ward boundaries.

As noted in the Office of Local Government's (OLG) circular [19-24 - Ward boundary and name changes](#), the closing date for councils to notify the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) of final ward boundary changes for the next ordinary elections was **9 December 2019**. This is to minimise disruption to preparations for councils' elections in September 2020 by last minute ward boundary changes.

If the Council were to propose a different ward structure to the one that is currently on public exhibition, it would need to restart the consultation, public notice and exhibition processes required under section 210A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) in relation to the proposed new structure. Given the timeframes involved in this, it is difficult to see how this could not adversely impact on preparations for the Council's election next year.

Bearing this in mind and the fact that its current ward boundaries do not comply with the requirements of the Act, OLG would strongly encourage the Council to finalise its ward boundaries as soon as practicable.

You may also wish to seek the views of the NSWEC in relation to this matter.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**John Davies**  
Manager Council Governance

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### Attachment 5. Summary of Submissions Received by 8 January 2020

During the exhibition period 174 submissions were received by the deadline, comprising 149 online submissions 25 written submissions, with majority support for the exhibited proposal. The following table showing the criteria used to analyse the submissions:

Position	Category	No. per Category	Total
For	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming	63	107 (62%)
	Support North/South Wards	41	
	Support North/South Wards - with referendum at next election to revert to 3 Wards/3 Councillors.	1	
	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming. Would like Kurraba Point to be located in Cammeraygal Ward	1	
	Support North/South Wards - object to St Leonards Ward name, no objection to Cammeraygal Ward name	1	
Against	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor	28	61 (35%)
	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide	22	
	Do not support North/South Wards	6	
	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer 5 wards/2 councillors	2	
	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer retaining Wollstonecraft and Tunks Ward, dividing Tunks Ward	1	
	Do not support North/South Wards - object to Cammeraygal name, prefer Mack	1	
	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer leave as is	1	
Neutral/Other	Other - No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to councillor/ward numbers.	5	6 (3%)
	Other - No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to Ward names only.	1	
<b>Total</b>			<b>174</b>

No.	Submission	Category
1	North South divide sounds fine. Probably better than East West as slightly less of a division into high rise/CBD versus residential than an East West would have been.	Support North/South Wards
2	It is essential that we move to 5 wards with 2 representatives as Councillors from each ward rather than reduce the number of existing wards. Reducing the number of wards to two greatly compromises the interests particularly so for the residential inhabitants. Five expertly identified wards enables the boundaries to capture residential, the education and commercial areas and manage and resolve each of their specific interests. This allows councillors to focus entirely on the wards problems at hand rather than stalling at the earliest stage of discussion due to the opposing nature of constituents, students and workers perspective.	No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to Councillor/ward numbers.
3	10 Councillors mean that 6-4 is needed for a majority. With 9 in three wards 5-4 is needed. Furthermore, better representation is achieved with three wards with three councillors, one of whom is elected as mayor. We see little of councillors now and two wards of 5 councillors will make them even more remote and uncontactable	No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to councillor/ward numbers.
4	Do not reduce the wards to two leave as is now	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer leave as is
5	I oppose making two large wards of the NS LGA. The area requiring attention/servicing by councillors will be too great for efficiency, and that is good neither for councillors nor rate-payers. However, I agree making the mayor elected by councillors - that is the basis of better governance. Accordingly, the logical rearrangement of boundaries should be matched, and consideration should be given to restitution of three councillors each to four wards.	No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to councillor/ward numbers.
6	I support the proposed ward boundary changes, as described and voted upon at the last council meeting; a northern ward named St Leonards, and southern one named Cammeraygal.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
7	I am opposed to the currently exhibited proposal for the new Ward boundaries, which will divide the North Sydney LGA along lines which are arbitrary and confusing, disconnect the two CBD's (North Sydney and Crows Nest/St Leonards) and would result in precinct boundaries which divide streets and neighbourhoods in ways which appear to have no sensible rationale. This is especially the case when there is a much more natural division which could be made using the Warringah Freeway, as a natural dividing line, which would minimise the risk of any confusion amongst residents as to which Ward they are in and would allow the precincts to reflect real neighbourhoods as they appear in the community, rather than merely on an artificially drawn map. Further, the absence of any apparent rationale for the convoluted scheme proposed, and the existence of an obvious and sensible alternative, give rise to legitimate concern that the division is being proposed to favour the political interests of some members of Council over others, in a de facto gerrymander.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
8	I support the proposed boundary changes as passed at Council's meeting on 18 November 2019 i.e. a northern ward named St Leonards and a southern ward named Cammeraygal	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
9	I support the new ward structure as voted on by Council, a northern ward named St Leonards and a Southern Ward named Cammeraygal	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
10	Submission content same as No. 9.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
11	I support the proposed ward boundaries as they will be the fairest way to ensure appropriate representation for the residents of North Sydney.	Support North/South Wards
12	I fully support the proposed boundaries as they will give fair and equitable representation for the residents of North Sydney.	Support North/South Wards
13	I support the proposed changes to ward boundaries.	Support North/South Wards
14	<p>1. Waverton Precinct strongly opposes the currently exhibited Proposal.2. We recognise that as a result of the referendum question from the 2017 NSC elections that the legal advice is that Council cannot continue with 3 Wards each with 3 representatives, at the 2020 elections. This is because 10 Councillors must be elected AND the Wards must have the same number of representatives. The choice therefore appears to be to create 2 Wards of 5 Councillors; or 5 Wards of 2 Councillors; to replace the current situation of 3 Wards with 3 Councillors plus a Mayor.3. The Proposal was discussed at length at our December Precinct meeting on Tuesday evening this week and I am writing in accordance with the relevant motions passed at that meeting. 4. While we do not have a firm view about the choice outlined above to accommodate the need for 10 Councillors to be elected in 2020, we note the second-mentioned option seems to have been discarded with almost no consideration or discussion and we are unclear what are seen to be the respective merits or demerits of one option versus the other.5. Therefore, we do not actually prefer one of these options over the other as we have little idea of the relative strengths of either: but for the sake of staying focussed on the current situation we therefore will comment mainly on the implications of different 2 Ward alternatives.6. Waverton Precinct would like to formally note that we actually prefer a long term result to be 3 Wards of 3 Councillors from among whom the Mayor is selected. It should therefore surprise no one if we advocate for that option to be introduced after the 2020 Council election has taken place. We will advocate no more about that particular issue in this submission, but simply "mark the spot" for later.7. However, while the merits of the 2 Ward choice over the 5 Ward choice are not clear, what is clear is that the currently exhibited discussion option is, put simply, to create a North Ward and a South Ward.8. We strongly object to that split - and believe a much more natural split instead lies through the creation of a West Ward and an East Ward using the Warringah Expressway as the divide. This approach reflects the actual suburb boundaries better and coincidentally reflects the existing Precinct boundaries better as well.9. Even more fundamentally, it is also the way</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 councillors inclusive of Mayor

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>residents think about where in the LGA they reside and there will be no confusion about who lives in which Ward. It already is the simple, convenient, natural dividing line - so why not follow it? The alternate is a convoluted and not 'natural' divide and does not reflect how residents orient or identify themselves.10. At least as important as the above observation is the reality of what issues affect which parts of the municipality. Almost never is that a north/ south split and most often it is an east / west split. And, sometimes, everyone is involved and concerned and all areas are affected - the most recent example being the Rates increase earlier this year. However, the fundamental difficult issues like the high rise residential explosion, the new railway line implications, the de-industrialisation of harbourside areas and the arguments over what happens with those areas, and the upcoming Western Harbour Link freeway all dominantly exist on the west side of the Expressway. There is a natural commonality of concern among these suburbs and among their residents, which is rightly not apparent in suburbs like Cremorne or Neutral Bay (or, further along, Mosman). To instead split the Wards North/South seems illogical and counterproductive to dealing with the issues which affect residents in various parts of the Municipality.11. For these reasons we urge the Council to decide on a 2 Ward – East/West split for the moment to at least carry us all through the 2020 elections.</p>	
15	<p>I support eastern and western wards with a north/south boundary following the freeway, as proposed by Councillor Baker. The wards to be named Victoria and Wollstonecraft. I would propose 5 wards each with 2 councillors, which would allow the councillors to live closer to the residents they represent. I would also propose that North Sydney moves to 3 or 4 wards each with 4 or 3 councillors as soon as feasible.</p>	<p>Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 councillors inclusive of Mayor</p>
16	<p>Prefer the 5-ward, 2 Councillor</p>	<p>No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to councillor/ward numbers.</p>
17	<p>While I understand the need for this change, Council should ensure that at the next election, there are sufficient councillors to allow a return to at least 3 wards as representation over such a large area I suspect will prove difficult.</p>	<p>No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to councillor/ward numbers.</p>
18	<p>I support the proposed Ward boundary changes. Having a north ward and south ward makes sense. I support the wards being called St Leonards and Cammeraygal</p>	<p>Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.</p>
19	<p>I support the proposed new two ward structure as voted on at council's November meeting. I like the proposed new ward names St Leonards for the north ward and Cammeraygal for the South Ward. I note that the councillors voted for these names unanimously</p>	<p>Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.</p>
20	<p>I support the proposed boundary changes. It makes sense to have only two wards in a small municipality. I like the proposed names. St Leonards for the North Ward and Cammeraygal for the South Ward.</p>	<p>Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.</p>

No.	Submission	Category
21	I support the proposed ward boundary changes. It's sensible in a small municipality to have two equal sized wards. The proposed changes mean that each ward gets residential areas and commercial areas....that balance is important. Using Military Rd as a borderline makes sense. I would like Kurraba Pt to be located in Cammeraygal Ward. The name promotes reconciliation.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming. Would like Kurraba Point to be located in Cammeraygal Ward
22	I fully support the proposed ward boundary changes as well as the new names.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
23	I support the proposed changes.	Support North/South Wards
24	I agree to the proposed changes.	Support North/South Wards
25	I agree to this proposal.	Support North/South Wards
26	Submission content same as No. 25.	Support North/South Wards
27	The proposed boundaries look they will give a fair representation for the residents of the NSC. The names look fine.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
28	This proposal has been submitted at a time when very few Precincts are able to consider it fully. One could say that the proposal has been submitted deliberately to coincide with the start of the long summer break and precincts are not meeting again until February 2020. We would request therefore that a delay is permitted which would allow due consideration of this proposal by interested residents. As Council would undoubtedly be aware, many residents will be away on 20 January when the Council is suggesting a public consultation. However, the option of the "Warringah Freeway" as the dividing line between Wards seems to be more logical at first glance, compared to the proposed option which will divide existing communities and would disrupt precinct boundaries.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
29	Support the proposed 2 Wards	Support North/South Wards

No.	Submission	Category
30	I strongly support the proposed ward boundary changes. The North Sydney municipality is only 10 sq. kilometres and doesn't need wards at all. The City of Sydney doesn't have wards and is a highly functional Council. Two wards is an improvement on three. I like the proposed new names St Leonards and Cammeraygal. New ward structure new names please! The North / South proposal will divide the population reasonably evenly...this is good as it prevents future ward boundary adjustments. I like the idea that both of the new wards will include both a commercial and a residential component. Having fewer wards helps ensure that Councillors are focussing on the entire LGA rather than just the patch they reside in.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
31	I strongly support the concept of a 2 Ward Structure i.e. a Northern Ward and a Southern Ward.	Support North/South Wards
32	I strongly support the council area to be divided into 2 Wards i.e. a Northern Ward and a Southern Ward	Support North/South Wards
33	I support the 2 Ward Structure i.e. Northern and Southern Ward	Support North/South Wards
34	Submission content same as No. 33.	Support North/South Wards
35	I have been a ratepayer of North Sydney since 1990 and am very strongly against the proposed reduction of the number of wards as outlined. I cannot better my reasons than those put by the 3 Councillors representing me (refer to Position Paper, Ward Boundaries Review, by Councillors Baker, Beregi and Carr).	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
36	The Warringah Freeway should provide the boundary of the two Wards. Wollstonecraft Ward and Victoria Ward have issues unique to each, the boundary is clear and the names are appropriate. The original proposal would see residential concerns swamped by CBDs and would not appropriately represent the existing precincts.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
37	I would prefer to see the Warringah Freeway providing the boundary of the two Wards. Wollstonecraft Ward and Victoria Ward each have distinctive issues, the freeway makes a clear boundary and the names are appropriate. The present proposal would see the CBDs in each ward overriding residential concerns and would not appropriately represent the existing precincts.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
38	I support the Ward Boundary proposal because of the even distribution of the population numbers and the future growth of the residential population in the northern section of the local government area. I strongly support the renaming of the southern ward to Cammeraygal in recognition of the traditional owners of these lands.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
39	I support Council's proposed ward Boundaries as currently exhibited with no change. I have reviewed the new Ward boundaries and the Position paper prepared by Councillors Baker, Beregi and Carr and support the proposed Boundary as currently exhibited by Council. The objections do not align with the future population growth and I do not believe the proposal will impact the North Sydney CBD and St Leonards precincts. Council's current strategic directions already ensure that we have a local Government area that supports commercial and retail growth while at the same time reinforcing our local Villages.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
40	I support the proposed Ward boundary alignments as exhibited by North Sydney Council. The alternative proposal as presented by Councillors Carr, Beregi and Baker do not align with improving and simplifying the local government zones based on population as St Leonards will increase in the future. I also support the use of the name Cammeraygal for the southern ward.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
41	I support the decision made by Council on November 18. The proposal for a Northern Ward and a Southern allows for extra growth in the St Leonards region. This means that further ward boundary realignments will not be necessary any time soon. A Northern Ward and a Southern Ward also means that both wards have a commercial centre as well as residential precincts.	Support North/South Wards
42	I strongly support the proposed new ward boundary changes. A Northern Ward and a Southern Ward ensures the population in both wards is reasonably even. This will mean that future ward boundary adjustments will be avoided any time soon. I think a totally different ward structure should mean new ward names are chosen. I support naming the new Northern Ward St Leonards and the new Southern Ward Cammeraygal.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
43	I strongly oppose the currently exhibited Proposal. My reasons are set out below: 1. It is recognised that legal advice is that Council cannot proceed with 3 Wards each with 3 representatives, at the 2020 elections. This is because 10 Councillors must be elected AND the Wards must have the same number of representatives. The choice therefore appears to be to create 2 Wards of 5 Councillors or 5 Wards of 2 Councillors; to replace the current situation of 3 Wards with 3 Councillors plus a popularly elected Mayor. However, the second-mentioned option for 5 Wards of 2 Councillors seems to have been discarded with almost no consideration or discussion on the respective merits or demerits of one option versus the other. Disregarding for the moment, the relative merits of each of these two options, I support the position of Waverton Precinct's preference for a long term outcome to be 3 Wards of 3 Councillors from among whom the Mayor is selected. I also support their advocacy for that option to be introduced after the 2020 Council election has taken place. 2. Likewise, the relative merits/demerits of the North South option versus the alternative East West split along the	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>Warringah Freeway have not been clearly enumerated. It is only very recently after a discussion paper prepared by independent Councillors Baker, Beregi and Carr was circulated, that five other Councillors including the mayor have taken up the challenge and issued a written rebuttal by personal letter. Finally, the arguments are in print as they should have been from day one and the community can make its comments.</p> <p>3. It is more than a stretch to claim that Option 1 for the two ward system is a preferred option. At the extraordinary meeting of Council on 18 November (at which the community was denied the right to address council), the casting vote of the mayor was required to decide in favour of Option 1 over Option 2. This was a split vote and it is absolutely right that the community now has a proper say in choosing the boundaries for the two wards.</p> <p>4. I strongly object to that split - and believe a much more natural split instead lies through the creation of a West Ward and an East Ward using the Warringah Freeway as the divide. This approach reflects the actual suburb boundaries better and coincidentally reflects the existing Precinct boundaries better as well.</p> <p>5. Even more fundamentally, it is also the way residents think about where in the LGA they reside and there will be no confusion about who lives in which Ward. It already is the simple, convenient, natural dividing line - so why not follow it. The alternate is a convoluted and not 'natural' divide and does not reflect how residents orient or identify themselves. The only advantage if at all, is that the population variation for the East West option is marginally more than it is for the North/South option. Given that at almost every election, boundaries are changed to maintain the imbalance within +/- 10%, any such advantage is immaterial.</p> <p>6. At least as important as the above observation is the reality of what issues affect which parts of the municipality. Almost never is that a North South split and most often it is an East West split. And, sometimes, everyone is involved and concerned, and all areas are affected - the most recent example being the Rates increase earlier this year. However, the fundamental difficult issues like the high rise residential explosion, the new railway line implications, the de-industrialisation of harbourside areas and the arguments over what happens with those areas, and the upcoming Western Harbour Link freeway all dominantly exist on the west side of the Expressway. There is a natural commonality of concern among these suburbs and among their residents, which is rightly not apparent in suburbs like Cremorne or Neutral Bay (or, further along, Mosman). To split the Wards North/South seems illogical and counterproductive to dealing with the issues which affect residents in various parts of the Municipality.</p> <p>For these reasons I urge the Council to decide on a 2 Ward – East West split for the moment at least to carry us all through the 2020 elections.</p> <p>I also urge the Mayor to change the current agenda to allow the public to address the extraordinary meeting of Council scheduled for 20 January and to change the commencement time of the meeting to the usual time of 7:00 pm. In support of the argument for a public forum, included on page 3 is a copy of an analysis of the recent history of Council meetings</p>	

No.	Submission	Category
	that show Council has not adopted a policy in relation to public forums but has allowed a practice of disallowing public forums at extraordinary meetings.	
44	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
45	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
46	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
47	The proposed North South Boundary with almost equal populations seems a reasonable way to divide the North Sydney Council electorate. I support this proposal which seems fair and sustainable.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
48	Submission 1 (03/01 Your Say) - I strongly oppose the proposed division into a North Ward and a South Ward. It is hard to understand why such an illogical division could be supported by half of the Councillors and by the Mayor using her casting vote. It would be much more in the interests of the community if an East -West division with the boundary running along the Warringah Freeway were adopted. Residents on the eastern side of the Freeway have major concerns on matters such as increasing traffic and multi-storey unit developments along Military Road. Those on the western side have similar concerns but relating to entirely different geographic locations on their side of the Freeway. The present proposal is contrary to the best interests of North Sydney residents and it should be withdrawn.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>Submission 2 (07/01 Email) - Dear Mayor and Councillors, I and a number of other Neutral Bay residents are firmly opposed to the proposed division into two wards, one to the north side and the other to the south side of the North Sydney LGA and with the boundary running east and west.</p> <p>We note that this proposal was passed by the narrowest of margins at the recent Council meeting and we hope that it will soon be reversed. We wholeheartedly support the alternative of having the two wards located on either side of the Warringah freeway, with the freeway as boundary. That would preserve the community of interest of residents on each side of the freeway as regards issues such as traffic congestion and new unit developments, which will be destroyed by the current proposal.</p> <p>I invite the Mayor and the three Councillors who supported her at the recent meeting to give us the reasons for their support. I and others have lodged our objections on Council's Your Say website and we intend to write to the NSW Electoral Commission similarly.</p>	
49	<p>I wish to register my opposition to Council's preferred option for revised ward boundaries. Rather than use main roads, the proposed division cuts the Local Government Area (LGA) residential streets and even goes through the middle of the North Sydney Demonstration School playground! The proposed division does not reflect the differing interests or concerns of the Eastern and Western sides of the Warringah Freeway. Indeed a cynical view would be that Council has deliberately divided commercial and residential interests to prevent concerted opposition to their plans. I support the alternative division of Ward boundaries along the Warringah Freeway, retaining the whole of the existing Wollstonecraft and Victoria wards and divide existing Tunks ward (along the lines of natural communities of interest and common concerns) between the existing Wollstonecraft and Victoria wards. I also protest the timing of this Review of Ward boundaries and the short time frame to rush this through, especially planned over the Christmas-New Year break when many are away or distracted.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
50	<p>At its general meeting of 4 December 2019 Union Precinct resolved to oppose the decision by Council to divide the LGA into two wards, with the boundary separating the wards north and south. While acknowledging the need for two wards, given the circumstances at this time, the boundary divisions as proposed were seen by the members as inappropriate. The east west boundary line makes little sense as it divides the LGA along minor roads, thus separating communities, and in some cases precincts, and various community interests, into separate wards. It also places the two CBDs into separate wards, when surely a more appropriate structure would be to attempt to integrate them more closely.</p> <p>A more appropriate boundary would be the existing Warringah Freeway which clearly separates the LGA into two distinct areas. The east and west wards proposed by the boundary of the freeway would not add any further fragmentation of the LGA, and yet the north south wards proposed by Council would significantly increase this level of fragmentation.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>The meeting noted that its overall preference would be to retain the existing 3 wards, with a total of 3 or 4 Councillors per ward and with the Mayor to be selected from amongst the Councillors elected. We understand that such a model would be subject to a new referendum in September 2020 and we would hope that such a model would be available to be voted for at that time. In the meantime, we recommend that the 2 ward system be implemented for the Council elections in September 2020, but with the Warringah Freeway boundary allowing for a natural separation into east and west wards. If passed this would obviously apply from 2024.</p> <p>The meeting had no comments to be made on the naming of the wards. The meeting did express some concern over the decision to not allow a public forum prior to the extraordinary meeting of the Council on 20 January 2020 to resolve this issue. Surely for such an important issue the community should be given as many opportunities as possible to express its interest in the activities of the Council.</p>	
51	<p>The proposed alignment meets with equalising the population numbers in both wards and allows for proposed density increases as identified by the Greater Sydney Commission. The adoption of the name Cammeraygal for the south ward is highly appropriate in recognition of the traditional custodians of the lands in which we reside. The proposed ward boundaries will not impact on the planning and development of the North Sydney CBD and St Leonards areas as these precincts will be developed under Councils strategic planning documents which are not ward based.</p>	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
52	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
53	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
54	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3

No.	Submission	Category
		wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
55	I support the North South Ward concept for the next election. However, I would like to see North Sydney hold a referendum for 9 Councilors so that we could revert to 3 wards (3 Councilors) at the election after next.	Support North/South Wards - with referendum at next election to revert to 3 wards/3 Councillors.
56	I support the North South Ward proposal	Support North/South Wards
57	I have a preference for the boundaries to be North/South as having two boundaries containing their own CBD's gives a level of equality to the two ward structure.	Support North/South Wards
58	It appears that a North/South boundary is the most appropriate as it divides the wards in a geographical manner far more appropriately. Therefore I would like the new boundary change to be North/South.	Support North/South Wards
59	We have a preference for a North/South boundary in the new two ward boundary.	Support North/South Wards
60	I agree with ward boundaries changes as exhibited by North Sydney Council. The proposed alignment meets with equalising the population numbers in both wards and allows for proposed density increases as identified by the Greater Sydney Commission. I support the continuation of the precincts in the new ward system as an opportunity for local involvement in shaping our environment. Council's planning decisions are not precinct based but placed based on strategic documents that cover the entire local government area and are not determined by ward boundaries. The adoption of the name Cammeraygal for the south ward is highly appropriate in recognition of the traditional owners of the lands in which we reside. The proposed ward boundaries will not impact on the planning and development of the North Sydney CBD and St Leonards areas as these precincts will be developed under Councils strategic planning documents which are not ward based.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
61	I believe the two wards is a good idea and will make it simpler for most. I wish to support the North/South boundary as it makes more sense to be divided in this way, then the other proposal.	Support North/South Wards
62	The boundaries themselves do not appear an issue as they are just related to population. However they do split suburbs. I live in Waverton and this is split which I do not think is a good idea.	Support North/South Wards - object to St Leonards

No.	Submission	Category
	I object to the name of the St Leonards ward. This focuses on one suburb which is part of the ward. This is not acceptable. The southern ward does not have this issue. The name needs to be chosen to be similarly disassociated with one suburb and similarly reflect local heritage or culture.	Ward name, no objection to Cammeraygal Ward name.
63	Submission content same as No. 60.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
64	Submission content same as No. 60.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
65	Northern and southern boundaries	Support North/South Wards
66	As a long time North Sydney resident (half my life) I strongly support the proposed ward boundary changes (a northern ward and a southern ward.) These ward boundary divisions provide an equitable representation of eligible voters in the North Sydney LGA. I support ward names, (St Leonards - Northern ward and Cammeray - Southern ward).	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
67	I agree with ward boundaries changes as exhibited by North Sydney Council. I like the idea of simplification.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
68	North south boundary	Support North/South Wards
69	<p>As a long-time resident of the North Sydney LGA I would like to formally register my support for the proposed ward boundary changes.</p> <p>I believe having fewer wards will make for more considered decision making (the Councillors will have a 'whole of municipality mindset)</p> <p>The proposed division will ensure that both wards have residential precincts as well as commercial zones. This will help ensure that one ward isn't more powerful than the other.</p> <p>I support the names St Leonards for the Nth Ward and Cammeraygal for the Sth Ward. I was pleased to see that Councillors voted unanimously for these Ward names.</p>	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
70	I support the proposed changes to the ward boundaries as recommended by the AEC. I also support the proposed new names for these wards.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
71	I agree with Council's proposal for 2 wards with a North ward named St Leonards and South ward Cammeraygal.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
72	I agree with the two ward proposal with a north/ south split, called St Leonards and Cammeraygal.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
73	I support two wards for North Sydney LGA, as proposed by council with a north ward of St Leonards and a south ward Cammeraygal.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
74	2 Ward structure with north/south wards	Support North/South Wards
75	Submission content same as No. 74.	Support North/South Wards
76	As a long-time North Sydney resident I support the proposed Ward Boundary changes. Having a North Ward and a South Ward makes sense and also distributes the population of the municipality evenly. Two Wards is preferable to three Wards as Councillors will focus on a larger portion of the LGA. It was pleasing to note that Councillors unanimously supported that the Northern Ward be called St Leonards and that the Southern Ward be called Cammeraygal. Like all the Councillors I fully support these names as well. In the proposed North and South Wards each will include residential precincts as well as commercial and retail centres, which is important for Ward balance to keep our municipality wards equal. An even population divide now will prevent further boundary adjustments in the near future.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
77	The proposed Ward boundaries are logical and even. I support the proposal. It makes sense to have a North and South. The population is even and will avoid us having to have any more referendums in the near future. I like the names - St Leonards and Cammeraygal - they are a positive reference to our history.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
78	I support the proposed new Ward Boundaries. The North and South Wards makes sense as it appears the population split will be even, and both sides with have a mix of CBD/residential/retail. This is important to ensure that we don't end up with a CBD 'side' and a residential 'side' of our community - we are one municipality and each Ward should reflect that mix. It is good to see that the Ward split has been done in a way that keeps the population even so that we won't need another referendum again soon - these are no doubt expensive and should be as infrequent as possible. I support the proposal.	Support North/South Wards
79	As a long time North Sydney resident I fully support the proposal to have a Northern Ward named St Leonards and a Southern Ward named Cammeraygal. A name ward structure dictates new names. This will avoid confusion from the existing system. Using Military Rd and Falcon St as a boundary demarcation makes sense. At election time it will be easy for voters to know which ward they are in.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
80	I support the proposed Ward Boundaries. They make sense in terms of the even population split (and it is clear that this is the best way to divide our municipality as St Leonards/Crows Nest will no doubt grow over time and it looks like this North-South split will keep the Wards even for the longest time). Two Wards makes more sense than three because it means that each will have a mix of business/residential/retail, which is important. The names are a positive reference to our past - St Leonards and Cammeraygal. I support the proposed North/South Ward boundaries and their names.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
81	I strongly support the proposed boundary changes as passed by Council. A Northern Ward and a Southern Ward makes sense as it divides the LGA population evenly. This means future boundary adjustments will not be necessary for a long time. Boundary adjustments create confusion for residents and should happen as infrequently as possible. I support the new names as voted on unanimously by Council. St Leonards for the North Ward and Cammeraygal for the Southern Ward	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
82	I strongly support the proposed new boundaries and especially the naming of the south ward as Cammeraygal. The use of any other name would be entirely inappropriate. Population equalisation is important for social, planning and development reasons and this proposal addresses that need well.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
83	I support the proposed ward boundary changes. North and South makes sense. The population divide will be quite even, and it seems a good way to split the boundaries because St Leonards will continue to grow and the wards will stay even so we won't need to do another referendum soon - these are costly so we want the new ward boundaries to last as long	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
	as possible. The names are great - I support St Leonards and Cammeraygal as the names for the North and South ward boundaries.	
84	The proposed ward boundary changes are good. I support the North/South proposal. We need our new wards to last as long as possible, and it seems that this divide gives the most even population distribution, and also means that both wards have a bit of everything - business/retail/residential. Well done on putting this proposal together. The names are great too - I support the North/South names of St Leonards and Cammeraygal.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
85	I support the proposed Ward boundary changes. The north and south wards seem evenly spread - similar population, and a good amount of businesses, houses, shops, restaurants in each. these wards seem equitable and long-lasting (we don't want to have to do another referendum on this anytime soon - let's hope these North/South wards last a while). The two wards makes sense too, I would like our Councillors to be considering the broad community, better than three wards. I support the proposal overall as well as the names - I like St Leonards and Cammeraygal. Well done.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
86	As a long-time resident of North Sydney, I support these proposed Ward Boundary changes. The North/South divide is logical. Two Wards seems better than three Wards so that our Councillors are focusing on all aspects of the community - residential/business/retail etc. The names are a positive reference to our past. I support the North Ward being called St Leonards and I support the South Ward being called Cammeraygal. A good proposal.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
87	No I do not support division to 2 Wards on the grounds that the southern ward is significantly commercial in mix while northern ward is mainly residential, with very different representation issues and financial contribution. Nor do I support the proposed name of the southern ward if the northern ward is St Leonards, as an area then the southern should be North Sydney as a true representation of our centre, that people outside of area will recognise. The proposed change will reduce Councillor representation which could be detrimental to community interest.	Do not support North/South Wards
88	I support the proposed ward boundaries, North-South. As a long-time resident this proposal seems the most relevant way to divide our municipality in two wards (which will be even better than three and allow for consistent attention from our Councillors)	Support North/South Wards
89	I read in the Mosman Daily dated Thursday November 28, 2019 where the Council at its meeting resolved to adopt a two ward structure. Many local ratepayers will strongly disagree with this decision (me included) and it can be assured you will receive much negative feedback. However my major concern is the proposal to name the southern ward "Cammeraygal". I object strongly to this name being used for my ward. What is wrong with using one of the existing ward	Do not support North/South Wards - object to

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>names! If a name change has to occur what is wrong with Mack. Ted Mack did more for North Sydney than the Cammeraygal people ever did.</p> <p>As the article suggested I tried to contact the responsible officer which was on a message bank. Consequently I left a message objecting to the Cammeraygal name and suggested Mack as the Council were obviously struggling to come up with an acceptable name. I feel that the name change policy is extremely important and considered it necessary to bring to your attention for review.</p>	Cammeraygal name, suggest Mack
90	<p>I have read both proposals regarding the requirement to change from three wards to two. I also attended and Chaired the Brightmore Precinct meeting of 11th December 2019. Fortunately we were able to squeeze in a discussion of the proposals at the final meeting of the year. Minutes were submitted. As the Council elected to undertake this decision via an EGM (and while the Precinct system is dormant during Christmas and Summer break) I consider this to be an unhealthy precedent and one which ignores the large number of volunteers who give up their free time to consult and communicate on local issues. The current timetable would appear to subvert the mission of "open government".</p> <p>It would be preferable to give all Precincts - and the community in general - the proper time, notice and provision of relevant speakers to explain the reasoning and impacts behind each proposal. The Mayor's email to Precincts of 11th December 2019 was only issued after the counter proposal outlined by Councillors Carr, Beregi and Baker - and just hours before Brightmore's final meeting of 2019. As you know feedback is supposed to close on 8th January 2020. I submit that the Council should push back its vote on this issue until after 20th January 2020 and once further community engagement has taken place. As Tunks Ward is the one which will be lost I believe that our community (at the very least) needs more time, information and explanation to digest the various benefits - or downsides. At the community meeting held in December there were many questions, much confusion and some concern.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards
91	<p>The purpose of this communication is to record support for the Ward boundary amendments as submitted by Council to the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) in September 2019. In forming this opinion, I have reviewed this correspondence on the matter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email from to Precinct Committees dated November 20, 2019.</li> <li>• Position Paper to Tunks Ward Precincts written by Crs Baker, Beregi and Carr dated December 5, 2019.</li> <li>• Letter from the Mayor to all Precincts dated December 11, 2019.</li> </ul> <p>My support is based on this logic:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Councils must keep Ward boundaries under review to ensure the difference in elector numbers between Wards does not exceed 10%.</li> <li>2. The boundary running east/west proposed by Council dividing the LGA into northern and southern Wards was</li> </ol>	Support North/South Wards

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	<p>recommended by the NSWEC. This boundary creates two Wards with a population variance at present of 5.38%. This provides scope for stability into the future, taking into account future population growth throughout the LGA.</p> <p>3. The alternate boundary proposed by three Councillors in the December 5 Position Paper divides the LGA into eastern and western Wards, with the Warringah Freeway being the Ward boundary. Population variance under this proposal is presently 8.1%. Population growth in western Ward, driven by the Metro line, is very likely to be much faster than in the eastern Ward. This will likely cause boundaries to be redrawn as soon as Council elections in 2023. Such a cost to ratepayers is avoidable and unacceptable.</p> <p>4. It is highly desirable that each Ward has business interests balanced. The north/south model proposed by Council places the existing CBD in the southern Ward and the emerging CBD of St Leonards/Crows Nest in the northern Ward. The alternate proposal in the Position Paper places both CBD's in the western Ward. Having all substantial businesses in the same Ward is highly undesirable. Both Wards need access to and support from businesses.</p> <p>Please provide all Councillors with our input.</p>	
92	Submission content same as No. 91.	Support North/South Wards
93	Submission content same as No. 60.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
94	Submission content same as No. 60.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
95	I support North/South boundary option. Geographically better of the two options.	Support North/South Wards
96	I have reviewed the information provided regarding the proposed boundary changes. I agree with the proposal to form a Nth Ward named St Leonards and a Sth Ward named Cammeraygal	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
97	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3

No.	Submission	Category
		wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
98	As a resident who votes in the North Sydney LGA I would like to register my support for the proposed ward boundary changes. I support the new ward names i.e. St Leonards for the Northern Ward and Cammeraygal for the Southern Ward	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
99	I support the ward boundary changes as proposed by Council. i.e. A northern Ward named St Leonards Ward, and southern ward named Cammeraygal ward.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
100	Submission content same as No. 99.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
101	I prefer the North/South boundary option. Geographically the better of the two options.	Support North/South Wards
102	<p>I strongly support Council's proposal to adopt a 2 Ward structure and the proposed names of St Leonards for the north Ward and Cammeraygal for the south Ward. For the following reasons, a two Ward structure will deliver a much better local governance by NSC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the new north and south Wards will ensure that the power between the Wards is more equally balanced and that one Ward does not become more powerful than the other.</li> <li>2. it will ensure that the Ward Councillors represent people across the LGA, resulting in a much more holistic and fairer outcomes for the residents of NSC</li> <li>3. the new Ward structure will go a long way to breaking down social barriers that have grown up within the LGA.</li> </ol> <p>I cannot over emphasise how important my point 1 is, because I know from my own experience that some Councillors push their own political agenda and ignore the interests and safety of both the residents and visiting public that enjoy our fairly unique suburb and municipal area.</p> <p>Interestingly, some of the Councillors who have a reputation for pushing their own political interests are the ones that have voted against the proposed Ward changes, which speaks volumes about their 'power play' game.</p>	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
103	<p>I would like to express my disappointment at the short comment period allowed for the community to provide feedback as with the holiday period (Christmas and New Year) a lot of people have not had time to carefully consider the options and make informed comments. As a coach-chair of the Neutral Bay Precinct, I would also like to add that we did not have enough time to consider this matter carefully at a Precinct meeting. I do not support the proposal by Council to reduce the number of wards from three to 2. I also do not support the split to be North/South Wards. I am concerned that the move to 2 wards with 5 Councillors each will make it much more difficult for the community to have their say and it will make it impossible for Councillors to effectively cover their ward. As is, Councillors have great difficulty covering the current three wards. I suggest a more equitable and easier for the community and Councillors will be to divide the area into 5 wards with each ward having two Councillors.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer 5 wards/2 Councillors
104	<p>Submission 1 (6/01/20, EHQ): I thoroughly endorse the issues regarding the proposed changes to Ward boundaries enumerated in the attached submission. I feel that Crows Nest and Wollstonecraft have far more issues in common with Waverton and North Sydney than with Cammeray, Cremorne and Neutral Bay. Communities often develop around schools. North Sydney Dem attracts students from this side of the Warringah Freeway – not the Eastern side. The issues on the Eastern and Western sides of the Warringah Freeway differ markedly. Attachment same content as No. 43.</p> <p>Submission 2 (8/01/20, email): I strenuously disagree with the proposed north/south boundary change. I strongly support the East/West boundary proposal. I believe it is in the community's best interests and would do a better job of achieving the goals set by the Greater Sydney Commission if the North Sydney and St Leonards CBDs were in the same Ward. Collaboration between North Sydney CBD and St Leonards CBD might well promote more constructive and productive development in the local government area than putting them at loggerheads. Many of the issues faced by these CBD areas are the same. The proposed North/South boundary distribution would put North Sydney and St Leonards CBDs at loggerheads which is not beneficial and does not encourage constructive collaboration for the greater good of the local government area. The East/West boundary more accurately reflects the community.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
105	<p>I support the North/South option which is proposed to be called St Leonards and Cammeraygal. The supporting Council officer's report indicates that the North/South option has less variation from current distribution and has also been endorsed by Council staff and the Governance and Finance Committee. It is supported by all the parties that have analysed the option and arrived at the most equitable option.</p>	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
106	<p>I support the proposed ward boundary changes.</p>	Support North/South Wards

No.	Submission	Category
107	I agree with the proposed ward boundary changes to equalise the populations represented by the wards, as well as equalise the Councillors between wards. I do believe though that policies should continue to be formulated on a total local government area basis.	Support North/South Wards
108	I support the North/South division as it seems to me a more logical division that will yield wards that each have a suitable mix of nature areas and CBD/village centres. I am also in support of the ward names.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
109	I support the North/South boundary option. It is far more logical in many ways and better geographically. The chosen names for the north/south wards are better as well!	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
110	To whom it may concern, I'm a resident of Waverton and entitled to vote. I strongly support the proposed change to Ward boundaries, as it respects the requirements of the NSW Electoral Commission and the ABS statistical areas and, most importantly, ensures that one Ward does not become more powerful than the other through a weighting of business interests. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. Should you wish to contact me, please do so by email or through my mobile phone 0468 861 662. Ann Carter	Support North/South Wards
111	Dear Councillors, I write to object to the proposal to divide Council into two wards along an east-west axis. This boundary arrangement runs counter to the concept of community of interest in defining boundaries. Neutral Bay and Cremorne are interconnected communities. Splitting these suburbs and their shopping centres into two different wards is puzzling and impractical. We residents of Cremorne have very limited connection with the concerns of communities such as Wollstonecraft and St Leonards, and they with ours. Personally, such a ward boundary would only exacerbate the disenfranchisement I already feel by being in the state electorate of Willoughby. Almost all my connections and time outside of home is spent in North Shore and the city and rarely in Willoughby electorate. The issues of concern to the Willoughby electorate rarely coincide with this pocket of north east Cremorne. Thank you for considering my concerns.	Do not support North/South Wards
112	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor

<b>No.</b>	<b>Submission</b>	<b>Category</b>
113	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
114	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
115	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
116	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
117	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor

No.	Submission	Category
118	As a group of residents from the suburb of Wollstonecraft we fully support the proposed ward boundary changes. We believe the less wards the better, and that ideally wards should be abolished altogether. This would force Councillors to make decisions that advantage the entire North Sydney municipality, rather than concentration being given to their own backyards. We were pleased to see that there was unanimous support by Councillors for the new ward names of St Leonards and Cammeraygal. It's nice there is agreement on something!	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
119	Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I strongly object to the proposed new North-South Ward boundary for the North Sydney LGA, for the reasons articulated in the attached submission of the Wollstonecraft Precinct (No. 123). I urge Council not to proceed with this proposal.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
120	I agree with ward boundaries changes as exhibited by North Sydney Council. The adoption of the name Cammeraygal for the South Ward would be very appropriate in recognition of the traditional owners.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
121	<p>I am opposed to the North &amp; South Ward proposal, an East-West Ward with Warringah Freeway as the boundary is preferable. Given that this concerns everyone in the municipality, Council should send out a letter to all residents, explaining the situation, with some options for proposed boundaries, with pros and cons for each scenario (as was sent out for the Rate Rise proposal).</p> <p>It is of great concern for the concept of open government that this was passed at an EGM on 18 November in the lead-up to the long school, Christmas and New Year holidays in December and January, when the precinct system is not in operation and many people are on holidays.</p> <p>Another matter of concern is the short time-frame for comment, with submissions closing 8 January 2020. On reading the minutes of the EGM, it seems that Council's Governance and Committee Services prepared and submitted a plan that did not meet NSW Electoral Commission requirements, which to me appears incompetent. Were there any other alternative proposals put forward at the EGM for consideration? If so, what were they and on what basis were they rejected? Again, on reading the minutes of the EGM, this appears to be the only option submitted.</p> <p>I note that the Mayor had to use her casting vote to pass the resolution on the Ward boundaries, with only 4 out of 8 Councillors present voting YES (Gibson, Brodie, Barbour &amp; Drummond), with 4 Councillors voting NO (Beregi, Keen, Baker, Mutton), with 2 Councillors absent (Carr &amp; Gunning). This is not an overwhelming majority of Councillors in favour.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>As a member of Brightmore Precinct, I received the letter from Councillors Zoe Baker, Mary Ann Beregi &amp; Tony Carr, with their proposal for the Warringah Freeway to be the boundary between an east and a west ward. I also received the Mayor's letter (on behalf of Councillors Barbour, Brodie, Drummond &amp; Gunning) on 11 December 2019 rebutting the reasoning behind the Warringah Freeway as the boundary.</p> <p>On reading both letters, the Warringah Freeway seemed the most sensible boundary. Information on both proposals currently in the public domain, east &amp; west wards, or north &amp; south wards, should be sent out, by letter, to all residents. This seems to be a hastily cobbled-together plan, with NO public consultation.</p>	
122	<p>Wollstonecraft Precinct strongly opposes the currently exhibited Proposal. Our reasons are set out below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is recognised that legal advice is that Council cannot proceed with 3 Wards each with 3 representatives, at the 2020 elections. This is because 10 Councillors must be elected AND the Wards must have the same number of representatives. The choice therefore appears to be to create 2 Wards of 5 Councillors or 5 Wards of 2 Councillors; to replace the current situation of 3 Wards with 3 Councillors plus a popularly elected Mayor. However, the second-mentioned option for 5 Wards of 2 Councillors seems to have been discarded with almost no consideration or discussion on the respective merits or demerits of one option versus the other. Disregarding for the moment, the relative merits of each of these two options, this Precinct supports the position of Waverton Precinct's preference for a long term outcome to be 3 Wards of 3 Councillors from among whom the Mayor is selected. I also support their advocacy for that option to be introduced after the 2020 Council election has taken place.</li> <li>2. Likewise, the relative merits/demerits of the North South option versus the alternative East West split along the Warringah Freeway have not been clearly enumerated. It is only very recently after a discussion paper prepared by independent Councillors Baker, Beregi and Carr was circulated, that five other Councillors including the mayor have taken up the challenge and issued a written rebuttal by personal letter. Finally, the arguments are in print as they should have been from day one and the community can make its comments.</li> <li>3. It is more than a stretch to claim that Option 1 for the two ward system is a preferred option. At the extraordinary meeting of Council on 18 November (at which the community was denied the right to address council), the casting vote of the mayor was required to decide in favour of Option 1 over Option 2. This was a split vote and it is absolutely right that the community now has a proper say in choosing the boundaries for the two wards.</li> <li>4. The Precinct strongly objects to that split - and believe a much more natural split instead lies through the creation of a West Ward and an East Ward using the Warringah Freeway as the divide. This approach reflects the actual suburb boundaries better and coincidentally reflects the existing Precinct boundaries better as well.</li> <li>5. Even more fundamentally, it is also the way residents think about where in the LGA they reside and there will be no confusion about who lives in which Ward. It already is the simple, convenient, natural dividing line - so why not follow it.</li> </ol>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>The alternate is a convoluted and not 'natural' divide and does not reflect how residents orient or identify themselves. The only advantage if at all, is that the population variation for the East West option is marginally more than it is for the North/South option. Given that at almost every election, boundaries are changed to maintain the imbalance within +/- 10%, any such advantage is immaterial.</p> <p>6. At least as important as the above observation is the reality of what issues affect which parts of the municipality. Almost never is that a North South split and most often it is an East West split. And, sometimes, everyone is involved and concerned, and all areas are affected - the most recent example being the Rates increase earlier this year. However, the fundamental difficult issues like the high rise residential explosion, the new railway line implications, the de-industrialisation of harbourside areas and the arguments over what happens with those areas, and the upcoming Western Harbour Link freeway all dominantly exist on the west side of the Expressway. There is a natural commonality of concern among these suburbs and among their residents, which is rightly not apparent in suburbs like Cremorne or Neutral Bay (or, further along, Mosman). To split the Wards North/South seems illogical and counterproductive to dealing with the issues which affect residents in various parts of the Municipality.</p> <p>7. Finally, some comments on the letter dated 11 December sent to Precincts from the Mayor on behalf of the Deputy Mayor and Councillors Brodie, Drummond and Gunning entitled "Important Information on Ward Boundaries". The letter was sent to Precinct members as requested by the Mayor.</p> <p>While those on whose behalf the letter was written are free to assert that the letter contains important information, it fails to explain the rationale and benefits of a north/south boundary. All that it does is an attempt to explain the legislative requirements behind the decision to support the exhibited proposal and presumably infer that only it and not the alternative proposal satisfy those requirements.</p> <p>One of those requirements is contained in s.210(7) of the Local Government Act of 1993 which states that there can be no more than 10% variation (in voter population) between wards. The letter goes on to demonstrate that the exhibited proposal has a variation of 5.8% whilst the alternative proposal has a variation of 8.3%. Therefore, both meet the requirements of the Act albeit one slightly more than the other. The second requirement is that Ward boundaries follow the statistical area boundaries set by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Presumably this refers to s210(A) which states the Council must ensure that, as far as practicable, the proposed boundaries of its wards correspond to the boundaries of appropriate districts (within the meaning of the Electoral Act 2017) and census districts, and to ensure that the proposed boundaries comply with section 210(7). Note that the requirement provides flexibility for practicality. What the letter fails to state is that the East/West split also meets those requirements.</p> <p>The letter goes on in an attempt to argue that the exhibited proposal maintains ward equity which from a Wollstonecraft Precinct point of view it does nothing of the sort. Rather it splits Wollstonecraft Precinct out of Wollstonecraft Ward and dumps it in the North ward with Cremorne where the issues are entirely different. This and argument number 4 are both</p>	

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	<p>a nonsense. The other argument is that a North/South ward breaks down social barriers. The reasons given that social barriers do exist at all are spurious at least and are not supported by any evidence. Lastly, the letter adds a statement that ward names promote reconciliation which is true but the Cammeraygal ward name is just as appropriate for the alternative proposal as it is for the exhibited proposal. There is no argument here in favour of either proposal.</p> <p>The exhibited proposal favours very much of "the team" of the five Councillors who support the proposal, sticking together because they fear the impact that open discussion and debate at the meeting on 20 January would have on the validity of the proposed divide. This of course prompts the question of what are the real, as distinct from the asserted reasons, for the proposal. This makes it all the more desirable to allow robust public debate so that those real reasons can be brought out and Councillors can hear the views of ratepayers on their true motivation. Any proposal should be able to withstand the most robust criticism. For these reasons Wollstonecraft Precinct urges the Council to decide on a 2 Ward – East West split for the moment at least to carry us all through the 2020 elections.</p> <p>The Precinct also urges the Mayor to change the current agenda to allow the public to address the extraordinary meeting of Council scheduled for 20 January and to change the commencement time of the meeting to the usual time of 7:00 pm. In support of the argument for a public forum, included on page 4 is a copy of an analysis of the recent history of Council meetings that show Council has not adopted a policy in relation to public forums but has allowed a practice of disallowing public forums at extraordinary meetings.</p>	
123	Submission content same as No. 122	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
124	How confusing are the new Ward names? I would have thought that Cammeray would be in Cammeraygal, not St Leonards. I bet everyone outside the Council would assume the same thing. Cammeray is not in St Leonards. If the new Ward names are going to be that illogical, they should be changed to exclude suburb names, rather like our old Tunks Ward used to do, so that they don't imply a location which is misleading.	No comment on boundary proposal. Submission relates to Ward names only.
125	<p>I strongly support the revised two (2) Ward boundary proposed and endorsed by Council at its meeting of 18 November 2019, including naming the North Ward St Leonards and the South Ward Cammeraygal.</p> <p>The two (2) Ward structure proposed will result in less variation in numbers between Wards than the East West Option and allows for expected future growth in the northern sector of the LGA, which will allow better governance and ensure</p>	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>that one ward does not become more powerful than the other.</p> <p>Furthermore, I think the new Wards will allow Council to more efficiently and more effectively involve itself in local precincts, which I have found from experience to be a very good forum for understanding and getting involved with the Council.</p>	
126	<p>I write to strongly oppose North Sydney Council's Exhibited Proposal for new Ward boundaries. The proposal divides the North Sydney Local Government area (LGA) into two wards along North-South lines. The other option is to divide it along East-West lines. The only grounds given for the decision to choose the North-South divide are that, whilst both options meet the criteria for margins of no more than 10% difference between the voting populations in each proposed ward, the North-South divide reflects a 5.38% difference compared to an 8.1% difference with the East-West divide and that the lower difference allows for population growth in the St Leonards/Crow's Nest Priority Precinct prior to the 2020 Local Government elections.</p> <p>No thought appears to have been given to all of the considerations raised in the Position paper prepared by Councillors Zoe Baker, MaryAnn Beregi and Tony Carr who propose an East-West divide of the LGA using the Warringah Freeway which spans the entire LGA as a natural divide. If these considerations were considered and rejected by Council, one has to ask Why?</p> <p>I support the position put by Baker, Beregi and Carr as, in my view, these considerations far outweigh the argument put by Council.</p> <p>To paraphrase and summarise:</p> <p>The North-West ward boundary proposal put forward by North Sydney Council is convoluted and very confusing for ratepayers. It does not use main roads as ward boundaries, creating divisions along residential streets and running through a school playground. It also constitutes a significant shift in current ward boundaries, is unnecessarily disruptive and divisive, ignores communities of interest and divides the two CBDs which the metro is designed to connect and will be costly to implement.</p> <p>By contrast, the alternative East-West option using the Warringah Freeway as a natural divide is easy for ratepayers to understand and will therefore be easier to implement. Importantly, it also respects the different communities of interest on either side of the Warringah Freeway and respects the current precinct system and its boundaries.</p> <p>As regards the naming of the two new wards, I do not have a view on this matter.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
127	<p>I wish to express my strong opposition to the changes to the proposed readjustment to the ward boundaries. I understand the circumstances in which Council finds itself and, therefore, the need for a two-ward solution following the referendum result at the last election. I am very concerned, however, that the proposed division of the LGA into north and south wards will work against the democratic process in our community. It is haphazard in its delineation of the two new wards, lacks a rational basis and, most critically, fails to reflect the diverse communities of interests that exist within the LGA. It also ignores a sensible alternative, that is, the division of the LGA into an east and a west ward, with the Warringah freeway as the separation boundary.</p> <p>The absence of any apparent rationale for the proposed division, particularly where there is an obvious alternative, gives rise to the possibility that the north- south division is being proposed to favour the political interests of some members of Council over others. This proposal was passed only on the casting vote of the current Mayor who, along with her voting block, appears to benefit most from the division of the LGA into north and south wards. Conversely, two of our Wollstonecraft Ward Councillors, who have defended our local interests on Council, sometimes against strong opposition from the Mayor's voting block, will have their support base divided into two and redistributed between the new north and south wards. This effectively halves their support base and our area's voice on Council.</p> <p>The better solution to the current situation would be to divide the LGA into an east and a west ward, with the Warringah freeway as the separation boundary. This would ensure that the current communities of interest remain intact and able to be represented by people who understand those interests. Each of the newly proposed north and south wards will still be characterised by a distinctive east-west dichotomy. They will contain two different community and geographical groupings, divided by the freeway, with needs and interests which, at times, may conflict with each other. There is huge potential for the self- interest of one part of the ward organising to override the welfare and interests of the other.</p> <p>In the longer term, I believe that the division of the LGA into two wards to accommodate the extra Councillor resulting from abolition of a directly elected mayor, in itself, is detrimental to the interests of residents and reduces Councillors' ability to respond to local issues within our very diverse municipality. I am very concerned that this matter was not dealt with when the issue first arose following the outcome of the previous referendum. To have to deal with this problem over the holiday break runs counter to our democratic interests. It is either poor planning on the part of the Council or is intended to suit the purposes of vested interests within the Council.</p> <p>The two-ward solution should be only a temporary arrangement, in place only until the next Council election in 2020, when a referendum should be held to enable us to revert to three wards in 2024, with either three or four Councillors representing each ward, and the Mayor elected from amongst the elected Councillors. This would give the electors of North Sydney the opportunity to confirm the clear intention of the referendum held in 2017.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
128	As a Tunks ward resident I support the proposed ward boundary changes. Military Road seems a natural boundary line and a north ward south ward makes sense.	Support North/South Wards
129	I fully support the proposed boundary changes. I am a local real estate business owner in Neutral Bay and consider Military Road is a natural boundary line between the 2 wards. I also feel it is important that both wards should have a residential and commercial component.	Support North/South Wards
130	As a long time Wollstonecraft Ward resident I fully supported the two ward division for North Sydney Council election in 2020 as voted on by council 17 November 2019 EGM. I support the North Ward be named St Leonards as it was originally in the 19th century and Cammeraygal for the South Ward. I was pleased to see that council voted unanimously for this result. I reject the proposal suggested by Crs Baker, Beregi & Carr to an east and a west ward division as this division would not recognise the population growth in the St Leonards area.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
131	As a resident and voter of Wollstonecraft Ward I support the recent EGM unanimous decision of North Sydney Council for a north south division of 2 Wards with Falcon & Military Roads as the boundary with 5 Councillors each, named St Leonards and Cammeraygal for the 2020 LG elections. I have seen the recent tall residential buildings with their new residents in the St Leonards area. I cannot support any other suggestion of an east west division with Pacific Hwy as the boundary which does not seem to have geographical nor historical relevance nor merits.	Support North/South Wards
132	This submission is to object to the proposed east-west dividing line, and to propose that a dividing line approximately north-south be adopted instead. The basis of the objection is that the proposed division will cut many suburbs in half given that Military Road bisects such suburbs as Neutral Bay. There is now a more natural dividing line formed by the Warringah Freeway although no doubt to achieve the +/- 10% rule, this may need to be modified somewhat.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
133	I support NSC unanimous decision from the EGM 18/11/2019 to have 2 wards named St Leonards (north) and Cammeraygal (south) for the 2020 elections following the advice of the NSWAEAC. This decision reflects the population growth and history of St Leonards and finally recognise the original inhabitants of NSC area, the Cammeraygal people.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
134	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3

No.	Submission	Category
		wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
135	I support the proposed ward boundaries. North-South makes sense as Military Rd is our primary road within the community (the freeway is not a community road it is a thoroughfare). The North Ward will clearly increase in population the most over the coming years, around St Leonards, so we won't have to do the referendum again. A logical proposal, and I support the names too.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
136	<p>The proposal to change the Ward Boundary is being rushed through and the feedback deadline is totally unsatisfactory and the feedback deadline is very inconsiderate given public feedback is being sought during the Christmas-New Year - summer vacation period and now additionally many people are affected or preoccupied by the bushfire emergency. The deadline for feedback should be extended to the end of January.</p> <p>I am not in favour of the proposed changes and ideally would like Councillors to consider alternative options. However, if Councillors persist in creating a new boundary then it should consider dividing Ward boundaries along the Warringah Freeway which will allow the retention of the existing Wollstonecraft and Victoria Wards and instead divide existing Tunks Ward but with consideration to the natural communities of interest and common concerns.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer retaining Wollstonecraft and Tunks Ward, dividing Tunks Ward
137	I support the proposed Ward Boundaries. The North-South divide appears to be the most even population split.	Support North/South Wards
138	As a long-time resident of Kirribilli I support the proposed Ward Boundaries. A North and South Ward makes the most sense as it keeps our Wards even in all aspects (population, business etc.), and the names St Leonards and Cammeraygal are a positive reference to our past.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
139	I support the North/South 2 Ward Boundary Division for the 2020 Local Government Election in North Sydney. The Ward names are also fine.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
140	Yes, I support the North/South 2 Ward Boundary Division for the 2020 Local Government Election in North Sydney.	Support North/South Wards
141	I would like to register my support for a North/South 2 Wards Boundary Divide in the North Sydney Council 2020 elections with the Ward names already as suggested by Council.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
142	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
143	I support the North/South Boundary division for the 2 Wards election at the North Sydney 2020 Council elections and the already voted on Ward names.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
144	I am in support of the North/South Boundary division for the 2 Wards election at the North Sydney 2020 Council elections and the already voted on Ward names.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
145	I fully endorse the proposed new ward boundaries as they align groups with a common interest. Military Rd proposes a sensible boundary for the two new wards and easy for the local community to understand.	Support North/South Wards
146	Submission content same as No. 145.	Support North/South Wards
147	Submission content same as No. 145.	Support North/South Wards
148	Submission content same as No. 143.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
149	I support the North / South 2 Ward Divide for the 2020 North Sydney Council election and voted on Ward Names.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
150	I have examined North Sydney Council's proposed new Ward boundaries and the alternative proposal put forward by Councillors Baker, Beregi and Carr. I strongly support the alternative proposal for the following reasons: Logic demands that the Warringah Freeway is the best boundary. It is simple to implement. No resident will be unsure of which Ward they reside in. To have residents on different sides of a street in different Wards is ridiculous. Residents within the	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>alternative Ward boundaries share common concerns. Those to the west share the new metro developments and the inherent high rise residential pressures. They share the 2 CBDs and their issues. Those to the east have Military Road as a common disruption. The alternative Ward boundaries retain the existing precincts and their adjoining common interests. Please exercise common sense and keep it simple.</p>	
151	<p>Because four Councillors including the Mayor, who has a casting vote, have already declared their position as a faction on this matter even before public submissions have closed, this matter has been predetermined. Therefore I make this submission as a matter of public record. Secondly, the Council through its staff have closed off public debate on the matter by refusing to provide for public discussion at the meetings considering the matter. This is appalling.</p> <p>The proposal to split the municipality along an east west axis into North and South Wards is an assault on the way our communities have for decades functioned. It defies any proper democratic function. In particular the proposal splits Waverton right down the middle, a community which has been cohesive for at least the 40 years I have lived here.</p> <p>The logical delineation of the wards is on a north south axis using the Warringah Expressway and Miller/West streets as the defining line depending on actual population numbers with adjustments at the Cammeray or Milsons Point ends if necessary. This is because many of the current and likely future issues affecting the municipality differ on the east and west sides despite many basic issues being common across the whole. For example the key focus on the west side are the extent and dimension of the massive developments proposed, the future of the CBD and Crows Nest, the planning for the Civic Spaces Precinct and the ongoing management of Waverton Peninsula and Berrys Bay.</p> <p>Apparently a suggestion has been made that possible future changes to the population at Crows Nest is an argument against a north south axis but any such changes will affect any divide and require adjustment while the flexibility provided by the West /Miller St residential zones north east of the expressway readily enables appropriate adjustment over time of a North South divide.</p> <p>I also support the submissions from both the Waverton and Wollstonecraft Precincts against the North and South wards. In addition, the suggested names are completely inappropriate. St Leonards is a recognised suburb unfortunately only partly within the North Sydney Municipality. For people in North Cremorne and Neutral Bay, it is an entirely inapplicable name. The suggestion of an historical basis is just plain silly.</p> <p>As for using Cammeraygal for part of a Municipality which is all Cammeraygal land, and frankly should as a local government area be renamed Cammeraygal, is simply wrong. If we are to be lumped with these wards just call them North and South for the moment until in the next Council we can return to a greater number of wards relating appropriately to the communities.</p>	<p>Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor</p>

No.	Submission	Category
152	No do not agree with proposed N/S split. Much more relevant and commonsensical split would be E/W along the freeway. Those in E of the ward have few issues in common with those N of Military Road and the proposed boundary split makes no sense. Please change.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
153	I am writing to support the 2 Ward North/South division for the coming 2020 North Sydney Council election and am happy with the Ward names already voted on by Council	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
154	I am writing in support of the 2 Ward, North/South Boundary division at the 2020 North Sydney Council Election and am fine with the already allocated ward names with this model	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
155	<p>Submission from a member of Wollstonecraft Precinct - I have been following the proposal to change the ward system in North Sydney by splitting two wards from east to west. I have also read the submission below from the Wollstonecraft Precinct and agree with the analysis it contains. I disagree (sic) to an east-west split on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the exhibited proposal purports to maintain ward equity. How? It would move Wollstonecraft Precinct out of Wollstonecraft Ward and put in the North Ward with Cremorne where the issues are often quite different.</li> <li>• The suggestion that a North/South ward would break down social barriers is incomprehensible. What are the suggested social barriers? They are not listed nor any research cited. The fact that each ward may have different issues does not amount to 'social barriers'.</li> <li>• Wards with similar issues should stay together. I can't see how this should cause concern to the North Sydney Council which has a long history of promoting open democratic principles.</li> </ul> <p><i>Attachment: Wollstonecraft Precinct Committee's submission (refer Submission No. 122)</i></p>	Do not support North/South Wards
156	I strongly prefer the North/South ward proposal as it keeps the current Tunks ward intact. Military Rd is the obvious boundary for the new two wards, as it is the major dividing road of the LGA.	Support North/South Wards
157	As a long-time resident of the Tunks Ward I would like to support the North / South ward proposal. The North Sydney council area is almost entirely divided by the major arterial road being Military Rd, it is common sense to use this as the divide. It will be easy for most of the area to know immediately in which ward they are in by the side of Military road they are on. To me, the East/West proposal does not make it as clear.	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.

No.	Submission	Category
158	<p>I strongly support the idea of having two wards in the North Sydney Municipality. Less wards means Councillors will focus their attention on the entire LGA not just on their small precinct.</p> <p>This equates to better decision making. I support a Northern Ward named St Leonards and a Southern Ward named Cammeraygal. Military Rd is a natural boundary line between the two wards.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards
159	<p>I do not support any boundary changes until after 2020 council elections. At that time I would like to see 5 wards with 2 Councillors each.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer 5 wards/2 Councillors
160	<p>I strongly disapprove of this proposal.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards
161	<p>I support the 2 Ward, North/South Division for the 2020 North Sydney Council Election and the suggested names voted on by Council</p>	Support North/South Wards - including proposed naming.
162	<p>The timing of this public consultation over the Christmas/New Year period is entirely inappropriate and limits residents' ability to review the proposal and discuss issues at Precinct meetings. Consideration should be given to delay the 20th January meeting and extend the consultation period. I do not support the option on exhibition and favour the alternative boundary along the Warringah Freeway.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
163	<p>I strongly oppose the proposal for the North/South ward option. The North/South proposal appears to lack sensibleness and is a major departure from the current three wards.</p> <p>An East/West divide would appear to be a much more logical divide, and as such I strongly support that option. I have been a resident of Wollstonecraft for 25 years, and as such I understand that the issues facing residents of the "West" of the council area – such as development, density, transport infrastructure, traffic, and a serious lack of open space – are quite different from those of the "East" part of the LGA.</p> <p>As a side comment, did Council consider five wards, with two Councillors in each ward – perhaps that may have been also an alternative and more rational outcome.</p> <p>I am also very concerned about the process of this restructuring. Even though I am making this very short comment to meet the submission deadline of midnight on 8th January on "Have Your Say", it seems that whatever community/rate payer submissions are received will be irrelevant, and hence disregarded.</p> <p>I say this because of the "Important Information on Ward Boundaries" letter which was sent to all Precincts on 11th</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>December. This letter was authored by the Mayor, on behalf of Councillors Barbour, Drummond, Brodie and Gunning. Significantly, there are five Councillors (half of council) who did not put their names to this letter, which to me indicates the North/South option is not necessarily the “preferred option”, despite having been presented as such. However, even if these five Councillors choose to vote against the North/South proposal, given the Mayor will have the casting vote, it seems that any submissions received from the community will have been for naught.</p> <p>I believe the residents and rate payers (and voters) of North Sydney deserve more respect, and their voice should be heard and considered on important issues affecting North Sydney LGA.</p>	
164	<p>I wish to lodge an objection to the proposed re-organisation of the ward boundaries. It is difficult to see how the circumstances requiring this could have come about, but if we accept that it is now necessary, due to the poor wording in the 2017 referendum, to have two wards with five Councillors in each ward from 2020, it remains to be determined the best way to form the ward boundaries. The proposition put forward by Council that we have north-south wards is inappropriate. This proposed boundary to the two wards seems to follow along minor roads and, especially in the existing Wollstonecraft Ward area, effectively separates communities. A more appropriate boundary would be to have east-west wards, separated by an existing barrier, the Warringah Freeway. Council’s documentation says that this logical boundary division would still allow the appropriate number of electors within each of the east and west wards.</p> <p>In any case, the two-ward solution should only be temporary until the mistake is corrected, and the LGA reverts to the three-ward distribution that electors voted for previously. The intent of the referendum in 2017 was clear. There were to be three wards, with three Councillors in each, and a Mayor elected from amongst the nine Councillors. It was only poor wording in the referendum that has allowed this anomalous situation to result. We should therefore revert to the three-ward arrangement as soon as practicable, and this would require a referendum in 2020 with a view to its implementation in 2024. I urge Council to implement the simplest arrangement possible for the next electoral period, that is, a two-ward system with the division between the wards following an obvious and easily implemented boundary. Council should also be making provisions for implementing what the electorate has already voted for – that is, the three existing wards, each with three Councillors, with a Mayor who is selected from amongst the nine Councillors.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
165	<p>Dear Mayor and Councillors, I have read the letter to "All Precinct Committees" dated 11 December and entitled "Important Information on Ward Boundaries", stated to be written by the Mayor on behalf of the Deputy Mayor, and Councillors Brodie, Drummond and Gunning, and presumably the Mayor herself. While those on whose behalf the letter was written are free to assert that the letter contains important information, it fails to explain the rationale and benefits of a north/south boundary. I may be forgiven for thinking that there are considerations motivating the proposal that have not</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

No.	Submission	Category
	<p>all been disclosed in the letter. This view finds support in the fact that the opportunity was denied the community to address the Council at its meeting on 18 November in regard to the proposal, and in the further decision not to hear oral submissions from members of the public at the Council meeting on 20 January. It would be a fair inference that the proponents of the north/south ward boundary were apprehensive that there is overwhelming opposition to their proposal, which, publicly aired, would highlight the deficiencies of the proposal and garner ratepayer support for its rejection. To deviate from the established and observed procedure of allowing oral submissions from the public at Council meetings runs counter to the Council's consistently adopted practice and ordinary democratic principles which I assumed, perhaps incorrectly as I now apprehend, were espoused and maintained by all our elected representatives.</p> <p>The proposed north/south boundary deviates from the long term structuring of North Sydney ward divisions, and it might be expected that for it to be advanced there would be weighty and convincing arguments in its support. One looks in vain to find any such convincing argument. It is not an argument in favour of the proposal as against an east-west divide that it meets legislative requirements. These requirements can equally be satisfied by adjustment of the ward boundaries on an east/west divide, which would involve a much less disruptive change from the present arrangements. There is no suggestion that the Statistical Area boundaries present any problem if the basics east/west divide is retained.</p> <p>It is not suggested, nor I suspect could it be, that if the North Sydney and St Leonards CBDs are in the same Ward, there would be any collaboration between them aimed at advancing their communities' interests to the detriment of ratepayers living outside the CBDs. To the contrary your argument seems to be that they should be at loggerheads. In fact collaboration between them might well promote more constructive and productive development in the local government area to offset the ever encroaching involvement of the Government to promote its own agenda.</p> <p>The suggestion that a north/south boundary "breaks down" (note not "would break down") and later "is an opportunity to break down" social barriers savours of casting around to find an argument that might appeal to ratepayers irrespective of its validity, of which no evidence is tendered - just bland assertions. Robust debate, as distinct from group cohesion is to be desired - at the moment the present proposal savours very much of "the team" of the five Councillors who support the proposal sticking together, because they fear the impact that open discussion and debate at the meeting on 20 January would have on the validity of the proposed divide. This of course prompts the question of what are the real, as distinct from the asserted reasons, for the proposal. This makes it all the more desirable to allow robust public debate so that those real reasons can be brought out and Councillors can hear the views of ratepayers on their true motivation. Any proposal should be able to withstand the most robust criticism. Since the view of those Councillors supporting the north south divide proposal has been disseminated under the heading "Important Information on Ward Boundaries" the authors may hope that the case they advance in the letter is the more likely to be accepted by ratepayers if there is no</p>	

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	opportunity at the forthcoming Council meeting for ratepayers to express a contrary view. If so, this would be most unfortunate.	
166	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
167	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
168	I would like to register my strong objection to the exhibited proposal. I think it obvious that the boundary be formed by the Warringah Freeway. Any other divide is not in sympathy with the very nature of our LGA. I also feel a 3 ward 3 Councillor solution to be the best outcome	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
169	I strongly oppose the currently exhibited Proposal for redrawing the ward boundaries. If we need to reduce the number of wards to 2, it seems a much more reasonable and natural division would be to split boundaries east/west using the Warringah Freeway as the division point. This reflects suburb boundaries, current precincts and respects existing neighbourhoods.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide
170	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
171	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3

No.	Submission	Category
		wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
172	Submission content same as No. 43.	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide, and long term 3 wards/3 Councillors inclusive of Mayor
173	<p>I wish to raise my objections to the currently exhibited Ward Boundary North - South Proposal.</p> <p>1. Timing: Firstly, if a change of boundaries was needed, it should have been known earlier during the past 2 years, so that it could have been 'on exhibition' over a 'normal' time, vs. 2019 Christmas Holiday season. This is an unreasonable exhibition timeframe.</p> <p>2. Lack of community access to elected representatives to express their concerns: The Ward Boundary review will be considered at an Extraordinary meeting of Council to be held on Monday, 20 January at 6.30pm, being 30 minutes prior to usual council meeting time. Also, no members of the public are able to address their concerns to the council prior, at a public forum, or during the meeting, under the new meeting practices. Where has our democracy gone? This is appalling, with no transparency or open government. I wish this meeting to be open to the public, so that members of the community are able to address and speak their views to council, before they make their decision and vote.</p> <p>3. Local Government Election of 2020 - another Referendum question needs to be asked - to address the anomalies of the past two LG Election Referenda responses, namely to have 9 elected Councillors, being 3 Councillors per each of the three currently designated wards; with the mayor elected from amongst the Councillors, for a term of two years. The community was under the impression from the information given at the past two elections, that there would be a reduction to 9 Councillors representing the three wards. Reducing the cost to council by one Councillor and giving an uneven number of Councillors for voting purposes. This question needs to be asked again, at this LG Election.</p> <p>4. I support the position of Waverton Precinct's preference for a long term outcome to be 3 Wards of 3 Councillors from among whom the Mayor is selected. I also support their advocacy for that option to be introduced after the 2020 Council election has taken place.</p> <p>5. Given it is recognised that legal advice was sought - that Council cannot proceed with 3 Wards each with 3 representatives, at these 2020 elections, because 10 Councillors must be elected AND the Wards must have the same number of representatives. The choice therefore appears to be to create 2 Wards of 5 Councillors OR 5 Wards of 2 Councillors; to replace the current situation of 3 Wards with 3 Councillors each, plus a popularly elected Mayor.</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide

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	<p>6. Why were 5 wards of 2 Councillors not considered? This option seems to have been discarded with almost no consideration or discussion on the respective merits or demerits of one option versus the other. Having been a Councillor, 5 smaller wards is a better option than 2 extremely large wards, I.E. trying to represent the people in 50% of the LGA well, is too great a task to be carried out thoroughly.</p> <p>7. East-West Option vs North-South Option - Likewise, the relative merits/demerits of the North - South option versus the alternative East – West option, (being split by the natural 10 - 20 traffic lane barrier of the Warringah Freeway), have not been clearly enumerated. Only recently, after a discussion paper prepared by independent Councillors Baker, Beregi and Carr was circulated, that five other Councillors including the mayor have taken up the challenge and issued a written rebuttal by personal letter. These arguments should have been in print from day one, allowing the community to review and make comments.</p> <p>8. Tied vote for both options - It is more than a stretch to claim that Option 1 for the two ward system is a preferred option. At the extraordinary meeting of Council on 18 November (at which the community was denied the right to address council), the casting vote of the mayor was required to decide in favour of Option 1 over Option 2. This was a split vote and it is absolutely right that the community now has a proper say in choosing the boundaries for the two wards.</p> <p>9. I strongly object to the North - South split - and believe a much more natural split instead lies through the creation of a West Ward and an East Ward using the Warringah Freeway as the divide. This approach reflects the actual suburb boundaries better and coincidentally reflects the existing Precinct boundaries better as well.</p> <p>10. Less confusion for residents with East West Option. Even more fundamentally, it is also the way residents think about where, in the LGA, they reside and there will be no confusion about who lives in which Ward. It already is the simple, convenient, natural dividing line - so why not follow it. The alternate is a convoluted and not 'natural' divide and does not reflect how residents orient or identify themselves.</p> <p>11. Mayor stated at Milson Precinct Meeting – that the benefit was “No need for Future Boundary Changes”. The only advantage if at all, is that the population variation for the East West option is marginally more than it is for the North/South option. Given that at almost every election, over the past 10 years at Federal, State and Local government levels, boundaries have changed, to maintain the imbalance within +/-10%. Therefore, any such advantage is immaterial.</p> <p>12. At least as important as the above boundaries readjustment observation, is the reality of what issues affect which parts of the municipality. Almost never, is that a North - South split; most often it is an East - West split. Sometimes, everyone is involved and concerned, and all areas are affected - the most recent example being the proposed Rate Increase, earlier last year, which impacted the whole municipality. The fundamental and difficult issues however, affect the western half of the LGA, like the high rise residential explosion, the new railway line implications, the de-</p>	

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	<p>industrialisation of harbour-side areas and the arguments over what happens with those areas, and the upcoming Western Harbour Link tunnel and freeway - all dominantly exist on the west side of the Warringah Expressway. Therefore, there is a natural commonality of concern among these suburbs and their residents, which rightly, is not apparent in suburbs like Cremorne or Neutral Bay (or, further along, towards Mosman). To split the Wards North - South seems illogical and counterproductive to dealing with the issues which affect residents in various parts of the Municipality.</p> <p>For these reasons I urge that the Council, decide on an EAST - WEST Ward split for the 2020 Local Government elections, with a plan to reduce the number of Councillors to 9, representing three wards, into the future.</p> <p>I also urge the Mayor &amp; Councillors to change the current agenda to allow the public to address the extraordinary meeting of Council scheduled for 20 January and to change the commencement time of the meeting to the usual start time of 7:00 pm.</p> <p>In support of the argument for a public forum, attached, is a copy of an analysis of the recent history of Council meetings that show Council has not adopted a policy in relation to public forums, but, has allowed a practice of disallowing public forums at extraordinary meetings.</p>	
174	<p>1) Brightmore Precinct requests the consideration that the Council delay voting upon "Ward Boundary Changes" until further information and discussion has taken place by all Precincts. This is the preferred option of the Precinct.</p> <p>2) In light of the fact Brightmore Precinct would most likely not be convened in time to hear a response to statement 1 - prior to the Council meeting of Jan 2020 – an indicative vote should be taken on the submissions provided as seen and described on 11/12/19.</p> <p>Do you support the concept (Position Paper) provided by Crs Carr, Beregi and Baker (otherwise termed the Warringah Freeway Option) 9 in support</p> <p>Do you support the Council's preferred proposal advocated by Mayor Gibson and Crs, Barbour, Brodie, Drummond and Gunning which is displayed on the council website. 0 in support</p> <p>Abstentions (based on desiring more time and information on the topic) 4</p>	Do not support North/South Wards - prefer East/West divide