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From: Benjamin Roberts

Sent: Friday, 24 August 2007 12:09 PM

To: Committee, FPA (SEN)

Subject: submission re amalgamation

Please consider Noosa for a public enquiry meeting regarding referenda and amalgamation.

Local councils are vital in creating and maintaining distinct qualities of living, giving local residents a healthy level of influence.

To forcibly remove this in the face of strong local objections and to deny referenda under the pain of strong sanctions is more the act of dictatorship than democratic government.

An equally vital issue is irresponsible debt management. In this instance Maroochydhore Council has accumulated an imprudent debt of 150 million Australian dollars. Noosa council through prudent management has no debt. The imposition of that debt onto the council and citizens of Noosa defies all the tenets of democratic Justice. .

Yours sincerely, Ben and Jilly Roberts

N B. please note this as two separate submissions