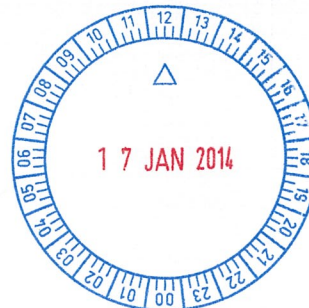


# Steve Irons MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR SWAN

15 January 2014

Hon. Simon O'Brien MLC  
Chairman  
Environment and Public Affairs Committee  
GPO Box A11  
PERTH WA 6837



Dear Chairman,

*Simon,*

I understand your committee is considering a request for an inquiry into possible local government boundary changes along the Swan River, made by the Mayor of the Town of Victoria Park Mr Trevor Vaughan.

Mr Vaughan has approached me to seek my support for such an Inquiry.

While local government reform is not a federal matter, my view is that the impact of any amalgamations on ratepayers should be modelled before any decision is made on new boundaries. This transparency would give the public more confidence in the process and ensure rate decreases occur following any amalgamation, as is the aim.

As such I would support an Inquiry that provides a cost-benefit analysis of any potential amalgamations along the Swan River. Such an Inquiry could consider scenarios put into the public domain by various agencies to this point.

I wish your committee the all the best in your important deliberations in 2014 and would be interested in being informed of the outcome of this petition and your deliberations.

Yours sincerely,

**STEVE IRONS MP**  
Federal Member for Swan

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