

**From:** Rachel Russell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 12:50 PM  
**To:** Office of the General Manager <gmooffice@wsc.nsw.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Administrator Office <AdministratorOffice@wsc.nsw.gov.au>; Lisa Miscamble <Lisa.Miscamble@wsc.nsw.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Submission to Council Extraordinary Meeting

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9th September 2024

To the Administration of Wingecarribee Shire Council,

I am writing to request that Wingecarribee Shire Council make a submission suggesting that a decision proposed by the Minister for Local Government, the Honorable Ron Hoenig, regarding a Performance Improvement Order for Wingecarribee Shire Council be delayed until a formal submission to this proposal can be made by a newly elected Council. It is important that a newly elected Council has a chance to independently review Council's financial position and make a submission accordingly. Since 2021, our community has not had any opportunity to hold the Administration and Management to account, and it is important that now the democratic process is respected on this matter. It defies the point of an elected Council if key powers of budget oversight are removed from Councillors governance responsibility.

The Administrator's assertion in his Administrator Minute draft response dated 9 September 2024: "I am confident that the decision of the Minister will be well received having regards to residents past experience with the operation and conduct of the former Council – at both the political and operational levels," is not reflected in the broad cross-section of opinions that I have canvassed since the release of this proposal. There is strong community sentiment that democracy now needs to prevail.

As an individual who is a resident, ratepayer and candidate - and engaged in Council business since the cancelled election in 2021, there are none who share the State Government's concern more "that there is no loss to the improvement in Council's performance" with an incoming elected Council. It is with this point in mind that I request the extension.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Russell  
Lead Candidate

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