

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Economics and Governance Committee](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Dissolution of Ipswich City Council  
**Date:** Wednesday, 25 July 2018 11:44:20 AM

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Dear Committee

My name is Cheryl Dowell, my family has been born and bred in Ipswich for generations. I have been a registered voter since legal voting age and made sure my vote has always counted. So on a personal note I'm not impressed that this action of the show cause notices has been and the progress of the dissolution of council being done making my vote nil and void.

In addition to this I have worked for the Ipswich City Council for the last 15 years with the last 12 years as the Division 10 Electorate Officer. This position has put me out in the community at ground level as such where I get to see, talk and hear what the real people out there really want. To put it simply they are not happy with this action and feel the same that their vote has been taken away from them.

While the CCC are still in investigation mode, NO ONE has even gone to court as yet and been found guilty, I personally feel this is a premature knee jerk reaction (even as far as a vote getter for the government which is failing).

I agree that it does not look good but this is not helped by the negative way this is portrayed through the media to get their story. Yes there are the ones out there that then tag in and say they're corrupt just get rid of them all... BUT out of those people how many would say that about **all politicians be it local, state or federal**. Then how many of them would not even know who their local councillor was? Then how many have had dealings but were doing the wrong thing and the councillor was unable to assist so there is bad blood there anyway? Then how many have run against the council in elections themselves and been beaten so look at this as their way in?

I am aware that since the CCC investigations have started this current council have worked with the CCC, they have put in place over 20 new policies and guidelines. I personally know that the Community Donations policy has tightened up (too much as now they are sometimes a little wary to donate). In addition out of the 10 councillors and the Mayor four of the councillors are new and have no prior history, so the comment of start fresh with a new council we basically already have.

The idea of putting our council in the hands of administrators until possibly 2020 is simply ludicrous.

I would like to suggest either:

- Wait for the investigation and then court hearings for a guilty verdict.. then take action on the guilty parties not the innocent ones.

Should administrators be an option, then put one in that will work with our current team, assist them with any further changes they feel are required and witness themselves that they do work together for the good of Ipswich.

Yours sincerely

Cheryl Dowell

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]