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Submission: We attended the WSC Moulamein Meeting and are aware of the financial constraints that WSC is required to work within however as landowners and rural business owners we have had to decrease labour force and overheads and increase land base to remain financially viable which the WSC needs to appreciate. The population of the WSC is 3951 (source Economic Profile document) therefore amalgamation seems to be the only real option as the WSC footprint is declining and the same amount of checks and balances have to be complied to no matter how large or small the Local Govt area is. In the last decade a 20% rate variation has been requested due to the demise of the Wakool Water business which was a bad economic Management Decision by the then senior staff of WSC, ratepayers were prepared to wear that as WSC was technically insolvent. The Shire has not gotten bigger in size but the indoor staff numbers have increased dramatically due to the Government Accountability and reporting