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Submission: I cannot understand what this group is supporting, but I do have opinions on the issue of amalgamations. Overall I strongly oppose council amalgamations. They inevitably lessen the impact of issues raised by residents and are motivated to too great an extent by parties who want to be relieved of restrictions on "development".

I am by no means happy with the performance of the current Hunters Hill council but amalgamations are not the way to correct their decision making. So my first point is amalgamations should be strongly opposed.

Next, if any changes are made to the present setup. I would suggest dropping the identity of the western part of Hunters Hill as "Gladesville" and simply have it identified as "Hunters Hill". Any move to separate the present Gladesville from Hunters Hill, combining it with other adjacent areas I most strongly oppose.

Third, if there were to be an amalgamation I think it should be limited and might for example bundle Hunters Hill with Lane Cove, not with any other area and especially not with Ryde. (Some suggestion of a predatory move from an area like Parramatta seems to me bizarre.)

Finally I think things would be a lot better if individuals with links to real estate and such-like occupations should be firmly disqualified from membership of councils. I am not so innocent as to think this easy to police, but it should be organized and energetically policed.

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