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Submission: As a resident of Hornsby Council I object to the Fit for the Future proposal whereby 41 councils are amalgamated to form 18. Our council currently already appears not able to provide services for individual areas eg maintaining Epping swimming pool preferring to direct residents to larger centres over 15 km away in Hornsby. This would be magnified with larger areas per jurisdiction and is not a way to build self sufficient neighbourhoods, in a time when we should be trying to reduce our carbon footprints and living locally.

How can a council respond to needs of individual areas when there is less representation? Our area has been a heritage area but a smaller council could not have as many specialised heritage staff. There is more likely to be the one size fits all solution .

Hornsby council seems unable to confront developers who break the rules because they have not got the resources to fight legal cases. This would only get worse with a reduction in staff.