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Submission: Dear sir /madam

I write as a rate paying resident of Chippendale. I strongly support the Council amalgamation proposal of merging the City of Sydney with eastern suburb councils, in principle.

Merged councils should work hard at achieving scale efficiencies. Take the proposal to merge the City of Sydney with eastern suburb councils. I would be surprised that cost savings cannot be achieved by running just the one council over several.

Clearly, there will be disruptions and these must be managed, and clearly, efficiencies to be achieved must be the result of continuous effort at improvements. There is also a need to better coordinate and provide coherence in planning for Sydney's future, this is especially important in a growing city like Sydney that needs ever greater investments in public infrastructure.

I do not support the City of Sydney's submission to the extent that it recommends the status quo. Its submission should instead focus on the forced merger with South Sydney, which has been a huge success. More can be achieved in the area of better scale efficiencies, better coordination between state and local administrations, and between different local governments.

New York only has five boroughs. London has 33. This compares with the State of New South Wales which has over 150 local government areas. A number that is nothing short of excessive, wasteful and unnecessary. The entire population of our state is still about 1 million less in population terms than the City of London or New York City. Our State has way too many councils and way too many elected bodies. We need less not more.

Yours sincerely

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