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Submission: The City of Sydney delivers high quality services and infrastructure while keeping rates and charges low. The residential population is as large as Hobart at 200,000 and there are additionally over 1 million people working in the city.

I am happy with the City of Sydney governance and feel that it is responsive, efficient and forward looking.

It is committed to reducing carbon emissions which to me is crucial and I have no confidence that an amalgamated mega-council would continue this route.

The City of Sydney's demonstrated effective governance, strong finances and skilled personnel are critical for securing Sydney's continued transformation as a modern global city and to capitalise on unprecedented development investment potential over the next decade.

I feel that amalgamations are disruptive without demonstrated benefit (financial or social) and would lead to more highly politicised and expensive elections.

Moreover I feel that as a resident I would inevitably have less access to Councillors and they would in general be far removed from the people. They would be a professional political class, and it would be more difficult for ordinary people to get elected.

I do not want to see forced amalgamations proceed. The only circumstances I would support would be if the State Government was prepared to give up significant power to councils - eg ALL planning powers and transport. This has not been proposed.