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Submission: I support the submission by Pittwater Council against any merger or amalgamation.

I've been a resident of Scotland Island since 2004 and I believe we have a local government that generally understands our unique environment and is best placed to serve the interests of this community.

The residents of Scotland Island operate a strong and democratic organisation the Scotland Island Residents Association, which some years ago adopted a statement of values that represents the views of the community.

"We value living within this beautiful place where ever shimmering water, wide skies, fresh air, tall trees and plants predominate over the built environment. In this somewhat isolated special place, accessible only by water, living has unique challenges and a sense of adventure. We value living within a varied, friendly and flourishing community, united by our common context. Our daily lives are often made up of many small friendly encounters, shared events, celebrations and cooperative activities which weave together an inclusive, innovative and nurturing social environment. We are of course latecomers and acknowledge the many tens of thousands of years the original human communities lived in this place."

These values are best reflected in a local body such as the one we have.