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Submission: I have lived in what is now the City of Sydney and was the South Sydney Council for the last 25 years and am very aware of what a laborious process amalgamation was. There is no evidence that the previous amalgamation was a good thing. Unless there is VERY STRONG evidence that further amalgamation will improve services, lower costs, and result in greater citizen representation such amalgamation should not be supported. To date, NO such evidence has been forthcoming from you or anyone else.

Larger councils will mean that councillors will be further removed from local areas and local people. Larger councils will make it easier for established organisations with greater finances, such as political parties, to dominate election processes. It will become harder for local people to be involved meaningfully.