

Author name: R. Dyne

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Submission: I would like to lodge my protest regarding any amalgamation between Wyong Shire Council and any other council. My reasons for this stem from past experience of an amalgamation between Wyong/Gosford tertiary education with that of the Hunter/Newcastle area. The winner in that merger was the Hunter/Newcastle zone (being the larger area) while the Wyong and Gosford TAFE system saw the closure of many courses leaving many students without their certificates due to the inability to complete their courses. If Wyong Shire Council is amalgamated with another council I believe that it will be to the detriment of rate payers in the Wyong Shire. Wyong Shire Council is in surplus due to the efforts of our local Councillors but also due to the money paid by the rate payers - I for one do not wish to see my money used out side of my area. I am certain that if Wyong were amalgamated with Gosford (or even Lake Macquarie) then the bulk of our rates would be diverted to the new partner especially given that Wyong's financial standing is the better one. Again - I request that there be NO amalgamation of Wyong Shire Council.