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Submission: Hello

I would like to say that I'm not in favour of having the Council (Leichhardt) amalgamated with another Council.

I have been directly involved with a previous amalgamation and the outcome had more negatives than positives. My wife and I owned 2 houses in South Sydney Council. We feel we lost much of the "local" touch when it was amalgamated with Sydney Council. At one stage, a problem on Bennett St resulted in the then Mayor visiting the site. I cannot see the Mayor of Sydney doing this. I have no complaints about Sydney Council and they may be more efficient, but the "service factor" has not been improved.

I cannot see rates coming down under any amalgamation, quite the opposite. If say Ashfield were to be combined with Leichhardt, the high fixed cost approach that Ashfield applies would be to the detriment of Leichhardt homeowners.

Please do not force amalgamations on those who do not want them. Thank you.