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Submission: I am very concerned about the proposed amalgamation.

The character of each council area and its priorities are distinct.

I imagine it would be an administrative nightmare and that many people would be disaffected having to slot into a larger system that may or may not be applicable to them.

I also wish to maintain the smaller scale local government:

Local is important to people's daily lives, it is what concerns the particular ratepayers.

The smaller council is accessible and people friendly.

The changes in rates, advantages and disadvantages would need to be fair to people who are used to the current system.

I live in a more expensive area, I can't afford higher rates, but my house has gone up in value and is possibly much higher than other local areas by comparison for a similar house. It is my home, its value is irrelevant to me in terms of my living expenses.