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Submission: There is no evidence that large Councils with a particular population number delivers better services. Indeed there is evidence to the contrary as those large Councils already over the arbitrary figure of 250,000 population are possible not fit for the Future using the other criteria to assess their long term sustainability. Standardising regulation and enforcing compliance through amalgamation of Councils will not improve outcomes for either residents of those complaining of too much regulation. Privatisation of services across larger areas will not result in cheaper, more effective or efficient delivery of this services. A councils capacity to deliver services should be based on the professional qualities of the staff employed and the proper representation of residents through the democratic processes already in place working constructively together. Small metropolitan councils already have the scale and capacity to deliver the service their local community demands. Government can have strategic influence via Regional Organisations of Councils on matters that are regional significance and the responsibility of the State or Federal Government to deliver. Health, Education and Social services. (Although in the example of the Regional delivery of Education services this has not been consistent and it has now failed to meet increasing demand in some metropolitan areas with strategic errors made in the divestment of assets and land to meet increasing demand.)

Small local Councils are capable of identifying the needs of their local residents and then delivering those identified services as required with the resources available. Small local Councils are capable of prioritising these service for their local residents.