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**From:** Clr Robert Young  
**Sent:** Sunday, 19 February 2023 4:41 PM  
**To:** Submissions LGBoard  
**Subject:** FW: Local Government Reform

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**Sent:** Sunday, 19 February 2023 4:40 PM  
**To:** nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au  
**Subject:** Local Government Reform

Chair  
Local Government Reform

Dear Chair

My name is Robert Young.  
I am a councillor at Glamorgan Spring Bay and wish to put my personal thoughts forward to the question of reform.

Should not the individual resident and rate payers and their interests be at the front of the reform questions?

Should they have an ongoing say in the way that the communities in which they live and holiday develop? Even if others do not agree with their views?

Why live in an area that one chose for peace, tranquillity, and natural environment, if it can be altered against the wishes of the majority who live or holiday there? Whatever those above (in charge), would want.

Do not having choices imposed from above incite anger, resentment, and often entrenched long term opposition, at least to the imposers? All too often Government.

Are not the peculiarities of Tasmania and its regions one of the great attractions of this State?

If there are council mergers, or planning removed from councils to a central, or central, authority/ies, will such steps enhance the capacity of locals to have an effective say about what happens in their areas, or will they become more disenfranchised?

Are not these the main matters to be considered in Local Government reform?

It has been said that THE BIGGER THE BETTER, THAT RESOURCES SHOULD BE SHARED.

Is the big Hobart City Council run without dissention? Without overly large bureaucratic systems? Without rates that I am told exceed the rates that we charge for houses of equal Assessed Annual Values?  
Is bigger necessarily better?

Scale may work well in industry, and truck making factories, but does it in government and democratic institutions. Councils do share costs and overheads. Not all with each other as some councils are not well run, or are financially insecure. But SERDA (South East Regional Development Association, of councils ) is an example of very effective sharing.

The larger the institution the more expensive it is to run, the less likely it is to neglect peripheral (remote), areas;

and is the risk of empire building greater?  
Do empress cost money to run?

The main thing I recall is that when the Ray Groom mergers occurred in the 1990s, the rate increased and the road repair declined.

Residents and rate payers should be paramount in all considerations.

A personal view.

Robert Young