

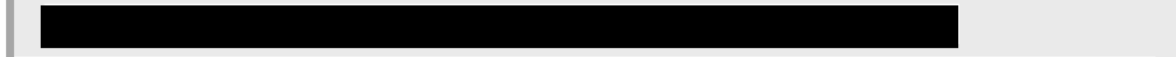


**Subject:**  
**Date:**



Submission re proposed Local government changes - Amalgamation of Councils  
Friday, 14 July 2023 11:48:13 AM

---



To whom it may concern,

I am concerned that with the proposed Local Government changes ie. Amalgamation of councils, that the services currently provided by the Meander Valley Council will deteriorate. I do not want to see the services reduced. Eg. **I do not want to see** the local tip closed, **I do not want to see** the local council depot closed or the number and quality of local gov't services provided by the council workers (like keeping the gardens and areas near the Meander river maintained as they are now in Deloraine, etc) reduced. In fact, there is currently very little maintenance of the trees in the town of Deloraine done, there is very little tree pruning in the public spaces which over time will be a problem as these trees get older and will need replacing as they become dangerous.

If amalgamation is forced the only amalgamation I would want to see is Northern Midlands including Longford, Perth and Evandale amalgamate with the Meander Valley Council including Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights. In other words no change to the 2 councils in the areas they cover but they would become a joint council with one group of councillors, one council office (Council Office as opposed to the separate council depots with vehicles and equipment for the workers providing the services which I believe should remain) and one general manager. The councillor representation should increase from perhaps 9 to 12 with councillors given specific areas of the bigger council area to focus on. Councillors currently in the Meander Valley Council already complain that the Meander Valley is too big an area to cover if councillors need to visit a specific area within the Meander Valley. Therefore making it a bigger area will need councillors to specialise in only part of that new council area.

The possible change to remove planning approvals from the local councils is a separate issue and I would like to comment on that separately to the amalgamation of the councils.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,

Diane Greenway  
Deloraine Town Resident

