

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Submissions LGBoard](#)  
**Subject:** re future of local government review  
**Date:** Monday, 10 July 2023 4:43:45 PM  
**Importance:** High

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I was wishing to complete the survey that was brought to my attention via a flyer received from the Huon Valley Council (HVC) on Thursday last week however the survey has apparently closed (not the August 2 date as described in the flyer).

My husband and I are against any amalgamations at all. HVC are very active in our small town and we receive services that we believe are appropriate for the size of the town and for our rural location. HVC run our medical centre and employ the medical staff including doctors as the population base is not lucrative enough for a private medical service due to the high number of pensioner and concession patients who pay a minimal amount to access care, the majority being bulk billed. Is this critical service going to be guaranteed to continue if Kingborough absorb us into their vortex? I think not. Our location is far removed from anything in the Kingborough Council area and we will be 'over the hill, out of sight, out of mind and far, far away'.

We believe that we will end up in the same situation that Bruny Island is currently in – with a limited voice and limited funding for essential services such as toilet facilities, waste services and road maintenance. It is not good enough and we do not want to be forced into the same situation by bureaucrats who live in a large town or city who have no idea of the needs of our population or indeed even where we live! I doubt that more than a very small handful of people making these arbitrary decisions have ever visited Dover. They may have driven through the town but have no idea what our town looks like off the main road - most of the town is not visible from the highway.

No doubt the decision has already been made and some-one is congratulating themselves on a job well done. They leave their Hobart or Launceston office and travel the couple of kms home to their residence. Decide if they are going to have their meal at home, get uber eats or go out to a restaurant. Meanwhile down here we have been to our garden, looked at what is growing and ready, dug it up, maybe killed a chicken and plucked it and worked for a couple of hours preparing the meal. No uber eats or delivery. To get to Woolworths we travel 45 minutes along a winding road with limited opportunity to pass. To go to Bunnings it is a 70 minute journey one way. We are not hippies. We are both retired career professionals and have masters degrees in our chosen field. We love our lifestyle and wouldn't change it for the world but it in no way compares to someone in an urban environment. Our needs are different. Our voices should be heard, listened to and not diminished or discredited due to the geographical distance from a major centre. I fear this is the likely outcome from amalgamating with Kingborough.

If the choice has to be made then the only scenario that makes any sense is

3. Establishing one Council area by combining the existing Huon Valley Council area and the majority of the Kingborough Council area, minus Tarooma, urban Kingston and Blackman's Bay.

Please acknowledge this email.

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