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**To:** [Submissions LGBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Local Government Submission  
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To whom it may concern,

I have lived in the Burnie and Glenorchy LGAs for years and have lived in the King Island, Latrobe, Waratah-Wynyard, and West Coast LGAs for months. I have also previously been involved in community activities in the Brighton LGA. It is important to note that while I write at length about King Island, I believe much more attention should be made to submissions by long-term residents.

I think that councils should only be amalgamated if when there is a significant improvement in service provision or cost-effectiveness which cannot be achieved by service-sharing. I also believe such amalgamations should only occur with the consents of the voters in those LGAs.

Regarding the western shore of Hobart, I acknowledge that dividing line between the Glenorchy and Hobart councils are fairly arbitrary. However, the coverage around Hobart's Council always seems to be around issues in the CBD which are highly-charged and politicised, resulting in a more political-like council. I worry this will risk the Glenorchy community being ignored. I remain sceptical that the council would maintain a service hub in Glenorchy, and everyone would therefore be doomed to go into Hobart itself to deal with their issues.

Regarding Cradle Coast, I think it is important to at least maintain Burnie and Devonport as two separate councils. I regularly go to Devonport, Latrobe, and Spreyton for various commitments but I would never be so presumptuous to think I have the faintest clue about the issues faced in the Devonport and Latrobe LGAs. The two population centres, while there is a lot of cross-over are still distinct. Nonetheless, I can see the appeal of a single council in terms of regional co-ordination.

Regarding King Island, I believe it is incredibly important that the separate LGA is maintained. Before I went to King Island I had very little idea about it. When I spent three wonderful months on KI, I have no thought to the rest of the state. There is no way that any real form of *local government (aka rule)* can exist when it meets on the mainland. This is especially so given the population difference would mean there would likely be no elected councillor who resides on KI. Any cost savings would have to account for an Island Commissioner and/or for the cost of multiple visits by "local" councillors from the mainland.

It is also worth noting that while the plane may come into Wynyard, it is a bit of a stretch to suggest that KI's most natural community of interest lies with the West. I imagine this is a similar issue when the review suggests Flinders Island natural community of interest is with the North East, especially considering the planes land in Launceston!

The proposal talks about how merging KI with other councils would open access to more specialised staff. I ask why this cannot be achieved through other arrangements, for example renting time of those experts from other councils? This would secure local representation and local rule-making while allowing outside specialism when required.

In the end, for any merger I think the government should have very good evidence that amalgamation alone will improve things. I am sceptical about this for a Western Shore council or a combined Cradle Coast council but can see their potential. However, I really doubt that King Island would be best served by a mainland amalgamation. Nonetheless, any amalgamation should also have the approval of the LGAs electorate. We live in a democracy after all.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions regarding my submission please do not hesitate to ask via reply e-mail.

Kind regards,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.