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Submission: I was born and raised in the Bombala area [REDACTED] and returned to the district in 1979 to begin my [REDACTED] Practice.

As a mixed practice I cover the whole district and have a close working relationship with the [REDACTED] community as well as [REDACTED]. I have have links with many businesses in Bombala including Bombala Council.

I feel very strongly that a Council merger would have no benefits for the community. A merged council would achieve no more benchmarks than if it remained a Rural Council. A merged council would see a loss of representation and services for Bombala in the long term and any loss of employment will have a negative effect on the community, including businesses, schools and community morale.

I fear the promises made now that the loss of representation, services and employment will be minimal, will not be realistic in the long term.

[REDACTED]