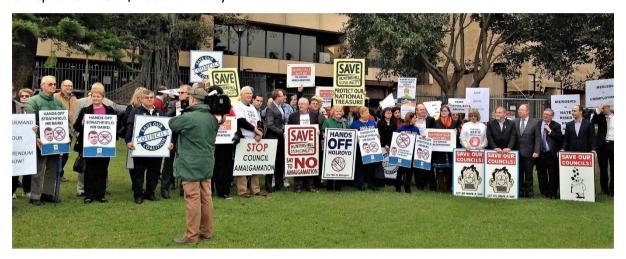
## SAVE OUR COUNCILS COALITION LAUNCH - 11 June 2015

The launch by local community groups and residents across NSW of a non-party political coalition, called Save Our Councils Coalition (SOCC), took place in the Domain next to the NSW Parliament on 11 June 2015.

The aims of SOCC include keeping local councils truly local, and strongly opposing forced council amalgamations.

The Launch was also attended and supported by representatives of all political parties, except the Liberal/National Party.



Short video (4:16) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4QLFl6mGp4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4QLFl6mGp4</a>
Video (19:56) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JTz2crgRj94">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JTz2crgRj94</a>

## **DEATH OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY – 12 May 2016**

Over considerable community and political opposition, the NSW Liberal/National Party Government on 12 May 2016 forcibly amalgamated 42 local councils across NSW, creating new mega councils in their place.

Short video (4:44) - https://www.facebook.com/SaveNSW/videos/1122657131269482/

At that time a number of additional councils were in court fighting the process. After a number of court victories and a strong community campaign, the Government backed down and fourteen of those councils were not amalgamated.

## WE WANT OUR COUNCILS BACK!

However, those local communities that were forcibly merged in May 2016 want their local councils back. The forced mergers have resulted in communities suffering a significant loss of identity and representation, and they are failing financially. Communities are demanding to #DemergeNow!

Short video (2:42) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OghoWCG15el">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OghoWCG15el</a> and Video (15:43) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9c1s5xcm9zQ&list=PLor69SMXRxYcPvL3nXBPsgqLScAJ1wx98&index=15">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9c1s5xcm9zQ&list=PLor69SMXRxYcPvL3nXBPsgqLScAJ1wx98&index=15</a>