



Save Our Councils Coalition (SOCC)  
12 February 2019

## **Reasons to ‘Number Every Box’ at the NSW March Election**

### PREFERENCING IS IMPORTANT

1. Preferences may well determine the results in many Lower House (Legislative Assembly) seats, and the actual election result.
2. The NSW electoral system prescribes ‘Optional Preferential’ voting. This means for the Lower House you may vote for one candidate, or more effectively you can vote for as many as you wish in the order of your choice – both are a legal vote.
3. However, to make your vote really count you should number every box, for that means your vote does not die but can continue on by way of your preferences to the end of the count. This may help determine the result. In short, if you give preferences – your vote really does count.
4. SOCC recommends that you place ‘1’ in the box next to a candidate of integrity who has, and their party if there is one has, demonstrated strong support for SOCC’s aims and for the Five Point Plan. In continuing to put preferences thereafter, SOCC recommends that you number every box and put the Libs/Nats Last.

SOCC is non-party political and will support candidates, parties and independents in the State election that have policies that are in keeping with SOCC’s aims (see below).

Many parties and candidates support SOCC’s aims and our Five Point Plan for demergers, except for the Liberal/National coalition.

SOCC recommends that communities across NSW Put Libs/Nats Last – see document ‘Reasons to Put Libs/Nats Last at the NSW March Election’.

### SOCC’s Aims

1. Keep local councils local.
2. No forced council mergers.
3. Strong local communities.
4. Support for local democracy.
5. Referendums to determine demergers.

### SOCC’s Five Point Plan for Demergers

The Five Point Plan requires a petition of 10% of enrolled voters in the former council area, a binding referendum, a majority of those voting to be in favour, funding by the Government and appropriate enabling legislation – see [here](#).

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