

**Electoral structure review - Brimbank City Council - Response Submission
Thomas O'Reilly - Sunshine West - 08 November 2023, 04:59 pm**

Please see attached

Submission to Brimbank Electoral Structure Review

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Brimbank Electoral Structure Review. This submission is an independent submission and represents my own views.

Alongside my own submission of boundaries, I have included personal feedback on the proposed models, general boundary advice and suggestions on the names of wards.

Boundaries of Wards

Boundaries should fall on main roads, freeways and/or natural boundaries such as waterways and creeks. They should also try to avoid the splitting of residential areas of a suburb as much as possible.

All wards in my suggested model are within the required deviation range and apart from one ward are within a +/-5% deviation.

Names of Wards

Wards named after suburbs may confuse residents who do not live in the named suburb, but are still included in the ward.

I have included more information on the names utilised in my submission and the suburbs they could be connected to below. Where current and former ward names are used I have checked to make sure they are of relevance to my suggested boundaries and suburbs included in them.

Ward names provided in my submission	Suburbs of relevance
Esplanade East Esplanade and West Esplanade run the vertical length of the ward. Alternate name: Padley Alfred Henry Padley was a key stakeholder in the construction of the St Albans railway. Padley is also a previous ward name covering a similar area.	St Albans
Furlong Kate Furlong was a gatekeeper at the Furlong Road Railway crossing in the late 1800s. Furlong Road runs across St Albans and Sunshine North. Furlong is also a former ward name covering a similar area.	St Albans (South East) and Sunshine North
Glengala Glengala is the name of one of the earliest known homesteads west of the Kororoit Creek. Glengala Road is a main road and horizontally runs across the length of Sunshine West. Glengala is also a former ward name covering a similar area.	Sunshine West

<p>Grasslands The Grassland Reserve is a natural landmark in the region. Grasslands is also a current ward name covering a similar area.</p> <p>Alternate name: University Tertiary facilities are located within the boundary.</p>	<p>Cairnlea</p>
<p>Horseshoe Bend Horseshoe Bend Farm is a landmark in the region. Horseshoe Bend is also a current ward name covering a similar area.</p>	<p>Keilor region</p>
<p>McKay Hugh Victor McKay was an industrialist who founded the Sunshine Harvester Company, developing the Sunshine and Albion suburbs. McKay is also a former ward name covering a similar area.</p> <p>Alternate name: Harvester The name of McKay's company was Sunshine Harvester. Harvester is also a current ward name covering a similar area.</p>	<p>Albion and Sunshine</p>
<p>Mount Derrimut Mount Derrimut Road is an arterial road running vertically through the ward. Derrimut is also a former ward name covering a similar area (Derrimut Ward).</p>	<p>Derrimut and Deer Park (parts below railway line)</p>
<p>Organ Pipes The Organ Pipes are a natural landmark in the region. The name is derived from the suggested models.</p> <p>Alternate name: Robertson or Kings or Taylors Robertson is a previous ward name covering a similar area. Kings Road and Robertson Road are roads running through Taylors Lakes.</p>	<p>Keilor North and Taylors Lakes (Northern region)</p>
<p>Overnewton Overnewton is named after the Overnewton Estate which incorporates the suburbs of Sydenham and Delahey. Overnewton is also a former ward name covering a similar area.</p>	<p>Sydenham and Delahey</p>
<p>Parklands Derived from the suburbs within them, with Deer Park and Kings Park both having "park" in their names.</p> <p>Alternate name: Kororoit Kororoit Creek forms the southern ward boundary. Kororoit is also a previous ward name covering a similar area, and the name of a current State electorate covering parts of the Brimbank area.</p>	<p>Deer Park and Kings Park</p>
<p>Taylors Taylors Road runs the horizontal length of the ward connecting Keilor Downs and St Albans. Taylors is also a current ward name covering a similar area.</p>	<p>Keilor Downs, St Albans (North), Taylors Road area</p>

Feedback on Proposed Models

Model 3 configuration uses clear natural and road boundaries, and keeps many suburbs with similar interests together in the south, particularly for (1) Cairnlea and South West St Albans, (2) Albion, Ardeer, Sunshine, (3) Sunshine West, (4) Derrimut and Deer Park South and (5) Deer Park North, Albanvale and Kings Park.

I also believe that Models 1 and 2 have better configurations for the majority of the northern suburbs of the municipality. A combination of the southern boundaries in Model 3 and northern boundaries in Models 1 and 2 could create a model more closely reflecting communities of interest across Brimbank as a whole.

Comments on Models 1 and 2

Models 1 and 2 divide the two halves of Sunshine across the railway. In promoting a stronger sense of identity for Sunshine as a whole and the historical connection to HV McKay with bordering suburb Albion, a ward named McKay acknowledging its manufacturing past containing all of Sunshine, Albion and neighbouring Ardeer would collectively hold a stronger community of interest as shown in Model 3.

Comments on Model 3

For Model 3, using Main Road East as a boundary would enable Sunshine North to join with parts of South East St Albans, and the rest of St Albans to join with Kealba and Keilor Park as per the current Horseshoe Bend boundaries.

In these ways Sunshine North (which does not yet have the enrolment numbers to be a ward by itself) could develop a stronger sense of identity and many of the suburbs already under Horseshoe Bend can continue to remain together in the transition to a single ward model.

Additionally, the Kororoit Creek Trail would be a more natural boundary to divide Sunshine and Sunshine West, meaning Brooklyn is moved to a separate ward from Sunshine West, and Sunshine West can be a ward by itself.