

Electoral structure review - Hepburn Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
Anna Irwin-Schutze - Hepburn springs - 01 March 2023, 03:48 pm

I don't have a sophisticated submission, but I believe as the smallest form of democratic representation we have in Australia, it's important that we keep the scope of Hepburn Shire's electoral map small. By that, I mean that we should have smaller wards than currently we have (7 in total), ensuring each key township and surroundings has a councillor representing them at the grass roots level.

In addition to the representation aspect, smaller wards also means those wishing to run for council have a manageable level of campaigning. Not everyone would have time and budget to campaign across the entire shire, whereas, for example, a Trentham ward councillor could much more easily be in touch with residents and their needs. Doing it this way would ensure running for council isn't something restricted to the wealthy or those backed by political parties/interests.