

**Electoral structure review - Hepburn Shire Council - Response Submission**  
**Vicki Steggall - Trentham - 17 April 2023, 10:49 am**

I strongly support Model 3.

Since moving to Trentham three years, I have truly understood the importance of having a local ward councillor who understands and represents the town and its immediate district. I have seen it in action.

Our town is not the same as other towns in the shire - in fact the diversity contained within Hepburn is one of its great delights. Maintaining that diversity is a benefit for both residents and tourists.

Without a local ward councillor, I can foresee a situation where a small town like Trentham is simply subsumed into a larger area with different needs - in fact, basically forgotten, and with no one clear person to turn to.

I also believe that having 7 wards with 7 councillors makes every councillor extremely visible - and accountable - and thus less open to exploitation by political or interest groups.