Electoral structure review - Hepburn Shire Council - Preliminary Submission Trevor Armstrong - Creswick - 01 March 2023, 1:43 pm

From: <u>Trevor Armstrona</u>

To: <u>Hepburn ERAP Submissions 2023</u>
Subject: Ward restructure review

Date: Wednesday, 1 March 2023 1:43:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

I could not get the online system to take my comments, hence the email.

Any review of the ward structure for the Hepburn Shire Council must firstly acknowledge that as a rural shire with a population of only 16, 604 at the 2021 Census, it cannot effectively provide the level of services that increasingly the community expects of it.

Any ward restructuring will not change this underlying central issue.

It is my view that the present ward structure of three single councillor wards and two wards with two councillors has worked to the detriment of a more effective and efficient allocation of resources.

Council's decision-making has largely operated on a highly parochial basis, with very little regard for strategic planning and resources allocation.

In the light of these considerations, I am firmly in favour of introducing a **single ward structure** with councillors elected by proportional representation.

Regards

Trevor Armstrong
Creswick Vic 3363
Mobile:
International