



Defenders of the South East Green Wedge Inc

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ASPENDALE 3195

VEC review of the ward boundaries for Greater Dandenong City Council.

Submission by Defenders of the South East Green Wedge Inc. (DSEGW Inc.)

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the review of Greater Dandenong City Council's ward boundaries.

Of the two models proposed, DSEGW strongly supports Model 2 for the following reasons.

The Dandenong Ward shown in Model 1 is a mega ward encompassing the entire green wedge areas of Keysborough, Bangholme and Lyndhurst, a considerable section of the Dandenong South Industrial Area, and much of central Dandenong. This enormous ward is proposed to extend from Kingston's Waterways to the edge of Casey.

In no way can this distribution be seen to represent a single community of interests. These are three distinct and easily identifiable communities that share nothing in common, certainly not physical or environmental features. A councillor attempting to represent these communities will be perpetually conflicted.

Retaining and maintaining the designated Greater Dandenong Green Wedge land in a readily identifiable and separate ward is vitally important for its continued survival, environmental significance and value to the community. To contemplate including it with the large South Dandenong industrial region and Dandenong's commercial centre defies common sense, is contrary to these aims and is an invitation to encourage land use conflict.

Residents are already familiar with the current ward boundary with all Dandenong's Green Wedge in a single ward. Model 2 better reflects their understanding.

Model 2 also has the benefit of altering fewer ward boundaries and thus affecting fewer electors.

Diana Donohue
Secretary DSEGW Inc.