

Electoral structure review - Hepburn Shire Council - Response Submission
Lisa Gray - Elwood - 09 April 2023, 02:07 pm

I support Model 3 (7 wards, 7 councillors) for the electoral review for the Hepburn Shire.

As a resident in a smaller town in the municipality, Trentham, I believe that smaller wards will enable more effective and efficient representation of the specific needs and priorities of the communities that they serve.

Larger wards covering adjacent but diverse communities has some merit but there remains a material risk that this is dominated by groups with vested and partisan interests that are not reflective of smaller communities.

I appreciate that this needs to be in the context of the overall priorities for the shire. Every councillor has a duty to consider the overall needs of the shire and balance that with the needs of their local communities. This is the point of having a representative council and a forum in which to have those discussions.