

**Electoral structure review - Horsham Rural City Council - Response Submission
Kristen Barber - Pimpinio - 19 July 2023, 04:59 pm**

I wish for the following to be taken into consideration regarding the electoral structure review for Horsham Rural City Council.

Something needs to change because the current model is not working. The voices of the community are not being heard or represented by the current councillors. The concern with the proposed creation of 7 wards is that it may be challenging to get sufficient candidates from each ward to run for election that will capably represent their ward. However, if candidates do not need to reside in the ward they can be voted in to represent, this may help alleviate this challenge.

If one of the three options had to be selected, option 3 would be preferable as it allows each councillor to represent the needs of both central Horsham and rural residents. Option 1 and 2 would only provide 2 representatives for rural residents out of the 7, meaning the votes would almost always fall in favour of the central Horsham representatives and result in continued dismissal and neglect to the needs of the rural residents, as we are currently seeing with the existing council structure.

Yours sincerely,

Kristen Barber