

SUBMISSION FOR THE MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE COUNCIL REVIEW  
CONDUCTED BY THE VICTORIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION 2023

DATE: 18-02-2023

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I wish to begin by explaining that I couldn't use your website as it requires me to enable Pop-Ups from my browser settings and I have no idea a) what Pop-Ups are or b) how to access my browser settings.

I am 80 yrs old and can only do basic tasks on a computer. The compilers of your submissions portal should take note.

I live in the Central ward of Mt Alexander Shire which has three Councillors. My experience has been that this arrangement doesn't work well. Accountability can't be sheeted home to a particular Councillor. ██████████

I venture to suggest that we would be better served by having more Wards with a single Councillor elected in each. That way there could be no shirking of responsibility to represent constituents.

Abolition of Wards would compound the problem of failure to respond by those Councillors who in reality only serve their mates and colleagues and ignore everyone else. Ratepayers would have no way of knowing who to contact with their problems and all Councillors would be bombarded with emails referring to matters in parts of the Shire with which they are unfamiliar.

The Multiple Wards each with one Councillor is the best method to ensure Ratepayers have a representative who is accountable.

As for where Ward Boundaries should be drawn, experienced, impartial people from outside of the Shire should be charged with the task of delineating them with regard to the number of Ratepayers in each area.

Diane Frape-Linton

**Victorian Electoral Commission note 01/03/2023:**

**Content in this submission has been redacted due to the material being deemed private, sensitive, out of scope or inappropriate for publication.**