

**Electoral structure review - Wangaratta Rural City Council - Response Submission
Michael Masin - Wangaratta - 28 July 2023, 07:23 pm**

I believe model three is the best option as it captures Wangaratta's growth areas and existing urban areas more effectively. I'm currently building in the north west growth area and previously lived in Froh Court, which was located in a rural ward despite being within walking distance of the CBD. Under models one and two, this residential area on the east side of Murdoch Road remains in a rural ward, along with other general residential areas in the north and east of Wangaratta remain within rural wards.

Wangaratta's urban sprawl has exceeded what can be fully contained within the urban wards of models one and two. Model three contains all of Wangaratta's current and future residential areas within urban or peri-urban wards. Avoiding the long, narrow Merriwa Park Ward and using more collector rather than local streets to set boundaries, it provides a more logical urban ward layout. By better accommodating Wangaratta's growth, model three also allows rural wards to have dedicated rural representation without continuing urban encroachment.

One potential improvement to model three could be to use the three-mile creek/Willow Drive as the boundary between the Mount Warby and Wareena Wards (rather than Russell Avenue and Worland Road), and offsetting this by placing the residential area north of Vincent Road in the Wareena Ward.