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Sent: Tuesday, 14 November 2023 1:33 PM
To: Mornington Peninsula Submissions 2023
Subject: Mornington Peninsula Shire electoral structure review.
Attachments: IMG_2952.HEIC

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Electoral Structure Review for the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

Submission from: Brian L. Stahl OAM [REDACTED] Hastings 3915.

I make this submission in the capacity of a former Councillor on Mornington Peninsula Shire 2003-2008 elected as Mayor 2005-6 , badged the "Captain of the 1st Eleven"- attached, the year representation went from 9 councilors to 11 councillors.

Wholeheartedly I welcome the return to 11 Wards with single councillor representation as a more fair & equitable model of governance for our diverse Shire.

I recall with a measure of pride the fact that each of the Councillors elected at that time undertook their responsibility to represent the constituents and community at large within their Ward strongly whilst respecting the views of their fellow councillors.

11 Wards:

Mornington Peninsula Shire is unique in many respects covering 724 square Km, with 190 Km of coastline, 40 Townships (not suburbs), 70% Rural - 30% Urban, a widely diverse socio-economic standing along with a demographic of a very high proportion of persons aged over 65 years.

The councillors elected to represent the individual 11 Wards "bring to the table" a wide and varied range of needs emanating from the requests from their constituents or the community groups they are elected to represent.

My firm belief is that as a single councillor, they have a better feel for the "sense of community" and service requirements within their Ward.

Model 2:

Of the models shown I believe Model 2 adopting the Ward names chosen, apart from Mount Eliza which should not be named town specific, provides a fair and equitable distribution of areas whilst retaining " a sense of communities of interest" within.

In closing I applaud the decision to return to 11 single councillors representing Wards across Mornington Peninsula Shire, moving away from the imbalance of representation which exists at the present time.

Brian L. Stahl OAM [REDACTED]

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We prove our greatness, not by the amount of our possessions, but by the grandeur of our actions. (Solzhenitsyn)

