

**Electoral structure review - Surf Coast Shire Council - Preliminary Submission  
Meredith Jalbert - Lorne - 21 February 2023, 6:54 am**

**From:** [Meredith Jelbart](#)  
**To:** [Surf Coast ERAP Submissions 2023](#)  
**Subject:** Plans for ward divisions, or one ward in Surf Coast local government elections  
**Date:** Tuesday, 21 February 2023 6:54:11 AM

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I would like to support Surf Coast becoming one undivided ward.

I would like the opportunity to vote for the very best candidates right across the Shire. And I would like to think that the very best candidates the Shire has to offer are those elected to Council.

Particularly at Local Government level, proportional representation seems the best system, allowing representation from all groups, minority and otherwise. The demographics of Surf Coast are varied, and everyone should feel their concerns will be taken to Council. In Lorne, where we live, we have only one councillor, to represent a very diverse ward.

It would be valuable, also, for all councillors to be informed about the concerns of the whole area of Surf Coast, rather than being focused upon one small ward within the region.

‘An undivided district is the only system that ensures that the majority of councillors have been elected by the affirmative votes of an absolute majority of voters over the entire municipal area.’

Meredith Jelbart

  
LORNE 3232  
