

**Electoral structure review - Frankston City Council - Response Submission
Kerri Rainer - Frankston South - 02 August 2023, 01:31 am**

Frankston South is where I have lived and become part of my community for the past 25 years or so. I have read the report and studied the proposed three models on boundary options.

Number of Councillors.

I do not support the reduction of Councillors in Model One. Frankston is a large and diverse city comparative in area, populous and diversity to Dandenong. A minimum of 9 Councillors is necessary to enable reasonable and equitable representation for voters.

I support the 9 Councillor option in Models 2 & 3 as this is appropriate and reflects the current level of representation which is working well.

Electoral Structure.

I am somewhat dismayed that the new Local Government Act dictates the one councillor per ward rule come into play as the current system of just three wards and three Councillors per ward was simple to identify with and worked so well. However, I must turn to the options before me and make my comment.

Model 1: I do not support Model 1 as I cannot support the reduction of Councillors.

Model 2: Although I am supportive that my area denoted as 'Paratea Ward' keeps my community relatively intact I do not support the proposed 'Coastal Ward'. The proposed Coastal Ward cobbles together differing and diverse communities including economic, social and environmental with the only common thread being the 'shore' and may lead to a sense of non representation or difficulty for one Councillor to represent so many communities. I do not support Model 2 on that basis.

Model 3: From the three options that have been offered for comment, Model 3 appears the best City wide. However, many similar communities with similar interests and concerns in Langwarrin South and Frankston South are now segregated by 'Yamala Ward', 'Paratea Ward' and 'Mount Grand Ward' and would be represented coherently if reconfigured and conjoined.

Ward Names.

I will only comment on the ward names that might apply to me dependent on the outcome.

'Yamala' and 'Paratea' are names that are not familiar nor represent my ward. Alternate names for your consideration are 'Sweetwater' as Sweetwater Creek and Upper and Lower Sweetwater Reserves are the geographical essence of the South. 'Baden Powell' is also a well known road and reserve both of which were named in honor of Lord Baden Powell of the scouts fame. The first International Scout Jamborree held in Australia was on 200 or so acres in Frankston South. So that too is apt.

Thank you for reading and considering my submission.