

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 21 February 2023 1:42 PM
To: Campaspe ERAP Submissions 2023
Subject: Fwd: Electoral Structure Review

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From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, 21 Feb 2023 at 11:46 am
Subject: Fwd: Electoral Structure Review
To: <Campaspe.ERAPSubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au>

Electoral structure review - Campaspe Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
Stanhope & District Development Committee Inc. Tuesday 21st February 2023 11.45am

Stanhope & District Development Committee Inc. (S&DDC) are a committee of residents who represent local organisations and contribute to the promotion and development of Stanhope.

At a meeting of S & DDC on Feb 8, 2023, the Campaspe Shire Council review was discussed.

The committee voted by majority to enter a submission expressing our voice as a Development Committee. After a lengthy discussion it was decided in the best interests of Stanhope and to ensure that Stanhope is represented effectively, **9 councillors in 9 subdivided wards**, is our preferred option.

The committee believe the smaller towns in the shire would be better served by having a local representative residing in the area. With an unsubdivided shire it's possible all councillors could live in the one town, ie the major towns (Echuca).

While this may present difficulties in changing boundaries to meet population requirements, it could be achieved.

Our second preference would be to have **3 wards with 3 councillors in each**. ie.,

1. Echuca Ward – 3 councillors and current boundaries
2. Kyabram-Deakin Ward 3 councillors and current boundaries
3. Rochester Ward, Western Ward and Waranga Ward merge with 3 councillors.

From our understanding of the population figures on the VEC website this would meet the review requirements.

The consensus of our meeting was that we would be vehemently opposed to an unsubdivided shire as this could leave residents in remote areas unrepresented isolating smaller towns like

Stanhope who require a representative who understands the issues smaller towns face, ensuring we continue to prosper in the future.

Any difficulties with boundaries of wards can be overcome, as for naming of individual wards, this should involve community consultation with residents.

Stanhope & District Development Committee inc

Glenda Marie Cowie (president)

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Ph: [REDACTED]