

**Electoral structure review - Stonnington City Council - Response Submission
Matt Whitehorn - South Yarra - 22 July 2023, 11:05 pm**

While the legislation change requires single member wards, representation of a diverse community can still be achieved by simply randomly distributing the existing 3 wards among 3 divisions.

This is clearly sub-optimal, and would pose challenges to those seeking election to campaign. In addition, in seeking to maintain the existing 3 member boundaries as the basis, the regions are not evenly balanced.

However the outcome of ensuring that members of the council represent a diverse range of interests across as much of the electorate as possible means that creative solutions should be considered that require a whole of community approach to representation by council-members.

I have no preferences regarding the three examples proposed, they all simply entrench a bad and undemocratic change. I acknowledge that the VEC is not choosing to make this change, however I must use this opportunity to object to the changes in the form of this proposal to sidestep them.