

## Electoral structure review - Horsham Rural City Council - Response Submission Shayne Keenan - Horsham - 19 July 2023, 12:54 PM

**From:** [shayne.keenan](#)  
**To:** [Horsham\\_ERAP\\_Submissions\\_2023](#); [shaynekeen](#)  
**Subject:** RE Electoral structure review - Horsham Rural City Council Response Submission S Keenan  
**Date:** Wednesday, 19 July 2023 12:54:23 PM

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RE Electoral structure review - Horsham Rural City Council Response  
Submission S Keenan

From S Keenan

Horsham 3400 Vic

TO Electoral Review Advisory Panel Submissions  
Level 11, 530 Collins Street  
Melbourne Vic 3000  
[Horsham.ERAPSubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:Horsham.ERAPSubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au)

I respectfully provide this statement to the Local Council electoral  
structure review of Horsham Rural City Council.

Dear Review staff

Proposed plans to change boundaries HRCC to seven wards.

Herewith suggest five wards.

The electoral commission could work out the details of the five wards please.

I support wards but would prefer five wards to seven wards.

It would be hoped as an example there was a north ward - there are  
around 3200 people in Horsham North.  
Five wards would mean 4000 people each ward and 3000 voters each ward.

Seven wards means 3000 people each ward and 2100 voters approximately.

Please reduce rate payers costs and reduce the number of wards and councilors.

Previously a premiere merged Victorian councils and councilors thus  
making savings.

Fewer HRCC councilors would provide savings with fewer wards.

Presently seven councilors are costing ratepayers i.e. approximately -  
Mayor around \$100-000 plus other costs.

Deputy Mayor \$30-000-00 plus extra \$19000-00.

The remaining councilors receive \$30-000-00. By five councilors.

All councilors have added options i.e. phone - PC - travel - pd covered.

Two fewer councilors would save the ratepayers between \$70-000 to  
\$80-000 yearly.

Presently HRCC acknowledges Natimuk with a council committee 6 representatives  
Natimuk population being around 500 people but HRCC refuses to  
acknowledge a committee to Horsham North with 3200 residents.  
Horsham North 2.2 per household divided into 3200 people

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Horsham North households 1,454  
Horsham north re Estimate North Total HRCC rates income  
\$2,181,014.54 Horsham north is estimated seven times what natimuk  
contributes .  
BUT no committee Horsham North

Natimuk has 2.2 people each house. 500 residents.  
Natimuk estimate houses 236.36 houses  
HRCC income \$1500-00 each by 236 houses income \$354,545.45 re Natimuk

HRCC favor a group with fewer people in Natimuk because they ask for a  
committee.  
Horsham North no council committee representations presently re HRCC decisions.

HRCC favors some groups and not others.  
When a councilor was from Haven being Horsham South there were better  
outcomes for Horsham South.  
Horsham North has not had a councilor from Horsham North for many years.  
So Horsham North representation is poorer.

Wards will assist representing the community more fairly in HRCC

Is there a duty statement of councilors?  
So the community knows what to expect from the councillors.  
Perhaps the councilors need to be more approachable and or transparent.

Five wards to save funding.  
If need be then seven wards. Thus better representation of groups to  
the HRCC community please.

I hope I have fulfilled the requirements of the submission to the  
relevant staff satisfaction.

Most faithfully

Shayne Keenan