

**Electoral structure review - Surf Coast Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
James Tutt - Anglesea - 17 February 2023, 5:00pm**

Submission – Surf Coast Shire Electoral Structure

I have served as a municipal councillor with the former City of Kew (16 years)
and at Surf Coast Shire (eight years)

SCS experienced the un-subdivided system ; it was found unrepresentative.
It was also very difficult for candidates to promote themselves, as they had to
campaign across the entire shire . This entailed considerable expense in the
production and mailing of brochures and was nigh near impossible to
doorknock the entire shire.

These constraints limit and deter potential candidates. (= discrimination)
Therefore , I do not support the un-subdivided electoral option.

In regard to the Ward system,

The essential element for ratepayers is representation of their interests.
Given that Council services are equitably provided wherever needed, residents
look to their local councillors to ensure their **local concerns** are addressed.

The SCS population is about 36,000 with 9 Councillors = app 4000 persons/Cr
Councils have operated with 9/12/15/18 councillors.
SCS is of a size that could operate with 9 or 12; its not big enough for 15/18.

The Shire has several distinct communities of interest :

Coastal Townships – Anglesea, Airy’s Inlet, Lorne

Urban Seaside – Torquay / Jan Juc

Rural - Winchelsea and “hamlets”

Councillors should be elected from those locations to represent their unique
nature/s . i.e environmental settings – housing styles & density – streetscapes –
resident life styles and services relevant to where they live.

How many councillors ?

I suggest 12 is suitable ; providing about 3000 persons / Cr

The number of Wards would then work out to be four (at 3CrS /Ward)

The Ward boundaries could be set to accommodate statutory requirements
based around the precincts/zones listed above.

James L Tutt

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17/02/23