

**Electoral structure review - Melton City Council - Response Submission**  
**Shaun McKerral - Diggers Rest - 28 October 2023, 11:05 am**

The township of Diggers rest finds itself on the outer boundary of Melton Council, split across into Hume.

Unfortunately this means we are largely "out of sight, out of mind" with our current councillors virtually invisible, focused on newly emerging sunburns/estates. Their presence is negligible, which is reflected in the lack of interest in improving services & council activities in the town.

Residents are made to fiercely advocate for delivery of services & facilities that other areas seem to receive as a priority. This includes basic services such as maternal health, youth services, transport/connectivity... The town is disconnected from all services with a need to travel to other areas to make use of council services.

Any change to the current model would be an improvement as our vote counts for nothing during elections - larger population areas in our ward simply install a local who continues to focus on local issues - ignoring those on the fringe.

Model 2 gives us an opportunity to become more of a focus being a population centre in a smaller ward, whilst Model 3 offers a similar footprint/scenario & is my preference.

Model 1 is unique in that the largest population centre within a much larger ward is Diggers - great for us, but how would that work across such a large area? Someone is bound to miss out.

All options present an opportunity for our town to finally have some representation, & I look forward to reviewing the feedback, selected option & the proposed implementation.

Model 3 please.