

**Electoral structure review - Surf Coast Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
Clive Goldsworthy - Lorne - 21 February 2023, 11:58 am**

I believe that the only effective way of gaining a voice at the Council is to have a Ward Councillor elected to represent our interests. I propose the establishment of 9 wards with 9 Councillors to be established across the Surf Coast Shire and elected by the Preferential system.

Within the current boundaries of the Surf Coast Shire, there are a number of very diverse community environments, e.g. Urban (Torquay), Rural (Winchelsea and surrounds, Coastal Townships with a large permanent populations (Jan Jac, Anglesea) and Coastal Villages with a much lower permanent population.

I believe that communities of such diversity are best represented by Ward Councillors who are familiar with specific issues relating to their specific Community of Interest who share a range of common concerns or aspirations.

Each Community of Interest within the Surf Coast Shire faces very different issues e.g Torquay is currently focused on issues such as public transport, education facilities, community arts & sporting facilities; all hallmarks of a rapidly growing community. Lorne on the other hand is a very different Community of Interest. Lorne is a very fragile community and with a permanent population under 1,300 people, we need specific focus on the issues that will influence the sustainability of our community, inflated housing prices, lack of affordable accommodation, natural disaster risks e.g. bushfires, education, shopping and health services all issues that are taken for granted by other areas of the Surfcoast Shire. Surrounding localities such as Deans Marsh, Fairhaven, Moggs Creek, Eastern View, Big Hill, Benwerrin, Pennyroyal & Big Hill all rely on Lorne for its infrastructure.

I have submitted my suggested preferred electoral structure and boundaries for the Surf Coast Shire taking into consideration current voter numbers and confirming any deviation between each ward is less than 10%.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission and would be prepared tpo speak publicly to this submission.

Clive Goldsworthy

[REDACTED]

Lorne

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