

**Electoral structure review - Corangamite Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
Denise Butler - COBDEN - 09 February 2023, 02:35 pm**

I would like to see the review maintain our existing single member Ward structure because I feel it is the most effective way of electing individuals to our shire council.

The single member Ward system mean locals have a direct and personal contact with their representatives, as those elected live within our towns, plus smaller towns/areas will be able to maintain their voice to council.

Proposed changes mean some of our towns may well lose their representatives because of their small populations, eg Skipton & Lismore, which is not only unfortunate, but inherently undemocratic, as they will be effectively be disenfranchised.

Our smaller towns and the community they support are vibrant communities which deserve to be represented by people from within their immediate community, as opposed to someone living 1.5 hours away, say in Port Campbell. The concerns of the two communities vary quite considerably at times, therefore the maintaining the current ward single member Ward system is the most effective and democratic.

Thank-you for consideration my submission.