

Electoral structure review - Surf Coast Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
Robert MacDonald - ANGLESEA (VIC) - 18 February 2023, 02:42 pm

Message

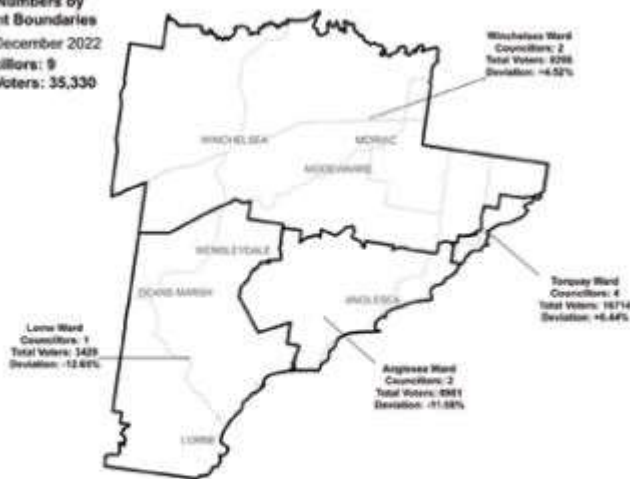
I support the current Ward based allocation of Councillors for the Surf Coast Shire for the following reasons:

1. The Shire has an appropriate number of 9 Councillors (must be between 5 & 12)
2. The Shire is divided into 4 Wards. This is an appropriate number of Wards.
3. The number of Councillors is fairly distributed based on the number of voters (2022 figures) in each Ward as follows:
 - . Anglesea 6,981 voters. 2 Councillors.
 - . Lorne 3,429 voters. 1 Councillor.
 - . Torquay 16,714 voters. 4 Councillors.
 - . Winchelsea 8,206 voters. 2 Councillors.
4. The existing Ward boundaries are well established and each is named after a township which assists with identification of each Ward
5. Townships and Districts have their own locally based representatives which is vital for rural communities with large distances between townships and limited or no public transport unlike city-based municipalities.
6. Issues that may affect individual communities are addressed by local representatives.
7. In my experience issues raised within local communities are fairly considered by Councillors on a non-parochial basis.

The existing system works well and there is no reason to change it.

Current electoral structure

Voter Numbers by Current Boundaries
 As at December 2022
 Councillors: 9
 Total Voters: 35,330



Ward	Councillors	Voters	Deviation
Anglesea	2	6,981	-11.00%
Lorne	1	3,429	-12.65%
Torquay	4	16,714	+6.44%
Winchelsea	2	8,206	+4.52%