

Electoral structure review - Whittlesea City Council - Response Submission
Evan Mulholland and Wendy Lovell - Melbourne - 15 November 2023, 03:25 pm

From: Tom Burgess [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 15 November 2023 3:25 PM
To: Whittlesea Submissions 2023
Subject: Evan Mulholland MP Wendy Lovell MP Joint Submission
Attachments: 231115 Mulholland Lovell City of Whittlesea Boundary Submission.pdf

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Dear Whittlesea ERAP,

Please see the attached letter/submission from Victorian Legislative Council Members Evan Mulholland MP and Wendy Lovell MP.

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,

Tom Burgess

Office of Evan Mulholland MP

Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council | Member for Northern Metropolitan Region

Shadow Minister for Home Ownership and Housing Affordability | Shadow Minister for Outer Suburban Growth

[REDACTED]



Evan Mulholland MP

LIBERAL MEMBER FOR NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION

City of Whittlesea Electoral Representation Advisory Panel
Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Sent via email to: whittlesea.erapsubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au

Dear City of Whittlesea Electoral Representation Advisory Panel,

As members of the Victorian Legislative Council, covering significant parts of the City of Whittlesea, we write to you with our concerns over the proposed boundaries for the Whittlesea City Council across all three proposed models.

In all three models, the future growth of the 'North Ward' is underestimated.¹ Commissioned by the City of Whittlesea to project demographics across the LGA, .id projects the Donnybrook locality is estimated to grow at a rate of 27.37% per annum.² This means that Donnybrook currently sits at a population of 5,201, but by 1 July 2024, will be at 7,089.³ Subsequently the population increase in Donnybrook alone will take the proposed North Ward across all three models will take the North Ward boundary up to around 16,668 electors/residents. This would bring the North Ward alone close to the +/-10% electors cap provided by section 15(2)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).⁴

Projecting a 27.37% increase to October 1 2024 on the increase in Donnybrook alone would add another 489 residents, putting the ward (at the VEC's lowest estimates), up to 17,157 electors, and putting the North Ward well over the s15 requirements under the Act.⁵

Moreover, it's worth noting that in July 2026, Donnybrook alone is projected to grow to 11,297 residents,⁶ and will certainly be the population centre of the proposed 'North Ward' under any of the three models, possibly stripping the town of Whittlesea, which has completely different demographics and communities of interest.

¹ see *Whittlesea City Council electoral structure review – 'preliminary report' - appendix 1*. (2023).

² see .idCommunity '*City of Whittlesea, Population Forecast – Donnybrook*', (2023). Accessible online: [Population, households and dwellings | City of Whittlesea | Population forecast \(id.com.au\)](#)

³ *Ibid* 2

⁴ *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) s 15

⁵ *Ibid* 4

⁶ *Ibid* 2

Evan Mulholland MP, Liberal Member for Northern Metropolitan Region

Parliament House, Spring Street, Melbourne VIC 3002 EvanMulhollandMP

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Evan Mulholland MP

LIBERAL MEMBER FOR **NORTHERN METROPOLITAN REGION**

My recommendation to the Whittlesea ERAP is to carefully consider the population growth of the northern half of the City of Whittlesea,⁷ contrasted to the established parts, in which very little growth is happening.

Evan Mulholland MP is happy to appear before or have a staff member appear on Mr Mulholland's behalf at the public hearing on Tuesday 21 November.

Sincerely,

Evan Mulholland MP

*Member for the Northern Metropolitan Region
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council
Shadow Minister for Outer Suburban Growth
Shadow Minister for Housing and Home Affordability*

Wendy Lovell MP

Member for the Northern Victoria Region

⁷ North of Craigieburn Road East/ Bridge Inn Road(s)

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