

**Electoral structure review - Horsham Rural City Council - Response Submission
Mark Radford - Quantong - 12 July 2023, 11:58pm**

From: [Mark Radford](#)
To: [Horsham ERAP Submissions 2023](#)
Subject: Submission Horsham Rural City Council Review 2
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SUBMISSION to the Victorian Electoral Commission

Horsham Rural City Council REVIEW 2023.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the proposed changes to the Local Government Electoral Boundaries in Horsham Rural City.

The current 7 Councillor un-subdivided Electoral Structure has served our community well for almost 30 years. As a former HRCC Councillor, one of the early challenges was to realise the importance, of having a good understanding, of the whole Municipality.

It is a big patch.....Rural Residents, Rural Businesses, Urban Residents, Urban Businesses, Health and Education service provision for a wide age demographic and not to under value the smaller communities..... as well as being a growing Regional City.

‘Most’ decisions that come before Council affect all residents/business owners in ‘some way’. Council CEOs have made intentional efforts to help Councillors to understand the wide brief of their community.

As we move into a new way of doing things and a new way of thinking, I believe we need to get it right and, as much as possible, encourage and foster that ‘wide view’ of consideration for ‘all’.

There is a risk that by having ‘city’ only Councillors that Horsham centric thinking may create unbalanced deliberation. The same could be said for ‘rural’ only Councillors.

Of the 3 presented options I prefer **Option 3**.

The clear advantage, in my mind, is that each elected Councillor will have both urban and rural residents to represent.

I respect the boundaries that have been chosen.

Having 2 Councillors representing Natimuk township, one each side of the Main Street, is a curiosity...that may be problematic.

Finally, in relation to the proposed Ward Names I have two suggestions:

That Lake Wyn Wyn Ward be named **Wyn Wyn Ward**

That the proposed Verandah Ward be named **Murra Warra Ward** or **Gatehouse Ward**.

Once again, thank you for this opportunity to comment.
(I would not be available to attend the public hearing)

Mark Radford

[REDACTED]

Quantong 3401

[REDACTED]