

**Electoral structure review - Gannawarra Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
Leitchville and District Progress Association - LEITCHVILLE - 09 February 2023, 04:05
pm**

The Leitchville Progress Association feels that the Gannawarra Shire needs a complete restructure of its' wards.

Currently we have 4 wards, with 1 ward having 3 of the 7 councillors. This means that that ward only has to get the support of one other councillor to get its' way. Having watched several of the council meetings over the last 12 months, this "cartel" has time and again out-voted the councillors of the other wards, despite them having very sound proposals/arguments.

We suggest that the council be reduced to 5 members, each representing 1 ward. This would give a greater say to the smaller towns in our Shire, with the members from the larger towns having to accommodate the needs of their neighbours to achieve their goals.

We are led to believe that by contracting the boundaries of the wards around Kerang and Cohuna, and by including at least 1 reasonable town in each ward, it is possible to get the ward populations within the required limits.