

Electoral structure review - Surf Coast Shire Council - Preliminary Submission
James Falk - Fitzroy North - 22 February 2023, 03:48 pm

I write in relation to the review of the structure of the Surf Coast Council. I am the owner of [REDACTED], Fairhaven, Vic which lies within the relevant electoral area, and my family have owned property in the area for more than 50 years. I am deeply concerned at any proposal which does not recognise the tight and collaborative community which exists in the Fairhaven-Aires Inlet - Anglesea area. Accordingly I am writing to strongly urge the review to reject any suggestion that the Council be formed into a single ward. The result would be that the varied interests and communities of the Surf Coast would be dominated by the interests of a single major population centre at Torquay.

In the interests of providing fair representation of these different communities I would urge you to support the option of the Surf Coast Shire Council area being divided into four wards, each represented by three councillors as recommended by the AIDA, or if determined to maintain a total of eight councillors, then four wards each represented by two councillors. One ward, which AIDA refers to as a prospective West Coast Ward, would include the communities of Anglesea, Aireys Inlet, Fairhaven (where my house is situated), Moggs Creek, Eastern View (where my mother's house existed for many years), and Lorne.

With best wishes and hopes for a fair representational outcome,

Professor Jim (James) Falk