

Ward boundary review - Bass Coast Shire Council - Response Submission
Peter McMahon - Cowes - 02 March 2024, 03:42 pm

After examining the two options I would like to suggest Model one but include San Remo. My reason for this suggestion is Phillip Island should be kept together and because it is an island it should include it's contact point making it a whole. I understand your desire is to establish even numbers of voters per ward and this would make it over your count but it would allow FOUR Councillors then would be needed rather than the current three. The balance of the Shire I feel would be better managed because of size to be balanced by having Three in Westernport and Two in Bunurong purely based on square kilometres needed to be covered. Your figures show that Phillip Island is the biggest quantity in voters it also is the biggest area for revenue for the Shire but it lacks the strongest voice when it comes to voting on the Shire. Phillip Island is considered one of the tourism areas of Victoria which has the highest numbers of visitors within Bass Coast, but is not given the proper support from the Shire. This could give us the correction that is needed. If the VEC accepts my proposal it also help with further distributions in the future when you establish single Councillor wards, however I still feel that within Rural areas the size in area should be considered.

Should my ideas not be considered I believe Model One is the right version.