

Electoral structure review - Ballarat City Council - Response Submission
Connor Trainor - Ballarat North - 28 June 2023, 03:03 pm

I firstly would like to note my extreme dissatisfaction with this farcical redistribution implemented to disenfranchise voters, in which Ballarat will be worse off because of. While this outside the remit of the VEC and the redistribution board, they should be aware of community dissatisfaction.

The proposed Model 1 is the only suitable model presented that maintains the necessary requirements for community cohesion within singular areas. I strongly oppose Model 3, and would encourage Model 1 as the option going forward. The names utilised are ill-suited, and Indigenous names would be more fitting for wards that otherwise have no real identity, that being Lake Gardens, Burrembeet, and Sovereign Hill wards. The other ward names are fine.

Model 2 deals with the growth areas in a more considered manner, however I would encourage consideration of 10 or more councillors, with expected population of 140,000 to 180,000 in 10-30 years, it would make sense to deliver further room for growth now in the expected areas of the Ballarat Western Growth Zone, and the Mt Rowan rezoned area, instead of continuing to utilise 9 councillors, which only made sense with multi-member wards.