

**Electoral structure review - Merri-bek City Council - Response Submission
Kevin Chen - Brunswick - 31 October 2023, 11:21 pm**

Please see attached for my submission and comments on the structure review.

Regards,
Kevin Chen

To the panel members,

While I dislike the movement away from multi-member wards to single councillor wards, I understand this was out of your control.

From the models you've provided, I prefer model 1. I will only address the southern part of Merri-Bek, up to Fawkner where I am more familiar.

South of Moreland Road, while there are better transport links running North South along Sydney and Lygon Road, the services people access come from an east west direction as they congregate towards the major roads, hence I don't mind having an east west ward alignment with major roads being the focal point. Having a natural Brunswick East and West wards is appropriate.

North of Moreland Road, the suburb-centric wards of model 1 make more sense to me than the use Sydney Road as a border, even with the trade-off of using small streets.

In terms of ward names, I really like using local features and so was drawn to their use in model 2. I would like those names, where appropriate, to be used in naming the wards for model 1. In the table below I have attempted to use park names as a theme to bind all the wards of Merri-bek.

Model 1 ward name	Ward name (local park)
Brunswick East	Fleming
Brunswick North	Bulleke-Bek
Brunswick South	Jewell
Brunswick West	Shiels
Pascoe Vale South	Brearley
Pascoe Vale	Gavin
Coburg	Robinson
Coburg North	Coburg Lake
Fawkner	Bababi Djinanang
Glenroy East	Naree Naree
Glenroy West	Djirri Djirri

I look forward to seeing the finalised report and the outcomes of all the structural reviews.

Regards,

Kevin Chen