Local council ward boundary review

About Greater Dandenong City Council

The Traditional Custodians of the land in the Greater Dandenong City Council area are the Bunurong people.

The City of Greater Dandenong is a metropolitan council located south-east of Melbourne CBD. Covering an area of 130 km², it is bordered by the city councils of Monash and Knox in the north, Kingston in the west, Frankston in the south and Casey in the east. In 2021, the population of the council area was approximately 158,208.

The population is projected to continue growing by around by 1.1% per year until 2028, with the main areas of growth expected mostly around central Dandenong, Keysborough and Springvale.

The northern parts of the municipality have a largely suburban profile, with major activity centres clustered around the Dandenong rail corridor in suburbs like Springvale, Noble Park, and Dandenong, while Keysborough is also a significant area for commercial activity and urban development. South of Dandenong CBD is the South Dandenong industrial area, one of the largest in Melbourne, and the industrial heartland for the wider south-eastern Melbourne metropolitan area.

The City of Greater Dandenong is one of the most diverse councils in the country, with residents being born in over 160 countries and over 60% of the population being born overseas. The city is also the most disadvantaged council in Greater Melbourne, with the suburbs of Dandenong, Noble Park, and Springvale South some of the most disadvantaged localities in the state.

Current structure

Greater Dandenong City Council is divided into 11 wards with one councillor per ward. There are 11 councillors in total.



About the review

If a council is subdivided into wards, the number of voters in each ward should be within +/-10% of the average across all wards to comply with the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic).

Changes to the population, location of housing areas, and voting entitlements all impact the number of voters in wards.

In accordance with section 17 of the Act, the Minister for Local Government has asked the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to review the ward boundaries for Greater Dandenong City Council.

Adjusting ward boundaries aims to ensure voters are represented equally at the next council general election.

During its review, the VEC will look at Greater Dandenong City Council's:

- enrolled voter numbers
- projected voter numbers
- ward boundary locations.

As a local you know your council area better than anyone. You can have your say on the suggested ward boundary adjustments:

- 1. in a response submission to the preliminary report
- 2. at an online public hearing, if you ask to speak in your response submission.

Last review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of Greater Dandenong City Council in 2019.

Visit the VEC website at <u>vec.vic.gov.au</u> to access a copy of the 2019 review final report.

Review process

Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 February

Information sessions

Session 1: 12 noon, Monday 26 February Session 2: 12 noon, Tuesday 27 February

These sessions will give you more information about the review process. You will be able to register for a session on the VEC website.

Wednesday 28 February

Preliminary report

The VEC will release a preliminary report with one or more options for the ward boundaries on Wednesday 28 February.

You can make a response submission from this date.

Wednesday 20 March

Response submissions

The VEC must receive your submission by 5 pm on Wednesday 20 March.

The VEC will not accept late submissions.

Wednesday 27 March

Public hearing

The VEC will hold an online public hearing if anyone asks to speak about their response submission at 10 am Wednesday 27 March.

The public hearing will not be held if no one asks to speak.

Wednesday 24 April

Final report

The VEC will submit a final report to the Minister for Local Government including its advice for the adjustments to ward boundaries on Wednesday 24 April.

The minister will consider the VEC's advice regarding the adjustments. Any change is expected to apply at the next local council general election.

Submission guide

You can download a submission guide from the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au

How to make a submission

On the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au

By email to:

<u>GreaterDandenong.WardReview@vec.vic.</u> <u>gov.au</u>

By post to:

Ward boundary review panel Victorian Electoral Commission Level 11, 530 Collins St Melbourne VIC 3000

Submissions must include your:

- full name
- contact phone number or email address
- residential or postal address.

Your submission will be published on the VEC website, including your name and suburb or town but not your full address or contact details. See the submission guide or VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au/privacy for privacy information.

One vote, one value

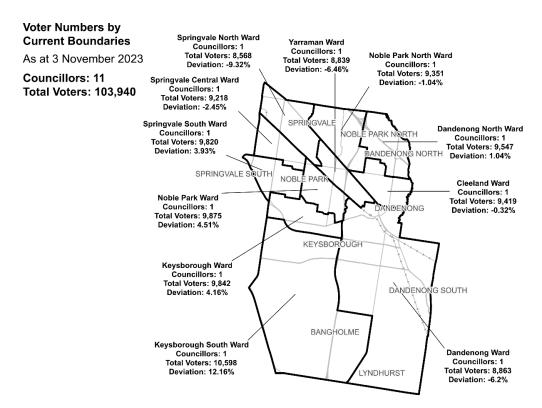
The 'one vote, one value' democratic principle is enshrined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. This means every person's vote counts equally.

When a local council is subdivided into wards, the number of voters each councillor represents in each ward must be plus-or-minus 10% of the average number of voters per councillor for all wards.

The map below includes the current number of voters in each ward and the ward's current deviation from the average. The VEC will also consider projected population and voter changes to ensure the structure remains fair.

If you make a submission online, you can use a mapping tool to build your preferred ward boundaries. The tool uses current voter numbers to tell you the deviations of the wards you make. This will help your proposal meet the requirements of the Act.

Current electoral structure



Ward	Councillors	Voters	Deviation
Cleeland Ward	1	9,419	-0.32%
Dandenong North Ward	1	9,547	1.04%
Dandenong Ward*	1	8,863	-6.2%
Keysborough South Ward*	1	10,598	12.16%
Keysborough Ward*	1	9,842	4.16%
Noble Park North Ward	1	9,351	-1.04%
Noble Park Ward	1	9,875	4.51%
Springvale Central Ward	1	9,218	-2.45%
Springvale North Ward*	1	8,568	-9.32%
Springvale South Ward*	1	9,820	3.93%
Yarraman Ward*	1	8,839	-6.46%

^{*}The deviations of these wards are forecast to be outside of +/-10% by October 2024.

Statistics

Area (km²) 130

Voters

Voters per square km

800

Average voters per councillor

9,449

Population

Current population

158,208

Forecast population growth

1.1% p.a.

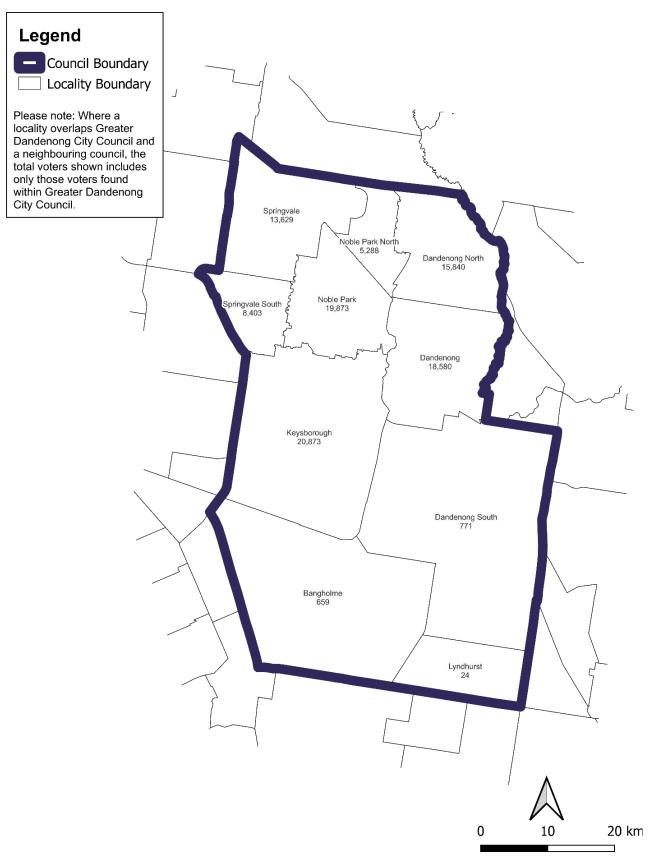
More Census statistics available at abs.gov.au

Voter numbers by locality (map)

Greater Dandenong City Council

TOTAL VOTERS: 103,940

Voter numbers as at 3 November 2023



Voter numbers by locality (table)

Greater Dandenong City Council voter numbers at 3 November 2023

Locality	Voters	
Bangholme	659	
Dandenong	18,580	
Dandenong North	15,840	
Dandenong South	771	
Keysborough	20,873	
Lyndhurst	24	
Noble Park	19,873	
Noble Park North	5,288	
Springvale	13,629	
Springvale South	8,403	