# Local council electoral structure review Preliminary Report

Frankston City Council
July 2023

#### Acknowledgement of Country

The electoral representation advisory panel acknowledges the Bunurong people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters for which it is holding this review and pays respects to ancestors and Elders past, present and emerging. The panel acknowledges their custodianship for many thousands of years and their continuing living culture.

#### Document history and version control

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# **Contents**

Executive summary	4
Developing electoral structure models	4
Electoral structure models	4
Next steps	4
Background	6
About the 2023–24 electoral structure reviews	6
The electoral representation advisory panel	6
Public engagement	6
Developing recommendations	7
About Frankston City Council	11
Profile	11
Current number of councillors and electoral structure	13
Last electoral structure review	14
Preliminary findings and models	15
Number of councillors	15
Electoral structure	16
Models for public feedback	19
Ward names	19
Next steps	21
Response submissions	21
Public hearing	22
Final report	22
References	23
Annandiy 4: Madal mana	2.4

# **Executive summary**

An independent electoral structure review panel appointed by the Minister for Local Government is reviewing the electoral structure of Frankston City Council.

The purpose of the review is to advise the Minister on the appropriate number of councillors and electoral structure, including ward names, for the council.

Under Victoria's *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Frankston City Council must now have a single-councillor ward electoral structure.

The panel is looking at:

- the appropriate number of councillors and wards for the council
- the location of ward boundaries
- appropriate ward names.

This report outlines the preliminary models the panel is presenting for public consultation, for the proposed new electoral structure of Frankston City Council to meet the requirements of the Act.

More information about the background to the review is available on page 6.

# **Developing electoral structure models**

The panel considered a range of factors when deciding on the models in this report, including:

- research and analysis
- voter growth or decline over time.

More information on the way the panel decided on the models is available on page 7.

#### **Electoral structure models**

After considering research and the requirements of the Act, the panel is presenting the following electoral structure models for public consultation:

- Model 1: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 8 councillors 8 wards with one councillor per ward.
- Model 2: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors 9 wards with one councillor per ward.
- Model 3: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors 9 wards with one councillor per ward, with different boundaries to Model 2.

Details on these models, including maps, are available in Appendix 1.

# **Next steps**

The panel is now seeking feedback on the preliminary electoral structure models. You can make a response submission to the preliminary models until 5 pm Wednesday 2 August. If any response submitters wish to speak at a public hearing, the panel will hold an online public

hearing on Wednesday 9 August. Following this, the panel will present its final recommendation to the Minister on Wednesday 6 September 2023.

More information about the review process is available on the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) website at <a href="vec.vic.gov.au">vec.vic.gov.au</a>

# **Background**

#### About the 2023–24 electoral structure reviews

In October 2022, the Minister for Local Government formed 2 electoral representation advisory panels to review and provide advice on the electoral structures of 39 local councils, under section 16 of the Act. If the Minister accepts the electoral structure recommended by the panel, any changes will take effect at the October 2024 local council elections.

The Act introduced several changes to local government representation, including the types of electoral structures local councils may have. All metropolitan, interface and regional city councils (including Frankston City Council) must now have single-councillor ward electoral structures.

For Frankston City Council, the electoral representation advisory panel is examining:

- the number of councillors and wards
- where the ward boundaries should be
- the name of each ward.

The Act requires electoral structures to provide fair and equitable representation and facilitate good governance. Each ward must have an approximately equal number of voters per councillor (within +/-10% of the average). While conducting the review, the panel also notes the role of a councillor as specified under section 28 of the Act.

# The electoral representation advisory panel

The panel conducting the electoral structure review of Frankston City Council has 3 members:

- Ms Julie Eisenbise (Chairperson)
- Mr Tim Presnell
- Acting Electoral Commissioner Ms Dana Fleming.

The purpose of the review is to advise the Minister on the appropriate number of councillors and electoral structure, including ward names, for the council. The panel is independent of councils and the Victorian State government.

Under the Act, the VEC is not responsible for reviewing council electoral structures but must provide administrative and technical support to the panel. The Electoral Commissioner (or their delegate) must be a member of each panel.

# **Public engagement**

#### **Public information program**

On behalf of the panel, the VEC has conducted a public information and awareness program to inform the public about the Frankston City Council electoral structure review. This has included:

printed public notices in state-wide newspapers

- public information sessions to outline the review process and respond to questions from the community
- media releases to announce the start of the review
- information on social media channels
- updated website content on <u>vec.vic.gov.au</u>, including:
  - current information on the review process
  - submission guide and fact sheets for each council under review with background information.

The VEC will continue to promote the review on behalf of the panel during the response submission stage via media releases, the VEC's social media channels and the VEC website.

#### **Public consultation**

The panel now invites input to the electoral structure review of Frankston City Council via:

- response submissions to this preliminary report
- an online public hearing for anyone who makes a response submission to speak to the panel and expand on their submission.

Public submissions are an important part of the review process and are considered alongside other factors addressed during the review. These are outlined below.

# **Developing recommendations**

The electoral structure models the panel is presenting in this preliminary report comply with the Act and were developed through careful consideration of:

- research and analysis conducted by the VEC support team, including geospatial and demographic data
- rates or patterns of population and voter change over time, and relevant forecasts of growth or decline based on forecast information provided by .id (informed decisions, a company specialising in demographics and forecasting).

#### Deciding on the number of councillors

The Act allows local councils to have between 5 and 12 councillors, but neither the Act nor the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020 specify how the number of councillors is to be determined. Therefore, the models put forward by the panel in this report are guided by the Act's intention for fairness and equity in voter representation.

In examining the appropriate number of councillors for Frankston City Council, the panel considered the following criteria:

- the population and number of voters in the council area, compared to other councils with a similar population size and number of voters in the same category (for example, other comparable metropolitan, interface or regional city councils)
- patterns of population change and voter growth or decline in the council area over time

- the current and past numbers of councillors
- the representation needs of the communities of interest in the council area.

The panel's final recommendation will also consider any matters raised in public response submissions not already listed above.

Local councils with a larger number of voters will often have more councillors. Large populations generally have greater diversity, both in the type and number of communities of interest and issues relating to representation. However, the ideal number of councillors can also be influenced by the circumstances of each council, such as the:

- nature and complexity of services the council provides
- geographic size and topography of the area
- forecast population and voter growth or decline
- social diversity.

#### **Deciding the electoral structure**

Under the Act, regional city, metropolitan and interface councils must now have single-councillor ward electoral structures.

When developing single-councillor ward models for Frankston City Council, the panel considered these criteria:

- whether the structure would comply with section 15(2) of the Act (see below), and for how long it would likely comply
- the appropriate number of councillors, as outlined above
- whether meaningful and effective ward boundaries could be established and whether these would be easily identifiable to local communities
- the representation of communities of interest
- the voter distribution and physical features of the area, and the impact these may have on the shape and size of wards
- past elections for the council, including:
  - numbers of candidates nominating
  - incidences of uncontested elections
  - rates of informal voting.

The panel's final recommendation will also consider any matters raised in public response submissions not already listed above.

Under section 15(2) of the Act, subdivided structures must aim for an approximately equal number of voters per councillor in each ward. This means the number of voters represented by each councillor in a ward should be within +/-10% of the average number of voters per councillor for all wards.

During this review, the panel aims to recommend a structure that will comply with section 15(2) at the time of the 2024 local council elections and, if possible, also comply based on voter numbers at the time the review is conducted. The panel uses forecasts of population and voter change to assess compliance at the 2024 elections with as much accuracy as possible. In some cases, population change and other factors impacting voter numbers mean it is not possible to create compliant subdivided structures based both on voter numbers that were current at the time of the review and forecast voter numbers. In these instances, the panel prioritises compliance at the 2024 local government elections to ensure each vote will have approximately equal value at the 2024 election.

One of the factors that may impact compliance with section 15(2) is the number of current and forecast voters with ratepayer-based voting entitlements, also known as council-enrolled electors. Voters' rolls include both state-enrolled electors (the majority of the roll) and a smaller number of council-enrolled electors. The Act introduced changes to ratepayer-based entitlement categories, which come into full effect at the 2024 local council elections. The panel will take this change to the makeup of voters' rolls, and therefore compliance with section 15(2) of the Act, into consideration during this review.

#### **Deciding on ward names**

The panel has taken the following approach to naming wards.

- 1. Retaining existing ward names if these are still relevant to the area covered by the ward.
- 2. When a new name is required, the panel bases this on features such as:
  - places (registered under the Geographic Place Names Act 1998) in the ward
  - compass directions
  - native flora or fauna.

#### Use of Aboriginal language

The panel recognises that there should first be meaningful consultation with local Aboriginal communities and groups before a ward is named using Aboriginal language. Meaningful consultation is a significant process that the panel is not able to undertake within the timeframes of the current review program.

The panel also recognises that many of the place names in current use across Victoria are based on Aboriginal language. As such, the panel may put forward new ward names using Aboriginal language if:

- it is the name of a place within a ward
- it is currently in common use

and

the name is registered under the Geographic Place Names Act 1998.

Unregistered names using Aboriginal language have not been put forward by the panel as new ward names. While the panel supports the adoption of names based on Aboriginal language, this requires appropriate consultation.

Accordingly, for the panel to consider an Aboriginal language ward name that is suggested in a public submission to the review, the name submitted needs to comply with the above guidelines.

# **About Frankston City Council Profile**

Frankston City Council is on the eastern shore of Port Phillip Bay, approximately 40 kilometres south of the Melbourne CBD. The council area covers 130 km², including a large stretch of coastline as its western boundary. It is bordered by Mornington Peninsula Shire Council to the south, Casey City Council to the east, and Greater Dandenong and Kingston City councils to the north.

The population of Frankston City Council was 139,281 people at the 2021 Census, an increase of about 30,000 since 2001 (ABS 2001, 2021a). It is forecast to grow by about 22,000 to be over 161,000 people by 2041 (.id 2023), most of which will occur in the suburbs of Frankston, Carrum Downs and Langwarrin.

The Traditional Custodians of the land in Frankston City Council are the Bunurong people.

#### Landscape

Frankston City Council is a heavily urbanised council, comprising significant residential, commercial and industrial areas. The more established suburbs of Frankston, Frankston North, Frankston South and Seaford are located on the western side of the council close to the coast. Recent growth has occurred in Carrum Downs, Langwarrin, Sandhurst and Skye in the north and east of the council area. The council's commercial activities are concentrated in Frankston along the Nepean Highway, and large industrial areas are in Carrum Downs and the south of Seaford. Langwarrin South in the south-east of the council area is semi-rural and mixed land use patterns are evident throughout much of the east (DTP 2023).

Frankston City Council also has important natural environments, including:

- a 9.5 km stretch of coastline
- a large section of green wedge land along the eastern boundary, accounting for over a third of the council area
- the Seaford Wetlands, which are protected under the Ramsar Convention as internationally significant (DELWP 2022; Frankston City Council 2021).

Major roads passing through Frankston City Council include East Link and Peninsula Link and the Nepean Highway along the coast. A train line provides a link north towards Melbourne and south to the Mornington Peninsula.

#### Community

At the 2021 census, the median age of the council's population was 39, with a greater proportion of people aged between 0-4 and 40-60 years, and fewer aged 20-34 compared to the state average (ABS 2021a).

Most residents identified as having English or Australian ancestry (40.4% and 35.5% respectively, about 10 percentage points above the state average), followed by Irish, Scottish, and Italian. Approximately 1,800 people (1.3%) identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait

Islander, slightly higher than the 0.7% average for Greater Melbourne. About 84% of the population spoke only English at home, much higher than the average of 67% for Victoria overall (ABS 2021a, 2021b).

Almost two-thirds of the population were in the labour force (63.4%), with the main occupations 'professionals' at 18.6% compared to an average of 25% for the state, followed by 'technicians and trades workers' at 16.8%, higher than the 12.6% recorded for the state (ABS 2021a).

The main industries of employment within the council area were hospitals, supermarket and grocery stores, and other social assistance services, all at rates just above the Victorian average (ABS 2021a). Median weekly incomes were below those for Greater Melbourne overall. The city also had significant areas of social and economic disadvantage, such as in Frankston North (ABS 2021b, 2023).

## Current number of councillors and electoral structure

Frankston City Council is currently divided into 3 wards with a total of 9 councillors:

• 3 wards with 3 councillors each (North-East, North-West and South wards).

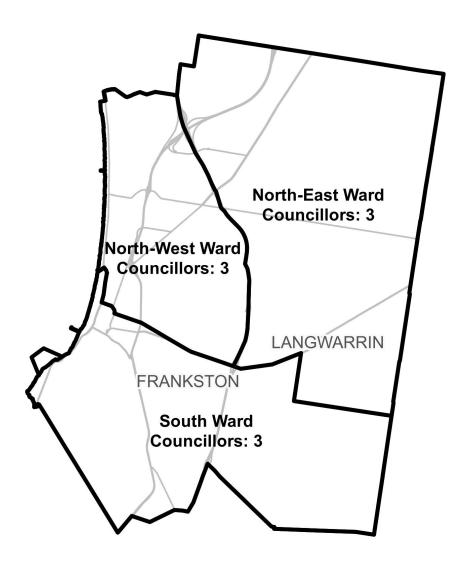


Figure 1: Diagram of current electoral structure of Frankston City Council.

There are an estimated 106,376 voters in Frankston City Council, with an estimated ratio of 11,819 voters per councillor.

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au for more information on Frankston City Council.

#### Last electoral structure review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of Frankston City Council in 2011. This review was carried out under the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic), which was replaced by the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic).

After conducting the review, the VEC recommended that Frankston City Council continue to consist of 9 councillors elected from 9 wards (3 wards with 3 councillors each).

Visit the VEC website at <u>vec.vic.gov.au</u> to access a copy of the 2011 representation review final report.

# **Preliminary findings and models**

## **Number of councillors**

After taking into consideration the requirements of the Act and the agreed criteria, the panel found either 8 or 9 councillors to be an appropriate number for Frankston City Council.

The panel considered the characteristics of Frankston City Council in relation to similar metropolitan councils, including its population, the number and distribution of voters, and the size and geography of the council.

Similar metropolitan councils to Frankston City Council									
Local council	Area (km²)	Number of voters at 2020 election	Population (2021 Census)	Current total estimate of voters	Number of councillors	Number of voters per councillor			
Kingston City Council	91	118,779	158,129	119,474	11	10,861			
Knox City Council	114	117,363	159,103	116,282	9	12,920			
Darebin City Council	54	114,106	148,570	114,358	9	12,706			
Whitehorse City Council	64	112,640	169,346	113,214	11	10,292			
Frankston City Council*	130	107,216	139,281	106,376	9	11,819			
Glen Eira City Council*	39	105,230	148,908	106,181	9	11,797			
Greater Dandenong City Council	130	99,768	158,208	100,580	11	9,143			
Port Phillip City Council*	21	88,268	101,942	97,755	9	10,861			
Banyule City Council	63	95,510	126,236	95,151	9	10,572			

<sup>\*</sup>This local council is undergoing an electoral structure review during 2023–24.

As forecasts indicate only modest population change is expected for the council, the panel considers it appropriate for the total number of councillors to remain either unchanged or reduced by one.

#### **Decreasing to 8 councillors**

Although Frankston City Council has had 9 councillors since 2004, the panel felt that a model with 8 councillors might provide a more favourable electoral structure and invites community feedback around support for, or opposition to, a structure with 8 councillors.

#### **Maintaining 9 councillors**

Frankston City Council currently has 106,376 voters represented by 9 councillors and covers an area of 130 km². Other metropolitan councils with a similar number of voters usually also have 9 councillors. For this reason, the panel felt that a structure based on 9 councillors may be the most appropriate for the council. Therefore, the panel also wants to hear community views regarding the 9-councillor models.

#### **Electoral structure**

To identify the most appropriate electoral structure, various factors were considered. This included the requirements of the Act, the communities of interest in Frankston City Council, the appropriateness of ward boundaries and which models best offered fair and equitable representation and consequently facilitate good governance.

In developing the preliminary models presented in this report, the panel considered a range of models. The strongest 3 models have been put forward for further public comment.

The panel proposes 3 models for the consideration of the Frankston City Council community:

- a subdivided electoral structure of 8 single-councillor wards (Model 1)
- a subdivided electoral structure of 9 single-councillor wards (Model 2)
- a subdivided electoral structure of 9 single-councillor wards, with different ward boundaries to Model 2 (Model 3).

Diagrams of the preliminary models are included in Appendix 1.

In general, voters are not spread evenly across the council's suburbs, and in order to meet the +/-10% this means single councillor ward structures cannot be developed with 8 or 9 councillors that only adhere to suburb boundaries.

#### A single-councillor ward structure with 8 councillors (Model 1)

Under this model, Frankston City Council would adopt an 8-ward structure. Each ward would be represented by one councillor, in line with the requirements of the Act.

This model would be a significant change for Frankston City Council, reducing councillor numbers from 9 to 8. However, it most closely resembles the current electoral structure by dividing each of the 3-councillor wards into either 2 or 3 single-councillor wards. It maintains many of the current ward boundaries, which would be familiar to many residents.

The current North-East Ward is divided into 3 proposed wards, using Hall Road to separate Banyan Ward in the north from Boggy Creek Ward to its south. McClelland Drive, Valley, Potts and Cranbourne roads are used to form the boundary between Boggy Creek Ward and Lloyd Park Ward further to the south.

The current South Ward is also divided into 3 proposed wards, creating Mount Grand Ward in the east, Paratea Ward further west and Yamala Ward on the coastline. The latter includes a

small area of the current North-West Ward to satisfy the +/-10% requirement. In most cases strong boundaries separate each of these 3 wards.

The current North-West Ward is divided into 2 wards, Seaford Reserve Ward on the coast and Telopea Reserve Ward in the centre of the council area. A solid boundary in Frankston-Dandenong Road separates the 2 wards in most parts.

Of the 3 models, this has the most 'whole' localities contained within wards. For example, Seaford is wholly contained in Seaford Reserve Ward and all of Sandhurst is in Banyan Ward. Some suburbs have been split, however. Frankston and Langwarrin, the council's most populous suburbs, are divided between 4 and 3 wards respectively.

Mount Grand Ward cuts across a large area in the south of the council, so that the semi-rural areas in Langwarrin South are included in the same ward with parts of commercial and urban Frankston. Nonetheless, the current boundaries are all maintained, except in the division between Seaford Reserve and Yamala wards.

This model is relatively stable and is forecast to meet the +/-10% requirement at the 2024 election.

#### A single-councillor ward structure with 9 councillors (Model 2)

Under this model, Frankston City Council would adopt a 9-ward structure. Each ward would be represented by one councillor, in line with the requirements of the Act.

This model aims to create wards and boundaries following key features of the transport network, including the railway line to separate Coastal Ward and Crystal Park Ward, and major road corridors.

Model 2 creates a ward covering the entire coastal area of the council. The special use areas in the council are largely contained within individual wards, so the proposed Telopea Reserve Ward has the quarry areas and Crystal Park Ward has the Carrum Downs industrial precinct. In this model, most wards include some land designated as green wedge, which would make the management of this land a shared responsibility between a majority of councillors.

The model has some drawbacks. It places parts of Seaford and Frankston South in the same ward, where these communities may have very different interests. Like Model 1, Mount Grand Ward combines green wedge, semi-rural and urban areas. The one ward covering all the council's area of coastline could give the impression that only one councillor would be considering the needs of the community in relation to the beach areas. Further, using the railway as a boundary may divide the commercial centre of the council between 2 councillors unnecessarily.

This model is relatively stable and is forecast to meet the +/-10% requirement at the 2024 election.

#### A single-councillor ward structure with 9 councillors (alternative version) (Model 3)

Under this model, Frankston City Council would adopt a 9-ward structure. Each ward would be represented by one councillor, in line with the requirements of the Act.

The approach for developing wards in this model focused primarily on balancing the areas in the north (Seaford, Carrum Downs, Sandford and Skye), where significant growth and development is expected. This model is relatively close to the current electoral structure, roughly dividing each of the current wards into 3 wards each. As such, many of the boundaries would be familiar to residents, including the use of the Mornington Peninsula Freeway.

This model keeps some entire suburbs together in wards, but to a lesser extent compared to Models 1 and 2. Frankston, for instance, is divided between 4 different wards. More significantly, a small section of Frankston, east of Peninsula Link and north of Skye Road, is included in the proposed Lloyd Park Ward. While this is necessary to boost the number of voters in Lloyd Park Ward to maintain the +/-10% requirement, residents in this area likely have stronger connections to the west and south. Further, dividing the commercial centre of the council between multiple wards, often using minor roads, has the potential to divide those communities of interest based around commercial activities.

In terms of model longevity, this model is the most stable. It is forecast to remain stable to the 2028 local council elections.

#### **Summary**

Introducing single-councillor wards represents a large electoral change for Frankston City Council. Dividing communities into wards while also accounting for population growth and ensuring they comply with the +/-10% requirement can be challenging. Possible electoral structures must balance voter numbers between the concentration of population in the commercial centre, urban areas, coastal areas, newer suburbs in the north and east, and the sparsely populated southern corner. The council's current wards have strong boundaries but using them in single-councillor ward models is not always possible.

Model 1 would see a reduction in councillor numbers and have 8 wards. The model draws on the current structure as a template and divides the existing council wards into the proposed 8 wards. Model 2, with 9 councillors, has the coast, the quarry and the Carrum Downs industrial area covered by one ward each, and the green wedge land is shared across many wards. Model 3 also maintains 9 councillors, largely retains current ward boundaries and is the most stable of the 3 models. Each model has attributes that residents will have differing views on, and the panel invites these perspectives through response submissions.

# Models for public feedback

The panel considers all models outlined below to be the single-councillor ward electoral structures with the best potential to offer fair and equitable representation for voters in Frankston City Council and consequently facilitate good governance. Please see <a href="Appendix 1">Appendix 1</a> for detailed maps of these models.

#### Model 1

Frankston City Council has 8 councillors and is divided into 8 wards with one councillor per ward.

Ward names: Banyan Ward, Boggy Creek Ward, Lloyd Park Ward, Mount Grand Ward, Paratea Ward, Seaford Reserve Ward, Telopea Reserve Ward, Yamala Ward.

#### Model 2

Frankston City Council has 9 councillors and is divided into 9 wards with one councillor per ward.

Ward names: Coastal Ward, Crystal Park Ward, Lloyd Park Ward, Lyrebird Ward, Mount Grand Ward, Paratea Ward, Telopea Reserve Ward, Wilton Bushland Ward, Worland Park Ward.

#### Model 3

Frankston City Council has 9 councillors and is divided into 9 wards with one councillor per ward.

Ward names: Banyan Ward, Lloyd Park Ward, Mount Grand Ward, Paratea Ward, Seaford Reserve Ward, Telopea Reserve Ward, Wilton Bushland Ward, Worland Park Ward, Yamala Ward.

#### Ward names

The panel has suggested ward names to identify the wards in each model and invites comments from the community on these names as part of submissions responding to the preliminary report. The basis of the ward name recommendations for each model are described below.

#### Model 1

Banyan, Boggy Creek, Lloyd Park, Mount Grand, Paratea, Seaford Reserve, Telopea Reserve, and Yamala ward names are new and are based on natural features, roads or localities found within each ward.

#### Model 2

Coastal, Crystal Park, Lyrebird, Wilton Bushland, and Worland Park ward names are new and are based on natural features, roads or localities found within each ward.

Lloyd Park, Mount Grand, Paratea, and Telopea Reserve wards as above.

#### Model 3

Banyan, Lloyd Park, Mount Grand, Paratea, Seaford Reserve, Telopea Reserve, Wilton Bushland, Worland Park, and Yamala ward names as above.

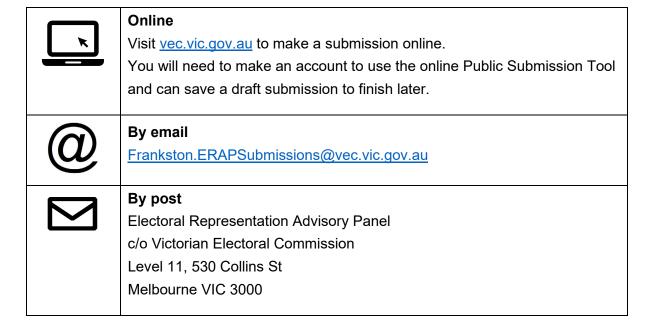
The panel will review ward name suggestions received during the response submission stage when forming the final advice to the Minister for Local Government on the electoral structure of the council. Suggested ward names should comply with the panel's approach to naming wards (see <a href="Deciding on ward names">Deciding on ward names</a> and <a href="Use of Aboriginal language">Use of Aboriginal language</a>). All ward name suggestions received during the response submission stage will be provided to the Minister for consideration at the conclusion of the electoral structure review.

# **Next steps**

# **Response submissions**

Any person or group, including the local council under review, can make a response submission to the electoral representation advisory panel. In your submission you should address the models proposed by the panel in this preliminary report.

You can make a submission:



The panel must receive all response submissions before 5 pm on Wednesday 2 August 2023. If you post your submission, make sure it has enough time to reach the panel before the deadline. Late submissions will not be accepted.

#### **Required information**

For your submission to be considered, you must include your:

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

To protect the integrity and transparency of the review process, the panel will not consider submissions without this information. If you are submitting as a group or organisation, you must include the name of a nominated contact person who is authorised to submit on behalf of your group.

On behalf of the panel, the VEC will handle information provided by submitters in accordance with the privacy policy available at vec.vic.gov.au/privacy

#### Public access to submissions

To ensure transparency in the electoral structure review process, your submission will be published on the VEC website at <a href="vec.vic.gov.au">vec.vic.gov.au</a>. The VEC will remove your signature and contact details, including residential and postal addresses, from all public copies but must publish your full name (or group name) and locality (suburb or town).

Please note that any submission content that is potentially defamatory, offensive, obscene or that includes the personal information of people or organisations who are not a party to the submission may also be redacted before publication.

# **Public hearing**

If you make a response submission, you can also ask to speak at an online public hearing to support your submission and expand on your views.

The online public hearing is scheduled for:

Time: 2 pm

Date: Wednesday 9 August 2023

The panel encourages participation in the public hearing. If you wish to speak at the public hearing, you **must** indicate this in your response submission. The public hearing will not be held if there are no requests to speak.

Anyone can attend a public hearing, but you will only be able to speak if you asked to in your response submission. If you ask to speak, the VEC will contact you to arrange a time for you to speak at the hearing. You will have 10 minutes to address the public hearing panel, which will include at least 2 of the review panel members. The members of the public hearing panel may ask you questions.

Visit the VEC website at <u>vec.vic.gov.au</u> for more information on public hearings.

# Final report

Following the public hearing, the review panel will consider all evidence gathered and prepare a final report for the Minister for Local Government containing a recommendation for the number of councillors and the electoral structure for the local council.

The final report is scheduled to be provided to the Minister on Wednesday 6 September 2023. The Minister will consider the final reports, including any determination to make the reports publicly available. Any change to the electoral structure of Frankston City Council following on from this review is expected to apply at the October 2024 local council elections. Under the Act, the final council electoral structure will be set by an Order in Council published in the Victoria Government Gazette.

# References

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) (2001) <u>2001 Census All Persons QuickStats, Frankston</u> (<u>LGA</u>), ABS, accessed 23 June 2023.

——(2021a) <u>2021 Census All Persons QuickStats, Frankston (LGA)</u>, ABS, accessed 25 May 2023.

——(2021b) <u>2021 Census All Persons QuickStats, Greater Melbourne (Greater Capital City</u> Statistical Areas), ABS, accessed 29 June 2023.

——(2023) <u>Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)</u>, <u>Australia</u>, <u>Suburbs and Localities</u>, <u>Indexes</u>, <u>SEIFA 2021</u>, ABS, accessed 16 May 2023.

DELWP (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning) (2022) <u>Seaford Wetlands</u>, accessed 22 June 2023.

DTP (Department of Transport and Planning) (2023) <u>Frankston Planning Scheme</u>, DTP, accessed 26 May 2023.

Electoral Act 2002 (Vic)

Frankston City Council (2021) <u>Frankston Green Wedge Management Plan</u>, Frankston City Council, accessed 23 June 2023.

Geographic Place Names Act 1998 (Vic)

.id (informed decisions) (2023) Frankston City Population Forecast, .id, accessed 23 June 2023.

Local Government Act 1989 (Vic)

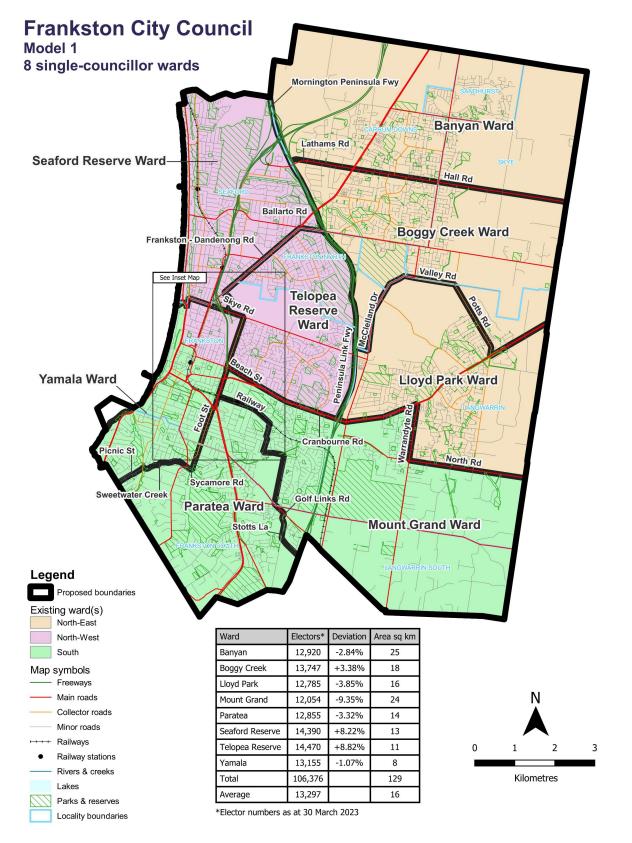
Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)

Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020 (Vic)

# **Appendix 1: Model maps**

The following maps are included in this report:

Мар	Page
Model 1 – a single-councillor ward structure with 8 councillors – 8 wards with one councillor per ward.	25
Model 2 – a single-councillor ward structure with 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward.	27
Model 3 – a single-councillor ward structure with 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward (with boundaries different to Model 2).	29



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Data use:

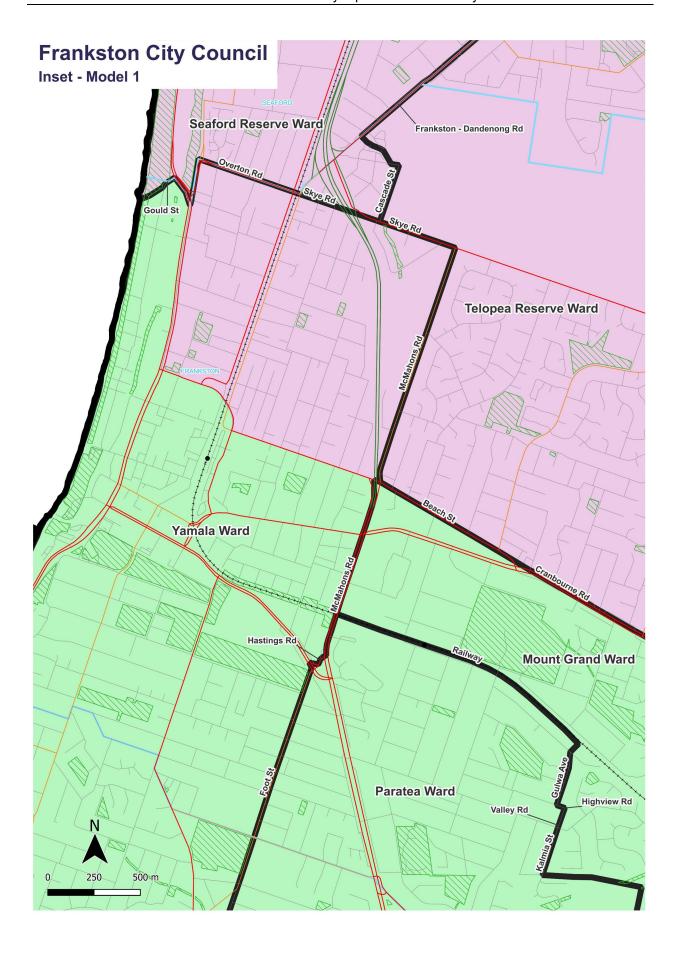


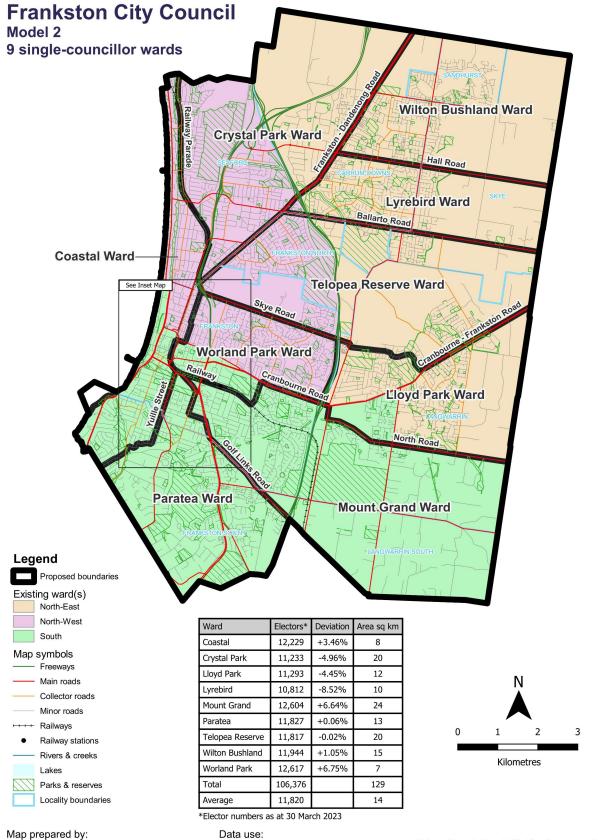
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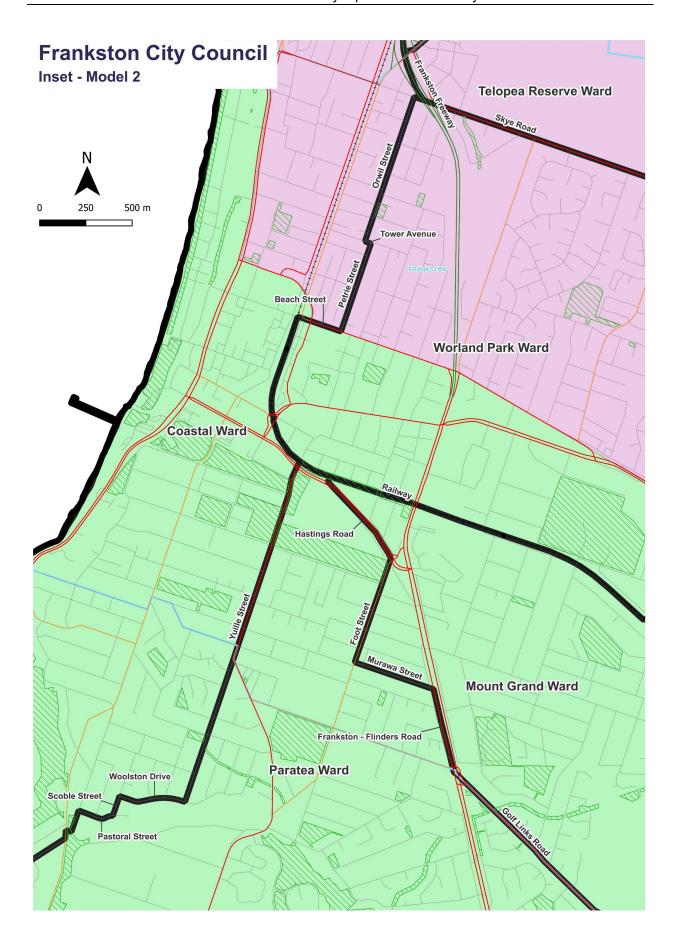
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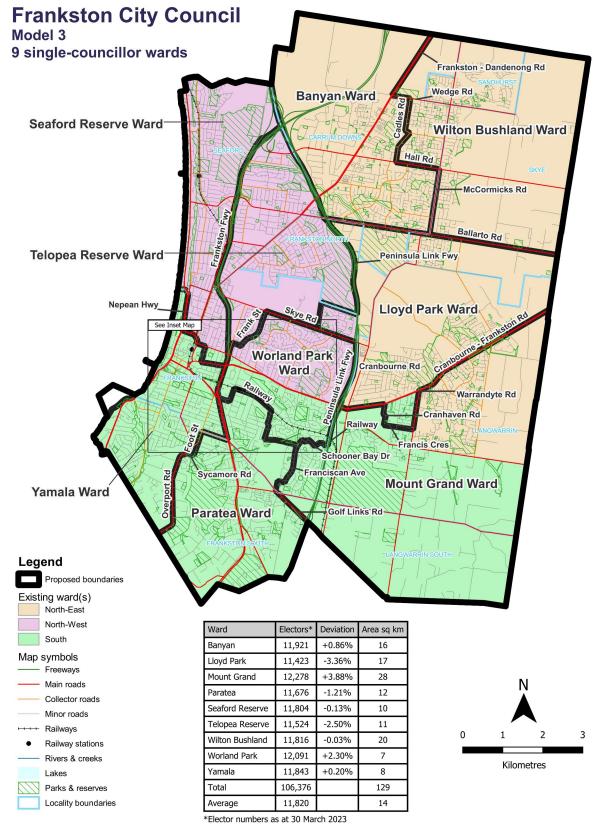




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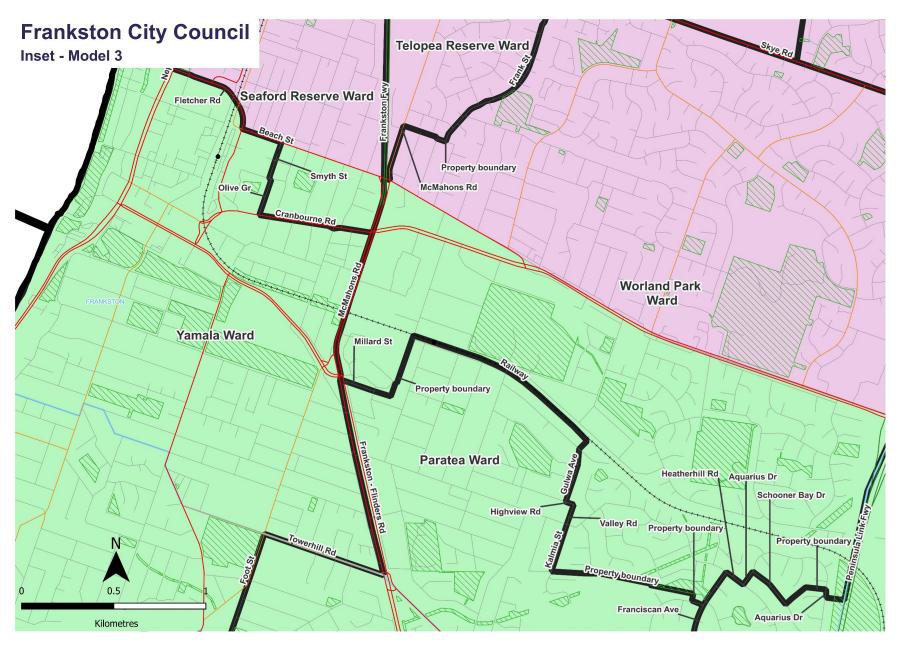
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