

Representation Review - Banyule City Council - Response Submission
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Option A is the best option for Banyule.

Multi member wards like in options A & B are the most democratic structures. Single councillor wards favour major parties and don't always reflect the communities needs or wants. This is most evident in uncontested elections, like the previous election for two of the wards in Banyule. The communities for these two wards did not get a vote, they were not able to be represented because they didn't get a choice or a vote.

The ward boundaries for option A follow easy to indentify roads or landmarks. This is more so the case than in option B. Single ward structure for this council, like option C, makes is illogical, the boundaries are inconsistent and divide suburbs. The existing single larger wards have sufficed since the last review but with the required increase to 9 councillors, the single ward boudnaries won't survive another 12 years before another review is done. Population will continue to grow and the councillor to voter ratio will be threatened again.

Multi member is the way forward to make sure all of the community of Banyule is truely represented, it will encourage a diverse range of candidates, which hasn't been the case before for this council. It will bring Banyule up to the same level as other outer metro councils of a similar size by a state wide uniform approach and support the growth of the community into the future.