

**Representation Review - Banyule City Council - Response Submission  
Paul Kennedy - Eaglemont - 18 Sep 2019**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the preliminary report of the Banyule Representation review.

I believe Option A is best for Banyule. The 3x3 multi-member model is more inclusive than the 9x1 model of Option C, and the ward boundaries are superior to Option B. I discuss each of these in turn below.

The 3x3 multi-member model is more representative of the diversity of opinions across residents than the 9x1 model. In each contested council election we have seen a sizable primary vote for candidates who were eventually eliminated from the count; these were often independent or minor party candidates. The multi-member model creates opportunity for these candidates to get a place on council. This in turn gives voice to more constituents as they are much more likely to have a councillor who understands, and possibly agrees with, their perspective and need.

The larger wards are superior because they reflect the more mobile community of today. While residents obviously have a strong interest in their immediate neighbourhood with respect to planning, modern lifestyles mean we have much larger activity areas. This is manifest in the choice of kindergarten or school, sport and other recreation, shopping and entertainment, and council services that people make. The larger 3x3 model better reflects that interest in the common activity area.

This leads to why Option A is superior to Option B. I believe the ward boundaries under option A are grouped better around the common activity areas