



08/09/2019

Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Local Government Representation Review – Banyule City Council

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important review.

As a resident, former Mayor and Councillor for 16 years I advise of **my support for Option C.**

Option C – Single Councillor Wards

- Single Councillor wards provide residents with the best contact. My experience is that residents are more likely to contact someone they know. Residents know their local Councillor whereas in a multi Councillor ward, which are much larger, it becomes a similar system to State members where you rarely see or hear from your local State member.
- Single ward Councillors are across all issues in a smaller ward.
- The single wards better represent communities of interest than multi ward options.
- Note having been the Councillor for Griffin Ward for 16 years which has the largest workload (2 activity centres and major planning issues) I do not believe that more than 7 single ward Councillors are required to manage the City.)

Options A and B – Multi Councillor Wards

- Discourages independents, minority groups and females from running for election due to larger election costs.
- In discussion with Councillors from other cities that have a multi Councillor wards some Councillors leave all of the workload to one or two Councillors.
- Doesn't take into account community of interests.
- Would lead to I believe greater party politicisation of Council.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Mulholland OAM