

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Submission to the Preliminary Report

I support OPTION B

The Council amalgamation process, which combined the Cities of Kew, Hawthorn and Camberwell, diminished the connection of local councils to their community.

The changes to the local government legislation at that time also narrowed the role of Councillors to strategic/policy matters, with far less involvement and influence in day to day issues that directly affect residents, business owners and others.

Against this background I believe it is essential that any new structure should retain wards of a discrete size that have a clear community of interest (that people relate to) - with two councillors who are able to share the advocacy role and interaction with that community.

Five wards (instead of the present 11 wards) should also lead to broader thinking and less of a parochial mindset on strategies for the municipality.

I believe Option B best achieves this balance.

I do not wish to speak at the hearing.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

regards

Greg Buchanan

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