

Electoral Representation Review – Boroondara City Council - Response Submission
Felicity Farmer – Hawthorn East – 7 May 2019

Dear Council

It is hard to work out which of your options would achieve a greater level of accountability as multi member wards could dissipate what is already a weak system of governance in Boroondara where there seems to be a complete loss of focus.

For example, the apartments that surround us at [REDACTED], were signed off without getting the developers who were presumably responsible for damaging the road to fix it. As a result, some years later we still have big concrete drops that I nearly trip over every day and could sue the Council if I did, as well as sunken stretches where they've inserted a drain under the road in various places, all within our little stretch of [REDACTED].

I have raised this before and been assured it would be attended to and this was last December but heard nothing since.

Previously we had emailed our only local Councillor about it at least a couple of times and never heard anything back and obviously nothing was done.

Roads, rates and rubbish are the basics for Councils and I'm completely bamboozled as to what is going on in there.

I would like to call for the 32 Councils across Melbourne to be amalgamated so we can get some professional responsiveness to the basics and also take more action on climate change and community development please.

I recommend you look at Brisbane City Council as an example of a model that gives residents real value for money and a high level of responsiveness and participation. Under this model they have one Council and about 28 Councillors for the whole city. They amalgamated 17 Shires into one in 1928 in a very farsighted move that enables them to have much more far reaching effectiveness as a Council.

Thank you.

Felicity Farmer