

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: in support of single member wards
Date: Wednesday, 13 March 2019 4:54:14 PM

13/03/2019

Dear Victorian Electoral Commissioner

In my view the current single-member wards structure for Boroondara should be retained, as this is the best structure to meet the needs of the Boroondara community because:

it allows easy access to my local representative;

local representatives have a greater understanding of their local area;

single-member wards provide the best representation;

it reflects the individual elements of our diverse community;

it provides one primary point of contact and ensures a consistent approach; and

different neighbourhoods have different needs. Local representation ensures these differences are recognised and supported.

I believe that multi-member wards are not good for Boroondara because:

multi-member wards can encourage party political affiliations;

councillors may be less accessible for residents in some parts of the ward;

all of the Councillors may reside in the same part of the ward, leaving the remaining parts without local representation;

residents may need to contact multiple councillors to raise awareness of an issue or galvanise support for local projects;

there is potential for a duplication of work if councillors do not communicate or share their workloads effectively;

councillors may be overworked due to increased workload; and

councillors may have competing views about how their ward should be run, which may cause friction and be confusing for residents and businesses.

Regards,

John Addis

[REDACTED]