

Dear Sir or Madam

As a Boroondara Councillor, for the last six and a half years, I strongly believe that single-member wards structure for Boroondara should be retained.

I am convinced this structure works well for the Boroondara community because it means that I am totally accountable to my local community. There is no way that I can hand difficult issues to another Councillor. Having lived in my ward for over 40 years I am very familiar with the local facilities and the local people and I have a real understanding of my local area.

I would not work nearly as hard as I do for my local community if I was sharing this role with another Councillor.

I also firmly believe that each Councillor is also up-to-date with Municipality wide issues and each of us is able to speak to officers to allow us to be better informed if required.

I believe that multi-member wards are not good for Boroondara because these could encourage party political affiliations and all of the Councillors may reside in the same part of the ward, leaving the remaining parts without local representation. The system we have works well and efficiently. Boroondara is consistently voted as the Municipality residents are most satisfied with, and I believe this is in part because of the one councillor to one ward representation.

Thank you.