

Submission to Local Council Representation Review of Boroondara City Council 2019

Historically, the single Councillor Wards of Boroondara have served the community well, however, with a changing and more diverse demographic, there is a need to modernise the composition of representation.

1. A diversity of representatives in each Ward would be more conducive to constituents from various backgrounds coming forward with issues which affect them.
2. The absence of a Councillor for any reason including leave or illness leaves a Ward unrepresented on Council.
3. Where a Councillor is conflicted on a particular issue and recuses themselves from participation in discussion and voting, the Ward becomes unrepresented.
4. Multi-member Wards allow for the cross-fertilisation of ideas among those representatives. In recognition of these factors, most Councils of a size and complexity consistent with that of Boroondara have moved to multi-member Wards.

My submission:

1. That Boroondara City Council be converted to multi-member Wards with at least three Councillors to be elected at each election in each Ward.
2. The size of Wards to maintain the principle of voter equity in accordance with legislative requirements.
3. Voting to be on the basis of proportional representation.

Sandra Cooper

