

.It is my strong view that the current arrangement of 10 structured wards with one councillor representing each ward best suits Boroondarra. To my knowledge parochial views have not prevailed to the extent that the overall good of Boroondarra has been compromised. Councillors appear to have worked cooperatively to advance and address the interests of Boroondarra as a whole, while not ignoring the needs of the ward they each represent.

I do not support an unstructured municipality without wards. For 25 years I was a member of Victoria's Legislative Council. For the first half of that time, I had the experience of being part of a system that provided 2 members to represent a province, and for the other half, a system that had 5 members representing a much bigger area referred to as a region. The bigger regional areas made it much harder for Legislative Councillors to maintain local contacts and therefore keep on top of local issues.

While there are differences between the roles of Local Government Councillors and Legislative Council Councillors, I still think ratepayers interests are best served by identifying a single councillor to take responsibility for advancing those interests.

Thank you for the opportunity to make these comments.

Peter Hall

Balwyn