

The current single-ward structure for the Boroondara council is no longer sufficient to adequately represent the residents of our City.

In particular, since the last review in 2008, the growing number of high rise apartment buildings along our transport corridors is starting to create a new community of interest – apartment dwellers.

Apartment dwellers are not geographically bound to any particular ward, but are spread out across Boroondara. Our current single ward structure is dividing this community, meaning their interests are not adequately addressed. This is evidenced, for example, by the fact that Boroondara's Housing Strategy\* prioritises the needs of detached housing ownership over multi-dwelling developments.

As noted on page 12 of the submission guide, if a community of interest, like apartment dwellers, is widespread across the local council, then a fair representation may be achieved by creating multi-councillor wards with proportional representation. In Boroondara we could, for example, move to a 12 member council, with 4 wards represented by 3 councillors each. Or, alternatively, retain the current number (10) and create two wards of three councillors and two wards of two councillors.

- <https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2017-05/Housing-Strategy.pdf>