


Jennifer Stuart



I write in support of Option A, to establish multi-councillor wards, with eleven councillors in total. I favour using Indigenous names for the new wards, to re-inforce our increasing acknowledgement of country, acquired from, but never ceded by, our nation's first people.

The Preliminary Report of the Boroondara City Council 2019 indicates that the voter-councillor ratio is high for Boroondara and to increase the number of councillors from 10 to 11 would achieve a more comparative position.

The Preliminary Report also outlines the high socio-economic status of Boroondara overall, while also pointing to the number of areas of disadvantage concealed by the outward appearance of affluence and privilege. I strongly favour multi-councillor wards to assist with a greater diversity of representation for individual constituents. The argument that this may provoke tension is not tenable, as, if discrepancy reflects a divergence of community opinion then this should provide a springboard for further assessment and negotiation.