

Electoral Representation Review - Boroondara City Council - Response Submission
Angela Walker - Ashsburton - 23 April 2019

I am writing to say that I am opposed to the introduction of multi-member wards .

Under the current arrangement our local government area is divided into wards and each ward is represented by one democratically elected councillor.

It is my opinion this arrangement works best. Whenever council elections fall due, ratepayers have taken great care to avoid electing councillors with political or business affiliations that could result in divided loyalties or a possible conflict of interest We need a truly independent councillor who is sympathetic to community concerns and and one-hundred per cent committed to serving the community.

As ratepayers most of our concerns are specific to our local area and relate to issues such as community safety, access to facilities and the preservation and protection of amenities such as sporting facilities, public swimming pools, parks, bike paths, nature reserves and ensuring adequate car parking spaces at railway stations and shopping centres. Members of the community are very opposed to unwanted and inappropriate over-development and are very focussed on maintaining neighbourhood character and ensuring that our ward remains clean, green and safe and maintains its reputation as a family friendly neighbourhood that provides a safe and nurturing environment for our senior citizens.

Protecting and enhancing our neighbourhood requires eternal vigilance and the best possible representation. For this reason, I am happy with a single councillor representing the Solway ward and see no reason to change the system.