

14th. February, 2019.

Victorian Electoral Commission.
[REDACTED]

Dear Sirs,

Re GLENELG SHIRE COUNCIL
Local council representation review.

We attended the Victorian Electoral Commission presentation and discussion at the Portland Municipal office and have studied the well presented and informative Submission Guide.

The Oxford Dictionary defines democracy as:-

- (a) "Government of the people ; that form of government in which the sovereign power resides in the people and is exercised by them either directly or by officers elected by them."**
(b)" a state or community in which all have equal rights."

In times past, riding representatives of thinly populated rural areas easily outvoted the small, less numerous, but more densely populated Portland Ridings.

Voting power by "area" is not the "democratic power of the people"

The commission's decision at the previous review to create an un-subdivided municipality does not appear to have caused any detriment to any part of the municipality. All Councillors were elected on the votes of the whole municipality

We strongly believe the existing unsubdivided municipality should continue, as any alternative negates the principles of "majority democracy and equal rights".

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]
JOHN & MARGARET PUNTON
[REDACTED]

