

Local Council Representation Review

THE REVIEW

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) is conducting an electoral representation review of Banyule City Council.

The review examines:

- whether the Council has the appropriate number of councillors
- whether the Council should be unsubdivided, with councillors elected from the whole Council, or subdivided into wards
- if subdivided, the number of wards, ward boundaries and the number of councillors per ward.

Representation reviews are an important part of democracy and your input is valuable. As a local, you know your council area better than anyone. This is your chance to let us know your thoughts about how well your community is represented.

CURRENT STRUCTURE

Banyule City Council currently consists of seven councillors elected from seven single-councillor wards.



BANYULE CITY COUNCIL

Banyule City Council is located about 15 kilometres north-east of Melbourne CBD and covers an area of 63 square kilometres. Land-use is mainly residential, but also includes important natural environments, especially along the major waterways of the Yarra and Plenty Rivers. The City contains significant industrial areas, major shopping centres, and numerous education and health facilities, such as the Austin Hospital.

The City of Banyule includes 21 suburbs, which consist mainly of separate dwellings and house a variety of family types. Medium- and higher-density living is becoming more common in some areas, such as Heidelberg and Ivanhoe. While the City has affluent suburbs, such as Eaglemont and Ivanhoe East, there are also socially disadvantaged areas, particularly in Heidelberg West and Bellfield.

Significant employment opportunities are provided in the retail, industrial and public sectors. Health care and social assistance is the largest employer accounting for almost a third of all people employed in the area and 15% of local residents. A large number of residents (30%) are employed as professionals.

The City of Banyule is becoming more diverse with a growing proportion of the population born overseas. The City's population is also growing, increasing from 114,869 to 121,865 for the period 2006 to 2016 and is likely to increase to 145,036 by 2031.

LAST REVIEW

The last electoral representation review of Banyule City Council took place in 2007. The VEC's final recommendation was for Banyule City Council to remain with seven councillors elected from seven single-councillor wards.

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au to access a copy of the 2007 review final report.

SUBMISSION GUIDE

Download a submission guide from the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au for more information on the review process and to help you make your submission.

Review process

26 June Preliminary submissions open
WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 2019

Information sessions

6.30 PM TUESDAY 25 JUNE 2019

25 June & 26 June Hawdon, Olympia & Ibbott Rooms,
Greensborough Service Centre, 1 Flintoff
Street, Greensborough

6.30 PM WEDNESDAY 26 JUNE 2019

26 June The McCubbin Room, The Centre Ivanhoe,
275 Upper Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe

An information session will be held for anyone wanting to find out more about the review process.

Preliminary submissions close

24 July 5.00 PM WEDNESDAY 24 JULY 2019

Submissions must be received by the VEC by **5.00 pm** on this day. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Preliminary report

21 Aug WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST 2019

The VEC releases a preliminary report including one or more options for the electoral structure.
Response submissions open from this date.

Response submission close

18 Sept 5.00 PM WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2019

Submissions must be received by the VEC by **5.00 pm** on this day. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Public hearing

6.30 PM WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2019

25 Sept Hawdon, Olympia & Ibbott Rooms,
Greensborough Service Centre, 1 Flintoff
Street, Greensborough

A public hearing will be held for anyone who requests to speak about their response submission. The public hearing will not be held if there are no requests to speak.

Final report

16 Oct WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2019

The VEC submits a final report to the Minister for Local Government including the recommendation for the electoral structure.

HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

You can make a submission to the review via:



the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au



email to banyule.review@vec.vic.gov.au



post to
Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

To be considered, submissions must include your:

- full name
- residential or postal address.

All submissions are published on the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au. Your name and locality will be published but your full address and contact details will be removed.

SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

- I have included my full name and address
- I know that my submission will be published, including my full name and locality
- I have read the submission guide

PRELIMINARY SUBMISSION

- I have included the number of councillors that I want (between five and 12) and why
- I have said whether I want an unsubdivided or subdivided structure and why
- If I want a subdivided structure, I have considered the ward boundaries

RESPONSE SUBMISSION

- I have responded to the options in the preliminary report
- I have said whether I want to speak about my submission at the public hearing

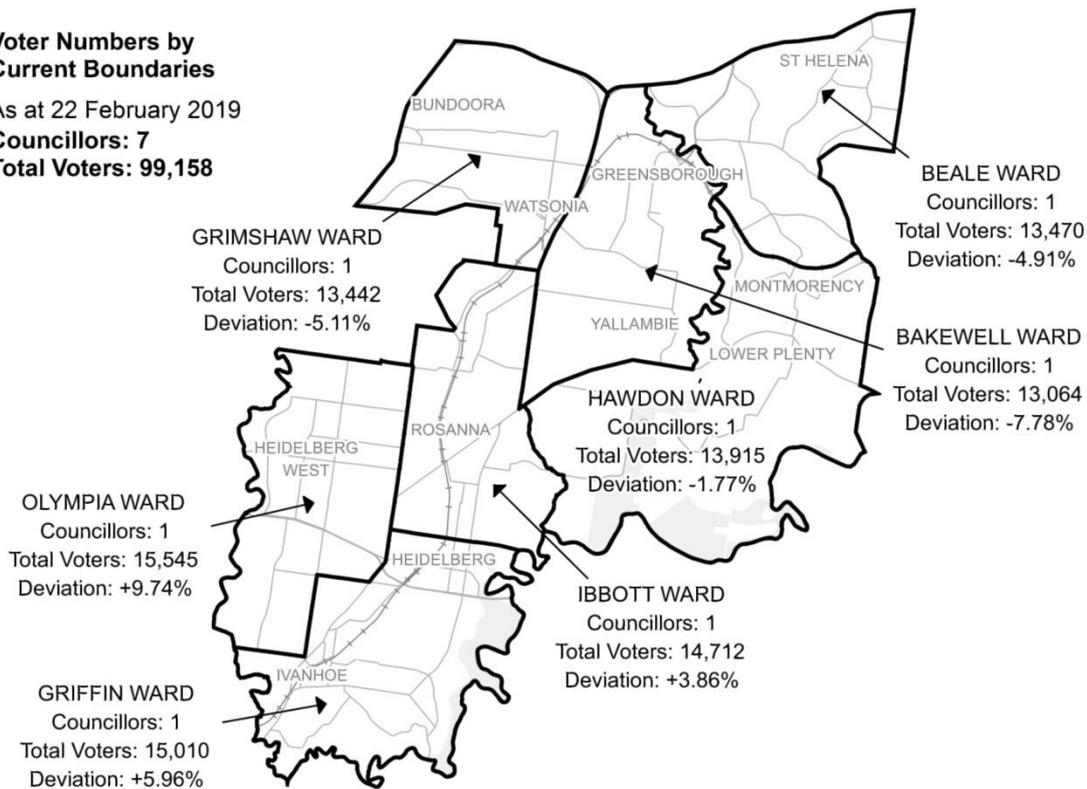
Current electoral structure

Voter Numbers by Current Boundaries

As at 22 February 2019

Councillors: 7

Total Voters: 99,158



ONE VOTE, ONE VALUE

The VEC is committed to the principle of 'one vote, one value', which is described in the *Local Government Act 1989 (the Act)*. This means that every person's vote counts equitably.

If the local council area is subdivided into wards, the number of voters represented by each councillor in each ward must be within plus-or-minus 10% of the average number of voters per councillor across the local council.

The map above includes the number of voters in each ward and the ward's current deviation from the average number of voters per councillor across the local council. During the review, the VEC takes into account likely population changes (growth or decline) to ensure the electoral structure will provide equitable representation until the next review (reviews take place approximately every 12 years).

If you make a submission online, you can use the *Boundary Builder* tool to build your preferred ward boundaries. The tool uses current voter numbers to tell you the deviations of the wards you make. This means you can make sure your proposed structure currently meets the requirements of the Act.

STATISTICS

Area (km²) 63

VOTERS

Voter density (per km²) 1574

Average voters per councillor 14165

POPULATION

Current population 121,865

Forecast population growth 0.8% p.a.

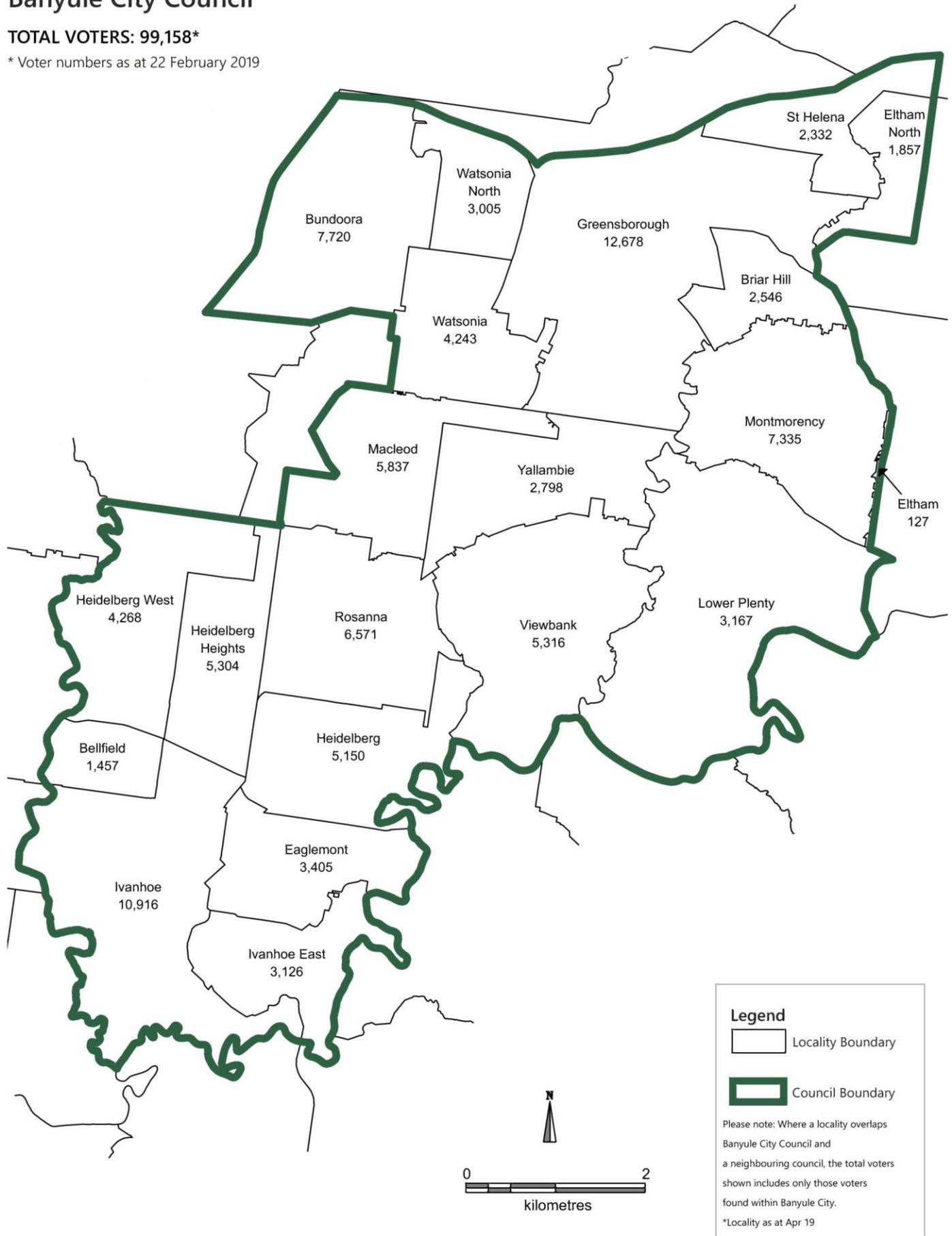
Further census statistics available at: abs.gov.au

Voter numbers by locality

Banyule City Council

TOTAL VOTERS: 99,158*

* Voter numbers as at 22 February 2019



Map prepared by:

Data use: