

Local council ward boundary review

Final Report

South Gippsland Shire Council

April 2024



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(Victorian Electoral Commission)
April 2024

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1	10 April 2024	VEC panel member
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1	15 April 2024	Electoral Commissioner	Final approval

Acknowledgement of Country

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) acknowledges Bunurong and Gunaikurnai peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters for which it is holding this review and pays respects to ancestors and Elders past, present and emerging. The VEC acknowledges their custodianship for many thousands of years and their continuing living culture.

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Executive summary

Under section 17 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) (the Act), the Minister for Local Government asked the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to conduct ward boundary reviews for 10 local council areas prior to the next general local council elections in October 2024.

For these 10 councils, the number of voters per councillor is forecast to be out of balance by October 2024, with the number of voters per councillor in one or more wards forecast to vary from the average number of voters per councillor for all of the wards by more than 10 per cent.

South Gippsland Shire Council was one of the 10 local council areas under review. The purpose of this review was to correct this forecast imbalance for the October 2024 local council election.

During its review, the VEC looked at:

- the number of currently enrolled voters in each ward
- the forecast number of enrolled voters at the next election
- adjustments to the locations of existing ward boundaries.

This report presents the VEC's final advice to the minister on the recommended ward boundary adjustments for South Gippsland Shire Council to meet the requirements of the Act.

More information about the background to the review is available on [page 7](#) of this report.

Recommendation

The VEC recommends adjustments to the boundaries of the following wards within South Gippsland Shire Council:

- Coastal-Promontory Ward
- Strzelecki Ward
- Tarwin Valley Ward

This recommendation is submitted to the Minister for Local Government as required by the Act.

A detailed map of the ward boundary adjustments is provided as [Appendix 1](#) of this report.

Summary of review steps

Developing ward adjustment models

The VEC considered a range of factors when deciding on appropriate ward boundary adjustments:

- research and analysis
- voter growth or decline over time
- public submissions (see below).

More information on the way the VEC decided on ward adjustments is available on [page 8](#).

Preliminary report

The VEC published a preliminary report on Wednesday 14 February 2024. The following model was presented for community consideration:

- Preliminary model, which proposed changes to the boundaries of all wards.

A summary of the model presented can be found on [page 13](#).

The full preliminary report is available on the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) website at vec.vic.gov.au

Response submissions

The VEC received 2 submissions responding to the preliminary report. Of these, one submission included maps.

A full analysis of response submissions received can be found on [page 15](#).

Public hearing

The VEC held an online public hearing for those wishing to speak about their response submission at 10 am on Wednesday 20 March 2024. Two people spoke at the hearing.

Background

About the 2024 ward boundary reviews

Under section 15(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic), for a council that is divided into wards:

- a) each ward should have an approximately equal number of voters per councillor; and
- b) the number of voters per councillor in a ward should not vary from the average number of voters per councillor for all of the wards by more than 10 per cent.

On 22 February 2023, the VEC provided advice to the Minister for Local Government on councils that were projected to have at least one ward with the number of voters per councillor outside this +/-10% range at the time of the October 2024 local council elections.

This advice was based on:

- current enrolment and enrolment trends
- future population projections
- legislated changes to council entitlements for council-enrolled voters.

On 20 April 2023, in response to this advice and under section 17 of the Act, the minister asked the VEC to conduct ward boundary reviews for 10 local council areas before the October 2024 local council elections. These reviews aimed to balance the number of voters per councillor for the wards of these 10 councils in time for the 2024 elections. At the end of each review, the VEC must provide a report to the minister containing recommended ward boundary adjustments for the council.

South Gippsland Shire Council was one of the 10 local council areas under review.

During its review, the VEC looked at:

- the number of currently enrolled voters in each ward
- the forecast number of enrolled voters at the next election
- adjustments to the locations of existing ward boundaries.

A ward boundary review does not change a council's electoral structure, number of councillors, or ward names. A ward boundary review also cannot change the external boundaries of a local council, divide local councils, or amalgamate local councils.

The VEC ward boundary review team

The VEC ward boundary review panel provides a recommended structure to the Electoral Commissioner. The Electoral Commissioner will review the panel's recommendations and then decide on the final recommendation for provision to the Minister for Local Government. The VEC panel is made up of 2 senior VEC members including the program sponsor. Administrative and technical support for the program is provided by VEC electoral structure and boundary review experts as well as specialists from across the VEC.

Public engagement

Public information program

The VEC conducted a public information and awareness program about the South Gippsland Shire Council ward boundary review. This included:

- printed public notices in state-wide newspapers
- public information sessions to outline the review process and respond to questions from the community
- a media release to announce the start of the review
- information on social media channels
- website content on vec.vic.gov.au, including:
 - current information on the review process
 - fact sheets for each council under review and a submission guide.

South Gippsland Shire Council was also offered and took up 2 optional methods to promote the reviews:

- printed public notices in local newspapers
- targeted social media advertisements for the council area.

Public consultation

The VEC encouraged input to the ward boundary review of South Gippsland Shire Council via:

- response submissions to the preliminary report
- an online public hearing for those who made a response submission and wished to speak to VEC to expand on their submission.

Public submissions are an important part of the review process and were considered alongside other factors during the review. These factors are outlined below.

Developing recommendations

The VEC's final recommendations comply with the Act and were developed through careful consideration of:

- research and analysis conducted by the VEC, including geospatial, electoral and demographic data
- rates or patterns of population and voter change over time, and relevant forecasts of growth or decline based on forecast information provided by .id (informed decisions, a company specialising in demographics and forecasting).

When developing the final recommendation, the VEC considered:

- whether the adjusted wards would comply with section 15(2) of the Act (see below), and how long they are likely to comply

- whether meaningful and effective ward boundaries could be established and whether these would be easily identifiable to local communities
- the representation of communities of interest
- the voter distribution and physical features of the area, and the impact these may have on the shape and size of wards
- the scale of ward boundary changes, aiming for minimal change (where possible)
- other matters raised in public submissions not already listed above.

Under section 15(2) of the Act, subdivided structures must aim for an approximately equal number of voters per councillor across all wards. This means the number of voters represented by each councillor in a ward should be within +/-10% of the average number of voters per councillor for all wards of that council.

During this review, the VEC aimed to recommend ward boundary adjustments that help ensure a council's wards comply with section 15(2) at the time of the 2024 local council elections and, if possible, also comply based on voter numbers at the time the review is conducted. The VEC used forecasts of population and voter change to assess compliance at the 2024 elections with as much accuracy as possible.

In some cases, population change and other factors impacting voter numbers meant it was not possible to adjust the ward boundaries of a council so that both 'current' (at the time of the review) and 'forecast' (at October 2024) voter numbers were within the legislated +/-10% tolerance. Where this happened, the VEC prioritised compliance at the October 2024 elections to ensure each vote would have approximately equal value at the 2024 elections. In some cases, the VEC's recommended model may set the current ward deviations outside the +/-10% tolerance. This was because the ward deviations were forecast to change over a short period of time and move within the +/-10% tolerance by the time of the 2024 local council elections.

One of the factors that may impact compliance with section 15(2) is the number of current and forecast voters with ratepayer-based voting entitlements, also known as council-enrolled electors. Voters' rolls include both state-enrolled electors (the majority of the roll) and a smaller number of council-enrolled electors. The Act introduced changes to ratepayer-based entitlement categories, which come into full effect at the 2024 local council elections. The VEC took this change to the makeup of voters' rolls, and therefore compliance with section 15(2) of the Act, into consideration during this review.

About South Gippsland Shire Council

Profile

South Gippsland Shire was created in 1994 when the former Shire of South Gippsland was amalgamated with the Shire of Mirboo, and parts of the Shire of Korumburra and Shire of Woorayl. It is located in south-eastern Victoria, around 100 km from the Melbourne CBD. Covering an area of 3,309 km², the Shire's southern boundary consists of the Bass Strait and Corner Inlet coastlines, and it borders Cardinia and Bass Coast councils in the west, Baw Baw in the north, and Latrobe and Wellington councils in the east.

The Traditional Custodians of the land in South Gippsland Shire Council are the Bunurong and Gunaikurnai peoples (ACHRIS 2024).

Landscape

The major transport routes servicing the council area are the South Gippsland, Bass and Strzelecki highways, which all intersect at Leongatha, with the former extending all the way to the town of Sale in Victoria's east.

Important geographical features include the Strzelecki Ranges, Corner Inlet Marine and Coastal Park, Cape Liptrap Coastal Park, and Wilsons Promontory National Park, which are all major tourist attractions.

Community

In 2021 the population of the council area was approximately 30,577, an increase of 12.3% since 2011 when the population was 27,208 (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022e). The population is projected to grow by around 14% by 2036, with the main areas of growth expected mostly in the north, around the localities of Nyora, Leongatha, Korumburra and Mirboo North (.id 2024).

Leongatha is the largest town by population, and the shire's main service town, providing access to employment, education and health services (DTP 2024). Other key towns include Korumburra, Foster and Mirboo North, with smaller settlements at Fish Creek, Loch, Meeniyan, Nyora, Poowong and Toora. The shire has large concentrations of council-enrolled voters, mostly due to the prevalence of holiday homes found around Venus Bay and Sandy Point.

At 49, the median age of residents is significantly higher than in Greater Melbourne and Victoria (37 and 38), while at around 6.5%, unemployment is higher than the metropolitan and state averages (ABS 2022a, 2022b, 2022c).

A key industry in South Gippsland is agriculture, which makes up 15% of employment (.id 2024), and 19% of economic output (REMPPLAN 2024). Dairy production is a major industry, with around 10% of all Victorian dairy farms found within the council area (SGSC 2021).

Tourism is also a prominent economic driver, particularly in the southern coastal area, with the municipality attracting over 1.2 million visitors per year (SGSC 2021).

Home ownership, at 80.5%, is higher than the regional Victoria rate of 72.5% (owned outright and with a mortgage), while the proportion of households renting is lower (15.6% compared with

23.6%) (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022d). The weekly median household income is \$1,266, which is lower than the regional Victoria median of \$1,386 (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022d).

The shire's demographic profile is comparable to regional Victoria. Nearly 16% of residents have both parents born overseas, similar to the rest of regional Victoria at 16.4% (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022d), while almost 90% of the population speaks only English at home, compared with the regional Victoria rate of 86.4% (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022d).

Current electoral structure

South Gippsland Shire Council has a total of 9 councillors and is divided into 3 wards with 3 councillors per ward (Coastal-Promontory, Strzelecki and Tarwin Valley wards).

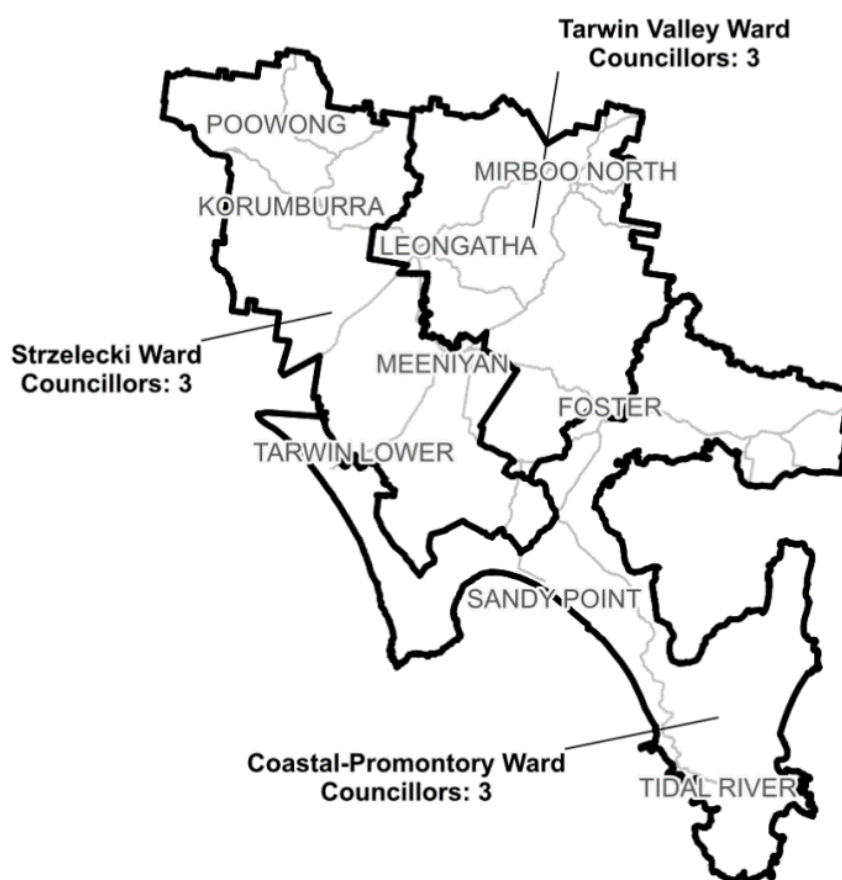


Figure 1: Diagram of current electoral structure of South Gippsland Shire Council.

There are an estimated 30,901 voters in South Gippsland Shire Council, with an estimated ratio of 3,433 voters per councillor.

By October 2024, the voter-to-councillor ratios of Strzelecki and Tarwin Valley wards are forecast to be outside of +10%, and the voter-to-councillor ratio of Coastal-Promontory Ward is forecast to be outside of -10%.

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au for more information on South Gippsland Shire Council.

Last review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of South Gippsland Shire Council in 2012. That review was carried out under the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic), which was replaced by the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic).

After conducting the review, the VEC recommended that South Gippsland Shire Council continue to consist of 9 councillors elected from 3 wards (3 wards with 3 councillors each)

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au to access a copy of the 2012 representation review final report.

Preliminary findings and response

The current ward boundary review of South Gippsland Shire Council was required due to the voter-to-councillor ratios in Coastal-Promontory, Strzelecki and Tarwin Valley wards, which were projected to be outside of the legislated +/-10% range at the October 2024 local council election.

Preliminary report

The VEC's ward boundary review of South Gippsland Shire Council began with the release of a preliminary report on Wednesday 14 February 2024.

The full preliminary report is available on the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au

When preparing the preliminary report, the VEC considered a range of ward boundary adjustments for South Gippsland Shire Council and chose the strongest model for public consultation. The following model was presented for community consideration:

- Preliminary model, which proposed changes to the boundaries of all wards.

Preliminary model

After exploring possible boundary adjustments, the VEC put forward one model for public consultation. The model was considered to affect a minimal number of voters, shifting the current northern boundary of Coastal-Promontory Ward further north to rebalance its predicted lower voter numbers relative to the 2 northern wards of Tarwin Valley and Strzelecki.

While the VEC explored other options, the preliminary model was the only structure considered appropriate for the communities of South Gippsland Shire. Challenges when adjusting ward boundaries in South Gippsland included the concentration of voters found around Leongatha and Korumburra, coupled with the high prevalence of council-enrolled voters found mostly in the south along the coastline, particularly around Venus Bay and Sandy Point. Due to these constraints, the VEC viewed other models that while compliant with the Act, would not as effectively cater to communities of interest. This included options for splitting the coastal areas between wards, and options combining the disparate locations of Wilsons Promontory and Leongatha.

In the preliminary model, the northern boundary of Coastal-Promontory Ward follows the Tarwin River and Tarwin River East Branch for almost the entire length, with small deviations from the river in the east using roads, trails, and property boundaries. The VEC regarded this as a strong boundary when considering the prominent nature of the river in the area.

The boundary adjustments in the preliminary model would result in 2,800 voters (or about 9%) changing wards (based on current enrolments). A total of 1,598 voters from Tarwin Valley Ward and 1,198 voters from Strzelecki Ward would be transferred to Coastal-Promontory Ward. An additional 4 voters would change from Strzelecki Ward to Tarwin Valley Ward.

Response submissions

The VEC received 2 response submissions to the preliminary report from the public by the extended deadline of 5 pm on Wednesday 13 March 2024. You can find a list of people or organisations who made a response submission in [Appendix 2](#).

On request from South Gippsland Shire Council, the VEC granted a one-week extension to the close of submissions date, shifting this from Wednesday 6 March to Wednesday 13 March. As a result, all subsequent event dates for the ward boundary review of South Gippsland Shire Council were shifted out by one week. The VEC granted this extension due to special circumstances related to an extreme storm event in the council area, to allow additional time for interested community members to participate in the public submission process.

The table below provides an overview of preferences in response submissions. You can read an analysis of submissions below this table.

Table 1: Preferences expressed in response submissions	
Preliminary model	Other
-	2

Neither of the 2 response submissions supported the preliminary model, with both making adjustment suggestions that would result in wards which were outside the legislated +/-10% deviation requirements.

Councillor Sarah Gilligan argued that the preliminary model was unsatisfactory by failing to consider council strategy and the likelihood of an increased councillor workload in the proposed Coastal-Promontory Ward. It was argued that this workload would result from the ward's substantial influx of seasonal residents coupled with an increase in the number of towns contained within the proposed ward. The councillor was critical of the dataset the VEC used to inform the review process, stating that ABS 2021 Census data was unreliable due to the displacement of residents brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic at the time of the Census. Councillor Gilligan suggested that using this data to make boundary adjustments underestimated the population of the area around Venus Bay, in turn leading to a flawed preliminary model presented by the VEC. Councillor Gilligan submitted a mapped structure to accompany the written submission. The structure, which was modelled by the VEC, proposed Meeniyan and surrounding townships be captured in Tarwin Valley Ward, but did not fulfil the +/-10% requirement of the Act.

A second submission, made by a group of 4 South Gippsland Shire councillors, likewise did not support the preliminary model, but did not provide any reasons for this. The group suggested minor adjustments to the current structure, including moving Meeniyan into Tarwin Valley Ward, which, like Councillor Gilligan's suggestion, would result in Tarwin Valley Ward being outside the legislated +/-10% requirement.

Public hearing

The VEC held an online public hearing for those wishing to speak about their response submission at 10 am on Wednesday 20 March 2024. Two people spoke at the hearing.

You can find a list of people who spoke at the hearing in [Appendix 2](#).

Sarah Gilligan, councillor for Coastal-Promontory Ward, spoke first at the public hearing. Critical of the VEC's preliminary model, Councillor Gilligan stated that the VEC might be wrong in its population and voter forecasting. The councillor noted that she represents all residents, including full-time residents, non-resident ratepayers, and the large number of tourists who frequent the southern council area around peak holiday periods. Councillor Gilligan argued that workloads were already unreasonable for the current Coastal-Promontory Ward councillors, and that including the extra townships in the ward would further increase councillor workloads. While the councillor acknowledged the VEC's use of .id data, she still questioned its validity, stating that it may not adequately account for the number of people working from home, or the influx of tourists around holiday periods. Nonetheless, the councillor did acknowledge the parameters of ward boundary reviews and advocated a need to review how part-time residents and tourists are factored into council structures and how non-resident ratepayers become entitled to vote.

When asked about how the preliminary model adjustments would affect the role of a councillor, Councillor Gilligan said an increased workload might discourage people from running for council. When invited to detail the increased workload councillors faced during the holiday season, the councillor stated that more stakeholders reached out to councillors during these times, and that having more tourists in the council area led to an inevitable increase in issues councillors needed to address.

Mayor Clare Williams, representing a group of 4 councillors, also expressed discontent with the preliminary model. As a representative of Tarwin Valley Ward, Mayor Williams acknowledged her ward would decrease in area, allowing councillors elected to potentially foster stronger community links. However, the mayor found this outcome unfair for those elected from Coastal-Promontory Ward, as the larger area would entail increased responsibilities under the preliminary model. The mayor agreed with Councillor Gilligan that the proposed boundary adjustments may not be reflective of the population numbers, particularly the tourist population and future non-resident ratepayers, highlighting the uneven workload anticipated for councillors elected to Coastal-Promontory Ward. The mayor expressed support for Meeniyan being placed in Tarwin Valley Ward and supported the Fish Creek area being contained in one ward.

When asked, Mayor Williams did not support the preliminary model, mainly due to the view that this would place unreasonable expectations on councillors elected in the proposed Coastal-Promontory Ward. She also stated that Meeniyan being placed in Coastal-Promontory Ward would likely increase councillor workloads and decrease the community connections voters had with their representatives.

Findings and recommendation

As outlined in the submission guide for this review, the VEC is committed to the principle of 'one vote, one value', which is a requirement for subdivided electoral structures under the Act. This is to ensure that every person's vote counts equally. When undertaking a ward boundary review, the VEC must adhere to the Act's legislated equality requirement to seek to ensure the number of voters per councillor in a ward is within +/-10% of the average number of voters per councillor for all wards in the council area.

The recommended model

After considering the model presented in the preliminary report, the requirements of the Act and public submissions, the VEC has chosen to put forward the model found in the preliminary report with no further adjustments as the VEC's recommended model.

Constructing sensible ward boundaries for this council was challenging due to the concentrated populations in the towns of Leongatha and Korumburra. Coupled with the sparse distribution of the population throughout the centre of the shire, this severely limited the VEC's ability to create strong ward boundaries, while adhering to the legislated +/-10% requirement. Despite attempts by the VEC to model different options, suggestions to include Meeniyan in a northern ward were unfeasible because of this requirement. Indeed, neither of the proposals provided in submissions satisfied the requirement for all wards to be within the +/-10% deviation range.

Another key challenge to making sensible boundary adjustments was the high prevalence of current council-enrolled voters found mostly in the south along the coastline, with notable concentrations present around Venus Bay and Sandy Point. This further limited the options for creating sensible ward boundaries. There was criticism from submitters of the forecast data used by the VEC, particularly in the south where larger concentrations of non-resident electors are found, and it was argued that the COVID-19 pandemic might have distorted population data generated from the 2021 Census. It should be noted that the VEC uses bespoke, up-to-date population and forecast data provided by informed decisions (.id), which factors in population changes related to the events surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite best efforts there remains a risk that some wards may remain or move outside +/-10% by the time of the 2024 election, which is always present during any ward boundary review program.

In the recommended model, the northern boundary of Coastal-Promontory Ward now follows the Tarwin River and Tarwin River East Branch for almost the entire length, with small deviations from the river in the east using roads, trails, and property boundaries. This was deemed a good outcome when considering the prominent nature of the river in the area, which presents as a strong and easily recognisable boundary. The VEC also notes that most boundaries between the current Strzelecki and Tarwin Valley wards would remain in place in the recommended model, with only very minor adjustments near Leongatha. This too was considered a good outcome as electors would likely be familiar with these boundaries, which includes the use of Tarwin Valley River-West Branch, roads, and property boundaries.

The VEC acknowledges feedback that shifting the Coastal-Promontory Ward boundaries further north would result in some communities that might have less in common with the coastal area of the shire being included in a ward with areas like Wilsons Promontory, Venus Bay, and Sandy Point. The adjustment means that the more central towns like Meeniyan, Stony Creek and Dumbalk would now be contained within the southern Coastal-Promontory Ward. It was noted in public feedback that this change might add to councillor workloads in Coastal-Promontory Ward, which already has unique challenges owing to the strong tourist industry and a high concentration of non-resident electors in the area. While the VEC acknowledges the potential drawbacks of these adjustments, including increased councillor workloads, they are necessary to rebalance all wards to adhere to the +/-10% requirement.

Of all the boundary change options considered throughout this review, the recommended model impacted a minimal number of voters, with 2,800 voters (or approximately 9%) changing wards (based on current enrolments). Coastal-Promontory Ward would gain 2,796 currently enrolled voters, with 1,598 transferred from Tarwin Valley Ward and 1,198 transferred from Strzelecki Ward. An additional 4 voters change from Strzelecki Ward to Tarwin Valley Ward. Of the various options considered throughout the review, the recommended model is the most stable for the purposes of adhering to the +/-10% requirement during the 2024 local government elections and has a reasonable chance of remaining within legislated deviations for the 2028 elections.

While the VEC acknowledges there are both potential benefits and drawbacks for this recommended model, it considers the boundary adjustments of this model to have the best potential to promote fair and equitable representation for voters in South Gippsland Shire Council while also complying with the requirements of the Act.

It should be noted that due to the high and variable population growth across the council area, as well as upcoming changes to council voting entitlements, it was necessary to set some current ward deviations outside +/-10% to increase the likelihood of ward deviations being within the +/-10% requirement at the time of the 2024 election. Despite best efforts, the VEC acknowledges that, due to the volatility of population growth as well as the uncertain impacts of changes to council voting entitlements under the Act, that there remains a risk that some wards may remain or move outside +/-10% by the time of the 2024 election.

The VEC's recommendation

The VEC recommends adjustments to the boundaries of the following wards within South Gippsland Shire Council:

- Coastal-Promontory Ward
- Strzelecki Ward
- Tarwin Valley Ward

The recommended adjustments were presented as the preliminary model in the preliminary report, with no further changes.

This recommendation is submitted to the Minister for Local Government as required by the Act.

Please see [Appendix 1](#) for a detailed map of the recommended ward boundaries.

References

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) (2022a) [2021 South Gippsland, Census All persons QuickStats](#), ABS website, accessed 11 January 2024.

— (2022b) [2021 Greater Melbourne, Census All persons QuickStats](#), ABS website, accessed 11 January 2024.

— (2022c) [2021 Victoria Census All persons QuickStats](#), ABS website, accessed 11 January 2024.

— (2022d) [2021 Rest of Vic. Census All persons QuickStats](#), ABS website, accessed 11 January 2024.

— (2022e) [2011 South Gippsland, Census All persons QuickStats](#), ABS website, accessed 11 January 2024.

DTP (Department of Transport and Planning) (2024) [South Gippsland planning scheme](#), DTP website, accessed 29 January 2024.

.id (Informed Decisions) (2024), [South Gippsland Shire: Industry sector of employment](#), .id website, accessed 29 January 2024.

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REMPPLAN (2024), [South Gippsland Shire Council: Economy, Jobs and Business Insights](#), REMPLAN website, accessed 29 January 2024.

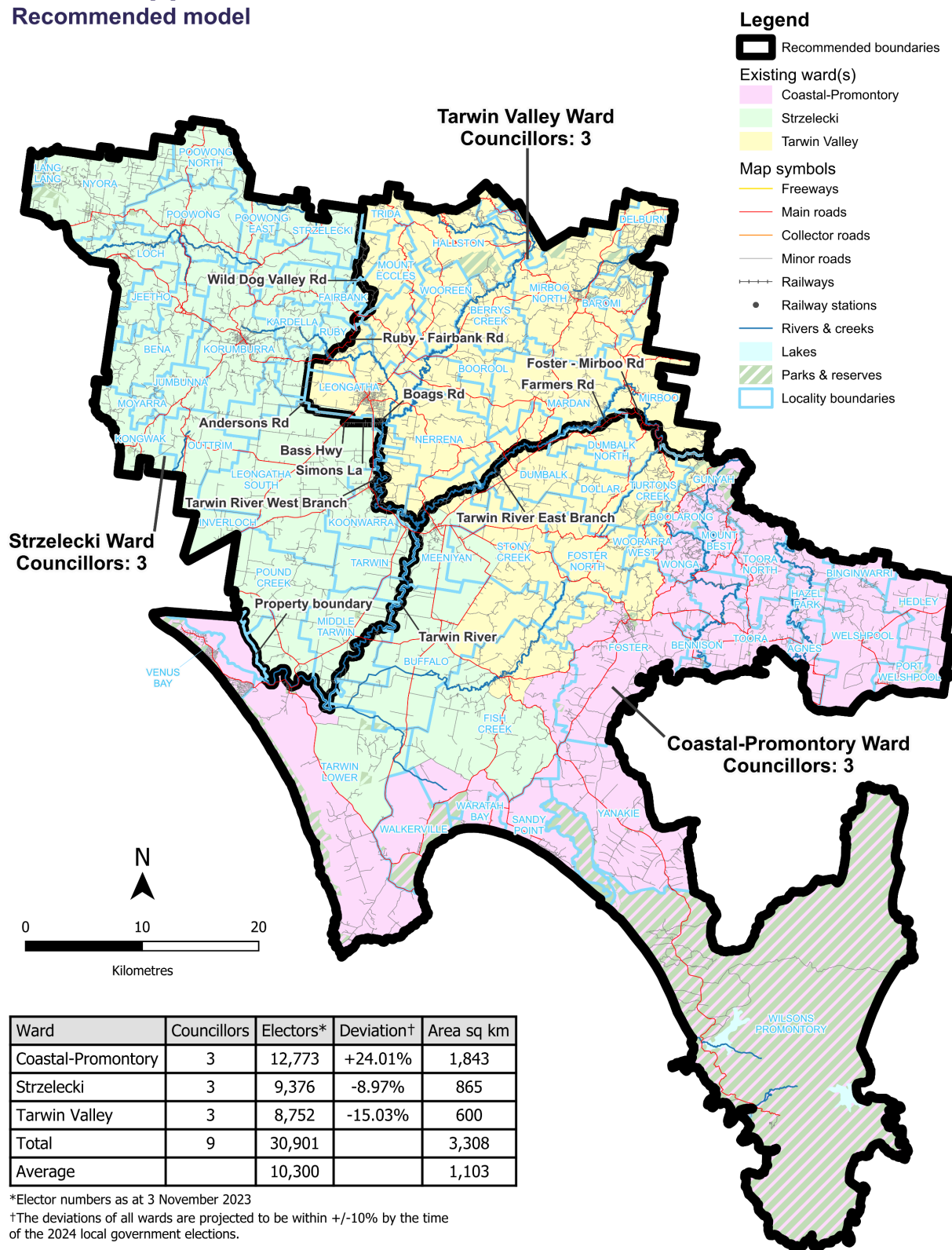
SGSC (South Gippsland Shire Council) (2021), [Economic Development Strategy 2021-2031](#), South Gippsland Shire Council website, accessed 29 January 2024.

ACHRIS (Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register and Information System), [ACHRIS](#), Aboriginal Victoria, accessed 25 March 2024.

Appendix 1: Map of recommended model

South Gippsland Shire Council

Recommended model



Map prepared by:



Data used:



Layers for alignment:
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Data for recommended model

Ward	Electors*	Deviation†	Area# (square km)
Coastal-Promontory	12,773	+24.01%	1,843
Strzelecki	9,376	-8.97%	865
Tarwin Valley	8,752	-15.03%	600
Total	30,901	n/a	3,308
Average	10,300	n/a	1,103

* Elector numbers at 3 November 2023.

† The deviations of all wards are projected to be within +/-10% at the time of the 2024 local council elections.

Ward area (square km) and total council area is measured at a level of accuracy required for electoral boundaries. This may vary slightly from other data sources (e.g. ABS).

Appendix 2: Public involvement

The VEC wishes to thank all submitters to the review and speakers at the public hearing for their participation in the review process.

Response submissions

Response submissions were made by:

Adams, Clare; Davies, Mohya; Keerie, Jenni; Schelling, John (Councillors, South Gippsland Shire Council)

Gilligan, Sarah (Councillor, South Gippsland Shire Council)

Public hearing

The following people spoke at the public hearing:

Adams, Clare (on behalf of self and Councillors Davies, Keerie and Schelling)

Gilligan, Sarah

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