

Local council electoral structure review

Final Report

Glen Eira City Council

September 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

The electoral representation advisory panel acknowledges Bunurong and Wurundjeri peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters for which it held this review and pays respects to ancestors and Elders past, present and emerging. The panel acknowledges their custodianship for many thousands of years and their continuing living culture.

Report approval

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1	15 September 2023	The Honourable Frank Vincent AO KC
1	15 September 2023	Ms Janet Dore
1	18 September 2023	Ms Máiréad Doyle

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Executive summary

An independent electoral structure review panel appointed by the Minister for Local Government has reviewed the electoral structure of Glen Eira City Council.

The purpose of the review was to advise the Minister on the appropriate number of councillors and electoral structure, including ward names, for the council.

Under Victoria's *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Glen Eira City Council must now have a single-councillor ward electoral structure.

The panel looked at:

- the appropriate number of councillors and wards for the council
- the location of ward boundaries
- appropriate ward names.

This report presents the panel's final advice to the Minister on the recommended new electoral structure of Glen Eira City Council to meet the requirements of the Act.

More information about the background to the review is available on [page 6](#).

Recommendation

The electoral representation advisory panel recommends that Glen Eira City Council adopt a 9 single-councillor ward structure – 9 wards with one councillor per ward.

The recommended names for the 9 wards in this electoral structure are Bambra, Booran, Caulfield Park, Jasper, Mallanbool, Moorleigh, Murrumbeena, Orrong and Wattle Grove.

This advice is submitted to the Minister for Local Government as required by the Terms of Reference of the electoral representation advisory panel and the Act.

Please see [Appendix 1](#) for a detailed map of this recommended electoral structure.

Summary of approach

Developing electoral structure models

The panel considered a range of factors when deciding on its final recommendation including:

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

More information on the way the panel decided on the models is available on [page 7](#).

Preliminary report

The panel published a preliminary report on Wednesday 19 July 2023 with the following electoral structure models for public consultation:

- Model 1: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward.
- Model 2: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward, with different ward boundaries to Model 1.
- Model 3: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward, with different ward boundaries to Models 1 and 2.

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

Response submissions

The panel received 6 submissions responding to the preliminary report. Of these, no submissions included maps.

A full analysis of response submissions received can be found on [page 14](#).

Public hearing

The panel held an online public hearing for those wishing to speak about their response submission at 2 pm on Wednesday 16 August 2023. Two people spoke at the hearing.

Background

About the 2023–24 electoral structure reviews

In October 2022, the Minister for Local Government formed 2 electoral representation advisory panels to review and provide advice on the electoral structures of 39 local councils, under section 16 of the Act. If the Minister accepts the electoral structure recommended by the panel, any changes will take effect at the October 2024 local council elections.

The Act introduced several changes to local government representation, including the types of electoral structures local councils may have. All metropolitan, interface and regional city councils (including Glen Eira City Council) must now have single-councillor ward electoral structures.

For Glen Eira City Council, the electoral representation advisory panel examined:

- the number of councillors and wards
- where the ward boundaries should be
- the names of each ward.

The Act requires electoral structures to provide fair and equitable representation and facilitate good governance. Each ward must have an approximately equal number of voters per councillor (within +/-10% of the average). While conducting the review, the panel also noted the role of a councillor as specified under section 28 of the Act.

The electoral representation advisory panel

The panel that conducted the electoral structure review of Glen Eira City Council had 3 members:

- The Honourable Frank Vincent AO KC (Chairperson)
- Ms Janet Dore
- Acting Executive Director, Electoral Functions Ms Máiréad Doyle

Please note that during the preliminary report preparation of this review, Ms Máiréad Doyle sat as Acting Chairperson while The Honourable Frank Vincent took a period of leave.

The purpose of the review is to advise the Minister on the appropriate number of councillors and electoral structure, including ward names, for the council. The panel is independent of councils and the Victorian State government.

Under the Act, the VEC is not responsible for reviewing council electoral structures but must provide administrative and technical support to the panel. The Electoral Commissioner (or their delegate) must be a member of each panel.

Public engagement

Public information program

On behalf of the panel, the VEC conducted a public information and awareness program to inform the public about the Glen Eira City Council electoral structure review. This included:

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

Glen Eira City Council was also offered 2 optional promotion methods to promote the reviews:

- targeted social media advertisements at the council area (this option was taken up)
- notifying voters in the council area subscribed to the VEC's VoterAlert service about the start of the review and release of the preliminary report (this option was not taken up).

Public consultation

The panel encouraged public input to the review of Glen Eira City Council via:

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

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

Developing recommendations

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

- research and analysis conducted by the VEC support team, including geospatial 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)
- input received during public consultation.

Deciding on the number of councillors

The Act allows local councils to have between 5 and 12 councillors, but neither the Act nor the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020 specify how the number of councillors is to be determined. As such, the recommendation put forward by the panel in this report is guided by the Act's intention for fairness and equity in voter representation and the consequent facilitation of good governance.

In examining the appropriate number of councillors for Glen Eira City Council, the panel considered the following criteria:

- the population and number of voters in the council area, compared to other councils with a similar population size and number of voters in the same category (for example, other comparable metropolitan, interface and regional city councils)
- patterns of population change and voter growth or decline in the council area over time
- the current and past numbers of councillors
- the representation needs of communities of interest in the council area
- any matter raised in public submissions not already listed above.

Local councils with a larger number of voters will often have more councillors. Large populations generally have greater diversity, both in the type and number of communities of interest and issues relating to representation. However, the ideal number of councillors can also be influenced by the circumstances of each council, such as the:

- nature and complexity of services the council provides
- geographic size and topography of the area
- forecast population and voter growth or decline
- social diversity.

Deciding the electoral structure

Under the Act, regional city, metropolitan and interface councils must now have single-councillor ward electoral structures.

When developing single-councillor ward models for Glen Eira City Council, the panel considered these criteria:

- whether the structure would comply with section 15(2) of the Act (see below), and for how long it would likely comply
- the appropriate number of councillors, as outlined above
- 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

- past elections for the council, including:
 - numbers of candidates nominating
 - incidences of uncontested elections
 - rates of informal voting.
- 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 in each ward. 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.

During this review, the panel aimed to recommend a structure that would 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 was conducted. The panel 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 mean it is not possible to create compliant subdivided structures based both on voter numbers that were current at the time of the review and forecast voter numbers. In these instances, the panel prioritised compliance at the 2024 local government elections to ensure each vote will have approximately equal value at the 2024 election.

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 voters. 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 panel took this change to the makeup of voters' rolls, and therefore compliance with section 15(2) of the Act, into consideration during this review.

Deciding on ward names

The panel has taken the following approach to naming wards.

1. Retaining existing ward names if these were still relevant to the area covered by the ward.
2. When a new name was required, the panel based this on features such as:
 - places (registered under the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*) in the ward
 - compass directions
 - native flora or fauna.

Use of Aboriginal language

The panel recognises that there should first be meaningful consultation with local Aboriginal communities and groups before a ward is named using Aboriginal language. Meaningful

consultation is a significant process that the panel was not able to undertake within the timeframes of the current review program.

The panel also recognises that many of the place names in current use across Victoria are based on Aboriginal language. As such, the panel has only put forward new ward names using Aboriginal language if:

- it is the name of a place within a ward
- it is currently in common use

and

- the name is registered under the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*.

Unregistered names using Aboriginal language have not been put forward by the panel as new ward names. While the panel supports the adoption of names based on Aboriginal language, this requires appropriate consultation.

Accordingly, for the panel to consider an Aboriginal language ward name that is suggested in a public submission to the review, the name submitted needs to comply with the above guidelines.

About Glen Eira City Council

Profile

Glen Eira City Council is located in the inner south-east of metropolitan Melbourne, around 10 km from the CBD. The council covers an area of 38 km² and is bordered by Stonnington City Council to the north, Kingston City Council to the south, Monash City Council to the east and Port Phillip and Bayside councils to the west.

The Traditional Custodians of the lands in Glen Eira City Council are the Bunurong and Wurundjeri peoples (FPSR 2023).

Landscape

The council area is heavily urbanised, featuring a strong grid pattern of residential streets and numerous shopping strips along main transport routes (DTP 2023, Glen Eira City Council 2020). The council covers suburbs including Caulfield North, Elsternwick and St Kilda East in the north-west and Carnegie and Murrumbeena further to the east. Glen Huntly, the most densely populated suburb (.id 2023b), is in the centre along with Caulfield, McKinnon, and Ormond. Bentleigh East, the largest suburb by both population and area, and Bentleigh are located in the south (.id 2023a).

A defining feature of the council area and council planning are the many commercial and activity centres, which serve as important social and business hubs (Glen Eira City Council 2020). Located next to train stations and along tram routes, these centres provide a range of commercial, retail, entertainment and community services for residents and attract large numbers of visitors to the council area.

Additionally, there are around 30 parks and recreation reserves spread throughout, the largest of which is historic Caulfield Park, located in Caulfield North.

The council area is well serviced by major roads and public transport routes. The Princes Highway forms its northern boundary, while the Nepean Highway forms parts of its southern boundary. The Sandringham, Frankston and Cranbourne-Pakenham train lines pass through the council area, as well as 5 tram routes and several bus services.

Community

The population of Glen Eira City Council was 148,908 in 2021 (ABS 2022a), an increase of nearly 18,000 people over the past decade. Its population is forecast to grow modestly at an average of about 1% per year, with the greatest growth forecast to occur in Caulfield North, Caulfield East and Carnegie (.id 2023a).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up 0.3% of the population (ABS 2022a), lower than the average of 0.7% for greater Melbourne (ABS 2022b). Almost 40% of Glen Eira City Council residents were born overseas, with 4.5% born in China and 4.4% born in India (ABS 2022a). Nearly 36% of the population speaks a language other than English at home,

including Mandarin (5.6%), Greek (3.6%), Russian (2.1%), Hebrew (2.1%) and Hindi (1.2%) (ABS 2022a).

The council area is home to a large Jewish community, mainly in the north-east in suburbs including St Kilda East, Caulfield North, Caulfield and Elsternwick (.id 2023c). Judaism is the largest religious group comprising 17.6% of the population (ABS 2022a), followed by Catholic (16.1%) and Eastern Orthodox (5.8%) religious groups (ABS 2022a).

The median weekly household income was \$2,133 in 2021, higher than the average of \$1,901 for greater Melbourne (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022b). Around 31.5% of homes are owned outright and almost 34% of households rent (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022b).

Glen Eira City Council has a vibrant economy, with more than 17,252 local businesses that employ over 45,000 people (.id 2023d). Health care and social assistance is a major industry, accounting for 20.7% of employment and 10.6% of economic output in the council (REMPPLAN 2023). Other major industries by employment include education (16.3%) and retail (11.2%) (REMPPLAN 2023).

Current number of councillors and electoral structure

Glen Eira City Council is currently divided into 3 wards with 3 councillors each, with a total of 9 councillors.

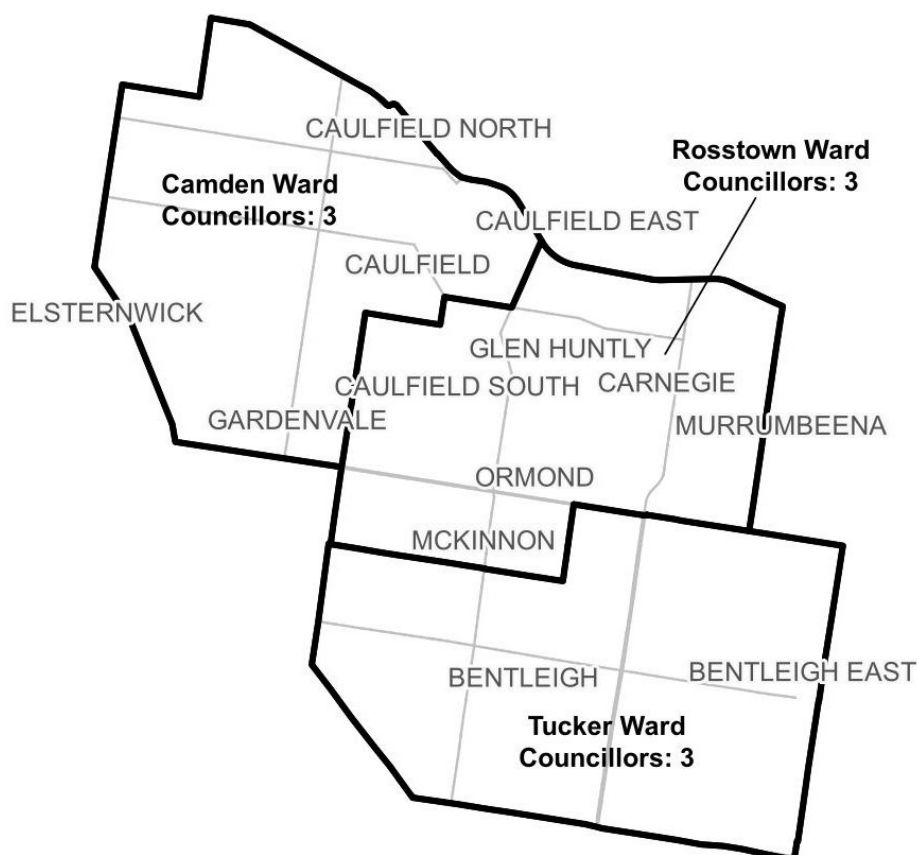


Figure 1: Diagram of current electoral structure of Glen Eira City Council.

There are an estimated 106,181 voters in Glen Eira City Council, with an estimated ratio of 11,797 voters per councillor.

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au for more information on Glen Eira City Council.

Last electoral structure review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of Glen Eira City Council in 2011. This 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 Glen Eira City Council continue to consist of 9 councillors elected from 3 wards, with minimal changes to ward boundaries

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au to access a copy of the 2011 representation review final report.

Preliminary report

A preliminary report was released on Wednesday 19 July 2023. The panel considered research findings and the requirements of the Act when formulating the models presented in the preliminary report.

After careful consideration, the following electoral structure models were put forward for public consultation:

- Model 1: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward.
- Model 2: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward, with different ward boundaries to Model 1.
- Model 3: a subdivided electoral structure with a total of 9 councillors – 9 wards with one councillor per ward, with different ward boundaries to Models 1 and 2.

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

Response submissions

The panel received 6 response submissions to the preliminary report from the public by the deadline of 5 pm on Wednesday 9 August 2023. You can find a list of people or organisations who made a response submission in [Appendix 2](#).

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			
Model 1 (9 single-councillor wards)	Model 2 (9 single-councillor wards)	Model 3 (9 single-councillor wards)	Other
4	2	0	1

Four submissions were in favour of Model 1 and 2 for Model 2. No submissions were received in support of Model 3.

One submitter expressed interest in an alternative model based on bin collection areas.

Three of the submitters specifically stated their preference for retaining the existing multi-councillor ward structure. They argued that the current structure encouraged more competition and candidates at elections, supporting in turn fresh ideas on council. It was also seen to have served the council and community well for many years, facilitating strong local representation and good governance outcomes. They considered multi-councillor structures to better enable the election of more women and candidates from minority groups.

Model 1

Most of the 4 submissions in favour of Model 1 argued that by dividing the current wards more or less equally, the same level of representation would be provided for each existing ward. This would provide continuity with the current structure. As Model 1 used many existing ward boundaries, it was suggested voters would find it more familiar than other models. Some felt this would support the council to continue functioning well. Model 1 was supported in another submission as the best able to reflect and represent the Orthodox Jewish community. For this submitter it was proposed as the best model to preserve known and tight-knit communities.

Arguments presented against Model 1 by 2 submitters were that its boundaries made no sense, were unnecessarily complex and divided up suburbs. It was also suggested that as all residents would be changing wards there was no good reason to preserve existing boundaries as a base for the new structure.

Model 2

Submissions in support of Model 2 found that the proposed boundaries, made up mostly of main roads and locality boundaries, to be clear and logical. One submitter suggested the

boundaries would be easier to understand than those of other models and saw this as an advantage. Model 2 was felt to strongly reflect communities of interest and effectively capture major centres within wards. The division of shopping centres as proposed in Model 2 was considered an advantage by one submitter as it would allow constituents to approach more than one councillor in relation to matters in those areas.

Arguments against Model 2 from two submitters were that the proposed boundaries differed from those of the current structure and would not be familiar to voters, and that ward boundaries split tight-knit communities in some parts of the council.

Model 3

While no submissions supported Model 3, there were 3 response submissions that provided arguments in opposition. It was argued that the effort to prevent dividing major commercial and shopping strips resulted in the use of impractical and confusing boundaries. There were also concerns that Model 3 might lead to more residents being separated from areas they connect with.

Other options

One submitter suggested that wards based on the 10 bin collection areas would be ideal as people were familiar with these areas.

Ward names

Many suggestions in relation to ward names were included in the submissions.

Suggestions relating to Model 1 included:

- Elsternwick, Orrong and Rippon Lea were suggested as names to replace Greenmeadows Ward
- Booran, Glen Huntly, Grange, Neerim and Rosstown were put forward as suggestions for Koornang Ward
- Ormond and Box Cottage were suggested for Wattle Grove Ward
- Boyd was suggested for Mallanbool Ward
- Moorleigh was suggested for Tucker Ward.

Suggestions relating to Model 2 included:

- Elsternwick and Orrong were put forward as replacements for Greenmeadows Ward
- Ormond was put forward as a suggestion by 2 submitters as a potential name for Wattle Grove Ward.
- Box Cottage was suggested for Wattle Grove Ward
- Camden was suggested for Bambra Ward.

- Booran, Glen Huntly, Grange, Neerim, Rosstown and Racecourse were suggested as names for Rosstown Ward.
- Bailey was suggested for Mallanbool Ward.
- Bentleigh was suggested for Jasper Ward.

Suggestions relating to Model 3 included:

- Bambra and Camden were put forward as suggestions to replace Rosstown Ward.
- Booran, Glen Huntly, Grange, Neerim, Racecourse and Rosstown were suggested for Koornang Ward.
- Ormand and Box Cottage were suggested for Wattle Grove Ward.
- Bailey was suggested for Waratah Ward.
- Bentleigh was suggested for Jasper Ward.

Public hearing

The panel held an online public hearing for those wishing to speak about their response submission at 2 pm on Wednesday 13 August 2023. Two people spoke at the hearing.

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

Rabbi Yaron Gottlieb spoke first and addressed matters related to council representation of Orthodox Jewish community interests.

Gottlieb described the 3 overlapping Orthodox Jewish communities mentioned in his submission and noted that these communities are already somewhat divided between wards and also between council areas. Gottlieb explained that the geographically specific nature of these community areas are due in part to the need to be within walking distance of community venues. Gottlieb supported Model 1 as it would better contain most of the communities within one ward. He raised concerns about dividing these communities between wards as it would potentially dilute their voice and ability to advocate for themselves and have their interests represented on council.

When asked to elaborate about the community interests requiring representation on council, Gottlieb first noted that the council would have many examples, then described the council's provision of special rubbish collections to conform with religious practices.

Speaking on behalf of Glen Eira City Council, Mayor Jim Magee outlined the Council's position in relation to the electoral structure review process. This position stated a preference for maintaining the current multi-member ward structure, but in line with the requirements of the Act and the need to change, outlined consideration and support of the best single-councillor ward structure. Councillor Magee reiterated the council's endorsement of Model 1 as the most appropriate single-councillor model, mainly because it divided the council based on the current ward areas, to maintain the same level of representation for voters in those areas.

Councillor Magee noted that the current council is made up of ordinary community representatives who understand the council area very well. Support for Model 1 was based on voters being more familiar with these boundaries than the other models, and that this would best support effective representation and governance. When asked about communities of interest, Councillor Magee noted the council's responsive approach to various community interests and needs, specifically those of the Orthodox Jewish community, and discussed a project to automate pedestrian crossing lights at major intersections in the Elsternwick locality.

Councillor Magee also reiterated the council's suggestion that the panel engage with Traditional Owners regarding ward names. The panel acknowledged the council's request and responded that while they are generally supportive of the approach, the timeframes of the review are not conducive to meaningful engagement at this level. The panel noted that suggestions for Aboriginal language ward names are included where they are linked to a local feature and they comply with the other guidelines and criteria stated in the terms of the review, such as the listing of the name in the VICNAMES register.

Findings and recommendation

The panel acknowledges the submitters who expressed their support for retaining the existing multi-councillor ward structure. It acknowledges the concerns raised and notes that a multi-councillor structure has been in place for Glen Eira City Council for many years, however, under the Act, regional city, metropolitan and interface councils must now have single-councillor ward electoral structures.

Number of councillors

After considering the requirements of the Act, public submissions and the agreed criteria, the panel found 9 councillors to be an appropriate number for Glen Eira City Council.

The panel considered the characteristics of Glen Eira City Council in relation to similar metropolitan councils, including its size and geography, population and the number and distribution of voters across the council area.

Glen Eira City Council currently has 106,181 voters represented by 9 councillors and covers an area of 39 km². Other metropolitan councils with a similar number of voters usually also have 9 councillors. As forecasts indicate only modest population change is expected for the council area, the panel considers it appropriate for the total number of councillors to remain unchanged.

Electoral structure

After considering the requirements of the Act, public submissions and the agreed criteria, the panel found Model 2 to be the single-councillor ward model with the best potential to promote fair and equitable representation for voters in Glen Eira City Council and consequently facilitate good governance.

Model 1 used the existing ward structure as the basis for a 'minimum change' approach where each existing 3-councillor ward was divided into 3, to create 9 single-councillor wards. Support for this model was based on its similarities with the current ward structure and ability to capture some existing communities of interest. An alternative view noted that as residents would all be in new wards in any case, preserving the existing structure for the sake of continuity did not necessarily make sense if there was a better model available.

Model 2 was developed using localities as the basis for wards and to provide more clearly defined boundaries than Model 1, using roads or suburb boundaries. Support for this model was based on its ability to capture more geographic areas of interest than the other proposed models and to adopt less complicated boundaries. A key benefit of this approach was that it acknowledges that residents identify more closely with local suburbs than with the current ward structure. This was an important consideration of the panel.

A potential drawback of Model 2 was that the ward boundaries would result in some strip shopping centres being split across wards. However, the panel noted that according to various submitters, splitting activity centres across more than one ward was not necessarily a disadvantage, as it could provide more than one councillor representing community interests

and assist in facilitating good governance outcomes around planning and development. This is similar to the operation of activity centres under a multi-councillor ward.

Model 2 was also perceived as dividing some communities of interest, such as the Orthodox Jewish communities, thereby reducing advocacy and representation of these communities. The panel is confident the current strong representation of Orthodox Jewish communities is being well accommodated within governance outcomes at the council and that this will continue.

While Model 3 sought to keep shopping centres and recognised neighbourhoods within single wards, it had significant drawbacks. Many of the boundaries created to achieve the containment of commercial and shopping areas were awkward and separated commercial properties from residential properties within some activity centres, and divided some communities of interest. As this model did not receive any support from response submissions and owing to various issues identified during the process, it was not recommended to be the most effective or fair structure by the panel.

An alternative model based on bin collection schedules was not considered by the panel to have practical application. These boundaries may have relevance to schedules and timing of waste collection services, however the panel did not consider them to be relevant to considerations of communities of interest and good governance outcomes at a council level or to meet the terms of the review.

Of the 3 models presented in the preliminary report, the panel felt that Model 2 provided clearer divisions along easily recognisable boundaries, and that the level of change from existing boundaries would be applied equally across all wards. It acknowledged the strengths of Model 1 in retaining some resemblance to existing ward structures and its support by some communities of interest, however the panel felt that the strengths of Model 2 provided more compelling reasons for its support. The panel considered that the ward boundaries in Model 2 would provide an improved electoral structure for the council compared to Model 1 and was confident that effective representation and good governance outcomes for all communities of interest would be achieved.

While it is difficult to predict the number of candidates likely to stand at future elections, past election results provide some indication. The panel examined past election results for Glen Eira City Council including numbers of candidates nominating, incidences of uncontested elections and rates of informal voting, and found there has been relatively strong candidate numbers across all wards. The panel assumes this trend will continue under a structure of 9 single-councillor wards, minimising the risk of uncontested or failed elections.

In coming to its final recommendation, the panel identified the benefits and drawbacks for each model and considered these alongside other relevant factors such as population growth and change, public feedback in response submissions and the diverse communities of interests across the council area. The panel notes valid arguments both in favour and against all proposed models for single-councillor ward structures examined in this review. On balance, the panel considers Model 2 to be the single-councillor ward model with the best potential to

promote fair and equitable representation for voters in the Glen Eira City Council area and consequently facilitate good governance under the requirements of the Act.

Ward names

The proposed ward names for the panel's recommended electoral structure were based on the following:

- Bambra: Name based on a road in the ward. This name is registered in the VIC NAMES register.
- Booran: Name based on a road and a park in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Caulfield Park: Name based on a park in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Jasper: Name based on a road in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Mallanbool: Name based on a park in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Moorleigh: Name based on a precinct in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Murrumbeena: Name based on a locality, road and park in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Orrong: Name based on road in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Wattle Grove: Name based on a park in the ward. This name is registered in the VICNAMES register.

Ward name suggestions for recommended electoral structure

In considering the ward names, the panel took into account all the suggestions made by submitters for Model 2.

Elsternwick and Orrong were put forward as names to replace Greenmeadows Ward. With regards to Elsternwick, as the ward contains parts of other suburbs it was felt this may lead to confusion with suburb boundaries. Orrong was put forward as a well-known road name with Aboriginal origins, and this was felt by the panel to be a more appropriate ward name.

Ormond was put forward as a suggestion by 2 submitters as a potential name for Wattle Grove Ward. The panel noted that while the locality of Ormond is predominantly captured by the ward, it also extends beyond that locality to include parts of Bentleigh and McKinnon, which may cause some confusion.

Box Cottage was suggested as a name for Wattle Grove Ward, given its association with an historic site and museum within the ward. This name is not registered in the VICNAMES register.

Camden and Bambra were suggested to replace Rosstown Ward. Both Camden and Rosstown are existing ward names. The panel felt that given the boundaries of the existing Camden and

Rosstown Wards both extend well beyond the boundaries of the new ward, the use of either of these names may cause confusion. It is also recognised that the heart of the locality associated with the name of Rosstown has closer links to Carnegie, which is not within the ward. Bambra is a well-known road name with Aboriginal origins, and this was felt by the panel to be a more appropriate ward name.

A number of names were suggested to replace Koornang Ward, including Glen Huntly, Grange, Neerim, Rosstown and Racecourse. The panel felt that Booran, being of Aboriginal origin, provided an appropriate and recognisable name for this ward, that reflected Booran Road (being one of the earliest proclaimed roads in Glen Eira in the 1860s) and the recently redeveloped Booran Reserve.

Bailey Reserve was suggested as a ward name for Mallanbool Ward, to reflect a large park in the ward and the site of the Glen Eira Sports and Aquatic Centre. This name is not in VICNAMES register.

Bentleigh was suggested as a name for Jasper Ward, as Bentleigh is a suburb within the ward. Given that the suburb boundary of Bentleigh does not align precisely with the Jasper Ward boundary, the panel felt that Jasper, being a local road name and a previous ward name, was a more appropriate name to avoid confusion with suburb boundaries.

The panel's recommendation

The electoral representation advisory panel recommends that Glen Eira City Council adopt a 9 single-councillor ward structure – 9 wards with one councillor per ward.

The recommended names for the 9 wards in this electoral structure are Bambra, Booran, Caulfield Park, Jasper, Mallanbool, Moorleigh, Murrumbeena, Orrong and Wattle Grove.

This advice is submitted to the Minister for Local Government as required by the Terms of Reference of the electoral representation advisory panel and the Act. This electoral structure was designated as Model 2 in the preliminary report.

Please see [Appendix 1](#) for a detailed map of this recommended electoral structure.

References

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) (2022a) [2021 Census All Person QuickStats, Glen Eira \(LGA\)](#), ABS, accessed 12 May 2023.

—(2022b) [2021 Census All Persons QuickStats, Greater Melbourne](#), ABS, accessed 12 May 2023.

DTP (Department of Transport and Planning) (2023) [Glen Eira Planning Scheme](#), DTP, accessed 10 May 2023.

Electoral Act 2002 (Vic)

FPSR (First Peoples State Relations) (2023) [Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners](#), First Peoples State Relations website, accessed 12 May 2023.

Geographic Place Names Act 1998 (Vic)

Glen Eira City Council (2020) [Glen Eira City Plan](#), Glen Eira City Council, accessed 9 May 2023.

.id (Informed Decisions) (2023a) [City of Glen Eira population forecast](#), .id, accessed 10 May 2023

—(2023b) [City of Glen Eira social atlas](#), .id, accessed 10 May 2023

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—(2023c) [City of Glen Eira economic profile](#), .id, accessed 10 May 2023

Local Government Act 1989 (Vic)

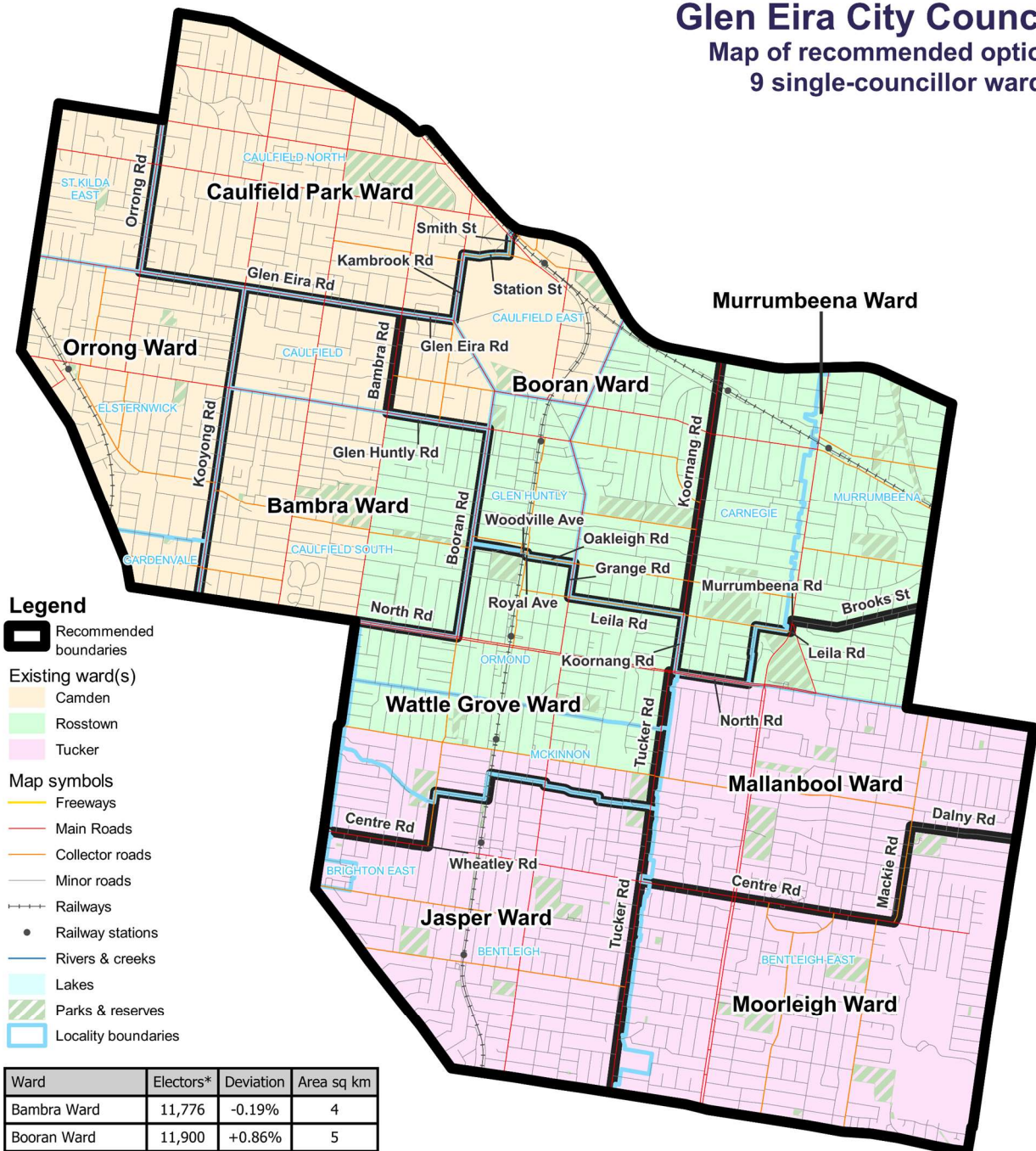
Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)

Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020 (Vic)

REMPLAN (2022) [Economy, Jobs and Business Insights \(Glen Eira\)](#), REMPLAN website, accessed 11 May 2023.

Appendix 1: Map of recommended structure

Glen Eira City Council Map of recommended option 9 single-councillor wards



*Elector numbers as at 30 March 2023

Data use:
 Layers for alignment:
 © State of Victoria (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action)

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Ward	Electors*	Deviation	Area# (square km)
Bambra Ward	11,776	-0.19%	4
Booran Ward	11,900	+0.86%	5
Caulfield Park Ward	12,177	+3.21%	4
Jasper Ward	11,657	-1.2%	4
Mallanbool Ward	11,440	-3.03%	5
Moorleigh Ward	11,567	-1.96%	5
Murrumbeena Ward	12,366	+4.81%	4
Orrong Ward	11,784	-0.12%	4
Wattle Grove Ward	11,515	-2.4%	4
Total	106,182		39
Average	11,798	-	4

*Elector numbers as at 30 March 2023

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

Appendix 2: Public involvement

The panel 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:

Cramphorn, Michael

Douglas, Will

Gottlieb, Yaron

Glen Eira City Council

Hyams OAM, Jamie

Zimmerman, Norman

Public hearing

The following people spoke at the public hearing:

Gottlieb, Yaron

Magee, Councillor Jim (Mayor, on behalf of Glen Eira City Council)

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