

Local council electoral structure review

Final Report

Yarra City Council

September 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

The electoral representation advisory panel acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung 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

Version	Date approved	Approved by
1	29 August 2023	The Honourable Frank Vincent AO KC
1	29 August 2023	Ms Máiréad Doyle

Version approval:

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1	1 September 2023	Program Sponsor	Final proofread and confirmed to be sent

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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 Yarra 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), Yarra 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 Yarra 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 Yarra 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 Boulevard, Curtain, Hoddle, Langridge, Lennox, MacKillop, Melba, Nicholls, and Yarra Bend.

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.

A detailed map of the boundaries for the recommended electoral structure is provided as [Appendix 1](#).

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 12 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.

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

Response submissions

The panel received 7 submissions responding to the preliminary report. Of these, one submission included a map.

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

Public hearing

The panel held an online public hearing for those wishing to speak about their response submission at 10 am on Wednesday 9 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 Yarra City Council) must now have single-councillor ward electoral structures.

For Yarra 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 Yarra City Council had 3 members:

- The Honourable Frank Vincent AO KC (Chairperson)
- Ms Liz Williams PSM
- Acting Executive Director, Electoral Functions Ms Máiréad Doyle.

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 Yarra 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
- media releases 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.

Yarra City Council was also offered and took up 2 optional methods to promote the reviews:

- targeted social media advertisements in the council area
- 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.

Public consultation

The panel encouraged public input to the review of Yarra 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 Yarra 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 Yarra 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 Yarra City Council

Profile

Yarra City Council covers an area of 20 km² and is in inner metropolitan Melbourne, approximately 5 km north-west of the city centre. It is bounded by Darebin, Merri-Bek and Banyule councils in the north, the City of Boroondara in the east, the City of Stonnington in the south, and the City of Melbourne in the west. The Traditional Custodians of the Yarra City Council area are the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples.

Landscape

Yarra City Council includes the relatively affluent suburbs of Carlton North, Clifton Hill and Princes Hill in the north, and parts of Alphington and Fairfield in the east. The formerly industrial suburbs of Fitzroy, Collingwood, and Abbotsford make up the council's centre, while the council's southern suburbs include Burnley, Richmond, and Cremorne.

The Yarra River forms most of the council's eastern boundary, while the Merri Creek forms part of the northern boundary. Major parks within the council's boundaries include Edinburgh Gardens, Darling Gardens, Yarra Bend Park, and Burnley Park.

The council area is well connected to public transport, with connections to the major northern and eastern train lines as well as numerous tram and bus services. The Eastern Freeway ends at Clifton Hill and becomes Alexandra Parade, connecting traffic with the city's northern and western suburbs. The major arterial road of Hoddle Street runs north-south through the centre of the council, while the City Link toll road runs through Cremorne and Burnley near the council's southern boundary connecting the freeway system east and west of Melbourne.

Community

At the 2021 census, Yarra City Council's population was 90,114 (ABS 2022a), an increase from 86,657 in 2016, and 74,090 in 2011 (ABS 2011, 2016). From 2022, the council's population is projected to increase by 2.2% per year to be about 102,800 by 2028. The median age of the council's population is 34, less than the median of 37 found in Greater Melbourne (ABS 2022a, 2022b).

Of the population, 66.2% were born in Australia, and 74.8% speak only English at home, compared to 59.9% and 61.1% respectively for Greater Melbourne (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022b). Despite appearing less diverse than metropolitan Melbourne overall, some areas have significantly high proportions of the population born overseas and speaking a language other than English. The suburb of Richmond, for example, is home to a very large Vietnamese community (ABS 2022b, ABS 2022d). The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people at the 2021 census was 0.6%, slightly less than the 0.7% across Greater Melbourne (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022b).

Home ownership, at 44.1% of all households (inclusive of property owned outright and with a mortgage), is significantly lower than the Greater Melbourne rate of 66.8%. More than half (53.4%) of all households are renting, which is far greater than the Greater Melbourne average of

30.2% (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022b). The council has one of the highest proportions of people living in public housing at 10%, which is over 3 times the metropolitan average (Yarra City Council 2023), most of who are in the suburbs of Richmond and Fitzroy.

The weekly median income is \$2,270, more than the Greater Melbourne median of \$1,901 (ABS 2022a, ABS 2022b). However, the council contains areas that have been heavily gentrified, where median house prices are well above the metropolitan average. The most common employment categories for residents of the council are professionals and managers. These factors underpin the higher than median incomes of the population.

Current number of councillors and electoral structure

Yarra City Council is currently divided into 3 wards with a total of 9 councillors:

- 3 wards with 3 councillors each (Nicholls Ward, Langridge Ward, Melba Ward).

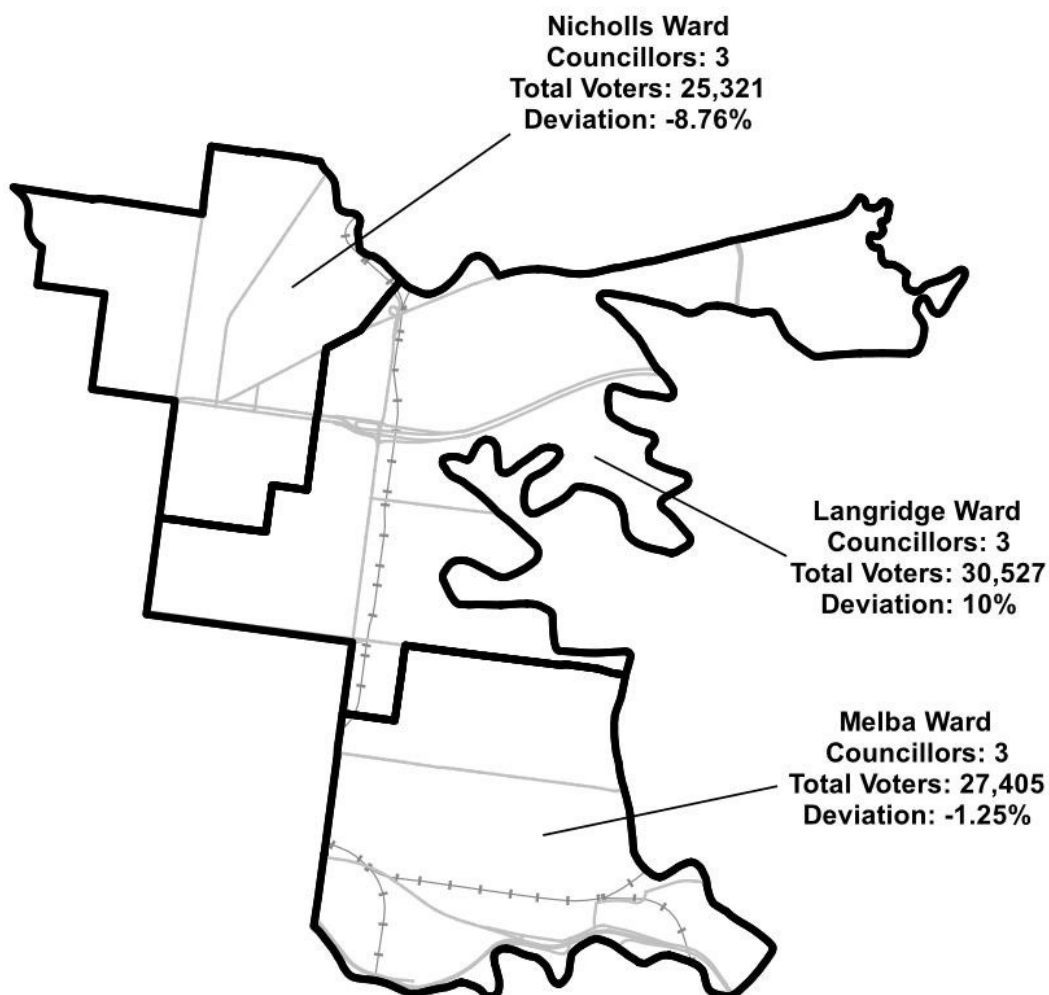


Figure 1: Diagram of current electoral structure of Yarra City Council.

There are approximately 83,253 voters in Yarra City Council, with an approximate ratio of 9,250 voters per councillor.

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

Last electoral structure review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of Yarra 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 Yarra City Council continue to consist of 9 councillors elected from 3 wards with 3 councillors in each.

Preliminary report

A preliminary report was released on Wednesday 12 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.

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

Response submissions

The panel received 7 response submissions to the preliminary report from the public by the deadline of 5 pm on Wednesday 2 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)	No preferred model indicated	Other/out of scope
2	4	1

Two submissions supported Model 1, though one suggested boundary revisions to better align with community expectations, and one mapped their own structure. Most submissions were critical of the requirement to adopt a single-councillor ward structure. Four submitters were in favour of retaining the current electoral structure or similar, though this is no longer permitted under the Act. Yarra City Council made a submission, suggesting that in light of the restraints of the Act:

- ward boundaries should be recognisable to locals
- ward names should correspond to community expectations
- the use of Aboriginal language for ward names should only be undertaken following appropriate consultation with relevant Indigenous groups.

Ward names

The panel received one submission from the public and Yarra City Council about possible ward names using Aboriginal language. The panel includes this for the Minister's information but notes that it was not possible to verify whether appropriate consultation took place with relevant Aboriginal groups about the proposed names. The suggested ward name was Birrarung Ward.

Public hearing

The panel held an online public hearing for those wishing to speak about their response submission at 10 am on Wednesday 9 August 2023. Two people spoke at the hearing.

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

Jackie Fristacky, former Mayor of Yarra City Council, spoke first at the public hearing. Fristacky spoke about issues identified with the proposed boundaries and ward names. Largely echoing her submission, Fristacky mentioned that the Wurun Senior Campus should be part of the proposed Fitzroy North Ward, and that a north-eastern part of the small area in the proposed Yarra Bend Ward had more in common with the locality of Fitzroy North.

Regarding ward names, Fristacky mentioned that there are 3 distinct areas proposed for the Carlton North Ward (including Princes Hill) that voters may not identify with and raised similar points about the proposed Fitzroy North Ward. Fristacky suggested the former ward names should be used and suggested the following changes to the ward names proposed in Model 1: Carlton North to Curtain, Fitzroy North to Nicholls, Richmond to Melba, Collingwood to Carringbush, and Fitzroy to MacKillop.

When asked about what ward names residents would be most sensitive towards, Fristacky reiterated that naming wards after suburbs might be confusing for residents of those wards.

Yarra City Council was represented by Rhys Thomas, who spoke to the council's 4-page written submission, highlighting the council's preference for multi-member wards while also acknowledging the legislative requirement for change.

Thomas stated that the council agreed with the panel's decision that 9 councillors is appropriate and agreed that meaningful consultation should take place with relevant Indigenous groups about the use of Aboriginal language for ward names. It was also noted that this was an ongoing process which the council hoped to complete soon.

While the council chose not to suggest specific ward names, they did advocate for community engagement when considering the matter, and that ward names based on suburbs names might be confusing for residents. Thomas suggested councillor workloads may increase due to confusion with voters unsure about which councillor represented them and the area they lived in.

When asked whether the council supported the boundary changes proposed by Jackie Fristacky, Thomas restated the council's position on community feedback. In response to a question about the timeframe for consulting with Aboriginal groups about ward names, Thomas stated that the council was unsure when consultation would be completed.

Findings and recommendation

As outlined in the submission guide for this review, the panel 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 an electoral structure review, the panel must adhere to the Act's legislated equality requirement to seek to ensure the number of voters per councillor in a ward to be within +/-10% of the average number of voters per councillor in any other ward.

Several submissions called for the panel to make exceptions to the legislated requirement for Yarra City Council to adopt a single-councillor ward structure. While the panel understands the concerns of these submitters, the panel must comply with legislated requirements.

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 Yarra City Council.

The panel considered the characteristics of Yarra 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.

Yarra City Council currently has 83,253 voters represented by 9 councillors and covers an area of 20 km². Other metropolitan councils with a similar number of voters usually also have either 7 or 9 councillors. While Yarra City Council has the lowest number of voters of all 9-councillor metropolitan councils, forecasts indicate relatively high rates of growth and population change throughout the council area.

Additionally, there are special circumstances that Yarra City Council faces, creating conditions that may increase councillor workloads and demand for council services. These include:

- the largest public housing population in Victoria
- significant and expanding commercial activities
- a high growth profile – which likely requires the council to manage local opposition and community expectations
- a section of the population considered to be highly mobile.

These special circumstances warrant Yarra City Council having 9 councillors and have not changed since the last council electoral structure review. For these reasons, the panel considers it appropriate for the total number of councillors to remain unchanged at 9.

Electoral structure

After considering the requirements of the Act, public submissions and the agreed criteria, the panel found Model 1 with slight boundary adjustments (the recommended model) to be the single-councillor ward model with the best potential to promote fair and equitable representation for voters in Yarra City Council and consequently facilitate good governance.

As noted in the preliminary report, the panel considered Model 1 to be the only structure to offer fair and equitable representation for Yarra City Council. Creating legislatively compliant and sensibly bordered single-councillor ward structures is a considerable challenge for geospatial modellers. The unique shape of the council area, including a narrow passage of land extending east along the Yarra River around Alphington, was an important consideration in determining appropriate ward divisions. As such, these geographic features, as well as the pattern and distribution of the population throughout the council area, limit the ways the council can reasonably be divided. In acknowledging these challenges, the panel also noted that the recommended model represents the culmination of various attempts and revisions at achieving compliance with the Act (particularly the +/-10% requirement) and was considered stronger than the one mapped public submission.

The panel noted the distinct social and cultural identities throughout the council area, which tend to materialise in the form of strong connections to suburbs. From the diverse Richmond area in the south, the formerly industrial and gentrifying areas of Fitzroy, Collingwood and Abbotsford in the centre, and the quieter northern suburbs like Carlton North, Fitzroy North and Clifton Hill, each area of the council has a history and identity that makes it distinct. Each area also faces challenges and pressures related to population growth and housing development. As such, the key design principle for the recommended model was, where possible, to keep these distinct localities sensibly grouped together, while using recognisable features for boundaries. The recommended model also attempts to follow similar boundaries as the current electoral structure, achieving this aim in numerous places, such as along Victoria Street in Richmond.

The recommended model structures Yarra City Council in the following ways, including changes to ward names where appropriate:

- Curtain and Nicholls wards capture the northern and quieter suburbs of Princes Hill, Carlton North and Fitzroy North, using well known features for boundaries such as Merri Creek, Nicholson Street, and the northern part of Brunswick Street.
- Hoddle, Langridge, and MacKillop wards capture the formerly industrial suburbs in the centre of the council. They provide representation for the cultural and commercial precincts found in and around Smith Street, Brunswick Street, Gertrude Street, and Johnson Street, as well as the public housing units located around Gertrude Street and Hoddle Street.
- The southern area of the council is divided into three wards – Lennox, Boulevard and Melba. These wards provide representation for the large Richmond, Burnley and Cremorne areas, and the commercial and cultural precincts of Bridge Road, Swan, Victoria and Church streets, as well as the large number of public housing units found around Lennox Street.
- Yarra Bend Ward takes in the localities of Clifton Hill, Fairfield, and Alphington adjacent to the Yarra River and Merri Creek. Strong boundaries in the Eastern Freeway, Alexandra and Queens parades are used to separate it from neighbouring wards.

In recommending Model 1, the panel also responded to public feedback by making minor adjustments to Yarra Bend and Nicholls wards. The small triangular area between Alexander Parade, Queens Parade, and Smith Street, which includes Wurun Senior Campus, is now included in Nicholls Ward. While the small area between Queens Parade, Heidelberg Road, and the start of the Mernda railway line, including large apartment blocks and the heritage-listed Clifton Hill McDonald's building, have been transferred from Yarra Bend Ward to Nicholls Ward. The panel accepted the argument that these areas have more in common with the Fitzroy North area found in Nicholls Ward, rather than with those parts of Alphington and Fairfield located in Yarra Bend Ward.

The panel notes valid arguments both in favour of and against the different single-councillor ward structures examined in this review. However, the panel considers Model 1 with slight boundary adjustments to be the single-councillor ward model with the best potential to promote fair and equitable representation for voters in Yarra City Council and consequently facilitate good governance under the requirements of the Act.

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 election results for Yarra City Council including numbers of candidates nominating, incidences of uncontested elections and rates of informal voting, and found there to be 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.

Ward names

After public feedback regarding ward name suggestions, the panel changed the following names to better align with community expectations:

- Abbotsford Ward becomes Langridge Ward
- Burnley Ward becomes Boulevard Ward
- Carlton North Ward becomes Curtain Ward
- Collingwood Ward becomes Hoddle Ward
- Cremorne Ward becomes Lennox Ward
- Fitzroy North Ward becomes Nicholls Ward
- Fitzroy Ward becomes MacKillop Ward
- Richmond Ward becomes Melba Ward

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

- Boulevard Ward: New name based on multiple roads in the ward. These road names are registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Curtain Ward: New name based on a park in the ward. This park name is registered in the VICNAMES register.

- Hoddle Ward: New name based on a road adjacent to the ward and area. This road name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- Langridge Ward: The existing name of a ward covering a similar area under the current electoral structure.
- Lennox Ward: New name based on a road in the ward. This road name is registered in the VICNAMES register.
- MacKillop Ward: Name based on a prominent figure associated with the area in the ward. This name was used as the name for a similar Fitzroy based ward in the council prior to 2004.
- Melba Ward: The existing name of a ward covering a similar area under the current electoral structure.
- Nicholls Ward: The existing name of a ward covering a similar area under the current electoral structure.
- Yarra Bend Ward: New name based on a park and prominent natural feature in the ward. This park name is registered in the VICNAMES register.

The panel's recommendation

The electoral representation advisory panel recommends that Yarra City 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 Boulevard, Curtain, Hoddle, Langridge, Lennox, Melba, MacKillop, Nicholls and Yarra Bend.

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 1 in the preliminary report.

A detailed map of the boundaries for the recommended electoral structure is provided as [Appendix 1](#).















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- Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2020 (Vic)

Appendix 1: Map of recommended structure

Yarra City Council Map of recommended option 9 single-councillor wards

Legend

-  Recommended boundaries
- Existing ward(s)**
-  Langridge
-  Melba
-  Nicholls
- Map symbols**
-  Freeways
-  Main roads
-  Collector roads
-  Minor roads
-  Railways
-  Railway stations
-  Rivers & creeks
-  Lakes
-  Parks & reserves
-  Locality boundaries

Ward	Electors*	Deviation	Area sq km
Boulevard	9,347	+1.05%	2.6
Curtain	9,800	+5.94%	1.7
Hoddle	8,808	-4.78%	1.3
Langridge	9,544	+3.17%	2.0
Lennox	9,778	+5.7%	2.3
Mackillop	9,375	+1.35%	1.4
Melba	9,123	-1.38%	1.2
Nicholls	8,954	-3.2%	2.1
Yarra Bend	8,524	-7.85%	5.1
Total	83,253		20
Average	9,250		2.2

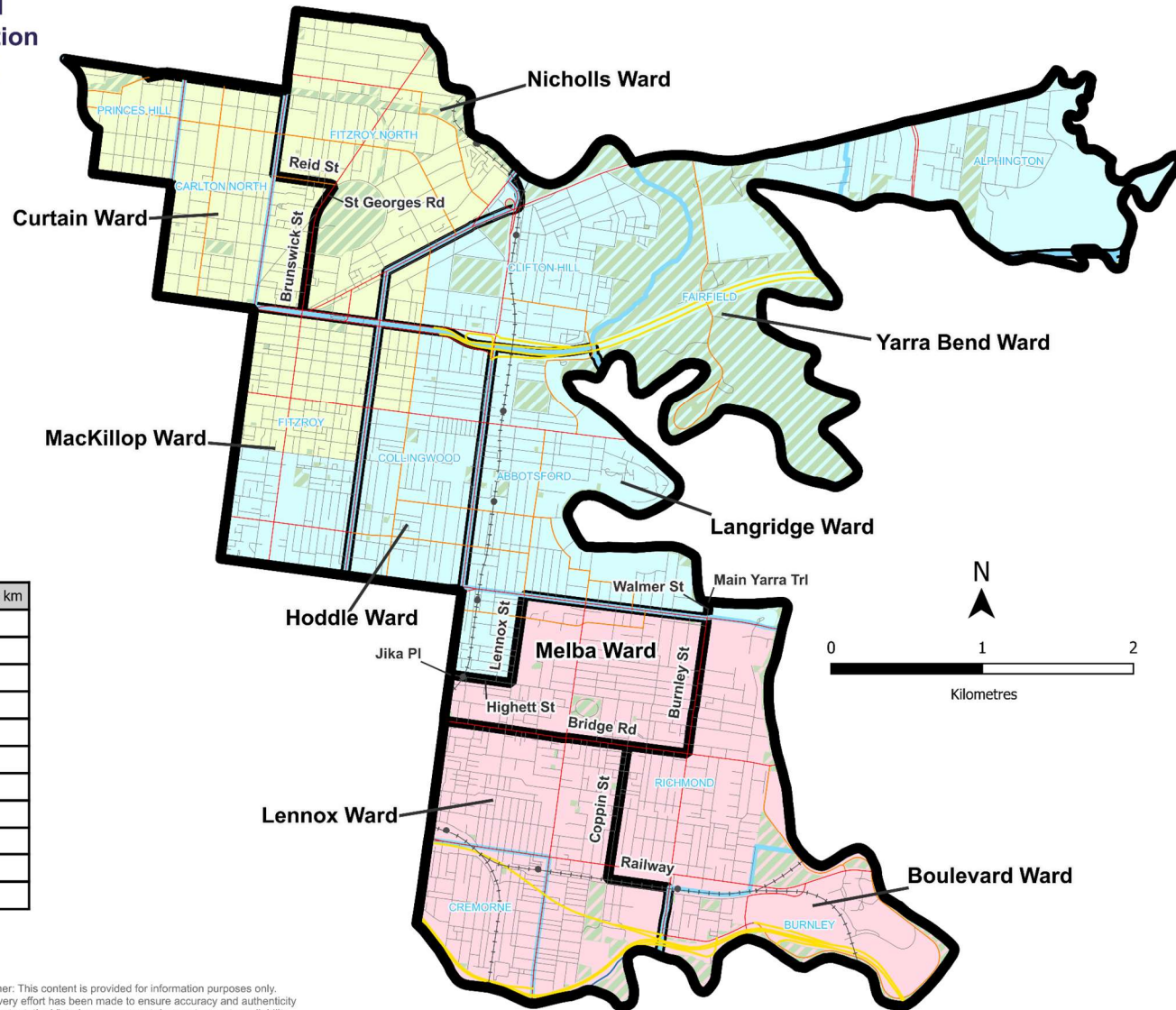
*Elector numbers as at 30 March 2023

Data use:



Layers for alignment:
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Ward	Electors*	Deviation	Area# (square km)
Boulevard	9,347	+1.05%	2.6
Curtain	9,800	+5.94%	1.7
Hoddle	8,808	-4.78%	1.3
Langridge	9,544	+3.17%	2.0
Lennox	9,778	+5.7%	2.3
MacKillop	9,375	+1.35%	1.4
Melba	9,123	-1.38%	1.2
Nicholls	8,954	-3.2%	2.1
Yarra Bend	8,524	-7.85%	5.1
Total	83,253	-	20
Average	9,250	-	2.2

*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:

Boston, Vera

Ellis, Jack

Fristacky, Jackie

Lloyd, Andrew

Major, Julian

Xie, Ivan

Yarra City Council

Public hearing

The following people spoke at the public hearing:

Fristacky, Jackie

Thomas, Rhys (on behalf of Yarra City Council)

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