



Wards and Representation Review

2022/23

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1. Executive Summary

Due to proposed reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), the Council of the City of Swan (the City) resolved to change the method of electing the Mayor from an election by the Council to an election by the electors (popularly elected Mayor).

To implement the change to a popularly elected Mayor, a reduction in the number of Councillors from 15 to 14 was required.

A Wards and Representation Review was conducted in accordance with Schedule 2.2 of the Act to determine the specific changes required to the City's existing structure. The key steps were:

5 October 2022	Council resolved to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors and to conduct a ward and representation review.
2 November 2022	Council endorsed a Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper.
7 November to 21 December 2022	Public submission period.
8 February 2023	Review completed with a report to the Council to make a decision on the wards and representation structure for the City.

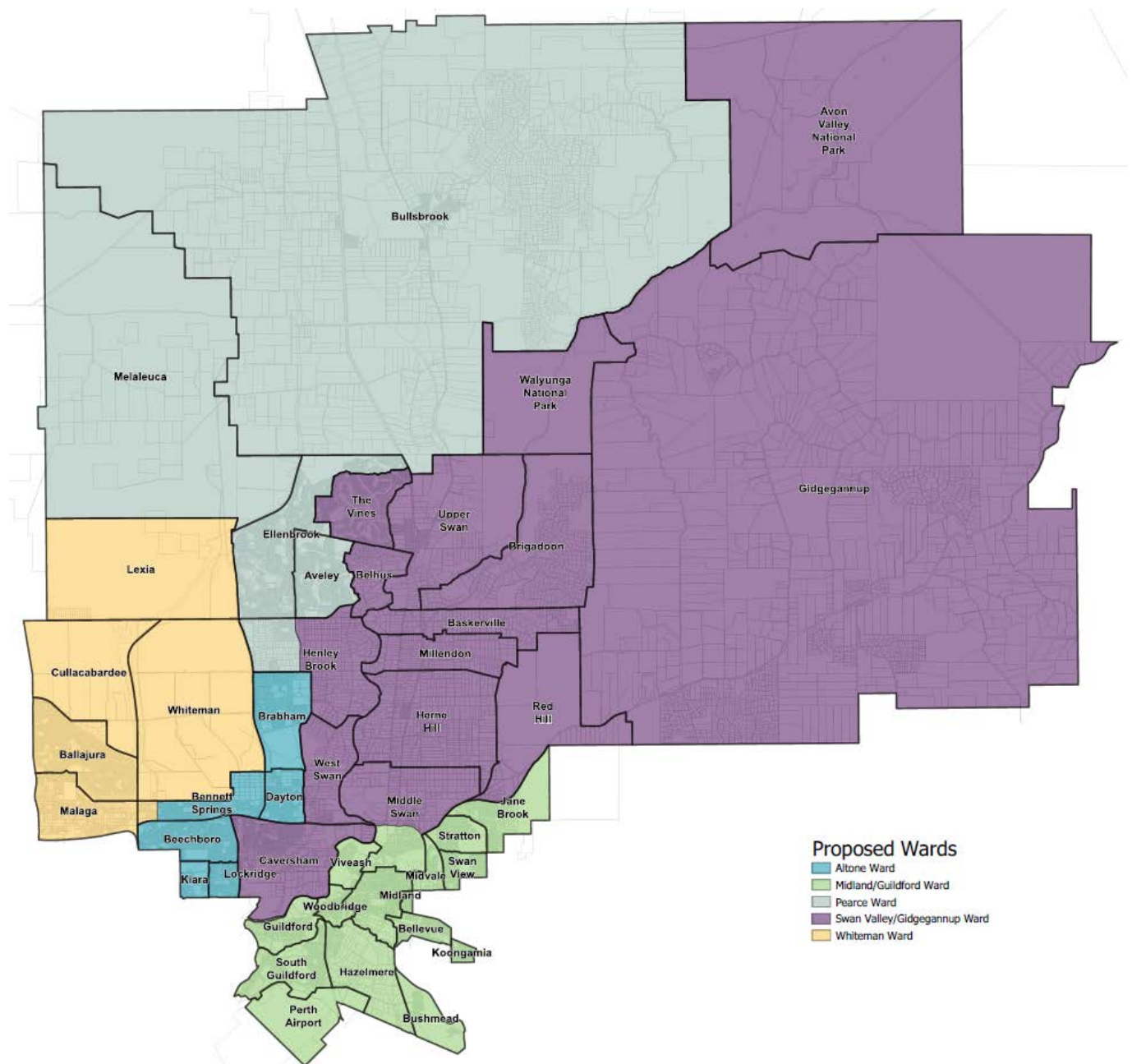
The Council's recommendation to the Local Government Advisory Board (Advisory Board) is to:

1. Change the number of councillors for the council from 15 to 14.
2. Change the number of councillors for the Whiteman Ward from 3 to 2 and implement the change by abolishing one of the positions vacant in the ward at the 2023 local government elections.
3. Amend ward boundaries by:
 - a. Transferring the suburb of Brabham from Whiteman Ward to Altone Ward;
 - b. Transferring that part of the suburb of Caversham in the Altone Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward;
 - c. Transferring part of the suburb of Middle Swan, that part not located within the Swan Valley Planning Act Area, from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to the Midland/Guildford Ward;
 - d. Transferring that part of the suburb of Lexia from the Pearce Ward to the Whiteman Ward;

Wards and Representation Review

- e. Transferring that part of the suburb of Henley Brook located within the Whiteman Ward to the Pearce Ward; and
- f. Transferring the area known as Orchid Park (area bounded by Marshall Road, Tonkin Highway, Reid Highway and Beechboro Road North), in the suburb of Bennett Springs, from the Altone Ward to the Whiteman Ward.

These changes are reflected in the image provided below:



Wards and Representation Review

The ratio of councillors to electors for this arrangement is:

Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
Altone	3	21,622	7,207	+0.98
Midland/Guildford	3	22,350	7,450	-2.36
Pearce	4	28,652	7,163	+1.58
Swan Valley/ Gidgegannup	2	15,676	7,838	-7.69
Whiteman	2	13,597	6,799	+6.59
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

2. Background

In July 2022 the State Government announced the final package of reforms to the Act. Some of the changes relate to Council representation, including that all band 1 and 2 local governments are to have directly (popularly) elected mayors and for Councillor numbers to be based on the population of the local government.

The Minister for Local Government (the Minister) wrote to the City on 20 September 2022 and advised that a change to the City's representation arrangements is required due to the proposed reforms (Appendix A).

The changes required for the City are a change to a directly elected Mayor and consequently a reduction to the size of the Council by one elected member to account for the Mayor being directly elected.

For these changes to be implemented for the 2023 October ordinary elections, the City was required to undertake a wards and representation review and make a submission to the Advisory Board by 14 February 2023.

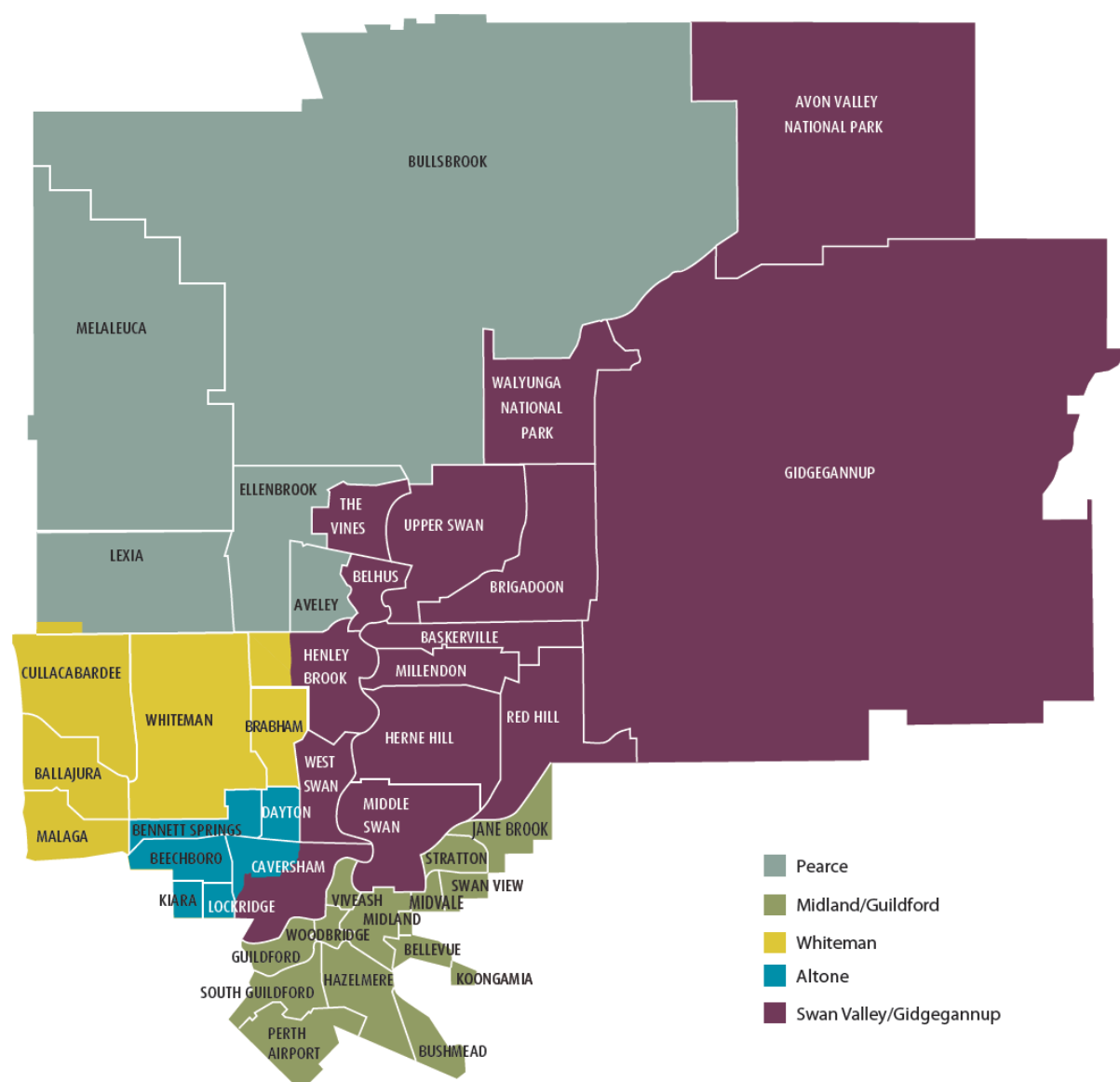
3. Current Situation

Currently the City has 15 Councillors elected from 5 wards. The Mayor is elected by the Council from amongst the Councillors.

The current wards and representation arrangements were a result of a review conducted in 2016/2017. As a result of this review, the number of wards in the City was reduced from 6 to 5, some changes to the number of Councillors per ward were made and 2 of the wards were also renamed.

These changes were implemented for the 2017 local government ordinary elections.

The current ward structure is as follows:



Wards and Representation Review

The Councillor to elector ratios as at October 3, 2022, are as follows:

Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation*
Altone	3	21,284	7,095	-4.44
Midland/Guildford	3	20,617	6,872	-1.17
Pearce	4	27,431	6,858	-0.95
Swan Valley/ Gidgegannup	2	13,119	6,560	+3.44
Whiteman	3	19,446	6,482	+4.58
Total	15	101,897	6,793	

4. The Review Process

4.1 Decision to initiate review

At the Council meeting held on 5 October 2022 Council considered a report on the Minister's letter and resolved to:

- 1) Change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district under section 2.11(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
- 2) Pursuant to Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* undertake a review of its current ward representation.
- 3) Advise the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) that the City will reduce the number of councillors from 15 to 14
- 4) Request the CEO to provide Councillors with a table of the number of electors, for each suburb within each ward, in the City of Swan.
- 5) Request the CEO to prepare a Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper and submit this to the November Ordinary Council Meeting for Council to endorse.
- 6) Include an option in the Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper for seven (7) wards, each with two (2) Councillors.
- 7) Authorise the CEO to allocate \$15,000 from the City's municipal funds opening position for an additional purpose – ward and representation review.
- 8) Apologise to the community that the consultation period will include the period in the lead up to Christmas and advise them this is due to the timeframe and requirements forced onto local governments by the Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness and Local Government.
- 9) Record the reasons for changing the Officer recommendation are:
 1. There is no need to hold a Special Council Meeting as Council can resolve now to both advise the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industry what the City will do and initiate the ward and representation review.
 2. The discussion paper can then be endorsed at the November Ordinary Council Meeting. This will eliminate the cost and staff time of a special council meeting and will allow a little more time for the discussion paper to be developed, with Councillor input.

The report is provided at Appendix B.

4.2 Discussion paper

A Discussion Paper was prepared to assist the community in understanding the wards and representation review process. It included a detailed discussion of the assessment factors that are required to be considered as they apply to the City. Six wards and representation options were presented to encourage comment.

Given the size and diverse nature of the City and the timeframe available to complete the review, the Discussion Paper only included options for wards and representation based on 14 Councillors (and a popularly elected Mayor).

This was endorsed by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 2 November 2022.

The relevant report (including Discussion Paper) is provided at Appendix C.

4.3 Local public notice

In accordance with clause 7 of Schedule 2.2 of the Act the City gave local public notice that a review was to be carried out and submissions were invited.

Local public notice was given as follows:

- Published on the City's website;
- Notices placed in the Administration Centre and each City library;
- Social media posts (Facebook and LinkedIn);
- Published in The Echo; and
- Direct email notification to resident and ratepayers groups.

The public submission period commenced on 7 November 2022 and closed on 21 December 2022.

Submissions were able to be made via a survey or written correspondence.

See Appendix D for evidence of local public notice.

4.4 Public submissions

A Schedule of Submissions is provided at Appendix E.

4.4.1 General summary of public submissions

The City received a total of 61 submissions, 59 survey responses and 2 by written correspondence.

Submissions were received from residents and ratepayers across the City. There was no one suburb where a large number of submissions originated from. The most submissions were received from Midland/Guildford Ward (34%) and Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (26%).

Only one of the total number of submissions received was from a resident and ratepayer group, being the Gidgegannup Progress Association.

4.4.2 Preferred wards and representation structure

The following table shows the ward options as ranked by preference

Option	First pref.	Second pref.	Third pref.	Fourth pref.	Fifth pref.	Sixth pref.
Option 1: No wards	8	4	8	1	7	25
Option 2: Five wards	22	6	5	10	7	6
Option 3: Five wards	16	13	13	5	6	1
Option 4: Five wards	2	11	15	8	9	10
Option 5: Four wards	2	16	8	18	6	5
Option 6: Four wards	8	5	6	13	17	4
Total number of responses	58	55	55	55	52	51

Note: 1 survey response skipped this question. 1 written submission did not rank individual options and 2 were ranked where options were listed incorrectly when the survey was first published.

The majority of responses (87%) indicated a preference for the retention of wards within the City.

The 5 ward options were preferred over the 4 ward options.

The most preferred 5 ward option was Option 2. Option 3 closely followed Option 2.

5. Recommended Wards and Representation Structure

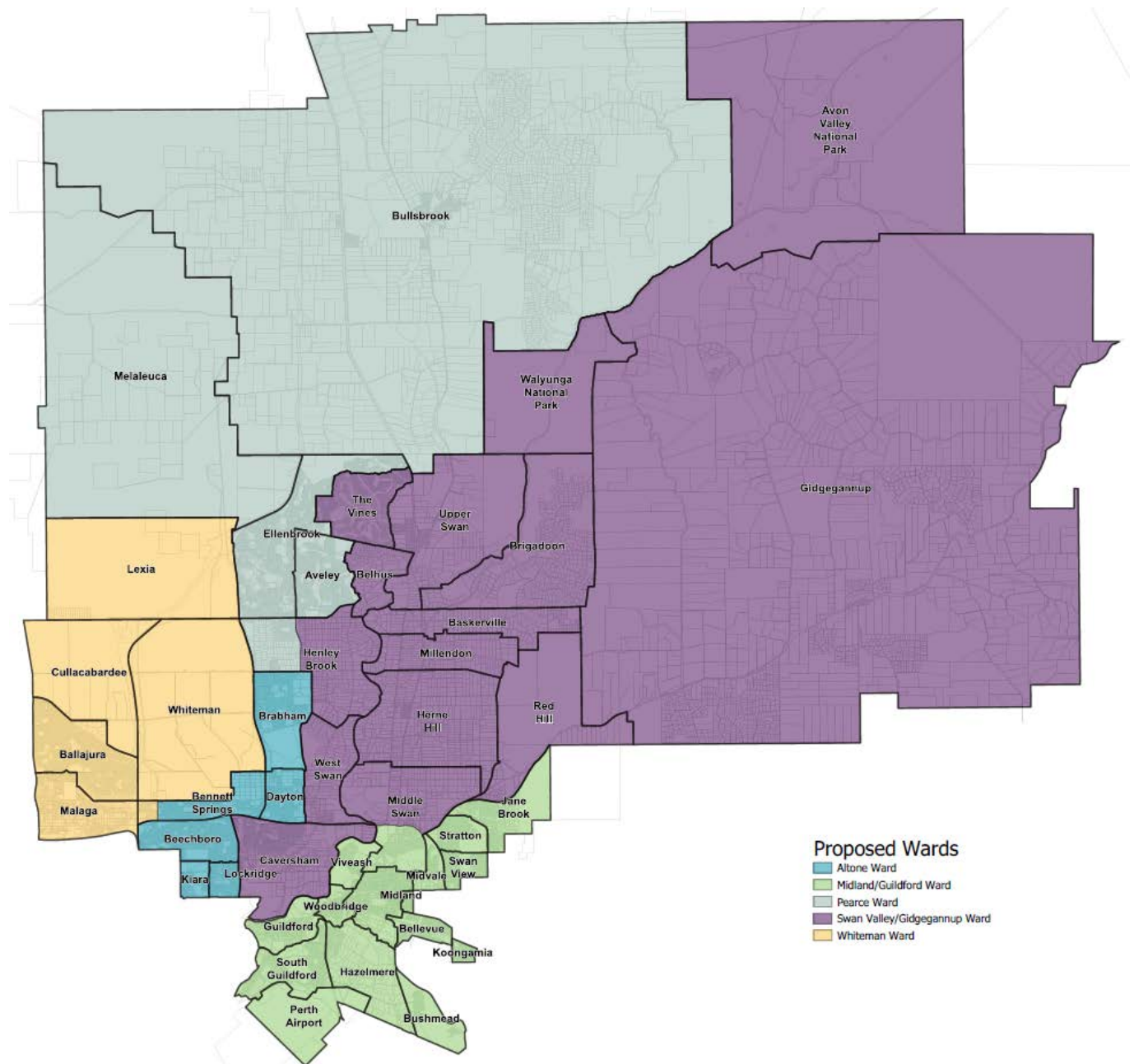
At the Council meeting held on 8 February 2023 Council considered a final report on the review and resolved to:

- 1) In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* propose to the Local Government Advisory Board the making of an order under sections 2.2, 2.3 and 2.18 of the *Local Government Act 1995* to implement a change to the wards and representation of the City of Swan as follows:
 1. Change the number of councillors for the council from 15 to 14.
 2. Change the number of councillors for the Whiteman Ward from 3 to 2 and implement the change by abolishing one of the positions vacant in the ward at the 2023 local government elections.
 3. Amend ward boundaries by:
 - a. Transferring the suburb of Brabham from Whiteman Ward to Altone Ward;
 - b. Transferring that part of the suburb of Caversham in the Altone Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward;
 - c. Transferring part of the suburb of Middle Swan, that part not located within the Swan Valley Planning Act Area, from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to the Midland/Guildford Ward;
 - d. Transferring that part of the suburb of Lexia from the Pearce Ward to the Whiteman Ward;
 - e. Transferring that part of the suburb of Henley Brook located within the Whiteman Ward to the Pearce Ward; and
 - f. Transferring the area known as Orchid Park (area bounded by Marshall Road, Tonkin Highway, Reid Highway and Beechboro Road North), in the suburb of Bennett Springs, from the Altone Ward to the Whitman Ward.
- 2) Authorise the CEO to submit a report to the Local Government Advisory Board with the above proposal.
- 3) Record the reasons for changing the Officer Recommendation as:
 1. That part of Henley Brook is physically separated from the other developed areas in the remainder of the Whiteman Ward.
 2. The existing residential development of Morgan Fields was part of the Ellenbrook development.
 3. That part of Henley Brook has a stronger community of interest with Ellenbrook.
 4. The transfer of electors from the Altone Ward to Whiteman Ward will result in all wards being within the +/- 10% ratio deviation.

The report is provided at Appendix F.

Wards and Representation Review

The result of the Council resolution is illustrated below:



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
Altone	3	21,622	7,207	+0.98
Midland/Guildford	3	22,350	7,450	-2.36
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Swan Valley/ Gidgegannup	2	15,676	7,838	-7.69
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TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Appendix A: Letter from Minister for Local Government



Hon John Carey MLA Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government

Our Ref: 78-08502 (Category 3)

20 September 2022

Dear Local Government Chief Executive Officers

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORMS: ELECTION TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS (DIRECT ELECTION OF THE MAYOR OR PRESIDENT, AND CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL)

On 3 July 2022, I announced the final package of proposed local government reforms, following a review of public submissions. As part of the reforms to strengthen local democracy and increase community engagement, new requirements will be introduced to provide for:

- The introduction of optional preferential voting;
- Directly elected Mayors and Presidents for band 1 and 2 local governments;
- Councillor numbers based on population; and
- The removal of wards for band 3 and 4 local governments.

Work on a Bill to amend the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) is ongoing, and a Bill is expected to be introduced into Parliament in early 2023.

Many of the reform proposals related to council representation are based on recent trends, and are intended to provide greater consistency between districts. Accordingly, for more than half of all local governments, the reforms will not require any specific change to the size or structure of the council.

However, the reform proposals do require some local governments to:

- Reduce the number of elected members on council in accordance with population thresholds; or
- Change from a council elected mayor or president to a directly elected mayor or president (this reform affects only band 1 and 2 local governments); or
- Abolish wards (for band 3 and 4 local governments with wards); or
- Implement more than one of the above.

The Amendment Act will also provide that optional preferential voting will apply for all local government elections. As you may know, optional preferential voting means that all electors have the choice to number preferences for as many or as few candidates as they wish to.

Appendix A: Letter from Minister for Local Government

I appreciate the significant interest in the reform proposals, and potential transitional arrangements for the upcoming 2023 ordinary elections. Many councils have expressed a proactive intent to implement reforms as early as possible.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) has completed an initial review, and identified that your local government may need to change to a directly-elected Mayor or President, and consequently reduce the size of the elected council by one to account for the Mayor or President being directly elected. This relatively small change should be implemented for the 2023 ordinary elections.

The Act already provides that local governments may:

- Resolve, by absolute majority of the council, to change the method of filling the office of Mayor or President to a direct vote by the electors of the district, and
- Initiate proposals to change arrangements related to the size or structure of the council through a Ward and Representation Review.

Accordingly, I write to advise of two pathways your council may consider for making these election transition arrangements.

Voluntary Pathway

Your local government may formulate a plan to implement these changes on a voluntary basis. This pathway will require your local government to make the steps outlined below, and provides the greatest possible lead time to plan for next year's ordinary elections.

If your council wishes to undertake this process, it should, by 28 October 2022:

- Advise the DLGSC of its intention to undertake a voluntary process. This advice should include a high-level plan outlining the potential changes to be implemented for the ordinary elections to be held in 2023;
- Pass a resolution to change the method of electing the Mayor or President to a vote by the electors of the district under section 2.11(2) of the Act; and
- Initiate a Ward and Representation Review to determine the specific consequential changes to the structure of the council for the 2023 ordinary elections, to be completed no later than 14 February 2023.

I appreciate that significant effort is required to complete a Ward and Representation Review. The Ward and Representation Review would need to be initiated ahead of the 28 October 2022 date, and finalised by 14 February 2023, to ensure that the timeframes set out in the Act can be practically met. While the Ward and Representation Review can consider the size of the council, and any wards, any changes should not diverge from the proposed reforms.

Further information is attached to this letter to assist with this process.

Reform Election Pathway

Alternatively, it is intended that the Amendment Act will provide for all changes to be implemented through reform elections in 2023.

Appendix A: Letter from Minister for Local Government

For councils with wards, this pathway would provide that all council offices can be declared vacant, and all wards can be abolished. Elections would then be held to fill all council offices, with a split between two and four year terms as might be necessary to re-establish an ordinary election cycle.

The newly-elected council would then be able to consider whether to establish new wards, through a future Ward and Representation Review.

For councils with no wards, it may be possible to abolish one vacancy arising next year, while also declaring that the Mayor or President is to be elected by a vote of the electors of the district.

Your council may specifically decide to follow the Reform Election Pathway. If this is the council's intention, I request that you advise the DLGSC by 28 October 2022.

It is also intended that the Amendment Act will contain provisions for the Reform Election Pathway to apply if a local government:

- Does not advise of an intention to follow the Voluntary Pathway, or
- Decides to follow the Voluntary Pathway, but does not suitably complete a Ward and Representation Review by the dates outlined in this letter.

Next Steps

In line with the above, I request that your council considers these matters, and provides formal written advice on the preferred pathway to the DLGSC by 28 October 2022. Given the timeframes already established in the Act, no extension to the dates specified in this letter will be possible.

The DLGSC is available to assist with these election transition arrangements. If you require any assistance, please contact Ms Julie Craig, Strategy and Research Officer, on 6552 7300 or at advisoryboard@dlgsc.wa.gov.au.

I have also written a formal letter to the Mayor or President of your local government, which contains the same information as this memorandum. That letter should be received shortly.

Yours sincerely



HON JOHN CAREY MLA
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Att: Timeline and steps – local government ward and representation reviews

Appendix A: Letter from Minister for Local Government

Timeline and steps – local government ward and representation reviews

The following steps will need to occur to allow all required local governments to meet the **30 June 2023** timeframe of publication in the Government Gazette of any proposed ward and representation review changes, ahead of the October 2023 local government elections. Please note that all stages that are currently followed for 'regular' reviews are included below.

Table 1 includes suggested timeframes which will need to be considered by all local governments that will be required to undertake a review ahead of the October 2023 elections.

All local governments should aim to have their completed reviews submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board (the Advisory Board) by no later than **14 February 2023**.

Table 1 – proposed timeframes for local government actions

Due date (latest possible)	Requirements/actions
28 October 2022	Council resolves to undertake a ward and representation review A comprehensive discussion paper is developed
December 2022	Completion of six week consultation period
December 2022 – January 2023	Draft review report is prepared, considered and adopted by council
14 February 2023	Formal review report is submitted to the Advisory Board

Please note that the above dates are suggestions only, as each council will have to consider their own calendars for their monthly meetings. It is also possible that some affected councils will have an earlier meeting in December 2022, and then no meeting in January 2023. This is why mid to late December is suggested as the date by which the draft review report should be considered by council.

Appendix A: Letter from Minister for Local Government

Table 2 - Ward and representation review process – for local governments

	Existing requirements/actions	Timeframe
1	The council resolves to undertake a ward and representation review	Variable
2	A comprehensive discussion paper is developed	Variable
3	Council advertises that it is conducting a review and the associated public submission period opens (minimum 6 weeks)	6 weeks
4	The discussion paper is made available to the community for consideration, and public submissions are invited on the matter	
5	Public submission period closes	
6	The Council assesses all submissions, considers options for change against the relevant factors to be considered, and drafts a report, which includes their decision, for the Local Government Advisory Board (the Advisory Board)	Variable
7	The formal report is presented to Council on the outcome of the public submissions and the proposed ward and/or boundary changes	Variable
8	Council resolves to adopt the report to the Advisory Board	Variable
9	The preferred option is submitted to the Advisory Board via the formal report, for the Board's consideration and recommendation	Variable
10	The Advisory Board considers the council's review report, and a recommendation is submitted to the Minister, which can either be accepted or rejected	Variable

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

7.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM - ELECTION TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS

Ward: (All Wards) (Governance)

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Authorised Officer: (Chief Executive Officer)

KEY ISSUES

- The Minister for Local Government (the Minister) has written to the City of Swan (the City) and advised that a change to a directly elected Mayor, and consequently a reduction to the size of the Council by one elected member to account for the Mayor being directly elected, is required for the City as a result of the State Government's proposed reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act).
- Two pathways are available for Council to consider – voluntary or reform election.
- The voluntary pathway requires the Council to resolve to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors and to conduct a ward and representation review to implement the consequential reduction in the size of the Council.
- The reform election pathway will result in changes to be implemented through reform election in 2023. All council offices can be declared vacant, all wards can be abolished.
- Council is required to advise the pathway it intends to take by October 28, 2022. No extensions will be possible.

It is recommended that the Council adopt the voluntary pathway and resolve to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district and request the CEO prepare a Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper and submit to Council to initiate a ward and representation review to determine the specific changes to the structure of the council for the 2023 ordinary elections.

BACKGROUND

In July 2022 the State Government announced the final package of reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act). This included:

- Directly elected Mayors and Presidents for band 1 and 2 local governments; and
- Councillor numbers based on population.

In its submissions on the reform proposals, the City maintained support for the existing provisions which allow the Council to determine the method of electing the Mayor or President.

The City of Swan (the City) is a band 1 local government.

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

A local government with a population of over 75,000 may have between 9 to 15 elected members (including the Mayor). As at the 2021 Census, the City had a population of 152,974, with a 2022 population forecast of 167,796 (forecast.id).

The City's current electoral enrolment statistics are:

Ward	No. Councillors	No. Electors	No. Electors per Councillor	Variance
Altone	3	21,094	7,031	-4.27
Midland/Guildford	3	20,450	6,817	-1.08
Pearce	4	27,249	6,812	-1.02
Swan Valley/Gidgegannup	2	13,046	6,523	3.27
Whiteman	3	19,316	6,439	4.52
Total	15	101,155	6,744	

Source: Western Australian Electoral Commission enrolment statistics as at 4 July 2022.

The above does not include approximately 200 registered non owner/occupiers.

The Minister for Local Government (the Minister) has written to the City and advised that a change to a directly elected Mayor and consequently a reduction to the size of the Council by one elected member to account for the Mayor being directly elected is required.

Two pathways have identified to make transition arrangements for the 2023 ordinary elections.

DETAILS

The two pathways for Council to consider are detailed below. Council is required to advise the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industry (DLGSC) the pathway it intends to take by October 28, 2022. No extensions will be possible. If Council do not advise their pathway by this date the Reform Election Pathway will apply.

Voluntary Pathway

If Council wishes to undertake this pathway and implement changes at the ordinary elections in 2023, it is required to:

- Advise the DLGSC of its intention to undertake a voluntary process, including a high-level plan outlining the potential changes to be implemented;
- Resolve to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district under section 2.11(2) of the Act; and
- Initiate a ward and representation review to determine the specific changes to the structure of the council for the 2023 ordinary elections, to be completed no later than 14 February 2023.

Conducting a ward and representation review

The review process involves a number of steps:

- Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper prepared and submitted to Council.

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

- Council resolves to initiate the review, endorsing the Discussion Paper.
- Public submission period opens. Six weeks public consultation is required.
- Information provided to the community for discussion.
- Public submission period closes.
- The Council considers all submissions and relevant factors and makes a decision.
- The Council submits a report to the Local Government Advisory Board (the Board) for its consideration.
- If a change is proposed, the Board submits a recommendation to the Minister.

When considering changes to wards and representation, a number of factors must be taken into account by a local government as part of the review process. These factors are:

- community of interest,
- physical and topographic features,
- demographic trends,
- economic factors, and
- the ratio of Councillors to electors in various wards (comply with the Councillor/elector ratio of +/- 10%)

A discussion or information paper is required to be developed to explain various ward and representation options and the five factors.

For the purpose of this review, given the reduced timeframe available and complexity of developing suitable options for a local government the size and diverse nature of the City, the paper will only include options for wards and representation based on 14 councillors (and a directly elected Mayor). This may be reviewed by Council with a subsequent ward and representation review in the future.

Note: a directly elected Mayor is not included in ward arrangements or calculations.

Option	Details	Proposed transition arrangements*
District ward 14 councillors	All existing wards are abolished.	One of the positions vacant at the 2023 elections will be abolished and seven positions will be contested.
5 wards 14 councillors	An option based on the existing ward structure of the local government. Ward boundaries will be required to change. A reduction of one Councillor in one ward will be required.	All councillors whose term of office concludes in 2025 will continue to represent the ward they have been elected to. For positions vacant in 2023, this will depend upon the ward affected

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

		by the reduction of one office: Altone - one 4yr term Midland/Guilford - one 4yr term Swan Valley/Gidgegannup - no vacancy Whiteman - two 4yr terms Pearce - two 4 yr terms
3 or 4 wards 14 councillors	A change to all wards boundaries would likely be required, although it may be possible for some to remain in their current form.	All councillors whose terms conclude in 2025 may be reallocated to the new wards. Seven positions will be vacant at the 2023 ordinary elections.

*When offices of councillor are to be redistributed into new wards, or there is a reduction in the number of offices of councillor, the implementation method should give consideration to clauses 1 and 2 of Schedule 4.2 of the Act. As near as practical to half of the total number of councillors are to retire every two years and as near as practical to half of the councillors representing each ward are to retire every two years.

Offices of councillor can be declared vacant where it is necessary to effect changes in boundaries or wards. It is very rare that a change to a local government's ward structure or boundaries and or representation will require any offices of councillor to become vacant, as councillors with terms continuing beyond the next ordinary election have a right to complete their terms in office.

Proposed timeline

October 5, 2022	Ordinary Meeting of Council Council to resolve to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors* and to conduct a ward and representation review. *Absolute majority required
October 5 to October 21, 2022	Officers prepare Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper
October 25, 2022	Special Meeting of Council Council to endorse the Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper.
Monday, November 7 to Wednesday 21, December, 2022	Public consultation (minimum 6 weeks - first and last day excluded from calculation)
January 2023	Officers prepare report on the assessment of options, considering all submissions.

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

by 14 February 2023	Council resolves to adopt structure and how to implement and makes proposal* to the Local Government Advisory Board. *Absolute majority required
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If the Council decides to follow the Voluntary Pathway, but does not suitably complete a Ward and Representation Review by February 14, 2023, the Reform Election Pathway will apply.

Reform Election Pathway

The Amendment Act will provide for all changes to be implemented through reform election in 2023.

All council offices can be declared vacant, all wards can be abolished. Elections would then be held to fill all council offices, with a split between two and four year terms as might be necessary to re-establish an ordinary election cycle.

The newly-elected council would then be able to consider whether to establish new wards, through a future ward and representation review.

CONSULTATION

Consultation on the local government reform package has been undertaken by the State Government.

The Act requires the City to advertise a ward and representation review and seek submissions for a minimum of six weeks.

ATTACHMENTS

Letter from Hon John Carey MLA Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031

G1 Outcome: G1 Aligned leadership and direction Objective G1.1 Provide accountable and transparent leadership G1.2 Engage, communicate and consult with our community stakeholders

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1995

- section 2.11 – Alternative methods of filling office of mayor or president
- section 2.2 – Districts may be divided into wards
- section 2.3 – Names of districts and wards
- Schedule 2.2 – Provisions about names wards and representation

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

- Schedule 4.2 – Order of retirement from office of Council

Work on a Bill to amend to the *Local Government Act 1995* is ongoing. It is expected to be introduced into Parliament in early 2023.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Voluntary Pathway

The cost associated with a ward and representation review is approximately \$15,000. Costs include public consultation, the preparation of technical descriptions and the publication of Governor's Orders in the Government Gazette. Cost do not include staff resources.

Conducting a ward and representation review in the 2022/2023 financial year was not considered as part of the annual budget process and as such is considered an additional purpose.

There are sufficient funds in the municipal funds opening position for the City to be able to accommodate these costs without any negative impact on the existing budget.

Reform Election Pathway

If this option is chosen, it is anticipated the cost of conducting the 2023 ordinary elections will increase due to the increased number of vacant positions which will be required to be filled.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Voluntary Pathway

Absolute majority

Reform Election Pathway

Simple majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council resolve to:

- 1) Resolve to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district under section 2.11(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
- 2) Request the CEO prepare a Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper and submit to Council to initiate a ward and representation review to determine the specific changes to the structure of the council for the 2023 ordinary elections.
- 3) Authorise the CEO to allocate \$15,000 from the City's municipal funds opening position for an additional purpose – Ward and Representation Review.

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

- 4) Call a Special Meeting of Council for Tuesday, October 25 for the purpose of initiating a ward and representation review and endorsing the Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper.

MOTION that the Council resolve to:

- 1) Change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district under section 2.11(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
- 2) Pursuant to Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* undertake a review of its current ward representation.
- 3) Advise the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) that the City will reduce the number of councillors from 15 to 14
- 4) Request the CEO to provide Councillors with a table of the number of electors, for each suburb within each ward, in the City of Swan.
- 5) Request the CEO to prepare a Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper and submit this to the November Ordinary Council Meeting for Council to endorse.
- 6) Include an option in the Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper for seven (7) wards, each with two (2) Councillors.
- 7) Authorise the CEO to allocate \$15,000 from the City's municipal funds opening position for an additional purpose – ward and representation review.
- 8) Apologise to the community that the consultation period will include the period in the lead up to Christmas and advise them this is due to the timeframe and requirements forced onto local governments by the Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness and Local Government.
- 9) Record the reasons for changing the Officer recommendation are:
 1. There is no need to hold a Special Council Meeting as Council can resolve now to both advise the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industry what the City will do and initiate the ward and representation review.
 2. The discussion paper can then be endorsed at the November Ordinary Council Meeting. This will eliminate the cost and staff time of a special council meeting and will allow a little more time for the discussion paper to be developed, with Councillor input.

(Cr Bowman - Catalano)

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION

That the Council resolve to:

- 1) Insert 'in 2025' after after the words 'Change the method of electing the Mayor' in Part 1.
- 2) Insert 'in 2025' after the words 'reduce the number of councillors from 15 to 14' in Part 3.
- 3) Insert the words 'to coincide with the 2025 City of Swan Ordinary Election' at the end of reason 1.

(Cr Zannino - Johnson)

AMENDMENT WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND LOST (5 / 8)

For: Crs Congerton, Henderson, Johnson, Jones and Zannino

Against: Crs Bowman, Catalano, Howlett, Knight, Lucas, McCullough, Predovnik and Richardson

RESOLVED (10 / 3)

For: Crs Bowman, Catalano, Howlett, Knight, Lucas, Jones, Johnson, Mccullough, Predovnik and Richardson

Against: Crs Congerton, Henderson, and Zannino

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review



Hon John Carey MLA Minister for Housing; Lands; Homelessness; Local Government

Our Ref: 78-08502 (Category 3)

20 September 2022

Dear Local Government Chief Executive Officers

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORMS: ELECTION TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS (DIRECT ELECTION OF THE MAYOR OR PRESIDENT, AND CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL)

On 3 July 2022, I announced the final package of proposed local government reforms, following a review of public submissions. As part of the reforms to strengthen local democracy and increase community engagement, new requirements will be introduced to provide for:

- The introduction of optional preferential voting;
- Directly elected Mayors and Presidents for band 1 and 2 local governments;
- Councillor numbers based on population; and
- The removal of wards for band 3 and 4 local governments.

Work on a Bill to amend the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) is ongoing, and a Bill is expected to be introduced into Parliament in early 2023.

Many of the reform proposals related to council representation are based on recent trends, and are intended to provide greater consistency between districts. Accordingly, for more than half of all local governments, the reforms will not require any specific change to the size or structure of the council.

However, the reform proposals do require some local governments to:

- Reduce the number of elected members on council in accordance with population thresholds; or
- Change from a council elected mayor or president to a directly elected mayor or president (this reform affects only band 1 and 2 local governments); or
- Abolish wards (for band 3 and 4 local governments with wards); or
- Implement more than one of the above.

The Amendment Act will also provide that optional preferential voting will apply for all local government elections. As you may know, optional preferential voting means that all electors have the choice to number preferences for as many or as few candidates as they wish to.

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

I appreciate the significant interest in the reform proposals, and potential transitional arrangements for the upcoming 2023 ordinary elections. Many councils have expressed a proactive intent to implement reforms as early as possible.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) has completed an initial review, and identified that your local government may need to change to a directly-elected Mayor or President, and consequently reduce the size of the elected council by one to account for the Mayor or President being directly elected. This relatively small change should be implemented for the 2023 ordinary elections.

The Act already provides that local governments may:

- Resolve, by absolute majority of the council, to change the method of filling the office of Mayor or President to a direct vote by the electors of the district, and
- Initiate proposals to change arrangements related to the size or structure of the council through a Ward and Representation Review.

Accordingly, I write to advise of two pathways your council may consider for making these election transition arrangements.

Voluntary Pathway

Your local government may formulate a plan to implement these changes on a voluntary basis. This pathway will require your local government to make the steps outlined below, and provides the greatest possible lead time to plan for next year's ordinary elections.

If your council wishes to undertake this process, it should, by 28 October 2022:

- Advise the DLGSC of its intention to undertake a voluntary process. This advice should include a high-level plan outlining the potential changes to be implemented for the ordinary elections to be held in 2023;
- Pass a resolution to change the method of electing the Mayor or President to a vote by the electors of the district under section 2.11(2) of the Act; and
- Initiate a Ward and Representation Review to determine the specific consequential changes to the structure of the council for the 2023 ordinary elections, to be completed no later than 14 February 2023.

I appreciate that significant effort is required to complete a Ward and Representation Review. The Ward and Representation Review would need to be initiated ahead of the 28 October 2022 date, and finalised by 14 February 2023, to ensure that the timeframes set out in the Act can be practically met. While the Ward and Representation Review can consider the size of the council, and any wards, any changes should not diverge from the proposed reforms.

Further information is attached to this letter to assist with this process.

Reform Election Pathway

Alternatively, it is intended that the Amendment Act will provide for all changes to be implemented through reform elections in 2023.

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

For councils with wards, this pathway would provide that all council offices can be declared vacant, and all wards can be abolished. Elections would then be held to fill all council offices, with a split between two and four year terms as might be necessary to re-establish an ordinary election cycle.

The newly-elected council would then be able to consider whether to establish new wards, through a future Ward and Representation Review.

For councils with no wards, it may be possible to abolish one vacancy arising next year, while also declaring that the Mayor or President is to be elected by a vote of the electors of the district.

Your council may specifically decide to follow the Reform Election Pathway. If this is the council's intention, I request that you advise the DLGSC by 28 October 2022.

It is also intended that the Amendment Act will contain provisions for the Reform Election Pathway to apply if a local government:

- Does not advise of an intention to follow the Voluntary Pathway, or
- Decides to follow the Voluntary Pathway, but does not suitably complete a Ward and Representation Review by the dates outlined in this letter.

Next Steps

In line with the above, I request that your council considers these matters, and provides formal written advice on the preferred pathway to the DLGSC by 28 October 2022. Given the timeframes already established in the Act, no extension to the dates specified in this letter will be possible.

The DLGSC is available to assist with these election transition arrangements. If you require any assistance, please contact Ms Julie Craig, Strategy and Research Officer, on 6552 7300 or at advisoryboard@dlgsc.wa.gov.au.

I have also written a formal letter to the Mayor or President of your local government, which contains the same information as this memorandum. That letter should be received shortly.

Yours sincerely



HON JOHN CAREY MLA
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Att: Timeline and steps – local government ward and representation reviews

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

Timeline and steps – local government ward and representation reviews

The following steps will need to occur to allow all required local governments to meet the **30 June 2023** timeframe of publication in the Government Gazette of any proposed ward and representation review changes, ahead of the October 2023 local government elections. Please note that all stages that are currently followed for 'regular' reviews are included below.

Table 1 includes suggested timeframes which will need to be considered by all local governments that will be required to undertake a review ahead of the October 2023 elections.

All local governments should aim to have their completed reviews submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board (the Advisory Board) by no later than **14 February 2023**.

Table 1 – proposed timeframes for local government actions

Due date (latest possible)	Requirements/actions
28 October 2022	Council resolves to undertake a ward and representation review A comprehensive discussion paper is developed
December 2022	Completion of six week consultation period
December 2022 – January 2023	Draft review report is prepared, considered and adopted by council
14 February 2023	Formal review report is submitted to the Advisory Board

Please note that the above dates are suggestions only, as each council will have to consider their own calendars for their monthly meetings. It is also possible that some affected councils will have an earlier meeting in December 2022, and then no meeting in January 2023. This is why mid to late December is suggested as the date by which the draft review report should be considered by council.

Appendix B: Council decision to initiate review

Table 2 - Ward and representation review process – for local governments

	Existing requirements/actions	Timeframe
1	The council resolves to undertake a ward and representation review	Variable
2	A comprehensive discussion paper is developed	Variable
3	Council advertises that it is conducting a review and the associated public submission period opens (minimum 6 weeks)	6 weeks
4	The discussion paper is made available to the community for consideration, and public submissions are invited on the matter	
5	Public submission period closes	
6	The Council assesses all submissions, considers options for change against the relevant factors to be considered, and drafts a report, which includes their decision, for the Local Government Advisory Board (the Advisory Board)	Variable
7	The formal report is presented to Council on the outcome of the public submissions and the proposed ward and/or boundary changes	Variable
8	Council resolves to adopt the report to the Advisory Board	Variable
9	The preferred option is submitted to the Advisory Board via the formal report, for the Board's consideration and recommendation	Variable
10	The Advisory Board considers the council's review report, and a recommendation is submitted to the Minister, which can either be accepted or rejected	Variable

Appendix C: Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Ordinary Meeting of Council
02 November 2022

7.1 WARDS AND REPRESENTATION REVIEW DISCUSSION PAPER

Ward: (All Wards) (Governance)

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Authorised Officer: (Chief Executive Officer)

KEY ISSUES

- At the Council meeting held on October 5, 2022 Council resolved to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district, reduce the number of Councillors from 15 to 14 and undertake a Wards and Representation Review.
- A Wards and Representation Review Discussion Paper (Discussion Paper) for the purposes of community consultation has been prepared. It contains 6 options for wards and representation, to generate discussion.

It is recommended that the Council endorse the Wards and Representation Review Discussion Paper, as attached.

BACKGROUND

In July 2022 the State Government announced the final package of reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act). This included:

- Directly elected Mayors and Presidents for band 1 and 2 local governments; and
- Councillor numbers based on population.

The City of Swan (the City) is a band 1 local government.

A local government with a population of over 75,000 may have between 9 to 15 elected members (including the Mayor). As at the 2021 Census, the City had a population of 152,974, with a 2022 population forecast of 167,796 (forecast.id).

In September 2022 the Minister for Local Government (the Minister) wrote to the City and advised that a change to a directly elected Mayor and consequently a reduction to the size of the Council by one elected member to account for the Mayor being directly elected was required.

In response, the Council resolved at the October 5, 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting to:

- Change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district;
- Reduce the number of councillors from 15 to 14; and
- Undertake a wards and representation review.

Appendix C: Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Ordinary Meeting of Council
02 November 2022

DETAILS

A Discussion Paper has been prepared to assist the community in understanding the wards and representation review process. It details the current situation, provides a broad assessment of characteristics of the City against the factors required to be considered and provides information on a number of potential options.

There are an infinite number of options which could be generated for wards and representation structures for the City. The discussion paper includes 6 options:

- No wards;
- Three 5 ward options; and
- Two 4 ward options.

The options cover a ranges of scenarios, affecting different areas and suburbs of the City differently. This is to generate discussion and encourage responses and suggestions.

There is no preference for any of the options.

During the preparation of the discussion paper, multiple options were considered. Not all options which were identified have been included in the Discussion Paper. Options were not included if:

- They were outside of the scope of the options requested in the Council resolution at the Council meeting held on October 5, 2022 i.e. no ward, five ward and four ward options.
- The resolution (referred to above) requested an option for 7 wards, each with 2 Councillors. Whilst there are some advantages to this option, it has not been presented in the Discussion Paper as following initial assessments, a suitable option for 7 wards which took into account current elector numbers and future growth, was not identified. This is because a large number of small wards are very sensitive to changes in electors and require more frequent reviews and changes, especially where rapid growth is experienced in some area and limited to no growth, is experienced in others.
- It resulted in wards being allocated only one Councillor or wards requiring 5 or more Councillors.
- Required the division of more than one suburb, not including suburbs which span the *Swan Valley Planning Act 2020* boundary, as it is preferable to keep suburbs whole. Where a suburb has been divided it has been along a major road and has been necessary to create similar ratio of electors to Councillor in wards.

Submissions are being requested on the following matters that are being considered as part of the review:

- The number of wards and their boundaries;
- The number of Councillors for the district for each ward; and
- The names of wards.

Appendix C: Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Ordinary Meeting of Council
02 November 2022

A full assessment of each of the options provided, any additional options and submissions, will be presented to Council at the conclusion of the submission period. The Council must consider all submissions made and resolve to make a proposal to the Advisory Board.

CONSULTATION

The Act requires the City to advertise the review and seek submissions for a minimum of 6 weeks.

Local public notice shall be given as follows:

- Published on the City's website;
- Notices placed in each City Office;
- Published in The Echo;
- Direct notification to resident and ratepayer groups; and
- Social media.

Written submissions can be made and the City is also planning on conducting an online survey.

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Wards and Representation Review Discussion Paper

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031

G1 Outcome: G1 Aligned leadership and direction Objective G1.1 Provide accountable and transparent leadership G1.2 Engage, communicate and consult with our community stakeholders

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1995

- section 2.2 – Districts may be divided into wards
- section 2.3 – Names of districts and wards
- Schedule 2.2 – Provisions about names wards and representation

Appendix C: Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Ordinary Meeting of Council
02 November 2022

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost associated with a ward and representation review is approximately \$15,000. Costs include public consultation, the preparation of technical descriptions and the publication of Governor's Orders in the Government Gazette. Costs do not include staff resources.

Council approved the expenditure at the October 5, 2022 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council resolve to:

- 1) Endorse the attached draft Wards and Representation Review Discussion Paper, for the purposes of community consultation.
- 2) Give local public notice of the Wards and Representation Review and invite submissions.
- 3) Note the results of the community consultation process will be presented to Council for consideration, prior to a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board.

MOTION that the Council resolve to:

- 1) Endorse the attached draft Wards and Representation Review Discussion Paper, subject to the deletion of Options 2 and 4 (with renumbering as required), for the purposes of community consultation.
- 2) Give local public notice of the Wards and Representation Review and invite submissions.
- 3) Note the results of the community consultation process will be presented to Council for consideration, prior to a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board.
- 4) Record the reason for changing the Officer Recommendation is that Options 2 and 4 will result in the ratio deviation of some wards falling outside of the permitted plus or minus 10 per cent within too short of a period of time therefore creating the need and expense of another review in a predicted 4 years.

(Cr Bowman)

MOTION LAPSED due to the lack of a seconder.

MOTION that the Council resolve to adopt the Officer recommendation.

(Cr Johnson – Cr Predovnik)

Appendix C: Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Ordinary Meeting of Council
02 November 2022

RESOLVED (13 / 1) TO:

- 1) Endorse the attached draft Wards and Representation Review Discussion Paper, for the purposes of community consultation.
- 2) Give local public notice of the Wards and Representation Review and invite submissions.
- 3) Note the results of the community consultation process will be presented to Council for consideration, prior to a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board.

For: Crs Bowman, Congerton, Henderson, Howlett, Jones, Johnson, Knight, Lucas, McCullough, Parry, Predovnik, Richardson and Zannino.

Against: Cr Catalano.

City of Swan Wards and Representation Review --- Discussion Paper.



Appendix C: Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

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Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Due to proposed reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), the City of Swan (the City) is implementing the following changes at the local government ordinary elections in October 2023:

1. Changing the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the City (a popularly elected Mayor); and
2. Reduce the number of Councillors from 15 to 14 through a review of the City's wards.

To achieve these changes, the City is putting forward 6 wards and representation options (Options) and inviting the community to provide its feedback and comments on these Options.

The Options are:

- Option 1: No wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor;
- Options 2, 3 and 4: Five wards (based on existing wards) with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor, but adjust boundaries to ensure a balance between wards; and
- Options 5 and 6: Four wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor.

Please refer to pages 19 to 33 of this Discussion Paper to see the details underpinning each of these Options.

Submissions can be provided to the City by the following channels:

- Entered via the City's website [\(insert survey link\)](#)
- Emailed to swan@swan.wa.gov.au
- Posted to City of Swan, PO Box 196, Midland WA 6936
- Hand-delivered to City of Swan Administration Centre, 2 Midland Square, Midland.

Submissions should contain the reference 'Wards and Representation Review' and include your name and address.

Submissions close 5pm Wednesday, December 21, 2022.

For enquiries regarding the review, please contact Meghan Dwyer Senior Governance Officer at the City on (08) 9267 9120.

2. BACKGROUND

For the election of Councillors and the representation of electors throughout a district, local governments in Western Australia have either a ward system in place or a no ward system. A ward system provides for the division of the local government district into “wards” (usually a collection of suburbs) with Councillors elected from each ward. A no ward system provides for all Councillors to be elected by all electors throughout its district. Regardless if a local government has a ward system or not, Councillors are to represent all the electors and residents across the whole local government district, not just those electors within their respective ward.

2.1. Local Government Reform

The State Government has proposed reforms to the Act. Some of the changes relate to Council representation, including that all band 1 and 2 local governments are to have directly (popularly) elected mayors and for Councillor numbers to be based on the population of the local government.

The Minister for Local Government (the Minister) wrote to the City on September 20, 2022 and advised that a change to the City’s representation arrangements is required because of the proposed reforms. These changes are required to be implemented for the 2023 October ordinary elections.

At the Council meeting held on October 5, 2022 Council resolved to:

- Change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district under section 2.11 of the Act; and
- Undertake a review of the City’s wards and representation to reduce the number of Councillors from 15 to 14.

To ensure any required changes are made to the City’s ward structure, the City is required to make a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board (Advisory Board) by February 14, 2023.

2.2. Process to undertake a wards and representation review

The Advisory Board is established by the Act and is responsible for considering proposals for changes to district boundaries and ward and representation structures of local governments.

The review process must be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Act. This is set out in the Act, as part of Schedule 2.2.

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

2.3. Review timeline

October 5, 2022	Council resolved to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors and to conduct a ward and representation review.
October 5 to October 31, 2022	Officers prepare Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper.
November 2, 2022	Council to endorse the Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper.
Monday, November 7 to Wednesday, 21 December, 2022	Public consultation.
January 2023	Officers prepare report on the assessment of options, considering all submissions.
February 8, 2023	Review presented to Council to: • adopt wards and representation structure; and • determine how to implement changes. <i>Absolute majority required</i>
by February 14, 2023	City to notify the Advisory Board of the outcome of the review.
February – October 2023	The Advisory Board considers Council's proposal and makes a recommendation to the Minister; and The Minister may accept or reject the Advisory Board's recommendation but cannot change it.
October 21, 2023	Changes come into effect.

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

2.4. Factors for Consideration

When considering changes to a local government's wards and representation, the Council as part of the review process, must have regard to the following factors:

Community Interest
The term community of interest has a number of elements. These include a sense of community identity and belonging, similarities in the characteristics of the residents of a community and similarities in the economic activities. It can also include dependence on the shared facilities in an area as reflected in catchment areas of local schools and sporting teams, or the circulation areas of local newspapers. Neighbourhoods, suburbs and towns are important units in the physical, historical and social infrastructure and often generate a feeling of community and belonging.
Physical and Topographical Features
These may be natural or manufactured features that will vary from area to area. Water features such as rivers and catchment boundaries may be relevant considerations. Coastal plain and foothills regions, parks and reserves may be relevant as well as similarities and differences between areas within the local government.
Demographic Trends
Several measurements of the characteristics of human populations, such as population size, and its distribution by age, sex, occupation and location provide important demographic information. Current and projected population characteristics will be relevant as well as similarities and differences between areas within the local government.
Economic Factors
Economic factors can be broadly interpreted to include any factor that reflects the character of economic activities and resources in the area. This may include the industries that occur in a local government area (or the release of land for these) and the distribution of community assets and infrastructure such as road networks.
Ratio of Elected Members to Electors
It is expected that each local government will have similar ratios of electors to Councillors across the wards of its district, generally falling within a deviation of plus or minus (+/-) 10%. Of all the assessment factors established by the Advisory Board, the Councillor / elector ratio factor is the most relevant factor.

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

If the Advisory Board considers the local government has submitted a proposal which correctly takes into account these factors it will recommend the proposal to the Minister.

If, in the Advisory Board's opinion, a proposal does not correctly take these factors into account it may request that a revised proposal addressing all the factors be submitted. If the local government does not comply, the Advisory Board may recommend a proposal to the Minister which correctly takes these factors into account.

DRAFT

3. CURRENT SITUATION

The City is a large geographical area with boundaries which extend from Bullsbrook in the north, Bushmead in the south, Ballajura in the west and Gidgegannup in the east.

Currently the City has 15 Councillors elected from 5 wards. The Mayor is elected by the Council from amongst the Councillors.

Wards have been generally constructed to include whole suburbs rather than dividing a suburb between 2 or more wards. Exceptions occur for the suburbs of Caversham and Henley Brook where the western boundary of the *Swan Valley Planning Act 2020* (SVPA) area is the ward boundary between the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward and Altone and Whiteman Wards.

The current wards and representation arrangements were a result of a review conducted in 2016/2017. As a result of this review, the number of wards in the City was reduced from 6 to 5, some changes to the number of Councillors per ward were made and 2 of the wards were also renamed.

This was achieved by:

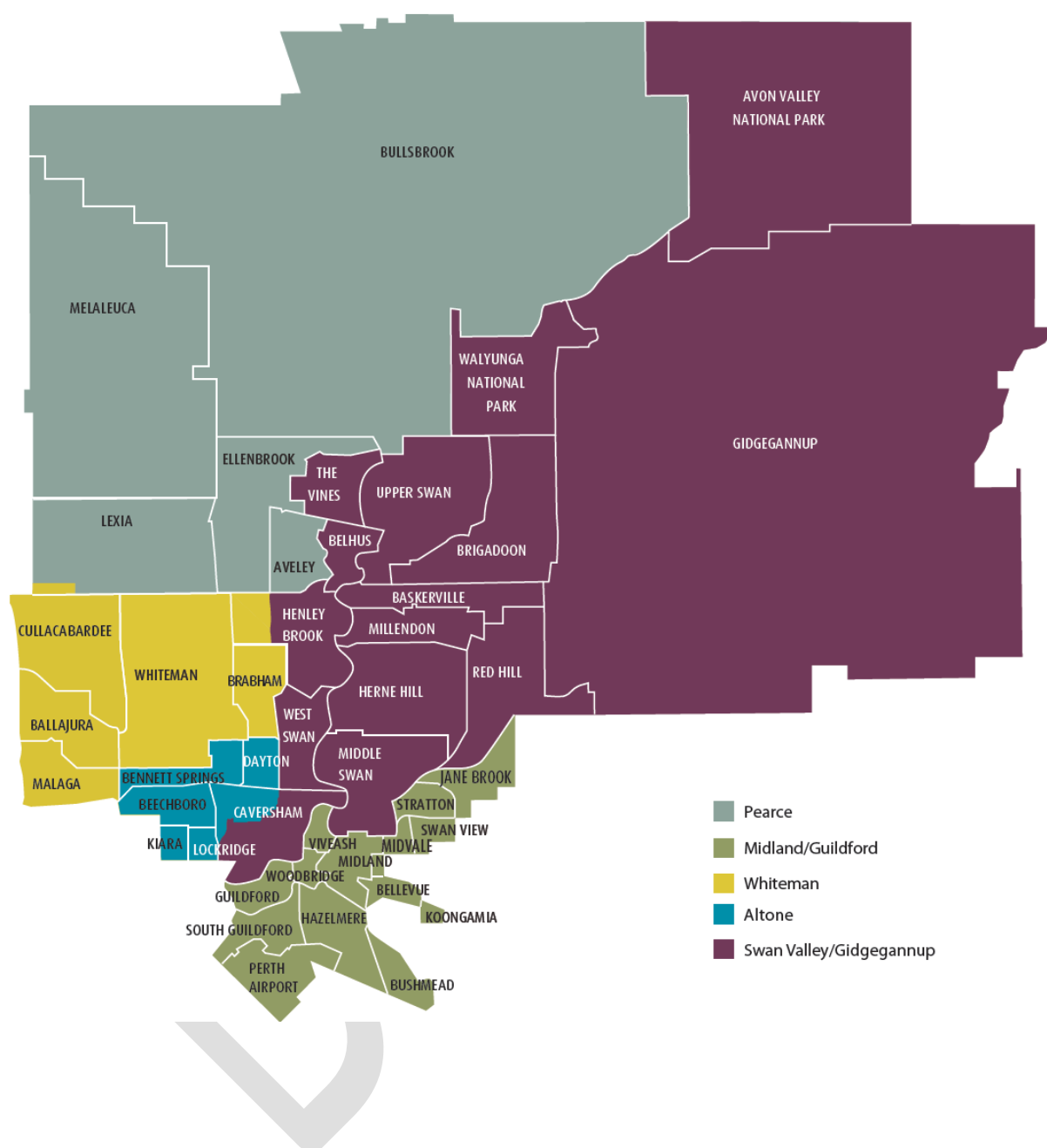
- Merging the previous Ellenbrook Ward and North Ward to form a new Pearce Ward, and setting the number of Councillors in Pearce Ward to 4.
- Moving Whiteman and Brabham from the Altone Ward to the Ballajura Ward, and renaming the ward to Whiteman Ward.
- Moving parts of Henley Brook and Caversham not in the then *Swan Valley Planning Act 1995* to the Whiteman Ward and Altone Ward respectively.
- Moving The Vines and Middle Swan to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward.
- Moving Jane Brook to Midland/Guildford Ward.

These changes were implemented for the 2017 local government ordinary elections.

In normal circumstances, the City would be required to conduct a ward and representation review within an 8 year period (i.e. 2024/25). The announcement by the Minister means that a wards and representation review is required to be conducted immediately.

Appendix C: Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

The current ward structure is as follows:



Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

The Councillor to elector ratios as at October 3, 2022, are as follows

Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
Altone	3	21,284	7,095	-4.44
Midland/Guildford	3	20,617	6,872	-1.17
Pearce	4	27,431	6,858	-0.95
Swan Valley/Gidgegannup	2	13,119	6,560	+3.44
Whiteman	3	19,446	6,482	+4.58
Total	15	101,897	6,793	

*The variance must be within a range of +/- 10%.

The variance is calculated by subtracting the Councillor/elector ratio for a ward from the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole district. The result is then divided by the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole district and multiplied by 100 to give a percentage. A negative result indicates that the ward is under-represented, and a positive result indicates the ward is over-represented.

Whilst the variances for the wards are currently within allowable limits, the ward representation must change because the number of councillors must reduce to 14. It is not possible to reduce a single Councillor from any ward without affecting the ratio to being +/- 10%.

4. DISCUSSION PAPER

This Discussion Paper has been developed to assist the community to consider options and ideas for the review of the City's wards and representation. The community's feedback is important, and the community is invited through the submission process to propose options. All submissions received must be considered by Council.

4.1. Assessment of factors

A general discussion of the assessment factors as they apply to the City follows.

Community of interest

Local Area Planning

At the City, Local Area Plans (LAPs) help plan for future growth and the provision of community services across a variety of geographically distinct areas. Through community consultation, each LAP identifies a broad range of issues that affect each local area and allows the community to set their key priorities.

There are a total of 13 local areas recognised across the City, for which 12 LAPs have been developed or are scheduled to be developed in the near future. Local area planning involves local community members working together with the City to identify the specific issues affecting their community, to produce a plan that captures the specific needs and sets the priorities for their local area.

Heritage

The local aboriginal people and custodians of the land are the Whadjuk Noongar people. The Noongar people have long since inhabited the historic lands of the Swan coastal plain, dating back some 40,000 years. The land provided a natural abundance of food and water resources and the traditional owners developed a rich history of customs in the area.

The town of Guildford and the surrounding areas in the Whadjuk region sit on important country and have always been an important meeting place for Noongar people. The area contains many campsites and spiritual sites which have been used to the present day.

There are many chapters of the City's unique heritage, including the establishment of agriculture and viticulture in the Swan Valley and the development of the railways and Midland Junction in the late nineteenth century.

European settlement dates back to 1829 when Guildford was established as one of 3 nodes of settlement for the Swan River Colony. As the furthest navigable point on the Swan River, Guildford became an inland port, providing the main link between Perth and the country districts. The first agricultural ventures by colonial settlers began in 1829.

Guildford was declared a Historic Town in 1984, and in 2019 was included in the State Register of Heritage Places. Its historical buildings, rich heritage and proximity to the Swan Valley are an attraction to visitors.

Midland has been occupied by settlers since 1832. However, little development occurred until 1886, when the Midland Railway Company commenced operations. In 1891 the township of Midland Junction was established. Iconic sites such as the former Midland Railway Workshops and the historical civic and retail “junction” of the town centre are important historical elements of Midland.

The City contains a number of Heritage Places in areas including Guildford, Woodbridge, Midland, the Swan Valley and Bullsbrook.

Swan Valley

Viticulture emerged over 181 years ago, making the Swan Valley the oldest wine region in Western Australia and one of the oldest in Australia. The Swan Valley has considerable historical and cultural value as a viticultural, agricultural and tourism region.

Rural

In addition to the Swan Valley, Bullsbrook and Gidgegannup are significant rural areas within the City. These rural areas provide similar services, facilities and amenities to their communities. They are relatively disconnected from other urban areas within the City and the Perth metropolitan region. Land use within these areas includes:

- low density forms of residential land use;
- agricultural rural land and primary production;
- equestrian activities include horse training, agistment, breeding and dealing; and
- basic raw material extraction and mining.

Significant growth is expected within Bullsbrook, with plans for residential, commercial and industrial growth in the near future.

Residential Areas – 1970's onwards

The City's rapid growth has been a relatively new occurrence, but each stage and area of growth has resulted in different characteristics and needs for each of those communities. Examples of growth which have resulted in communities connected by common interests are provided below.

- During the late 1960s, Lockridge was partly developed as a housing estate and underwent urban renewal in the late 1990's. In the 1970s, development of the area north of Benara Road (Beechboro) took off with the first subdivision. The suburb of Kiara was approved and named in 1990 and the suburb now known as Bennett Springs was developed during the 1990s.
- Ballajura was developed as a residential suburb from 1978 and the population increased rapidly during the early 1990s.
- Development of Stratton saw the first residents move into the area in 1991 and Jane Brook was created in 1994.

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- The Vines, centred around the development of The Vines Golf Course and Resort, saw its first residents in 1989. Development of Ellenbrook commenced in 1994 and it became one of Perth's fastest growing suburbs. Aveley, previously a part of Ellenbrook, became a suburb in 2006.
- The Urban Growth Corridor (UGC) was identified a critical development to accommodate the growth of the Perth metropolitan region. The UGC includes Brabham, part of Bennett Springs, Dayton and part of Caversham. Major residential development projects are also occurring in Henley Brook, between Brabham and Ellenbrook.

Physical and topographic features

The City covers an area of 1,042 square kilometres and is geographically the largest local government authority in the Perth metropolitan area.

Natural features

The City contains 2 major National Parks - Walyunga and Avon Valley. There are 45 bushland and 73 foreshore reserves totalling approximately 1,200 hectares.

The Swan River flows in a generally south west direction through the City. A number of creeks and rivers that flow into the Swan River are also located in the City: Wooroloo Brook, Avon River, Susannah Brook, Jane Brook, Ellen Brook, Helena River, Blackadder Creek and Bennett Brook.

The Darling Scarp is a low escarpment running north-south to the east of the Swan Coastal Plain in the eastern part of the City.

Transport infrastructure

Major transport corridors and key highways including the Great Eastern, Great Northern, Tonkin, Roe and Reid Highways are all within the City's boundaries. Other major arterial roads within the City include Gnangara Road, Henley Brook Avenue, Marshall Road, Drumpellier Drive, Toodyay Road and Stock Road.

Freight rail and national and state passenger rail routes are also within the City's boundaries.

As part of the State Government's METRONET program, the Morley Ellenbrook Line (Malaga, Whiteman and Ellenbrook stations approved, and a future station planned at Bennett Springs East) and New Midland Station projects will enhance public transport within the City.

This transport infrastructure provides important connectivity for residential and economic activities within the City.

Buildings and Public Open Space

The City has a significant number of assets that support the delivery of community services and act as focal points for community life. They are located across the City and assist in defining each community's identity and provide social, environment and economic benefits. The City's focus is to maintain and improve assets in older developments while planning for future needs in residential growth areas.

Demographic trends

The number of residents in the City has increased rapidly over the last 30 years, growing from approximately 52,000 in 1991 to an estimated population of 167,763 in 2022 and forecast to grow to 309,788 by 2051. Most of the growth has occurred in Ellenbrook, The Vines, Aveley and the UGC (Brabham and Dayton, and parts of the suburbs of Caversham, West Swan and Bennett Springs).

The City's diverse character means that population trends differ widely across the City.

Ellenbrook and the UGC (Brabham, Dayton and Henley Brook) are a focus of residential development. These rapidly developing areas are contributing to very high rates of population growth in the City.

In the medium to long term, the main focus of growth is expected to shift further north to include Bullsbrook and North Ellenbrook.

Population growth is slowly occurring in Midland as infill development occurs in existing residential areas as well as residential developments occurring in suburbs surrounding Midland.

In contrast, there are parts of the City where population change is expected to be minimal. The Swan Valley is protected from major residential development. Suburbs including Ballajura, Kiara, Lockridge and parts of Beechboro and part of Bennett Springs within Altone that underwent their primary development phase during the 1990s, will experience stable, even declining population growth, as households mature.

Economic factors

The City offers a wide variety of locations suitable for all business types. It is home to more than 11,000 businesses, employing approximately 70,000 people. Construction is the largest employment industry within the City, followed by Retail, Education & Training, and Health Care & Social Assistance. The construction industry also has the largest number of registered businesses within the City.

The City's Gross Regional Product is estimated at \$10.18 billion, representing more than 3 per cent of the State's Gross Product. Small businesses account for 97 per cent of the businesses trading within the City.

The City contains major rail and road transport hubs servicing both passenger and freight demands.

Major investment and infrastructure projects include the Perth Darwin National Highway, the completed NorthLink project, the EastLink project, the proposed intermodal transport hub in Bullsbrook, Gateway WA project and METRONET. The build out of these infrastructure projects will see new uses and opportunities for population growth and economic development in these areas

Midland

Midland is the Strategic Metropolitan Centre in Perth's north east sub-region and plays a key role in providing access to goods, services and employment in Perth's east and the nearby Avon Valley region. Through the urban renewal program, Midland's role as a strategic metropolitan centre is strengthening. To date, the program includes the new Midland public hospital, the General Practice Super Clinic and specialist medical services including WA's only bone and tissue bank.

New residential and commercial developments include the redevelopment of the old Railway Workshops and Midland Saleyards, Curtin University medical campus, new private hospital within the historic workshops' precinct, and public open space in Railway Square. Midland is a designated Business Fibre Zone and can support the internet needs of high value office based industries.

Ellenbrook

Ellenbrook has been classified by the State Government as a Secondary Centre. It provides retail, commercial, entertainment and light industrial areas all of which provide business and employment opportunities.

Industrial Areas

The City has a number of existing industrial centres such as Hazelmere, South Guildford, and Malaga. Malaga is one of the City's major industrial suburbs and the City's largest employment centre. Hazelmere and South Guildford have seen significant growth in recent years with ready access to air and rail freight transport as well as being situated very close to major road transport routes. A number of high profile and multinational companies have chosen Hazelmere as the location to invest and establish their business.

The Bullsbrook area has been identified by the State Government as a Priority Industrial Site. Construction has started on the Stock Road upgrade, which will connect Great Northern Highway with Tonkin Highway. The project will provide a new road link for direct access to a new industrial area and to enable heavy haulage and oversized loaded trucks to bypass around the Bullsbrook townsite, and will transform Bullsbrook into an industrial hub.

The Swan Valley

The Swan Valley and surrounds is regarded as one of Western Australia's premier tourism regions. It is a renowned grape growing region containing world-class wineries, restaurants, cafes, galleries, fresh food produce, breweries, distilleries, recreational activities, antiques, nature-based attractions, arts, crafts, trails and accommodation.

Tourism continues to drive economic and social benefits from visitor expenditure, which supports new jobs, investment attraction and better facilities for our communities and visitors. The Swan Valley makes a significant contribution to the local economy with approximately 5.4 million people visiting each year with visitor expenditure in 2019 approximately \$430 million.

Ratio of Councillors to electors in the various wards

The percentage ratio deviation is calculated by subtracting the Councillor/elector ratio for a ward from the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole district. The result is then divided by the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole district and multiplied by 100 to give a percentage. A negative result indicates that the ward is under-represented, and a positive result indicates the ward is over-represented.

The options presented in this Discussion Paper achieve balanced representation.

For any ward review it is preferable that any changes to the Councillor/elector ratio consider possible growth and decline in population, thereby resulting in an increase or decrease of Councillor/elector ratio before the next review takes place (required to be conducted within 8 years). However, it cannot be determined with any certainty what increase or decrease in population will occur in each area.

4.2. Consideration of options

The proposed wards and representation Options are detailed in **Part 5**.

Given the size and diverse nature of the City, the Discussion Paper will only include Options for wards and representation based on 14 Councillors (and a directly elected Mayor). This may be reviewed by Council with a subsequent ward and representation review in the future.

Council does not have an established position on any Option and the Options set out below may provoke discussion and are not definitive.

The Options are examples only and there are many variations and members of the community may have other options that fit the criteria for wards that comply with the requirements of the Act.

Elector numbers used for the purposes of this review were the electors number as at October 3, 2022.

4.3. Naming of wards

Suggestions for ward names are welcome and it is encouraged that ward names reflect the ward community's Aboriginal and European history and its growing demographic diversity.

5. PROPOSED WARDS AND REPRESENTATION OPTIONS

5.1. Option 1 - No wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

Under this Option, all existing wards are abolished.

The following advantages and disadvantages are provided by the Advisory Board.

Advantages include:

- Councillors are elected by the whole community not just a section of it. Under the Act, Councillors are required to represent the views of all electors of the City and make decisions in the best interest of the district as a whole. Knowledge and interest in all areas of the City's affairs would result, broadening the views beyond the immediate concerns of those in a Ward.
- The smaller suburbs and rural areas have the whole Council working for them.
- Members of the community who want to approach a Councillor can speak to any Councillor.
- Social networks and communities of interest are often spread across a local government and Councillors can have an overview of these.
- Councillors can use their specialty skills and knowledge for the benefit of the whole local government.
- There is balanced representation with each Councillor representing the whole community.
- The election process is much simpler for the community to understand and for the Council to administer.
- No requirement for wards and representation in the future.
- All possible future growth does not impact ward structures.

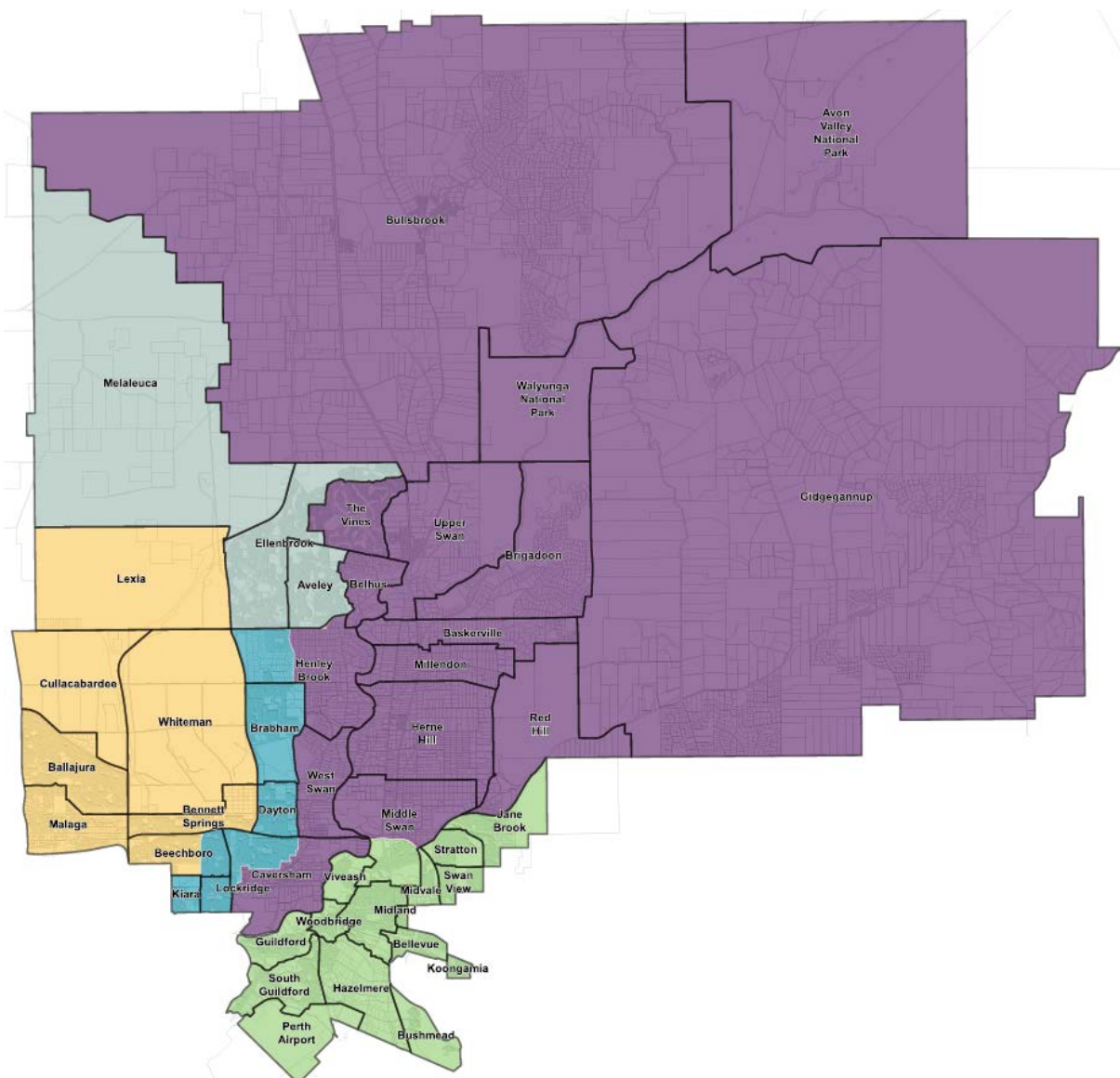
Disadvantages include:

- Electors may feel that they are not adequately represented if they don't have an affinity with any of the Councillors.
- Councillors living in a certain area may have a greater affinity and understanding of the issues specific to that area.
- Councillors may feel overwhelmed by having to represent all electors and may not have the time or opportunity to understand and represent all the issues.
- It may be more difficult and costly for candidates to be elected if they need to canvass the whole local government area.
- It may lead to confusion of responsibilities and duplication of effort on part of Councillors.
- It may lead to significant communities of interest and points of view being unrepresented or for others to dominate.

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

5.2. Option 2 - Five wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

(based on existing wards but adjusted boundaries to ensure balanced Councillor/elector ratio between wards)



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
North West (teal)	3	23,485	7,828	-7.56
Central (blue)	3	19,673	6,558	+9.90
East (purple)	2	15,332	7,666	-5.33
South (green)	3	22,350	7,450	-2.36
West (yellow)	3	21,057	7,019	+3.56
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Changes to the current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Bullsbrook moved from the current Pearce Ward (referred to as the North West Ward) to the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup (referred to as the East Ward);
- (ii) Brabham and the residential part of Henley Brook (non SVPA area) moved from the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward) to the current Altone Ward (referred to as the Central Ward);
- (iii) Beechboro currently in the current Altone Ward (referred to as Central Ward), to be divided at Altone Road between the current Whiteman and Altone Wards (referred to as the West and Central Wards respectively);
- (iv) Middle Swan, currently all in the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as the East Ward), to be divided at the SVPA area boundary and the residential part (non SVPA area) to be in the Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to as the South Ward);
- (v) Lexia, currently divided between the current Pearce Ward and Whiteman Wards (referred to above as the North West and West Ward), now located entirely within the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward); and
- (vi) The number of Councillors in the Pearce Ward (referred to as the North West Ward) reduced from 4 to 3.

Advantages include:

- Retains and is similar to the existing 5 wards structure.
- Provides a minimal amount of change as compared to 4 ward options.
- The % ratio deviation of +9.90% in the Central Ward allows for growth within Brabham, Dayton and Henley Brook, 3 growing suburbs.
- The whole of the SVPA area is within the one ward, East Ward.

Disadvantages include:

- Division of suburbs is required to achieve this i.e. Beechboro (at Altone Road) and Middle Swan (at Roe Highway). However, the division of Middle Swan is at the SVPA area boundary.
- The current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as East Ward) is currently a geographically large ward which will become even larger with the addition of Bullsbrook.

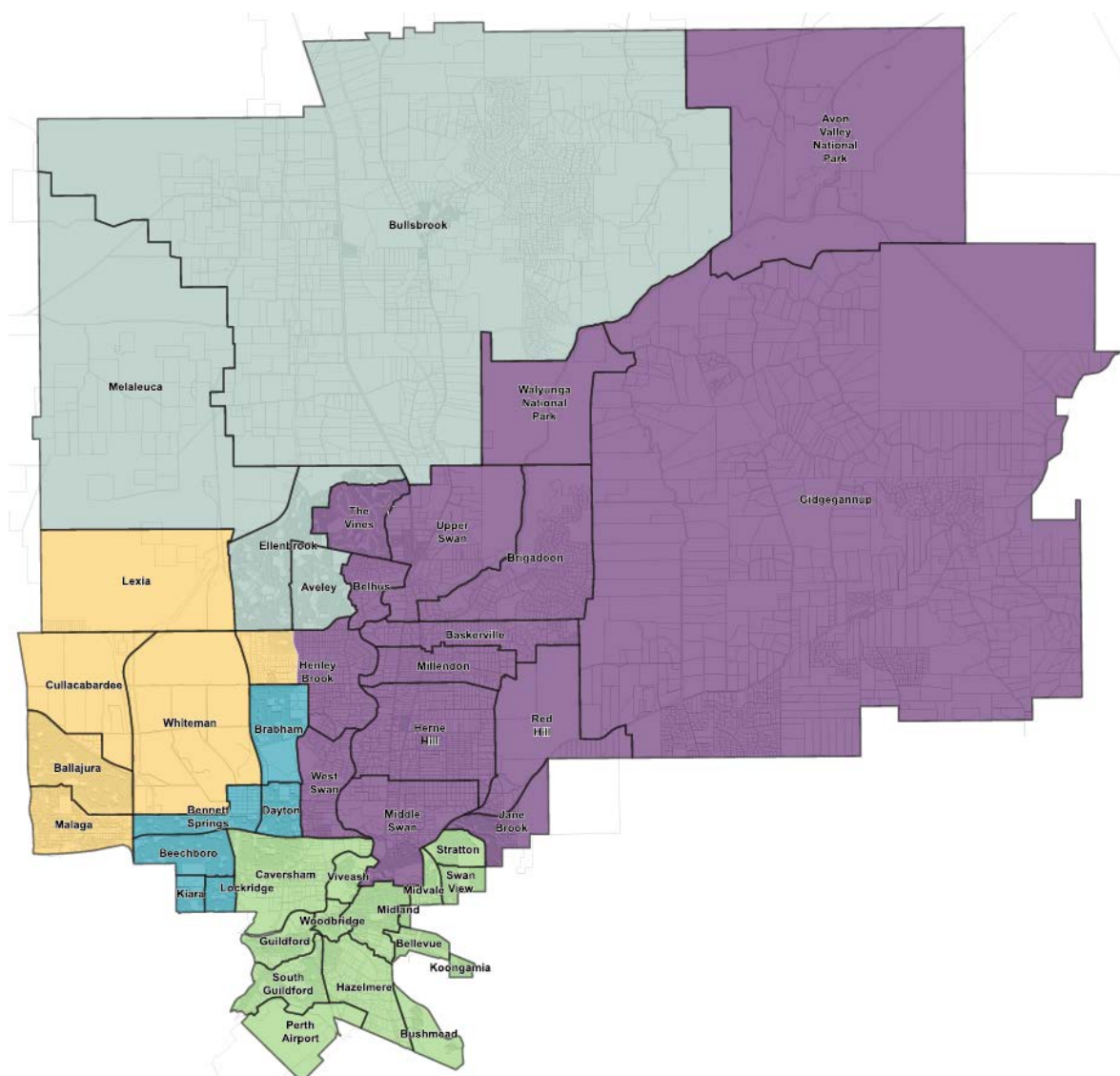
Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

- The % ratio deviation of -7.56% in the North West Ward may not provide for the predicted growth in Ellenbrook and Aveley, resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review before the 8 year period. However, growth within other suburbs outside of the ward may balance this out.
- The % ratio deviation in the West Ward may reach +10% before the 8-year period as it will have limited growth compared to other wards.
- Established suburbs of Kiara and Lockridge are together with growth suburbs of Dayton, Henley Brook and Brabham, but are wholly residential in nature.

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5.3. Option 3 - Five wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

(based on existing wards but adjusted boundaries to ensure balanced Councillor/elector ratio between wards)



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
North (teal)	4	27,431	6,858	+5.78
Central (blue)	3	22,229	7,410	-1.80
East (purple)	2	15,454	7,727	-6.16
South (green)	3	22,572	7,524	-3.37
West (yellow)	2	14,211	7,106	+2.37
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Changes to current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Brabham moved from the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward) to the current Altone Ward (referred to above as the Central Ward);
- (ii) Jane Brook moved from the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to above as the South Ward) to the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to above as the East Ward);
- (iii) All of Caversham located in the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to above as the South Ward), moved from the current Altone Ward (referred to above as the Central Ward) and the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to above as the East Ward);
- (iv) Lexia, currently divided between the current Pearce Ward and Whiteman Wards (referred to above as the North West and West Ward), now located entirely within the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward); and
- (v) The number of Councillors in the Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward) reduced from 3 to 2.

Advantages include:

- Retains and is similar to the existing 5 wards structure.
- Provides a minimal amount of change as compared to 4 ward options.
- The % ratio deviation of +5.78% in the North Ward allows for growth within in the localities of Aveley, Bullsbrook and Ellenbrook, 3 growing suburbs.
- All suburbs, except for Henley Brook which is divided along the SVPA area boundary, are contained wholly within one ward.

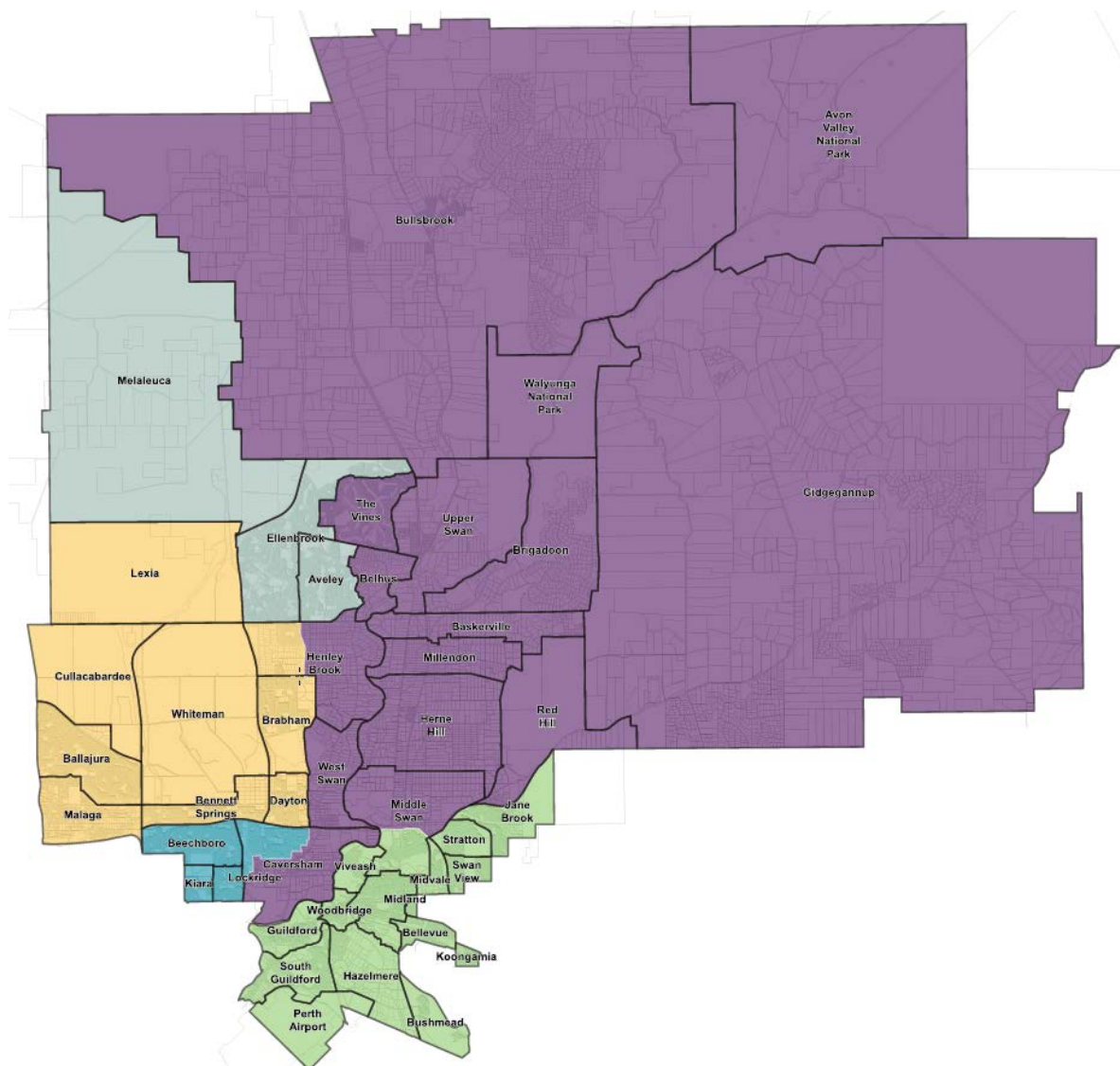
Disadvantages include:

- The % ratio deviation of -1.80% in the Central Ward may not provide for the predicted growth in Brabham and Dayton, resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review before the 8 year period. However, growth within other suburbs outside of the ward may balance this out.
- The whole of Caversham is located within the South Ward (current Midland/Guildford Ward). This disconnects the residential part of Caversham from the Central Ward (current Altone Ward) and the rural area (SVPA area) from the remainder of that area in the East Ward (current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward). Therefore, the whole of the SVPA area is not contained within the one ward.
- Established suburbs of Beechboro, Bennett Springs, Kiara, and Lockridge are together with the growth suburbs of Brabham and Dayton but are wholly residential in nature.
- Ward shapes are irregular, particularly the Central Ward.

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

5.4. Option 4 - Five wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

(based on existing wards but adjusted boundaries to ensure balanced Councillor/elector ratio between wards)



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
North (teal)	3	23,485	7,828	-7.56
South West (blue)	2	14,268	7,134	+1.98
East (purple)	2	15,332	7,666	-5.33
South (green)	3	22,350	7,450	-2.36
West (yellow)	4	26,462	6,616	+9.11
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Changes to current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Bennett Springs and Dayton moved from the current Altone Ward (referred to as the South West Ward) to the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward);
- (ii) Bullsbrook moved from the current Pearce Ward (referred to as the North West Ward) to the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup (referred to as the East Ward);
- (iii) Lexia, currently divided between the current Pearce Ward and Whiteman Wards (referred to above as the North West and West Ward), now located entirely within the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward);
- (iv) Middle Swan, currently all in the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as the East Ward), to be divided at the SVPA area boundary and the residential part (non SVPA area) to be in the Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to as the South Ward);
- (v) The number of Councillors in the Altone Ward (referred to as the South West Ward) reduced from 3 to 2.

Advantages include:

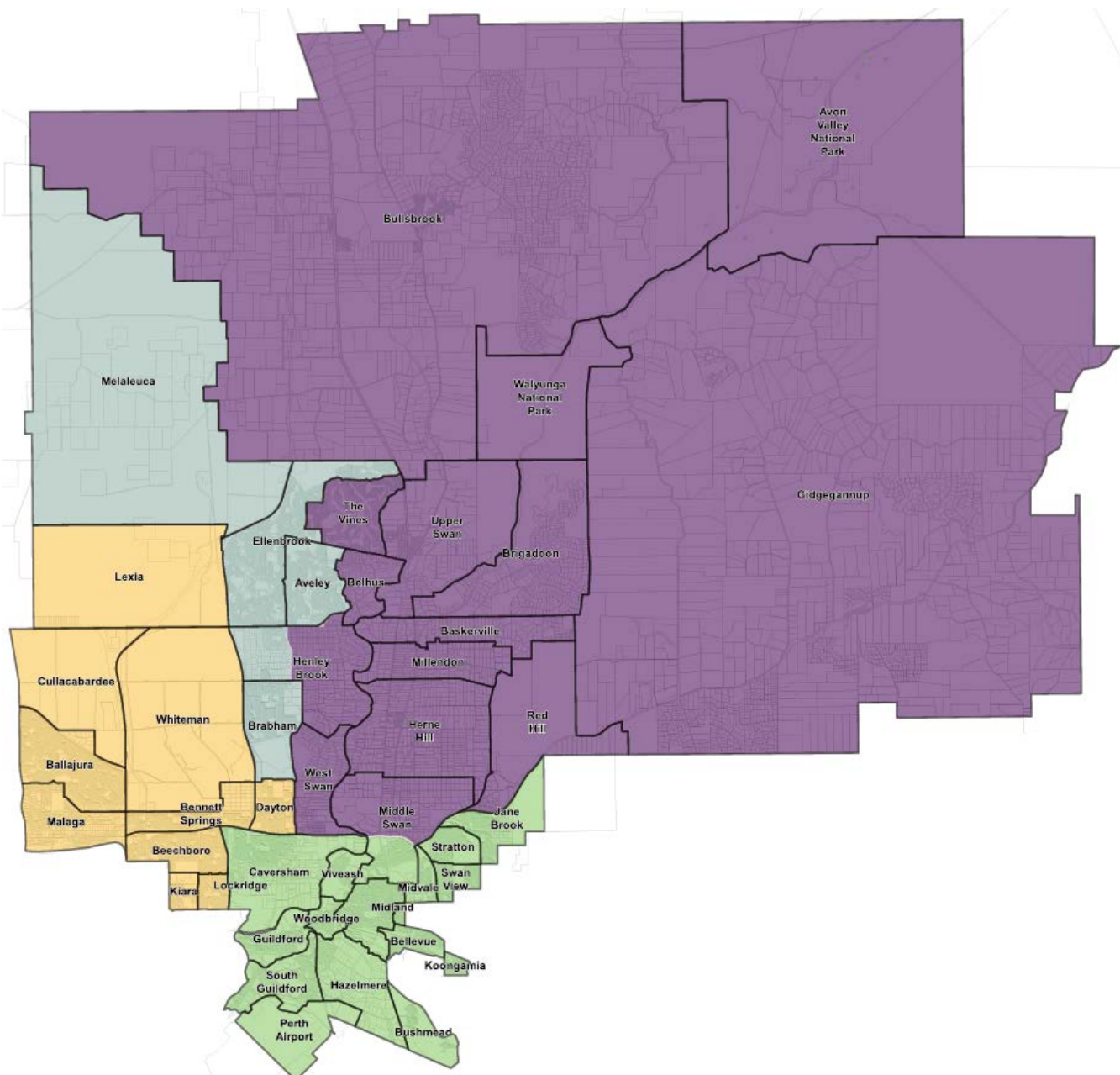
- Retains and is like the existing 5 wards structure.
- Provides a minimal amount of change as compared to 4 ward options.
- The % ratio deviation of +9.11% in the West Ward allows for growth within in the localities of Brabham, Dayton and Henley Brook, 3 growing suburbs.
- All suburbs, except for Caversham, Henley Brook and Middle Swan, are contained wholly within one ward. These suburbs are divided by the SVPA area boundary.
- The whole of the SVPA area is within the one ward.

Disadvantages include:

- The % ratio deviation of -7.56% in the North West Ward may not provide for the predicted growth in Aveley and Ellenbrook, resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review before the 8-year period. However, growth within other suburbs outside of the ward may balance this out.
- Beechboro and Bennett Springs are separated, two suburbs which share a common history.
- The Vines, not necessarily regarded as rural, is combined with the East Ward which is predominately rural in nature.

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5.5. Option 5 - Four wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
Central (teal)	4	29,941	7,485	-2.84
West (yellow)	4	29,984	7,496	-2.99
East (purple)	2	14,934	7,467	-2.59
South (green)	4	27,038	6,760	+7.13
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Changes to current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Current Whiteman Ward and Altone Ward combined (referred to as West Ward) and adjusted as follows:
 - Brabham and the residential part of Henley Brook (non SVPA area) transferred to the current Pearce Ward (referred to as Central Ward);
 - The residential part of Caversham (non SVPA area) transferred to the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to as South Ward); and
 - Allocated 4 councillors;
- (ii) Current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as East Ward) adjusted as follows:
 - The rural area of Caversham (SVPA area) is transferred to the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to as South Ward).
 - The residential area of Middle Swan (non SVPA area) is transferred to the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to as South Ward);
- (iii) Current Pearce Ward (referred to as Central Ward) adjusted as follows:
 - Bullsbrook transferred to Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as East Ward); and
- (iv) South Ward allocated 4 Councillors.

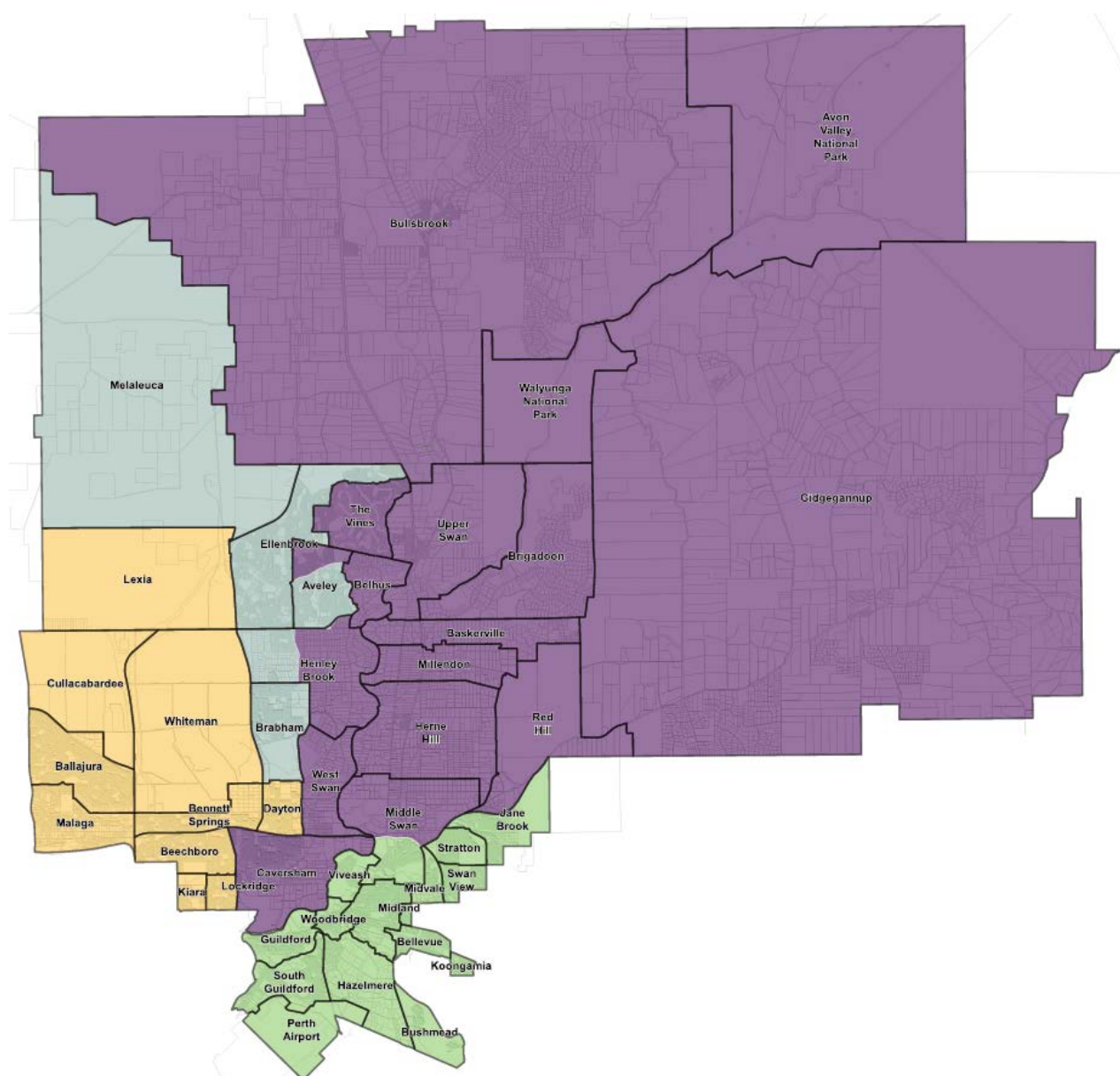
Advantages include:

- A ward system is retained but is reduced to 4 wards.
- Older growth suburbs on the western boundaries of the City are combined.
- Each ward generally has a mix of land uses i.e. residential, commercial, industrial.
- All suburbs, except for Henley Brook and Middle Swan, are contained wholly within one ward. These suburbs are divided by the SVPA area boundary.
- That part of Middle Swan (north of Roe Highway) which is within the SVPA area is re-joined with other localities within that area.

Disadvantages include:

- Larger wards may make it more difficult for Councillors to focus on local issues.
- It may be more difficult and costly for candidates to be elected if they need to canvass a larger ward area.
- Elected members may feel overwhelmed by having to represent a larger number of electors and may not have the time or opportunity to understand and represent all the issues in a larger ward.
- East Ward is a geographically large ward to ensure it includes a sufficient level of elector numbers to allow for 2 Councillors.
- The localities of Aveley, Brabham, Ellenbrook and Henley Brook, 4 growing suburbs, are located within the one ward. The % ratio deviation of -2.84% may not provide for the predicted growth, resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review before the 8-year period.
- The whole of Caversham is located within the South Ward. This disconnects the residential part of Caversham from the Central Ward (current Altone Ward) and the SVPA area from the remainder of that area in the East Ward (current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward).
- The newer suburb of Dayton is together with more established suburbs, but all are wholly residential in nature.
- The South Ward has a % ratio deviation of +7.13% and whilst it is experiencing some growth, the growth is not as rapid as other suburbs and it may reach +10% within 8 years resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review.

5.6. Option 6 - Four wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
North West (teal)	4	27,676	6,919	+4.94
West (yellow)	4	29,984	7,496	-2.99
East (purple)	3	21,887	7,296	-0.24
South (green)	3	22,350	7,450	-2.36
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Appendix C. Council decision to adopt Discussion Paper

Changes to current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Current Whiteman Ward and Altone Ward combined (referred to as West Ward) and adjusted as follows:
 - Brabham and the residential part of Henley Brook (non SVPA area) transferred to the current Pearce Ward (referred to as Central Ward);
 - The residential part of Caversham (non SVPA area) transferred to the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as East Ward); and
 - Allocated 4 Councillors;
- (ii) Current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as East Ward) adjusted as follows:
 - The residential area of Middle Swan (non SVPA area) is transferred to the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to as South Ward); and
 - Allocated 3 Councillors; and
- (iii) Current Pearce Ward (referred to as Central Ward) adjusted as follows:
 - Bullsbrook and the part of Aveley north of Millhouse Road transferred to Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as East Ward).

Advantages include:

- A ward system is retained but is reduced to 4 wards.
- Older growth suburbs on the western boundaries of the City are combined.
- Each ward generally has a mix of land uses i.e. residential, commercial, industrial.
- The % ratio deviation of +4.94% in the North West Ward allows for growth within in the localities of Aveley, Bullsbrook, Ellenbrook and Henley Brook, 4 growing suburbs.
- The whole of the SVPA area is within the one ward. That part of Middle Swan (north of Roe Highway) which is within the SVPA area is re-joined with other localities within that area.

Disadvantages include:

- Larger wards may make it more difficult for Councillors to focus on local issues.
- It may be more difficult and costly for candidates to be elected if they need to canvass a larger ward area.
- Elected members may feel overwhelmed by having to represent a larger number of electors and may not have the time or opportunity to understand and represent all the issues in a larger ward.
- East Ward is a geographically large ward to ensure it includes a sufficient level of elector numbers to allow for 3 Councillors.
- The localities of Aveley, Brabham, Ellenbrook and Henley Brook, 4 growing suburbs, are located within the one ward.
- Aveley is divided at Millhouse Road.
- Ward shapes are irregular.

6. IMPACT OF CHANGES

After undertaking community consultation, the Council will make a proposal to the Advisory Board. The effect of proposed changes on existing Councillors will depend on the precise proposal put forward.

When offices of Councillor are to be redistributed into new wards, the implementation method must give consideration to Schedule 4.2 of the Act.

In summary, this provides that as near as is practical, half of the total number of Councillors are to retire every 2 years and as near as practical to half of the Councillors representing each ward, are to retire every 2 years. It will also be necessary to include a recommendation to allocate the existing Councillors to wards, which must also be done in accordance with the provisions and intent of the Act.

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7. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Thank you for your interest in the City's review of its wards and representation. We welcome your submission.

Submissions can be:

- Entered via the City's website ([survey link](#))
- Emailed to swan@swan.wa.gov.au
- Posted to City of Swan, PO Box 196, Midland WA 6936, or
- Hand delivered to City of Swan Administration Centre, 2 Midland Square, Midland

Submissions should contain the reference 'Wards and Representation Review' and include your name and address.

For enquiries regarding the review please contact the City on (08) 9267 9267.

Submissions close 5pm Wednesday, December 21, 2022.

Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice

Total Fire Ban and Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban

A Total Fire Ban has been declared for the entire day of Tuesday, January 10, 2023. A Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban has also been declared, and will be in effect between 7am and 4pm on Tuesday.

[More about the fire bans](#)

(<https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire/total-fire-ban>)

Home (<https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/Home>) / Your Community (<https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/Your-Community>) / Have your say (<https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/Your-Community/Have-your-say>) / Community consultations (<https://www.swan.wa.gov.au/Your-Community/Have-your-say/Community-consultations>) / City of Swan Wards and Representation Review

City of Swan Wards and Representation Review

Submissions closed on 21 December 2022, 05:00 PM

In 2023, the Mayor will be required to be elected by the public. This change will require the number of Councillors to be reduced from 15 to 14, not including the mayor. To make sure this change is fair, the City is required to review its ward boundaries and how many Councillors represent each ward.



The State Government is undertaking reforms to the Local Government Act and a number of local governments, including the City, will be required to have a popularly elected Mayor. The Minister for Local Government wrote to the City in September, requesting the Council make this change and undertake a Wards and Representation Review to implement the changes before the election in 2023.

Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice

The discussion paper outlining the options is [available to download](#) (PDF, 1MB) ([/files/assets/public/document-resources/documents-amp-publications/forms-amp-documents/guidelines-amp-information-sheets/council/wards-and-representation-discussion-paper-2022_1.pdf](/files/assets/public/document-resources/documents-amp-publications/forms-amp-documents/guidelines-amp-information-sheets/council/wards-and-representation-discussion-paper-2022_1.pdf)). Please ensure you have read it before you make a submission.

You can have your say by clicking the link to complete the survey below, or email your submission to swan@swan.wa.gov.au (<mailto:swan@swan.wa.gov.au?subject=Ward%20and%20representation%20review%20submission>).

Submissions closed on December 21, 2022.

Contact details

Meghan Dwyer

[92679120](tel:92679120) (tel:92679120)

swan@swan.wa.gov.au (mailto:swan@swan.wa.gov.au)

Related Information

[Wards-and-Representation-Discussion-Paper-2022_1.pdf](#) (PDF, 1MB)

([/files/assets/public/document-resources/documents-amp-publications/forms-amp-documents/guidelines-amp-information-sheets/council/wards-and-representation-discussion-paper-2022_1.pdf](/files/assets/public/document-resources/documents-amp-publications/forms-amp-documents/guidelines-amp-information-sheets/council/wards-and-representation-discussion-paper-2022_1.pdf))

Why are there more councillors in some wards than others?

Each Councillor should represent the same amount electors. The number of Councillors in each ward depends on the number of electors in that ward. Smaller numbers of electors in a ward will have lesser number of councillors than larger number of electors in a ward.

Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice

How will this review impact the Altone extraordinary election in December?

The Altone extraordinary election will still be held. The changes to wards and representation will not come into place until October 2023.

What are the six options that are being considered?

Six options are presented in the discussion paper. These options are:

- Option 1 - No wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor
- Option 2 to 4 - Variations of five wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor
- Option 5 and 6 - Variations of four wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

What if I have a different idea to one of the options?

There are many variations and members of the community may have other options that fit the assessment factors. Please provide your ideas to us.

Who decides which Councillor will lose their seat if that option progresses?

The effect of proposed changes will depend on the proposal that the Council decide to put forward to the Local Government Advisory Board. Council will recommend to the Local Government Advisory Board how they would like the change to be made. There are rules in the Local Government Act that must be considered when proposing the change.

We will be trying to ensure all Councillors whose terms do not end until 2025 continue to be a Councillor. This means that a position that would have been vacant in 2023 will be the position that is abolished.

Have your say on the City of Swan's wards and representation

In 2023, the City of Swan Mayor will be required to be elected by the public. This change will require the number of Councillors to be reduced from 15 to 14, not including the mayor.

To make sure this change is fair, the City is required to review its ward boundaries and how many Councillors represent each ward.

A discussion paper outlining the ward and representation options is now available, and we invite you to provide your feedback.



Submissions close 5pm, Wednesday,
December 21, 2022.

Go to
www.swan.wa.gov.au/wardreview

Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice

Facebook



Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice

 **City of Swan**
7 December 2022 at 16:55 · 🌐

FROM THE CHAMBER 🗣️ | The City of Swan will soon have a Mayor elected by you - our community!

We'll also be reducing our Councillors from 15 down to 14, and to make sure this change is fair, we're reviewing our ward boundaries and how many Councillors represent each ward.

You can let us know what you think by visiting swan.wa.gov.au/have-your-say



consultation



Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice



City of Swan

14 December 2022 at 07:30 · 🌐

CONSULTATION CLOSING SOON 🗨️ | Help shape change by providing your feedback on our Ward boundaries and Councillor representation review by December 21.

We are holding this review to inform changes ahead of the 2023 election.

We want to ensure this change is fair so we have prepared six options and want your opinion on the best step forward. ... [See more](#)



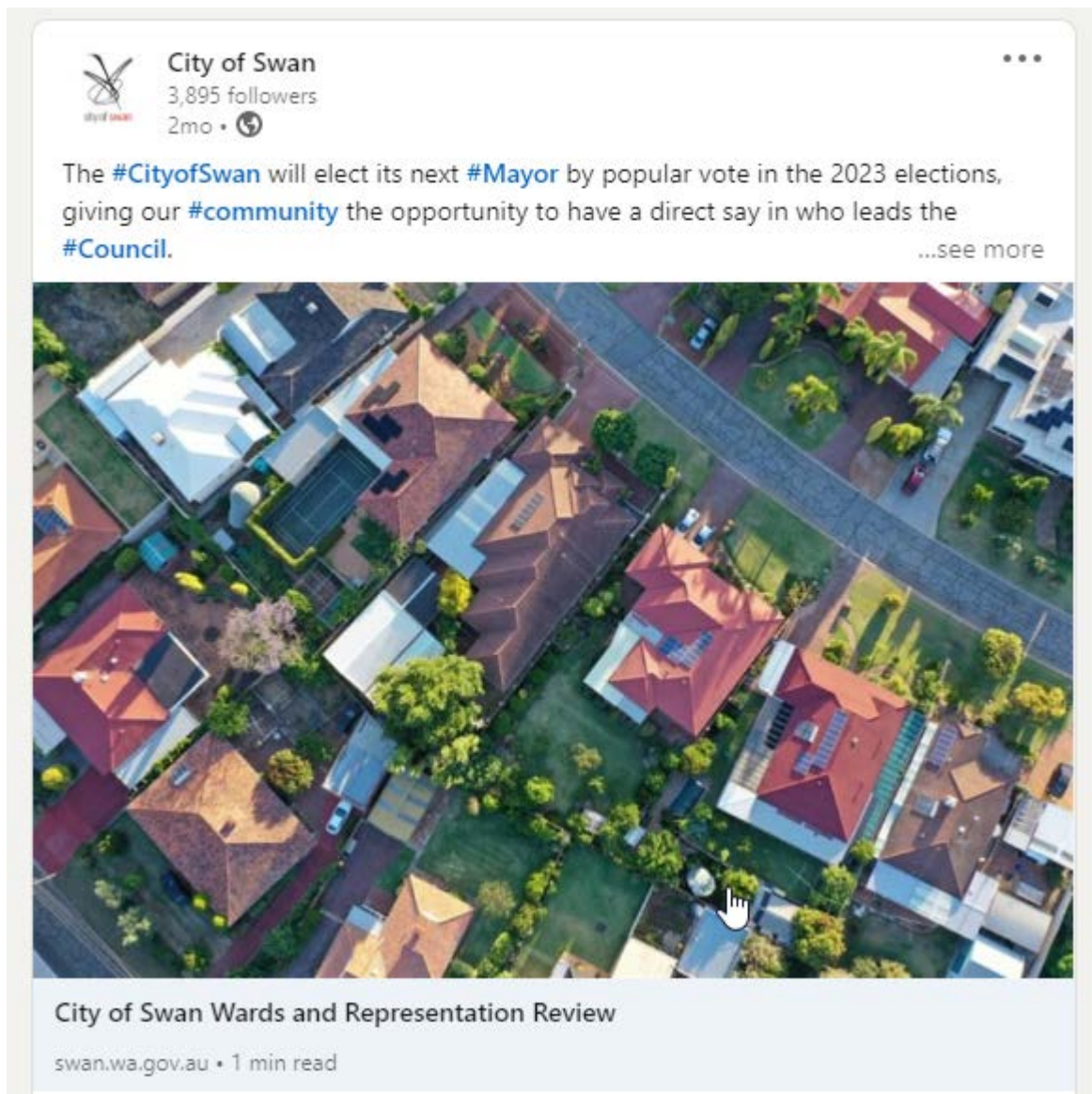
SWAN.WA.GOV.AU

City of Swan Wards and Representation Review

In 2023, the Mayor will be required to be elected by the public. Thi...

Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice

LinkedIn



The Echo

www.echonewspaper.com.au November 11, 2022 9



Sandeep, Upkeerat and Kirandeep Kaur and Ekamveer Singh (left front) of the Punjabi community and Kingston Nepia, Tonisha Hogan-Allen and Raukura Tukiwaho of the Maori and Cook Islander community.

Splash of culture in Ellenbrook

CLAIRE OTTAVIANO

A SUCCESSFUL first multicultural festival in Ellenbrook has given rise to a bigger and more culturally diverse event this year.

The inaugural 2021 Ellenbrook Multicultural Festival saw thousands of people from all different backgrounds come together to break down barriers between different communities

and cultures.

Group co-chair and Ellenbrook local Prabhjot Singh said this year's event was designed to involve even more communities.

"Ellenbrook is home to many different cultures," he said.

"The recent census has revealed that 22 per cent of households in Ellenbrook and surrounds use a non-English language as their

primary language.

"It is important that those communities celebrate their cultures with others to bring love, respect, and harmony within the communities."

Since last year's event, the Ellenbrook Multicultural Community has become an incorporated organisation.

"Some wrote to us saying that they have

never witnessed so many cultures coming together and enjoyed the joyful and festive atmosphere," Mr Singh said.

"This was encouraging and motivating for our team to do better this year."

Cultural dancers and musicians will be performing at Charlotte's Vineyard Oval from 3pm to 8pm on November 19.

Car and bike show bonanza

MORGAN DE SMIDT



shop as car show preparations ramp up

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Have your say on the City of Swan's wards and representation

In 2023, the City of Swan Mayor will be required to be elected by the public. This change will require the number of Councillors to be reduced from 15 to 14, not including the mayor.

To make sure this change is fair, the City is required to review its ward boundaries and how many Councillors represent each ward.

A discussion paper outlining the ward and representation options is now available, and we invite you to provide your feedback.



Submissions close 5pm, Wednesday, December 21, 2022.

Go to

www.swan.wa.gov.au/wardreview

www.swan.wa.gov.au



/cityofswan



/cityofswanwa



Do you

Appendix D: Evidence of local public notice

From: [Meghan Dwyer](#)
Bcc: [bellevue.assoc@gmail.com](#); [secretary.brira@gmail.com](#); [gpa@gidgegannup.info](#); [ga@guildford.asn.au](#); [mathew.merson@janebrookcommunity.com.au](#); [swanvalleyrra@gmail.com](#); [annw@mibs.com.au](#); [community.swanview@gmail.com](#); [chair.southguildford@gmail.com](#); [president@strattoncommunity.org.au](#); [wescoast@optusnet.com.au](#); [bennettspringsra@gmail.com](#); [edrrassoc@gmail.com](#); [wra6056@iinet.net.au](#); [ceo@chamberofcommerceandcommunity.com](#); [info@swanchamber.com.au](#); [cavershamrr@gmail.com](#); [thevinesresidentsassoc@gmail.com](#)
Subject: City of Swan Wards and Representation Review - Public Submissions
Date: Monday, 7 November 2022 4:30:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Wards and Representation Discussion Paper 2022.pdf](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good afternoon

Due to proposed reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995*, the City of Swan Mayor will be required to be elected by the public in 2023. This change will require the number of Councillors to be reduced from 15 to 14, not including the Mayor.

To implement these changes, the City is conducting a review of its wards and representation and inviting the community to provide comments. A discussion paper outlining the current situation, the review process and options for wards and representation has been prepared. A copy of the discussion paper is attached and is also available on our website www.swan.wa.gov.au/wardreview.

If you would like to discuss the review further or have any enquiries, please contact me directly.

Submissions on the review **close at 5pm on Wednesday, December 21, 2022**. We look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Meghan Dwyer  Senior Governance Officer
Governance



PO Box 196
MIDLAND DC WA 6936
t 08 9267 9120
www.swan.wa.gov.au

Appendix E: Summary of Submissions

Wards and Representation Review - Summary of Submissions

No.	Submission Type	Suburb	Option ranking	Why did you rank the option you did as your highest choice?	What do you see as the biggest problem with the other options?	If you have another idea, what is it?
1	Survey response	Ballajura	<i>Five wards (completed incorrect survey so other other option not ranked)</i>	It is better to have a ward with dedicated representative councilors than having no wards, as this will lead to some areas being better developed than others. Having too many wards also cause issues, as nothing will bet through.	Councilors need to live in their wards. Having no wards means all the councilors can come from a particular area and they only look after themselves.	All candidates must declare their qualifications for election, and those with criminal background must not be eligible. Candidates running for election must live in their own wards, not from another ward. Candidates must declare all their interests, what properties they hold, and also their acquaintances also running for councilor election at the same time.
2	Survey response	Ballajura	<i>Five wards (completed incorrect survey so other other option not ranked)</i>	Councilors represent their wards. Having no wards means councilors are not representative.	Having no wards or too few wards might result in 'cartels' being formed with their mates to dictate matters at council meetings once elected.	All candidates for election must declare their qualifications, and those with criminal background must be eliminated from election to get rid of possible crooks.□ Candidates running for election must live in their own wards, and look after the interest of their ward.□ Candidates must declare all their interests, properties they hold in the City of Swan, and also their acquaintances running for councilor election at the same time.
3	Survey response	The Vines	3, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6	small change to the existing wards that work fairly well□ four wards are getting big - but option 5 is by far best of these options	reducing representation from Ellenbrook does not make sense	no
4	Survey response	Henley Brook	3, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6	Option 3 is closest to what it is now Option 5 provides a good option and even numbers of councillors per ward The councillors in ballajura have no idea what is happening in my srea	Dont like them	<i>skipped question</i>
5	Survey response	Midland	2, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6	Councillors may focus on the council as a whole instead of their area ie Ellenbrook gardens look great Modlamds looks crap	Councillor focus	Cut number of councillors to 6 not 14
6	Survey response	Middle Swan	2, 4, 3, 5	We have a vast array of ratepayers - residential, rural, businesses that are a majority in certain suburbs it needs to be kept proportionate	not exactly sure at this stage, but our representatives must be willing to represent us on council separate to their own agenda	The Swan Valley has its unique zoning so that should be kept as a separate matter for all things planning/building.
7	Survey response	Dayton	5, 1, 3, 2, 4, 6	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
8	Survey response	Henley Brook	2, 4, 3, 6, 5, 1	Just for balance.	Already feel our area is 'overlooked'.	<i>skipped question</i>
9	Survey response	Herne Hill	<i>skipped question</i>	Swan valley/Gigegannup ward should remain as this is the only fully rural ward	<i>skipped question</i>	as above
10	Survey response	Beechboro	3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 1	I think that grouping the areas together like this you would be putting people together who have something in common ie East would have Midland which is heavy retail,train,hospital etc. North might still have rural areas that have different needs.	I don't like the idea of no wards as it lumps everyone together as one size fits all.	nothing specific at this time
11	Survey response	Midland	1, 5, 6, 2, 3, 4	If Councillors are making decisions about the whole of the City, no matter where they live within the City, then every elector should have the ability to vote for any candidate running for Council within the City. It would be cheaper to run elections too.	The other options do not provide every voter the right to vote for whomever they want. This is despite every Councillor being able to make decisions at Council for residents that didn't have the opportunity to vote for them, one way or another.	<i>skipped question</i>
12	Survey response	Woodbridge	1	I recently dealt with Councillors for a planning application and was appalled by the division in Council. As I had contacted another ward councilor for support, my local ward councillors noses were clearly out of joint! This led to them not voting in support of the application, even though they had commented on what a good development it was. Childish behaviour!	Councillors from particular areas representing other wards but still clearly having a vested interest in their own patch.	<i>skipped question</i>
13	Survey response	South Guildford	1, 5, 2, 6, 3, 4	Councilors should represent the best interests of all residents and ratepayers, and look to the best outcomes of the whole City rather than a select or secular group of the City.	They are all a mismatch of different interest groups that miss achieving the outcome for the greater good.	Merge the EMRC member councils into one local government area.
14	Survey response	Margaret Street	2, 6, 1, 3, 4, 5	The current wards work well the uniqueness of individual wards within the city and the councilors elected to them (should) have experiences which best suit the ideals of those within. E.g. a constituent from Bullsbrook would have far differing needs to that of a Guildford local, other than road and footpath maintenance.	The potential to have the City divided into what could best be described as an European colonial map, taking into no account other geography.	I'm not a man with a plan.
15	Survey response	Morgan Fields	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	basically the same as what it is	trying to reduce the size of the ellenbrook ward	ellenbrook aveley, urban parts of henely brook, and the Vines should all be together as one ward as everyone from these areas all do things together in ellebrook
16	Survey response	Bushmead	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	as i dont see the reaseon to get rid of the wards, and cut one councillor position.	You need to have at least 5 wards otherwise its to sparse	<i>skipped question</i>
17	Survey response	The Vines	6, 2, 3, 4, 5, 1	More representation for my ward would be a good thing to get better outcomes	No wards could mean no local representation and less wards still leaves my ward with limited representation	Maybe The Vines, Ellenbrook and Aveley should all be in the same ward as they all access the same servers in Ellenbrook
18	Survey response	Bullsbrook	2, 6, 3, 4, 1, 5	Because I think it is best	Population directions	Leave wards as they are but reduce Midland/gidgegannup area ... why do we need a Gidgegannup Cr representation... the north is where the population will be...the existing Pearce Ward and Brabham...once the train line goes in more will migrate there.
19	Survey response	Bennett Springs	3, 5, 4, 2, 6, 1	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
20	Survey response	Bellevue	1, 5, 6, 4, 2, 3	I believe having all councillors representing the whole city will remove some of the factionism that is currently occuring.	Councillors become too worried about representing "their patch" to the detriment of whole of city impacts	Reduce the number of councillors dramatically to ensure there are no "seat fillers" and to expedite decision making.
21	Survey response	Brabham	1, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2	Easier for residents to understand and will go some way to solve some ward residents, feeling their ward get less attention than others where development happens.	5 wards is far too many wards.	<i>skipped question</i>

Appendix E: Summary of Submissions

Wards and Representation Review - Summary of Submissions

No.	Submission Type	Suburb	Option ranking	Why did you rank the option you did as your highest choice?	What do you see as the biggest problem with the other options?	If you have another idea, what is it?
22	Survey response	Lockridge	1, 5, 6, 2, 3, 4	Wards break away too much for the greater good, less is achieved because everyone fighting for there own patch, not greater good.	Councillor only care about votes, and there wards. To much wasted spend with councilors having teams.	All councillors are voted in from across the city and agree to represent all areas
23	Survey response	Aveley	1, 3, 2, 6, 5, 4	I believe there would be less politics/in-house arguments amongst council if there were no wards	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
24	Survey response	South Guildford	6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1	I think it is the best	Underrepresentation and councillors spread too thin	Go back to mayor elected from copuncillors
25	Survey response	Johnson Street	2, 6, 3, 4, 5, 1	Smaller wards	Too big area for more local candidates and cost for them to run	<i>skipped question</i>
26	Survey response	Gidgegannup	6, 5, 3, 2, 4, 1	I like to know who my councillor is for my area.	<i>skipped question</i>	You missed a Ward option. Hills/Rural. You can handle all the goings on in the urban part but the urban and hills a very different. Ellenbrook, Jane Brook, Midland are same same.
27	Survey response	Koongamia	2, 3, 4, 6, 5, 1	It gives more opportunity for local issues to be raised at council.	With option 6, you will end up with a council full of people elected because they have the money to run a full campaign for vested interests. This option would only work if each candidate was given a set, fixed amount they could spend, with no outside advertising or campaigning allowed. The council would become a rubber stamp for vested interests.	I think you should investigate why Robinson Road was closed, and make sure it is opened up again.
28	Survey response	Guildford	6, 3, 2, 4, 1, 5	It is as close as possible to the current ward representation for the older parts of the City of Swan. It includes Caversham who would probably have more affinity with suburbs in the South Ward rather than the West Ward.	Option one could only lead to candidates with financial backing and ulterior motives being able to run in an election. It would most likely lead to Council being split along political lines as they are in Sydney.	<i>skipped question</i>
29	Survey response	South Guildford	2, 4, 5, 6, 1	It's what I prefer.	All options are open to be used incorrectly, at least this way it might take longer.	Keep your wards as is, but the Mayor who is elected by the people, has the final say, not the CEO.
30	Survey response	Ellenbrook	6, 3, 2, 5, 4, 1	The North West ward is all newer growing suburbs (similar issues) and has room for population growth. The SVPA Is within one ward. Rural areas and older residential suburbs are largely grouped together.	I do not like the idea to have no wards as I believe it would lead to areas being under-represented or local issues not being understood. Voting rates in local council elections are already low and by having to vote for numerous councillors for the whole city, I feel people would be more deterred from voting.	<i>skipped question</i>
31	Survey response	Beechboro	3, 4, 2, 1, 6, 5	I think it's the option that made the most sense regarding suburbs	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
32	Survey response	Brabham	4, 5, 6, 2, 3, 1	Similar to current system Brabham Dayton Henley Brook Bennett springs, all newer suburbs together	Connecting areas that arent relevant to eachother together.	<i>skipped question</i>
33	Survey response	Stratton	6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1	An even number between each ward	The concillors are too spread out	<i>skipped question</i>
34	Survey response	Aveley	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	It is what the current places are at the ☐ Moment	Too much change	Swap bullsbrook and the vines around. do not do a complete spill
35	Survey response	Ballajura	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	Coz its the best	Too much change	I don't want to see a complete spill
36	Survey response	Brabham	3, 5, 1, 6, 4, 2	Close to what we have now	Too much change	Don't want to see a complete spill
37	Survey response	Brabham	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	Not much change for what we have.	Too much change	Please dont do a complete spill
38	Survey response	Ellenbrook	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	Seemed the best option , very close to what we have, but moving Bullsbrook to a more like grouping	The no wards is a no go , you need people who LIVE in your area representing you. I could imagine that you would have some councillors run off their feet and others doing not much at all, as some not as active ,Although since this reform has been announced I have never seen so many updates on social media from our councillors !	Please make it a requirement to actually live in the ward you represent. We have four councillors in Pearce and two live in other wards. Not comfortable with this at all
39	Survey response	Millendon	2, 4, 3, 5, 6, 1	Swan Valley resides within one ward	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
40	Survey response	Woodbridge	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	It maintains the same amount of wards as we currently have and seems to strike the right balance overall.	Option 1, No Wards, would be the worst possible outcome for a democratic process. Reduced number of Wards makes representation more difficult and plays into the hands of the major political parties and their financial backers.	N/A
41	Survey response	Midland	6, 2, 4, 5	There was no other options to reduce Councillors . We do not need 14 I would think 7 is enough	Again number of people in each ward	Reduce Councillors numbers to 7 Ang get the council back to listening to the rate payers
42	Survey response	Upper Swan	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	I want a local councillor that knows the local ward.	Too much unnecessary change. The state government and The Minister have not considered the long term issues nor the unnnecessary expense occurred to carry out this Labour Party plan.	Leave it as it was
43	Survey response	Brigadoon	3, 1, 6, 2, 4, 5	I think it's extremely important that the rural areas have representation. Due to the development of the Bullsbrook townsite, I think Bullsbrook should be connected to the Ellenbrook/Aveley area. Rural areas have different concerns, needs and issues - this needs to be represented on Council.	The rural areas will be overshadowed by the urban residential areas.	With the proposed growth of both Ellenbrook and Bullsbrook, could the rural area of Bullsbrook be incorporated into the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup ward.
44	Survey response	Herne Hill	2, 4, 3, 5, 6, 1	This option has the best outcome to secure the Swan Valley/Gidg. ward in its original area and focus on rural lifestyle and viticulture/agriculture/equine et al	They all diminish, whether entirely or in part, the Swan Valley ward especially leaving out some important parts of previous suburbs eg Caversham. Option 1 would be the worst scenario.	At present the very large area of Swan Valley/Gidg will take in the Bullsbrook ward as well. This is a very large area with only 2 councillors. Understanding the population is the least of the proposed wards it is important that all the areas under the SVPA will be in the one ward. It is anticipated that the council will be more receptive to the work of the 2 councillors, their views not over ruled by the suburban "elite". More on the ground compliance officers should be focused on changes in the SV ward as development in the metro area will focus on expansion to the north through the Valley towards Bullsbrook.
45	Survey response	Upper Swan	2, 4, 5, 3, 6, 1	Closest to existing wards	Need councillors to be cognizant of the issues within their own ward.	<i>skipped question</i>
46	Survey response	Millendon	2, 4, 3, 5	Because it separates the Swan Valley as an important ward	The Swan Valley being merged into other areas that are not covered by the Swan Valley Planning Act	No

Appendix E: Summary of Submissions

Wards and Representation Review - Summary of Submissions

No.	Submission Type	Suburb	Option ranking	Why did you rank the option you did as your highest choice?	What do you see as the biggest problem with the other options?	If you have another idea, what is it?
47	Survey response	Upper Swan	6, 1, 3, 5, 4, 2	Increase the councillors in my area because the ones we have do not seem to be coping with the local issues.	Option 2 and 4 increases the amount of electors for our area so decreases representation.	<i>skipped question</i>
48	Survey response	Upper Swan	3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 1	I want a representative who knows what the area is like and lives in it	Having no councillors actually representing the rate payers in council means that any lobbying will need to be done to all 14.	<i>skipped question</i>
49	Survey response	Middle Swan	2, 4, 5, 3, 6, 1	Because Middle Swan residential area was grouped with out residential areas instead of being part of the Swan Valley	Option one and six local issues would just get lost / not represented due to the spread of councillors.	<i>skipped question</i>
50	Survey response	Midland	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	It is the fairest distribution of suburbs, population, and councillors across all the wards	Less balance and greater focus on certain areas than others.	<i>skipped question</i>
51	Survey response	Guildford	3, 4, 5, 6, 1, 2	Personal reasons	Personal reasons	<i>skipped question</i>
52	Survey response	Brigadoon	3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 1	Seems a wider spread	Less focus on specific areas	<i>skipped question</i>
53	Survey response	Woodbridge	1, 6, 5, 2, 3, 4	I think having wards leads to some wards having little to no choice of candidates and some have lots of choice. This can lead to less than desirable outcomes rather than a choice of people from all over the City. □	If there are wards, the wards should not cross over local area planning boundaries. □ Removing wards removes the horse trading in council decisions and ensures that councillors make decisions based on the whole of the City of Swan community. □ Reduces the likely hood of people becoming councilors on a single issue.	Less councilors.
54	Survey response	Millendon	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	Because high rates so FU	High Rates and little to no services.□ Poor Road maintenance, non existent road maintenance□ Lack of care by the shire on fire hazards	respond to ratepayer requests for maintenance of shire land / verges
55	Survey response	Lockridge	2, 3, 5, 6, 1, 4	thats my opinion	did not agree with them	????
56	Survey response	Bullsbrook	5, 3, 6, 4, 1, 2	Shake it up	I think the reform from the hon carey has finally shaking this up.	Term length of service then they get moved on for good
57	Survey response	Bullsbrook	4, 2, 3, 5, 6, 1	I want North or West to have their own councillor who will listen to local concerns.	Councillors voted by the majority living in the suburbs with no interest in the country areas	Sack the time wasting idiots who are only interested in their own agendas. They need to remember they are supposed to be working for the electorate.
58	Survey response	Bullsbrook	3, 4, 5, 6, 1, 2	Because Bullsbrook is the Northern part of the City of Swan	I don't agree with no wards.□ It is important for Councillors to have a good understanding of the area they represent	Councillors should have a definite interest in their area of representation. Not other agendas.
59	Survey response	Brigadoon	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	It should be 5 wards to account for geography and disparity of the location and populous	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
60	Written correspondence	Guildford	<i>not ranked by options but 5 wards (Option 2 preferred), 4 wards, no wards</i>	Summarised 5 wards: Better options. Option 2 provides minimal boundary changes.	Summarised No wards: Should not be the preferred option. Not be possible for each Councillor to be across all matters. Would be huge and overwhelming. Each district area, aggregated into wards has different factors that require Councillors attention and consideration. Any change should improvide the existing and allow for changes over time eg development of new suburbs. Four wards: Better than no wards but councillors will still be overwhelmed.	
61	Written correspondence <i>Gidgegannup Progress Association</i>		3	Summarised To have a smaller number of wards would impose too much of a burden on Councillors representing those wards. This Option closely reflects the existing Swan Valley/Gidgegannup ward in size and content. We will retain an affinity with our Councillors. This allow for growth in Aveley, Bullsbrook and Ellenbrook where the population growth is growing most rapidly. There is a community of interest which has already been demonstrated. The ratepayer groups in This area are already in contact and working together. The Swan Valley and Gidgegannup share many physical and topographic features with the Avon/Swan rivers flowing through both and connection along the Toodyay Road. There are rural areas throughout This proposed ward and We are already looking To share tourism objectives and development. The Swan Valley/Gidgegannup ward has worked well and This is the closest We have To retaining This mix.		

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

7.1 WARDS AND REPRESENTATION REVIEW

Ward: (All Wards) (Governance)

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Authorised Officer: (Chief Executive Officer)

KEY ISSUES

- In response to a letter from the Minister for Local Government (the Minister), Council resolved to change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district and conduct a wards and representation review to reduce the number of councillors from 15 to 14.
- A Discussion Paper was prepared and the public consultation was conducted as part of the Wards and Representation Review.
- Option 2 and Option 3 from the Discussion Paper were the two preferred options from the community consultation.
- Council are required to consider all submissions received, the assessment of factors (Assessment Factors) and advantages and disadvantage of options and make a proposal for a wards and representation structure for the local government.
- A New Option, which is a combination of Option 2 and Option 3, has been prepared for Council's consideration.
- A proposal is required to be submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board (Advisory Board) by 14 February 2023

It is recommended that the Council resolve to amend its ward boundaries and reduce the number of councillors in the Whiteman Ward from 3 to 2.

BACKGROUND

In July 2022 the State Government announced the final package of reforms to the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act). This included:

- Directly elected Mayors and Presidents for band 1 and 2 local governments; and
- Councillor numbers based on population.

In September 2022 the Minister wrote to the City of Swan (the City) and advised that a change to a directly elected Mayor and consequently a reduction to the size of the Council by one elected member to account for the Mayor being directly elected, was required. Two options were presented, a Voluntary Pathway or a Reform Election Pathway.

In response, the Council elected to take the Voluntary Pathway and resolved at the 5 October 2022 (Item 7.4 Local Government Reform – Election Transition Arrangements refers) Ordinary Council Meeting to:

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

- Change the method of electing the Mayor to a vote by the electors of the district;
- Reduce the number of councillors from 15 to 14; and
- Undertake a wards and representation review.

A Discussion Paper was prepared to assist the community in understanding the wards and representation review process. This was endorsed by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 2 November 2022 (Item 7.1 Ward and Representation Review Discussion Paper refers).

The Discussion Paper was advertised for public submissions from 7 November 2022 to 21 December 2022.

DETAILS

When considering changes to a local government's wards and representation, the Council as part of the review process, must have regard to the following Assessment Factors:

- Community of Interest;
- Physical and Topographical Features;
- Demographic Trends;
- Economic Factors; and
- Ratio of Elected Members to Electors.

The Discussion Paper included a general discussion of the Assessment Factors as they apply to the City.

Six options for a wards and representation structure were provided to generate discussion. There was no preferred option and other options were able to be considered. The options were based on the following general principles:

1. A reduction to 14 Councillors only;
2. The ratio of elected member to electors to fall within a deviation of +/- 10%. Of all the Assessment Factors established by the Advisory Board, the councillor/elector ratio factor is the most relevant factor;
3. Where possible, keep whole suburbs together; and
4. No option will be 'perfect'.

Council is also required to consider all submissions received. A summary of the submissions received is provided below with a schedule of submissions attached.

As a result of the Assessment Factors and public consultation a number of options are presented below for Council to consider. A recommended proposal to submit to the Advisory Board is identified.

When considering its proposal to the Advisory Board, Council is required to consider how to implement changes. A reduction to the number of councillors can be implemented by reducing the number of vacancies at the next ordinary election. A 'spill' of positions is not recommended as councillors with terms continuing beyond the next ordinary election have a right to complete their terms in office.

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

In determining the implementation of the reduction of councillors, regard to Schedule 4.2 of the Act is required. This prescribes:

- Half the total number of councillors to retire every two years.
- Half the number of councillors representing each ward to retire every two years.
- To determine the order of retirement the returning officer may fix a term of less than two years.
- To determine the order of retirement the councillor who received the highest percentage of votes cast is to retire last.

A recommendation for the implementation of each proposal is provided for Council in the discussion of each option.

The Ward and Representation Review is to be completed and submitted to the Advisory Board by 14 February 2023. No extension to the date is possible.

The Minister advised in his letter of September 2022, that the proposed Amendment Act will contain provisions for the Reform Election Pathway if the Council does not complete the Ward and Representation Review by the required date.

This would provide that:

“... all council officers can be declared vacant, and all wards can be abolished. Elections would then be held to fill all council officers, with a split between two and four year terms as might be necessary to re-establish an ordinary election cycle.

The newly-elected council would then be able to consider whether to establish new wards, through a future Ward and Representation Review.”

Public Consultation

The City received a total of 61 submissions, 59 survey responses and 2 by written correspondence.

Submissions were received from residents and ratepayers across the City. There was no one suburb where a large number of submissions originated from. The most submissions were received from Midland/Guildford Ward (34%) and Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (26%).

Only one of the total number of submissions received was from a resident and ratepayer group, being the Gidgegannup Progress Association.

The following table shows the ward options as ranked by preference

Option	First pref.	Second pref.	Third pref.	Fourth pref.	Fifth pref.	Sixth pref.
Option 1: No wards	8	4	8	1	7	25
Option 2: Five wards	22	6	5	10	7	6
Option 3: Five wards	16	13	13	5	6	1
Option 4: Five wards	2	11	15	8	9	10

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

Option 5: Four wards	2	16	8	18	6	5
Option 6: Four wards	8	5	6	13	17	4
Total number of responses	58	55	55	55	52	51

Note: 1 survey response skipped this question. 2 were ranked where options were listed incorrectly when the survey was first published and not resubmitted and therefore have been excluded from the data. Not all responses listed all preferences.

The majority of responses (87%) indicated a preference for the retention of wards within the City. Comments in support of retaining wards included:

"It is better to have a ward with dedicated representative councillors than having no wards"

"I want a local councillor that knows the local ward"

"...retain an affinity with our Councillors"

"I do not like the idea to have no wards as I believe it would lead to areas being under-represented or local issues not being understood"

The 5 ward options were preferred over the 4 ward options. Comments in support of 5 wards were:

"It maintains the same amount of wards as we currently have and seems to strike the right balance overall"

"It is the fairest distribution of suburbs, population, and councillors across all the wards"

"... closest to what it is now"

The most preferred 5 ward option was Option 2. Option 3 closely followed Option 2.

In regard to those suburbs most affected by proposed changes:

1. There was a strong preference to retain all the suburbs of the Swan Valley Planning Act Area (SVPAA) within the one ward.
2. No strong support or opposition was indicated for the following proposals:
 - Transferring Bullsbrook from Pearce Ward to the Swan Valley Gidgegannup Ward (Option 2).
 - Separating Bennett Springs into two parts or separating Bennett Springs and/or Beechboro from Kiara and Lockridge (Option 2).
 - Separating Middle Swan into two parts, at the SVPAA boundary (Option 2).
 - Transferring Jane Brook from Midland/Guildford Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (Option 3).
 - Including Caversham in the Midland/Guildford Ward (Option 3), apart from comments relating to the SVPAA.

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

Option for a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board

The discussion of options to propose to the Advisory Board are based on Option 2 and Option 3 of the Discussion Paper.

Option 2 (Discussion Paper)

The key benefits of this option are:

- It was the most preferred option from the public submissions.
- The whole of the SVPAA is within the one ward.
- The separation of Middle Swan at the SVPAA boundary/Roe Highway reflects the two distinct communities of interests within the suburb. The boundary follows a clear physical feature i.e. Roe Highway.
- There is an even allocation of Councillors per ward.

However there are some shortcomings, including to following key matters:

- Division of Beechboro (at Altone Road).
- Separating Bennett Springs and part of Beechboro from Kiara and Lockridge. These suburbs share similar characteristics in terms of community of interest and demographic trends.
- The current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward is a geographically large ward which will become even larger with the addition of Bullsbrook.
- The % ratio deviation of -7.56% in the ward referred to as North West may not provide for the predicted growth in Ellenbrook and Aveley, resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review before the 8 year period.

In regard to the implementation of this option:

- Council will need to consider the names of wards as all the current ward names would not relate to the new ward boundaries, specifically those wards currently known as Altone, Pearce and Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Wards.
- The number of councillors for the ward previously known as Pearce Ward would be reduced from 4 to 3. This can be achieved by abolishing one of the two offices of council which will be vacant at the 2023 local government elections. This will result in half, or as near as practicable, the total number of councillors in the City and in wards retiring every two years.

Option 3 (Discussion Paper)

The key benefits of this option are:

- It was the second most preferred option from the public submissions.
- All suburbs, except for Henley Brook which is divided along the SVPAA boundary, are contained wholly within one ward.
- The % ratio deviation for each ward is likely to remain with the permitted +/-10% range in short to medium term.

However there are some shortcomings, including to following key matters:

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

- Caversham experiences a complete change of wards. Caversham is currently divided between two wards, Altone and Swan Valley/Gidgegannup, and both parts are moved to the Midland/Guildford Ward. This also results in that part of Caversham in the SVPAA being separated from all other suburbs in that same area.
- Jane Brook is moved back into the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward. Jane Brook was moved to the Midland/Guildford Ward as a result of the 2012/2013 wards and representation review. It may be considered that Jane Brook has a stronger community of interest with Midland. It is also disconnected from the remainder of the Swan Valley by Toodyay Road.

To implement this option:

- All existing ward names can be retained as the wards remain broadly like those which currently exist and the naming remains reflective of the wards.
- The number of councillors in the Whiteman Ward would be reduced from 3 to 2. This can be achieved by abolishing one of the two offices of council which will be vacant at the 2023 local government elections. This will result in half the total number of councillors in the City retiring every two years and as near as practicable to half in wards retiring every two years.

New Option

A new option has been prepared for Council to consider. This option is a combination of Option 2 and Option 3 and attempts to address some of the shortcomings identified above and to respond to comments received during the public consultation period.

Please see the attached document New Option which illustrates and describes the change.

This option:

- Retains the whole of the SVPAA in the one ward. However, to achieve this, and maintain elector numbers to meet the % ratio deviation, the whole of Caversham is located in the ward.
- Beechboro is not required to be divided and the option retains Beechboro and Bennett Springs in the Altone Ward.
- Retains Jane Brook in Midland/Guildford Ward.
- Although Middle Swan is separated at Roe Highway this boundary is also the SVPAA boundary. The rural part of the suburb will be located within the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward and the residential area will be located within the Midland/Guildford Ward. This arrangement was in place prior to the 2016/2017 wards and representation review when the entire suburb of Middle Swan was included in the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward.
- Ellenbrook and Bullsbrook are retained in the same ward.
- The % ratio deviation for each ward is likely to remain within the permitted +/-10% range in short to medium term.
- Only three suburbs are affected by changes – Brabham, Caversham and Middle Swan. Although all of the suburb of Lexia will now be included in the Whiteman Ward, no electors will be affected.

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To implement this option:

- All existing ward names are to be retained as the wards remain broadly like those which currently exist and the naming remains reflective of the ward.
- The number of councillors in the Whiteman Ward would be reduced from 3 to 2. This can be achieved by abolishing one of the two offices of council which will be vacant at the 2023 local government elections. This will result in half the total number of councillors in the City retiring every two years and as near as practicable to half in wards retiring every two years.

Recommended proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board

The recommend proposal to the Advisory Board is the New Option. It is considered this option best reflects the review principles, Assessment Factors and community consultation.

Changing the number of office of councillor on council

The Council resolution of 5 October 2022 included the decision to reduce the number of councillors for the City from 15 to 14. This decision was communicated to the Minister but is also required to form part of the final proposal to the Advisory Board.

Changing the number of offices of councillor for a ward

The number of offices of council for the Whiteman Ward is to be 2. This is to be achieved by abolishing 1 of the positions vacant at the 2023 local government elections.

Changing the boundaries of a ward

The following changes to ward boundaries are required to implement this option:

- Transfer the suburb of Brabham from Whiteman Ward to Altone Ward.
- Transfer that part of the suburb of Caversham in the Altone Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward.
- Transfer part of the suburb of Middle Swan, that part not located within the SVPAA, from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to the Midland/Guildford Ward.
- Transfer that part of the suburb of Lexia from the Pearce Ward to the Whiteman Ward

CONSULTATION

The Act requires local governments to give local public notice of the review and invite submissions. The submission period is to be not less than 6 weeks.

The Discussion Paper was advertised for public submissions from 7 November 2022 to 21 December 2022.

Local public notice was given as follows:

- Published on the City's website;
- Notices placed in the Administration Centre and each City library;

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

- Social media posts (Facebook and LinkedIn);
- Published in The Echo; and
- Direct email notification to resident and ratepayers groups.

A briefing session was held with Councillors prior to the preparation of the discussion paper.

ATTACHMENTS

Option 2 and Option 3 (extracted from the Discussion Paper) and New Option

Schedule of Submissions

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Community Plan 2021-2031

G1 Outcome: G1 Aligned leadership and direction Objective G1.1 Provide accountable and transparent leadership G1.2 Engage, communicate and consult with our community stakeholders

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 1995

- section 2.2 – Districts may be divided into wards
- section 2.3 – Names of districts and wards
- section 2.18 – Fixing and changing number of councillor
- Schedule 2.2 – Provisions about names wards and representation
- Schedule 4.2 – Order of retirement from office of Council

Work on a Bill to amend to the Act is ongoing. It was not available at the time of this report was prepared.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost associated with a ward and representation review is approximately \$15,000. Costs include public consultation, the preparation of technical descriptions and the publication of Governor's Orders in the *Government Gazette*. Costs do not include staff resources.

Council approved the expenditure at the October 5, 2022 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute majority

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RECOMMENDATION

That the Council resolve to:

- 1) In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* propose to the Local Government Advisory Board the making of an order under sections 2.2, 2.3 and 2.18 of the *Local Government Act 1995* to implement a change to the wards and representation of the City of Swan as follows:
 1. Change the number of councillors for the council from 15 to 14.
 2. Change the number of councillors for the Whiteman Ward from 3 to 2 and implement the change by abolishing one of the positions vacant in the ward at the 2023 local government elections.
 3. Amend ward boundaries by:
 - a. Transferring the suburb of Brabham from Whiteman Ward to Altone Ward;
 - b. Transferring that part of the suburb of Caversham in the Altone Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward;
 - c. Transferring part of the suburb of Middle Swan, that part not located within the Swan Valley Planning Act Area, from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to the Midland/Guildford Ward; and
 - d. Transferring that part of the suburb of Lexia from the Pearce Ward to the Whiteman Ward.
- 2) Authorise the CEO to submit a report to the Local Government Advisory Board with the above proposal.

MOTION that the Council resolve to:

- 1) Adopt the Officer Recommendation subject to inserting at Part 1) 3.
 - e. Transfer that part of the suburb of Henley Brook located within the Whiteman Ward to the Pearce Ward.
- 2) Submit to the Advisory Board that the minor deviation from the +/- 10% ratio deviation should be accepted for the following reasons:
 - a. That part of Henley Brook is physically separated from the other developed areas in the remainder of the Whiteman Ward.
 - b. The existing residential development of Morgan Fields was part of the Ellenbrook development.
 - c. That part of Henley Brook has a stronger community of interest with Ellenbrook.
 - d. The remainder of wards are within the +/- 10% ratio deviation.
- 3) Record the reasons for changing the Officer Recommendation are as per Part 2) (above).

(Cr Congerton - Cr Catalano)

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AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION

Insert at Part 1) 3

- f. Transfer the area known as Orchid Park (area bounded by Marshall Road, Tonkin Highway, Reid Highway and Beechboro Road North), in the suburb of Bennett Springs, from the Altone Ward to the Whiteman Ward.

The reason for the amendment is the transfer of electors from the Altone Ward to Whiteman ward will result in all wards being within the +/- 10% ratio deviation

(Cr Bowman – Cr Johnson)

RESOLVED (11 / 4)

For: Crs Bowman, Catalano, Congerton, Henderson, Howlett, Jones, Johnson, Knight, Richardson, Singh and Zannino

Against: Crs Lucas, McCullough, Parry and Predovnik

AMENDMENT BECAME PART OF THE SUBSTANTIVE MOTION.

Note: Part 2) of the substantive motion to remain. Officers are to verify the data. If the data is correct, then Part 2) may be removed from the resolution. However, Part 2) would still form reasons for changing the officer recommendation.

RESOLVED (14 / 1) TO

- 1) In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* propose to the Local Government Advisory Board the making of an order under sections 2.2, 2.3 and 2.18 of the *Local Government Act 1995* to implement a change to the wards and representation of the City of Swan as follows:
 1. Change the number of councillors for the council from 15 to 14.
 2. Change the number of councillors for the Whiteman Ward from 3 to 2 and implement the change by abolishing one of the positions vacant in the ward at the 2023 local government elections.
 3. Amend ward boundaries by:
 - a. Transferring the suburb of Brabham from Whiteman Ward to Altone Ward;
 - b. Transferring that part of the suburb of Caversham in the Altone Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward;
 - c. Transferring part of the suburb of Middle Swan, that part not located within the Swan Valley Planning Act Area, from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to the Midland/Guildford Ward; and
 - d. Transferring that part of the suburb of Lexia from the Pearce Ward to the Whiteman Ward.

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

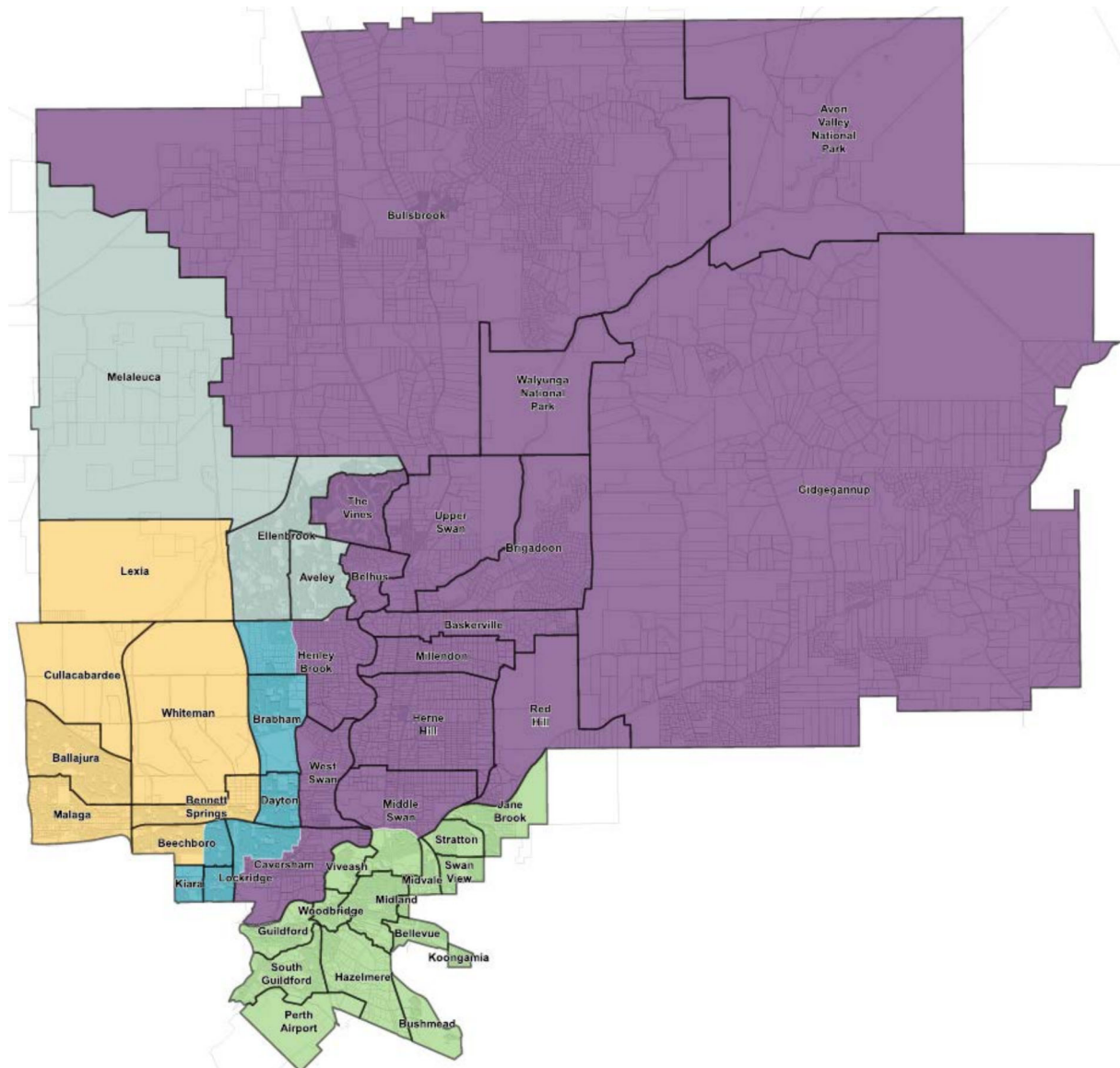
- e. Transferring that part of the suburb of Henley Brook located within the Whiteman Ward to the Pearce Ward.
 - f. Transferring the area known as Orchid Park (area bounded by Marshall Road, Tonkin Highway, Reid Highway and Beechboro Road North), in the suburb of Bennett Springs, from the Altone Ward to the Whitman Ward.
- 2) Authorise the CEO to submit a report to the Local Government Advisory Board with the above proposal.
- 3) Record the reasons for changing the Officer Recommendation as:
 - 1. That part of Henley Brook is physically separated from the other developed areas in the remainder of the Whiteman Ward.
 - 2. The existing residential development of Morgan Fields was part of the Ellenbrook development.
 - 3. That part of Henley Brook has a stronger community of interest with Ellenbrook.
 - 4. The transfer of electors from the Altone Ward to Whiteman ward will result in all wards being within the +/- 10% ratio deviation

For: Crs Bowman, Catalano, Congerton, Henderson, Howlett, Jones, Johnson, Knight Lucas, McCullough, Predovnik, Richardson, Singh and Zannino

Against: Cr Parry

5.2. Option 2 - Five wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

(based on existing wards but adjusted boundaries to ensure balanced Councillor/elector ratio between wards)



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
North West (teal)	3	23,485	7,828	-7.56
Central (blue)	3	19,673	6,558	+9.90
East (purple)	2	15,332	7,666	-5.33
South (green)	3	22,350	7,450	-2.36
West (yellow)	3	21,057	7,019	+3.56
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Changes to the current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Bullsbrook moved from the current Pearce Ward (referred to as the North West Ward) to the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup (referred to as the East Ward);
- (ii) Brabham and the residential part of Henley Brook (non SVPA area) moved from the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward) to the current Altone Ward (referred to as the Central Ward);
- (iii) Beechboro currently in the current Altone Ward (referred to as Central Ward), to be divided at Altone Road between the current Whiteman and Altone Wards (referred to as the West and Central Wards respectively);
- (iv) Middle Swan, currently all in the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as the East Ward), to be divided at the SVPA area boundary and the residential part (non SVPA area) to be in the Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to as the South Ward);
- (v) Lexia, currently divided between the current Pearce Ward and Whiteman Wards (referred to above as the North West and West Ward), now located entirely within the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward); and
- (vi) The number of Councillors in the Pearce Ward (referred to as the North West Ward) reduced from 4 to 3.

Advantages include:

- Retains and is similar to the existing 5 wards structure.
- Provides a minimal amount of change as compared to 4 ward options.
- The % ratio deviation of +9.90% in the Central Ward allows for growth within Brabham, Dayton and Henley Brook, 3 growing suburbs.
- The whole of the SVPA area is within the one ward, East Ward.

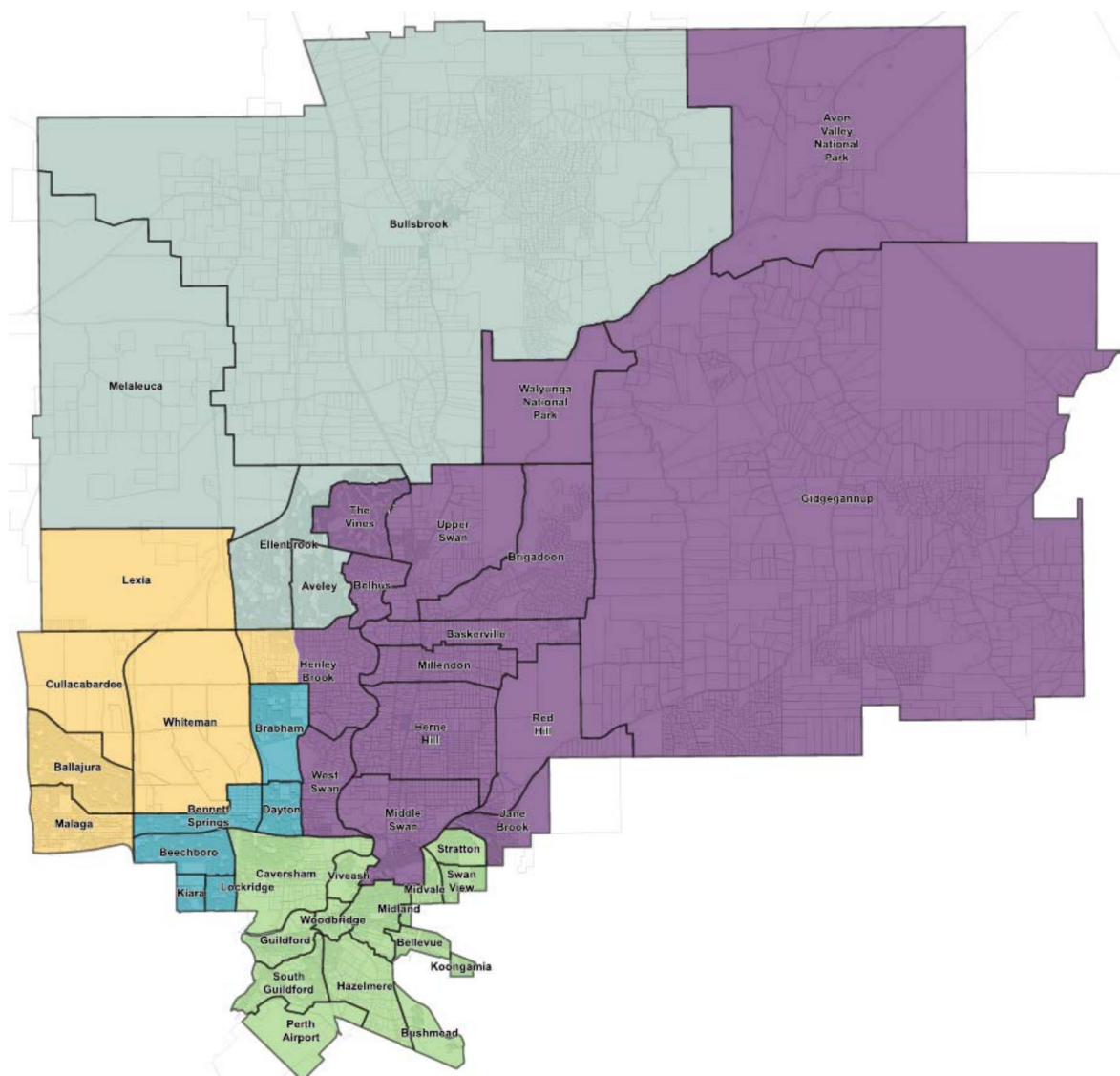
Disadvantages include:

- Division of suburbs is required to achieve this i.e. Beechboro (at Altone Road) and Middle Swan (at Roe Highway). However, the division of Middle Swan is at the SVPA area boundary.
- The current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to as East Ward) is currently a geographically large ward which will become even larger with the addition of Bullsbrook.

- The % ratio deviation of -7.56% in the North West Ward may not provide for the predicted growth in Ellenbrook and Aveley, resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review before the 8 year period. However, growth within other suburbs outside of the ward may balance this out.
- The % ratio deviation in the West Ward may reach +10% before the 8-year period as it will have limited growth compared to other wards.
- Established suburbs of Kiara and Lockridge are together with growth suburbs of Dayton, Henley Brook and Brabham, but are wholly residential in nature.

5.3. Option 3 - Five wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

(based on existing wards but adjusted boundaries to ensure balanced Councillor/elector ratio between wards)



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
North (teal)	4	27,431	6,858	+5.78
Central (blue)	3	22,229	7,410	-1.80
East (purple)	2	15,454	7,727	-6.16
South (green)	3	22,572	7,524	-3.37
West (yellow)	2	14,211	7,106	+2.37
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Changes to current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Brabham moved from the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward) to the current Altone Ward (referred to above as the Central Ward);
- (ii) Jane Brook moved from the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to above as the South Ward) to the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to above as the East Ward);
- (iii) All of Caversham located in the current Midland/Guildford Ward (referred to above as the South Ward), moved from the current Altone Ward (referred to above as the Central Ward) and the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward (referred to above as the East Ward);
- (iv) Lexia, currently divided between the current Pearce Ward and Whiteman Wards (referred to above as the North West and West Ward), now located entirely within the current Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward); and
- (v) The number of Councillors in the Whiteman Ward (referred to as the West Ward) reduced from 3 to 2.

Advantages include:

- Retains and is similar to the existing 5 wards structure.
- Provides a minimal amount of change as compared to 4 ward options.
- The % ratio deviation of +5.78% in the North Ward allows for growth within in the localities of Aveley, Bullsbrook and Ellenbrook, 3 growing suburbs.
- All suburbs, except for Henley Brook which is divided along the SVPA area boundary, are contained wholly within one ward.

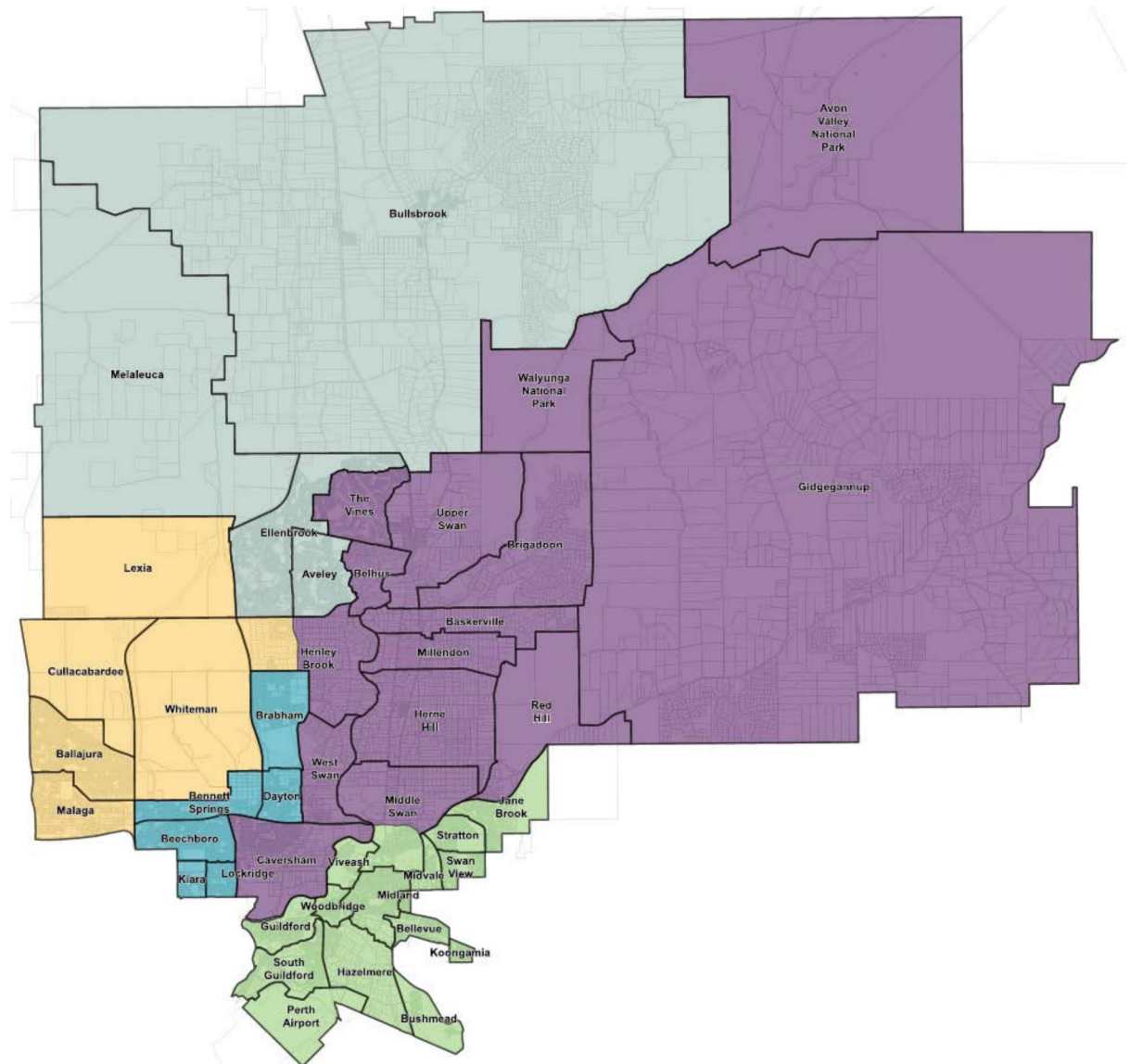
Disadvantages include:

- The % ratio deviation of -1.80% in the Central Ward may not provide for the predicted growth in Brabham and Dayton, resulting in an earlier ward and boundary review before the 8 year period. However, growth within other suburbs outside of the ward may balance this out.
- The whole of Caversham is located within the South Ward (current Midland/Guildford Ward). This disconnects the residential part of Caversham from the Central Ward (current Altone Ward) and the rural area (SVPA area) from the remainder of that area in the East Ward (current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward). Therefore, the whole of the SVPA area is not contained within the one ward.
- Established suburbs of Beechboro, Bennett Springs, Kiara, and Lockridge are together with the growth suburbs of Brabham and Dayton but are wholly residential in nature.
- Ward shapes are irregular, particularly the Central Ward.

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New Option - Five wards with a total of 14 Councillors, plus Mayor

(based on existing wards but adjusted boundaries to ensure balanced Councillor/elector ratio between wards)



Ward	No. of Councillors	No. of Electors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation
Pearce (teal)	4	27,431	6,858	+5.78
Altone (blue)	3	22,229	7,410	-1.80
Swan Valley/ Gidgegannup (purple)	2	15,676	7,838	-7.69
Midland/Guildford (green)	3	22,350	7,450	-2.36
Whiteman (yellow)	2	14,211	7,106	+2.37
TOTAL	14	101,897	7,278	

Appendix F: Council decision to make recommendation to Advisory Board

Changes to the current wards and representation structure:

- (i) Transfer the suburb of Brabham from Whiteman Ward to Altone Ward;
- (ii) Transfer that part of the suburb of Caversham in the Altone Ward to the Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward;
- (iii) Transfer part of the suburb of Middle Swan, that part not located within the Swan Valley Planning Act Area, from Swan Valley/Gidgegannup Ward to the Midland/Guildford Ward; and
- (iv) Transfer that part of the suburb of Lexia from the Pearce Ward to the Whiteman Ward (no electors effected).

No.	Submission Type	Suburb	Option ranking	Why did you rank the option you did as your highest choice?	What do you see as the biggest problem with the other options?	If you have another idea, what is it?
1	Survey response	Ballajura	<i>Five wards (completed incorrect survey so other other option not ranked)</i>	It is better to have a ward with dedicated representative councillors than having no wards, as this will lead to some areas being better developed than others. Having too many wards also cause issues, as nothing will bet through.	Councillors need to live in their wards. Having no wards means all the councilors can come from a particular area and they only look after themselves.	All candidates must declare their qualifications for election, and those with criminal background must not be eligible. Candidates running for election must live in their own wards, not from another ward. Candidates must declare all their interests, what properties they hold, and also their acquaintances also running for councilor election at the same time.
2	Survey response	Ballajura	<i>Five wards (completed incorrect survey so other other option not ranked)</i>	Councilors represent their wards. Having no wards means councilors are not representative.	Having no wards or too few wards might result in 'cartels' being formed with their mates to dictate matters at council meetings once elected.	All candidates for election must declare their qualifications, and those with criminal background must be eliminated from election to get rid of possible crooks. Candidates running for election must live in their own wards, and look after the interest of their ward. Candidates must declare all their interests, properties they hold in the City of Swan, and also their acquaintances running for councilor election at the same time.
3	Survey response	The Vines	3, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6	small change to the existing wards that work fairly well four wards are getting big - but option 5 is by far best of these options	reducing representation from Ellenbrook does not make sense	no
4	Survey response	Henley Brook	3, 5, 1, 2, 4, 6	Option 3 is closest to what it is now Option 5 provides a good option and even numbers of councillors per ward The councilors in ballajura have no idea what is happening in my srea	Dont like them	<i>skipped question</i>
5	Survey response	Midland	2, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6	Councillors may focus on the council as a whole instead of their area ie Ellenbrook gardens look great Modlams looks crap	Councillor focus	Cut number of councillors to 6 not 14
6	Survey response	Middle Swan	2, 4, 3, 5	We have a vast array of ratepayers - residential, rural, businesses that are a majority in certain suburbs it needs to be kept proportionate	not exactly sure at this stage, but our representatives must be willing to represent us on council separate to their own agenda	The Swan Valley has its unique zoning so that should be kept as a separate matter for all things planning/building.
7	Survey response	Dayton	5, 1, 3, 2, 4, 6	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
8	Survey response	Henley Brook	2, 4, 3, 6, 5, 1	Just for balance.	Already feel our area is 'overlooked'.	<i>skipped question</i>
9	Survey response	Herne Hill	<i>skipped question</i>	Swan valley/Gidgannup ward should remain as this is the only fully rural ward	<i>skipped question</i>	as above
10	Survey response	Beechboro	3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 1	I think that grouping the areas together like this you would be putting people together who have something in common ie East would have Midland which is heavy retail,train,hospital etc. North might still have rural areas that have different needs.	I don't like the idea of no wards as it lumps everyone together as one size fits all.	nothing specific at this time
11	Survey response	Midland	1, 5, 6, 2, 3, 4	If Councilors are making decisions about the whole of the City, no matter where they live within the City, then every elector should have the ability to vote for any candidate running for Council within the City. It would be cheaper to run elections too.	The other options do not provide every voter the right to vote for whomever they want. This is despite every Councilor being able to make decisions at Council for residents that didn't have the opportunity to vote for them, one way or another.	<i>skipped question</i>
12	Survey response	Woodbridge	1	I recently dealt with Councillors for a planning application and was appalled by the division in Council. As I had contacted another ward councillor for support, my local ward councillors noses were clearly out of joint! This led to them not voting in support of the application, even though they had commented on what a good development it was. Childish behaviour!	Councillors from particular areas representing other wards but still clearly having a vested interest in their own patch.	<i>skipped question</i>
13	Survey response	South Guildford	1, 5, 2, 6, 3, 4	Councilors should represent the best interests of all residents and ratepayers, and look to the best outcomes of the whole City rather than a select or secular group of the City.	They are all a mismatch of different interest groups that miss achieving the outcome for the greater good.	Merge the EMRC member councils into one local government area.
14	Survey response	Margaret Street	2, 6, 1, 3, 4, 5	The current wards work well the uniqueness of individual wards within the city and the councilors elected to them (should) have experiences which best suit the ideals of those within. E.g. a constituent from Bullsbrook would have far differing needs to that of a Guildford local, other than road and footpath maintenance.	The potential to have the City divided into what could best be described as an European colonial map, taking into no account other geography.	I'm not a man with a plan.
15	Survey response	Morgan Fields	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	basically the same as what it is	trying to reduce the size of the ellenbrook ward	ellenbrook aveley, urban parts of henely brook, and the Vines should all be together as one ward as everyone from these areas all do things together in ellebrook
16	Survey response	Bushmead	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	as i dont see the reaseon to get rid of the wards, and cut one councillor position.	You need to have at least 5 wards otherwise its to sparse	<i>skipped question</i>
17	Survey response	The Vines	6, 2, 3, 4, 5, 1	More representation for my ward would be a good thing to get better outcomes	No wards could mean no local representation and less wards still leaves my ward with limited representation	Maybe The Vines, Ellenbrook and Aveley should all be in the same ward as they all access the same servers in Ellenbrook
18	Survey response	Bullsbrook	2, 6, 3, 4, 1, 5	Because I think it is best	Population directions	Leave wards as they are but reduce Midland/gidgannup area ... why do we need a Gidgannup Cr representation... the north is where the population will be...the existing Pearce Ward and Brabham...once the train line goes in more will migrate there.
19	Survey response	Bennett Springs	3, 5, 4, 2, 6, 1	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
20	Survey response	Bellevue	1, 5, 6, 4, 2, 3	I believe having all councillors representing the whole city will remove some of the factionism that is currently occurring.	Councillors become too worried about representing "their patch" to the detriment of whole of city impacts	Reduce the number of councillors dramatically to ensure there are no "seat fillers" and to expedite decision making.
21	Survey response	Brabham	1, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2	Easier for residents to understand and will go some way to solve some ward residents, feeling their ward get less attention than others where development happens.	5 wards is far too many wards.	<i>skipped question</i>

No.	Submission Type	Suburb	Option ranking	Why did you rank the option you did as your highest choice?	What do you see as the biggest problem with the other options?	If you have another idea, what is it?
22	Survey response	Lockridge	1, 5, 6, 2, 3, 4	Wards break away too much for the greater good, less is achieved because everyone fighting for there own patch, not greater good.	Councillor only care about votes, and there wards. To much wasted spend with councillors having teams.	All councillors are voted in from across the city and agree to represent all areas
23	Survey response	Aveley	1, 3, 2, 6, 5, 4	I believe there would be less politics/in-house arguments amongst council if there were no wards	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
24	Survey response	South Guildford	6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1	I think it is the best	Underrepresentation and councillors spread too thin	Go back to mayor elected from copouncillors
25	Survey response	Johnson Street	2, 6, 3, 4, 5, 1	Smaller wards	Too big area for more local candidates and cost for them to run	<i>skipped question</i>
26	Survey response	Gidgegannup	6, 5, 3, 2, 4, 1	I like to know who my councillor is for my area.	<i>skipped question</i>	You missed a Ward option. Hills/Rural. You can handle all the goings on in the urban part but the urban and hills a very different. Ellenbrook, Jane Brook, Midland are same same.
27	Survey response	Koongamia	2, 3, 4, 6, 5, 1	It gives more opportunity for local issues to be raised at council.	With option 6, you will end up with a council full of people elected because they have the money to run a full campaign for vested interests. This option would only work if each candidate was given a set, fixed amount they could spend, with no outside advertising or campaigning allowed. The council would become a rubber stamp for vested interests.	I think you should investigate why Robinson Road was closed, and make sure it is opened up again.
28	Survey response	Guildford	6, 3, 2, 4, 1, 5	It is as close as possible to the current ward representation for the older parts of the City of Swan. It includes Caversham who would probably have more affinity with suburbs in the South Ward rather than the West Ward.	Option one could only lead to candidates with financial backing and ulterior motives being able to run in an election. It would most likely lead to Council being split along political lines as they are in Sydney.	<i>skipped question</i>
29	Survey response	South Guildford	2, 4, 5, 6, 1	It's what I prefer.	All options are open to be used incorrectly, at least this way it might take longer.	Keep your wards as is, but the Mayor who is elected by the people, has the final say, not the CEO.
30	Survey response	Ellenbrook	6, 3, 2, 5, 4, 1	The North West ward is all newer growing suburbs (similar issues) and has room for population growth. The SVPA is within one ward. Rural areas and older residential suburbs are largely grouped together.	I do not like the idea to have no wards as I believe it would lead to areas being under-represented or local issues not being understood. Voting rates in local council elections are already low and by having to vote for numerous councillors for the whole city, I feel people would be more deterred from voting.	<i>skipped question</i>
31	Survey response	Beechboro	3, 4, 2, 1, 6, 5	I think it's the option that made the most sense regarding suburbs	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
32	Survey response	Brabham	4, 5, 6, 2, 3, 1	Similar to current system: ☐ Brabham Dayton Henley Brook Bennett springs, all newer suburbs together	Connecting areas that arent relevant to eachother together.	<i>skipped question</i>
33	Survey response	Stratton	6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1	An even number between each ward	The concillors are too spread out	<i>skipped question</i>
34	Survey response	Aveley	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	It is what the current places are at the ☐ Moment	Too much change	Swap bullsbrook and the vines around. do not do a complete spill
35	Survey response	Ballajura	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	Coz its the best	Too much change	I don't want to see a complete spill
36	Survey response	Brabham	3, 5, 1, 6, 4, 2	Close to what we have now	Too much change	Don't want to see a complete spill
37	Survey response	Brabham	3, 5, 1, 6, 2, 4	Not much change for what we have.	Too much change	Please dont do a complete spill
38	Survey response	Ellenbrook	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	Seemed the best option , very close to what we have, but moving Bullsbrook to a more like grouping	The no wards is a no go , you need people who LIVE in your area representing you. I could imagine that you would have some councillors run off their feet and others doing not much at all, as some not as active ,Although since this reform has been announced I have never seen so many updates on social media from our councillors !	Please make it a requirement to actually live in the ward you represent. We have four councillors in Pearce and two live in other wards. Not comfortable with this at all
39	Survey response	Millendon	2, 4, 3, 5, 6, 1	Swan Valley resides within one ward	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
40	Survey response	Woodbridge	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	It maintains the same amount of wards as we currently have and seems to strike the right balance overall.	Option 1, No Wards, would be the worst possible outcome for a democratic process. Reduced number of Wards makes representation more difficult and plays into the hands of the major political parties and their financial backers.	N/A
41	Survey response	Midland	6, 2, 4, 5	There was no other options to reduce Councillors . We do not need 14 I would think 7 is enough	Again number of people in each ward	Reduce Councillors numbers to 7 Ang get the council back to listening to the rate payers
42	Survey response	Upper Swan	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	I want a local councillor that knows the local ward.	Too much unnecessary change. The state government and The Minister have not considered the long term issues nor the unnecessary expense occurred to carry out this Labour Party plan.	Leave it as it was
43	Survey response	Brigadoon	3, 1, 6, 2, 4, 5	I think it's extremely important that the rural areas have representation. Due to the development of the Bullsbrook townsite, I think Bullsbrook should be connected to the Ellenbrook/Aveley area. Rural areas have different concerns, needs and issues - this needs to be represented on Council.	The rural areas will be overshadowed by the urban residential areas.	With the proposed growth of both Ellenbrook and Bullsbrook, could the rural area of Bullsbrook be incorporated into the current Swan Valley/Gidgegannup ward.
44	Survey response	Herne Hill	2, 4, 3, 5, 6, 1	This option has the best outcome to secure the Swan Valley/Gidg. ward in its original area and focus on rural lifestyle and viticulture/agriculture/equine et al	They all diminish, whether entirely or in part, the Swan Valley ward especially leaving out some important parts of previous suburbs eg Caversham. Option 1 would be the worst scenario.	At present the very large area of Swan Valley/Gidg will take in the Bullsbrook ward as well. This is a very large area with only 2 councillors. Understanding the population is the least of the proposed wards it is important that all the areas under the SVPA will be in the one ward. It is anticipated that the council will be more receptive to the work of the 2 councillors, their views not over ruled by the suburban "elite". More on the ground compliance officers should be focused on changes in the SV ward as development in the metro area will focus on expansion to the north through the Valley towards Bullsbrook.
45	Survey response	Upper Swan	2, 4, 5, 3, 6, 1	Closest to existing wards	Need councillors to be cognizant of the issues within their own ward.	<i>skipped question</i>
46	Survey response	Millendon	2, 4, 3, 5	Because it separates the Swan Valley as an important ward	The Swan Valley being merged into other areas that are not covered by the Swan Valley Planning Act	No

No.	Submission Type	Suburb	Option ranking	Why did you rank the option you did as your highest choice?	What do you see as the biggest problem with the other options?	If you have another idea, what is it?
47	Survey response	Upper Swan	6, 1, 3, 5, 4, 2	Increase the councillors in my area because the ones we have do not seem to be coping with the local issues.	Option 2 and 4 increases the amount of electors for our area so decreases representation.	<i>skipped question</i>
48	Survey response	Upper Swan	3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 1	I want a representative who knows what the area is like and lives in it	Having no councillors actually representing the rate payers in council means that any lobbying will need to be done to all 14.	<i>skipped question</i>
49	Survey response	Middle Swan	2, 4, 5, 3, 6, 1	Because Middle Swan residential area was grouped with out residential areas instead of being part of the Swan Valley	Option one and six local issues would just get lost / not represented due to the spread of councillors.	<i>skipped question</i>
50	Survey response	Midland	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	It is the fairest distribution of suburbs, population, and councillors across all the wards	Less balance and greater focus on certain areas than others.	<i>skipped question</i>
51	Survey response	Guildford	3, 4, 5, 6, 1, 2	Personal reasons	Personal reasons	<i>skipped question</i>
52	Survey response	Brigadoon	3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 1	Seems a wider spread	Less focus on specific areas	<i>skipped question</i>
53	Survey response	Woodbridge	1, 6, 5, 2, 3, 4	I think having wards leads to some wards having little to no choice of candidates and some have lots of choice. This can lead to less than desirable outcomes rather than a choice of people from all over the City. □	If there are wards, the wards should not cross over local area planning boundaries. □ Removing wards removes the horse trading in council decisions and ensures that councilors make decisions based on the whole of the City of Swan community. □ Reduces the likely hood of people becoming councilors on a single issue.	Less councilors.
54	Survey response	Millendon	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	Because high rates so FU	High Rates and little to no services.□ Poor Road maintenance, non existent road maintenance:□ Lack of care by the shire on fire hazards	respond to ratepayer requests for maintenance of shire land / verges
55	Survey response	Lockridge	2, 3, 5, 6, 1, 4	thats my opinion	did not agree with them	????
56	Survey response	Bullsbrook	5, 3, 6, 4, 1, 2	Shake it up	I think the reform from the hon carey has finally shaking this up.	Term length of service then they get moved on for good
57	Survey response	Bullsbrook	4, 2, 3, 5, 6, 1	I want North or West to have their own councillor who will listen to local concerns.	Councillors voted by the majority living in the suburbs with no interest in the country areas	Sack the time wasting idiots who are only interested in their own agendas. They need to remember they are supposed to be working for the electorate.
58	Survey response	Bullsbrook	3, 4, 5, 6, 1, 2	Because Bullsbrook is the Northern part of the City of Swan	I don't agree with no wards.□ It is important for Councillors to have a good understanding of the area they represent	Councillors should have a definite interest in their area of representation. Not other agendas.
59	Survey response	Brigadoon	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1	It should be 5 wards to account for geography and disparity of the location and populous	<i>skipped question</i>	<i>skipped question</i>
60	Written correspondence	Guildford	<i>not ranked by options but 5 wards (Option 2 preferred), 4 wards, no wards</i>	Summarised 5 wards: Better options. Option 2 provides minimal boundary changes.	Summarised No wards: Should not be the preferred option. Not be possible for each Councillor to be across all matters. Would be huge and overwhelming. Each district area, aggregated into wards has different factors that require Councillors attention and consideration. Any change should improvide the existing and allow for changes over time eg development of new suburbs. Four wards: Better than no wards but councilors will still be overwhelmed.	
61	Written correspondence Gidgegannup Progress Association		3	Summarised To have a smaller number of wards would impose too much of a burden on Councillors representing those wards. This Option closely reflects the existing Swan Valley/Gidgegannup ward in size and content. We will retain an affinity with our Councillors. This allow for growth in Aveley, Bullsbrook and Ellenbrook where the population growth is growing most rapidly. There is a community of interest which has already been demonstrated. The ratepayer groups in This area are already in contact and working together. The Swan Valley and Gidgegannup share many physical and topographic features with the Avon/Swan rivers flowing through both and connection along the Toodyay Road. There are rural areas throughout This proposed ward and We are already looking To share tourism objectives and development. The Swan Valley/Gidgegannup ward has worked well and This is the closest We have To retaining This mix.		



Enquiries (08) 9267 9267
2 Midland Square, Midland
PO Box 196, Midland DC WA 6936

cityofswan 

cityofswanwa 

cityofswan 

www.swan.wa.gov.au

Contact details:

Valerie Hodgins

Manager Governance

(08) 9267 9106

valerie.hodgins@swan.wa.gov.au