

## Review of Wards and Representation - Responses

Suburb	What is your interest in this matter?	Please provide your comments
East Victoria Park	Property owner-occupier	I think wards are irrelevant and should be abolished, it would bring the town together as one.
Carlisle	Property owner-occupier	I do not wish the boundaries to change. I am very happy with my representation. I have however noticed that some councillors are more active and approachable than others and perhaps there could be community engagement KPIs that could be linked to bonuses or some other mechanism. Given population projections for several thousand additional residents in Banksia(Burswood/Ascot) in the short to medium term I would think that it is premature to be having this conversation until those residences are occupied. If however the projections do match reality it would be logical to increase the amount of councillors to reduce the work load. Certainly if the 110,000 people target outlined in Town documents is reached the current number of councillors will be woefully inadequate.
Lathlain	Property owner-occupier	Option 3 - No wards
Victoria Park	Property owner-occupier	The issue of wards is important to me I. Terms of representation and who will have an interest in local issues. Two wards pear much better with names north and south better than current names that mean nothing. Less Councillors is a better way forward but they must be selected to ensure they all don't love or own businesses in the same areas. The population around the new developments MUST be taken into account. There are currently too many Councillors.
East Victoria Park	Property owner-occupier	I think for the next 5 years The Council should leave the boundaries as they are, and only then review them for possible adjustment. The Town of Victoria Park is undergoing huge change and the economy of WA is re-aligning to the post mining boom so now is time to stabilise not just knee jerk react.
Carlisle	Property owner-occupier	I would support the reduction in the number of councillors from 8 to 6 if the wards were retained. This would ensure that the different identities and requirements of each ward were promoted as there are quite different.
Victoria Park	Property owner-occupier	I am strongly against the changing of the Ward names to represent 'pioneering families'. The current names will suffice. I find the practice of naming community property or infrastructure after people fails to adequately represent diversity within the community and tends to favour white, middle class men and their families. We should be looking to the future and not the past in these respects. Flora and fauna is more than appropriate.
Victoria Park	Property owner-occupier	Who is driving this initiative? While the wards are slightly out of balance now (<6% deviation & will probably reduce over time with in-fill) all the proposals seek to increase the deviation to up to 12-15%. Keep things as they are & concentrate on performing the Towns remit at the lowest cost to the ratepayers, rather than playing politics & wasting ratepayers money.
St James	Property owner-occupier	I think the current ward system should remain.
Victoria Park	Local resident (non-property owner)	I would like to see the Town of Victoria Park move to a no ward structure. With a limit of 6 elected members. With the Mayor being elected by the council.

Not disclosed	Not disclosed	<p>I do think voters like to choose someone living in the same suburb as them (even if that may be further away from them than someone on the other side of an imaginary suburb border). I do think this gives a natural advantage and general thought bias to those living in the more dense sections of wards. (Carlisle and East Vic Park)</p> <p>Two possibilities I considered. If there are 4 candidates is it better/possible to have 4 wards of 1 councillor rather than 2 wards of 2 councillors? Split the area both current division and then miller/kent st to give 4 quadrants.</p> <p>Secondly, do the riverside suburbs have more in common and the boundaries should be split front and back rather than left and right?</p> <p>I don't know if the wards are about variety/diversity, inclusive of all, or if the wards are about likeminded/economic regions having the same say? The former would make the current boundaries reasonable. If it is the latter which seems to make sense (on line with our boundaries for other elections), dividing the area on Kent/Miller may be more relevant.</p> <p>Changing the wards to match economic realities may be of greater use if Town of Vic Park were ever to consider "special rates areas" that are used around the state eg. Joondalup has a special rates levy accepted by it's residents of Iluka, solely to be reinvested into the area. Given the tough financial climate this may be worth considering?</p>
Victoria Park	Not disclosed	<p>In relation to your current Review of wards and representation, as a resident and rate-payer I wish to make the following submissions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is premature to revise the two ward boundaries at this time pending potential future developments in the Burswood/Belmont Park region. This ward review process does not need to occur at exactly eight-year intervals; it could be invoked again once these proposed developments have become established and are populated, at which time the new needs will be much more clearly defined. Accordingly, I support options 1 &amp; 3, and do not support any of the options 2A/B/C.</li> <li>2. Personally, I find the current names Banksia &amp; Jarrah a bit confusing, as they have no link to identify their region. I understand and support the reasons for the previous 2010 name change, as they were non-inclusive. I suggest simple positional names such as North/South, or if necessary North-West/South/South-East etc would better describe the wards.</li> <li>3. There are no overarching reasons to have two wards, we could have three, or none. While the railway &amp; Shepperton Road impose a certain physical divide, it is a 'soft' boundary, as evidenced by your proposals 2A B &amp; C, which would change the boundary from North/South to East/West. I would support combining both wards, or making no boundary change.</li> <li>4. We are probably over-represented by Councillors, especially should both wards be combined, and this contributes to high costs which I pay for in my rates, which I have seen increase well beyond the rate of inflation over each of the past several years. I would support reducing the number of Councillors, probably to six.</li> <li>5. All of the options 2A/B/C result in imbalanced representation for no benefit other than to accommodate projected population growth that may or may not happen.</li> <li>6. It would be helpful to see a table of Councillor:Elector ratios for all councils in the metro area, and their average, to baseline our representation. The examples given may have been cherry-picked to suit a particular agenda.</li> </ol> <p>Ward boundaries I support Option 3 - No wards. The Town is relatively small in area and I do not believe that there are any clear geographically-based communities of interest that require wards.</p>
East Victoria Park	Nor disclosed	<p>Representation I support the retention of 8 councillors. Table 6 in your discussion paper indicates a current population ratio for 6 councillors as 1:3596. By 2028 with a forecast population of 28564, the ratio for six councillors would rise to a high 1:4760. If 8 councillors are retained with the current ratio of 1:2697 (as per Table 1), the forecast 2028 population of 28564 would give an acceptable ratio for the 8 councillors of 1:3571 (as per Table 5). Although the Town population is a relatively small one, it is quite a diverse one and having 8 elected councillors and no wards should help encourage the nomination and election of councillors that continue to represent the views and voices of our diverse community.</p>
Victoria Park	Nor disclosed	<p>I would like to see the Town of Victoria Park move to a no ward structure. With a limit of 6 elected members. With the Mayor being elected by the council.</p>

Lathlain

Nor disclosed

I suggest retaining two Wards, with possible boundary changes to accommodate equality of population numbers in each Ward. Four wards is too many and too complicated for the size of this Town.

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