

Ward and Representation Review

Summary



In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), the City of Subiaco is reviewing its ward and representation system to comply with the requirements of the Act.

The City would like to hear from everyone who will be impacted by this review. This includes ratepayers, residents, business owners, people who work in the local area and visitors.

This brochure provides background information to inform your choices. Would you please:

1. Review this brochure.
2. Refer to the City's **Review of Ward Boundaries and Elected Member Representation Discussion Paper** for more detailed information. This paper is available online at www.haveyoursay.subiaco.wa.gov.au or from the City's library or administration centre.
3. Complete a **Submission Form** by 4:00pm, 30 November 2020 (see the enclosed Submission Form).
4. Let your family and friends know about this review and invite them to complete a Submission Form online at www.catalyse.com.au/subiaco-review

The City will make a determination on any preferred option relating to ward boundaries or councillor representation levels following consideration of all submissions received.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to email city@subiaco.wa.gov.au or phone the City on 9237 9222.

Why is a ward and representation review needed?

The Local Government Advisory Board has requested that the City of Subiaco carry out a review of its wards and representation. When the *City of Perth Act 2016* became operational on 1 July 2016, it resulted in a reduction of some 3,300 residents in the City of Subiaco and a significant reduction in the size of South Ward. This made the ratio of elected members to electors across the wards uneven and triggered the need for a review.

What factors need to be considered?

When considering changes to wards and representations, the *Local Government Act 1995* specifies five factors that must be taken into account as part of the review process:

1. Community of interests
2. Physical and topographic features
3. Demographic trends
4. Economic factors
5. Ratio of elected members to electors in the various wards

What do councillors do and how many are needed?

The Mayor and councillors shape the City's future in consultation with the community, making decisions on behalf of the local government through a formal meeting process. They represent the community's interests in many ways. For example, they vote on initiatives and projects, review policy, manage assets, decide how funds are allocated and plan for the future.




According to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, the ideal number of elected members for a local government is for the local government to determine. There is a diverse range of councillor to elector ratios across Western Australia reflecting the sparsely populated remote areas and the highly populated urban areas.

Currently, the City of Subiaco has 12 elected members comprising a Mayor and 11 councillors. There is 1 councillor for every 1,078 residents. The City of Subiaco is considering options with 6, 8, 10 or 12 councillors. If the number of councillors was changed, the ratios would be as noted in the Table 1 overleaf.

Which options are being considered?

Council is considering 12 options. These options are explained in detail in the **Review of Ward Boundaries and Elected Member Representation Discussion Paper**. A summary of these options is provided in Table 1 overleaf.

Table 1: Summary of ward and representation options

Option	Number of Wards	Number of Councillors per ward	Total number of councillors	Representation Ratio	Ward Map
A	No wards	6	6	1 : 1,977	
B	No wards	8	8	1 : 1,483	
C	No wards	10	10	1 : 1,186	
D	No wards	12	12	1 : 989	
E	Two wards (East-West)	4	8	1 : 1,483	
F	Two wards (East-West)	6	12	1 : 989	
G	Two wards (North-South)	4	8	1 : 1,483	
H	Two wards (North-South)	6	12	1 : 989	
I	Three wards	2	6	1 : 1,977	
J	Three wards	4	12	1 : 989	
K	Four wards	2	8	1 : 1,483	
L	Four wards	3	12	1 : 989	

How to make a submission

Members of the community are invited to make a written submission about any aspect of ward boundaries and representation and lodge it one of the following ways:

1. Complete and return a hard copy Submission Form enclosed with this brochure.
2. Complete and submit an online Submission Form at www.catalyse.com.au/subiaco-review
3. Visit the City of Subiaco’s online engagement hub – Have your Say Subiaco at www.haveyoursay.subiaco.wa.gov.au and follow the links.
4. Visit the City of Subiaco’s library or administration centre, and complete a hard copy Submission Form.

All submissions must be received by **4:00pm, 30 November 2020**.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in this review. Your submission will be used to strengthen and inform Council’s decision making process.