

# Local council electoral structure review

## About Wyndham City Council

The Traditional Custodians of the land in the Wyndham City Council area are the Bunurong and Wadawurrung peoples.

Located in Melbourne's outer western suburbs, Wyndham covers an area of 542 km<sup>2</sup> and in 2021 was home to 292,011 people. As one of the fastest growing council areas in Australia, it is forecast to grow to over 500,000 people by 2041.

The council area has major roads and train lines connecting Melbourne with Geelong and regional Victoria. It also has a significant industrial precinct, waterways, including the Werribee River, and important agricultural, coastal and conservation areas.

New housing developments are planned in residential growth areas including Truganina, Tarneit, Wyndham Vale and Manor Lakes, as well as near activity centres and public transport. Werribee and Hoppers Crossing are focal points for investment in the education, health and technology sectors.

The council area is culturally diverse, with 48% of people being born overseas, from over 120 countries, including 17.3% born in India. Nearly half of all residents (48.9%) speak a language other than English at home. There are over 38 religious communities represented, with the largest groups being Catholicism (18.1%), Hinduism (14.5%), Islam (9.9%) and Sikhism (6.1%).

## Current structure

Wyndham City Council is divided into 3 wards with a total of 11 councillors:

- 2 wards with 4 councillors each
- one ward with 3 councillors.

## About the review

Under Victoria's *Local Government Act 2020*, Wyndham City Council must now have a single-councillor ward electoral structure.

The Minister for Local Government has appointed an electoral representation advisory panel to review the electoral structure of Wyndham City Council and advise on the most appropriate single-councillor ward structure.

The panel is looking at:

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

Electoral structure reviews are an important part of democracy and your input is valuable. As a local, you know your council area better than anyone. This is your chance to tell the panel your thoughts about the single-councillor ward structure you believe would best provide representation for your community.

You can have your say:

1. in a response submission to the preliminary report
2. at an online public hearing, if you ask to speak in your response submission.

## Last review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of Wyndham City Council in 2012.

# Review process

## Monday 30 and Tuesday 31 October

### Information sessions

Session 1: 12 noon, Monday 30 October

Session 2: 6 pm, Tuesday 31 October

These sessions will give you more information about the review process. You will be able to register for a session on the VEC website.

## Wednesday 1 November

### Preliminary report

The panel will release a preliminary report with one or more options for the electoral structure on Wednesday 1 November.

**You can make a response submission from this date.**

## Wednesday 22 November

### Response submissions

The panel must receive your submission by 5 pm on Wednesday 22 November.

The panel will not accept late submissions.

## Tuesday 28 November

### Public hearing

The panel will hold an online public hearing if anyone asks to speak about their response submission at 10 am Tuesday 28 November.

The public hearing will not be held if no one asks to speak.

## Wednesday 24 January 2024

### Final report

The panel will submit a final report to the Minister for Local Government including its advice for the electoral structure on Wednesday 24 January 2024.

The Minister will consider the panel's advice before recommending a change to the electoral structure. Any change is expected to apply at the next local council general election.

## Submission guide

You can download a submission guide from the VEC website at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

## How to make a submission

 On the VEC website at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

@ By email to:

[Wyndham.ERAPsubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:Wyndham.ERAPsubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au)

 By post to:

Electoral representation advisory panel  
c/o Victorian Electoral Commission  
Level 11, 530 Collins St  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Submissions must include your:

- full name
- contact phone number or email address
- residential or postal address.

Your submission will be published on the VEC website, including your name and suburb or town but not your full address or contact details. See the submission guide or VEC website at [vec.vic.gov.au/privacy](http://vec.vic.gov.au/privacy) for privacy information.

## One vote, one value

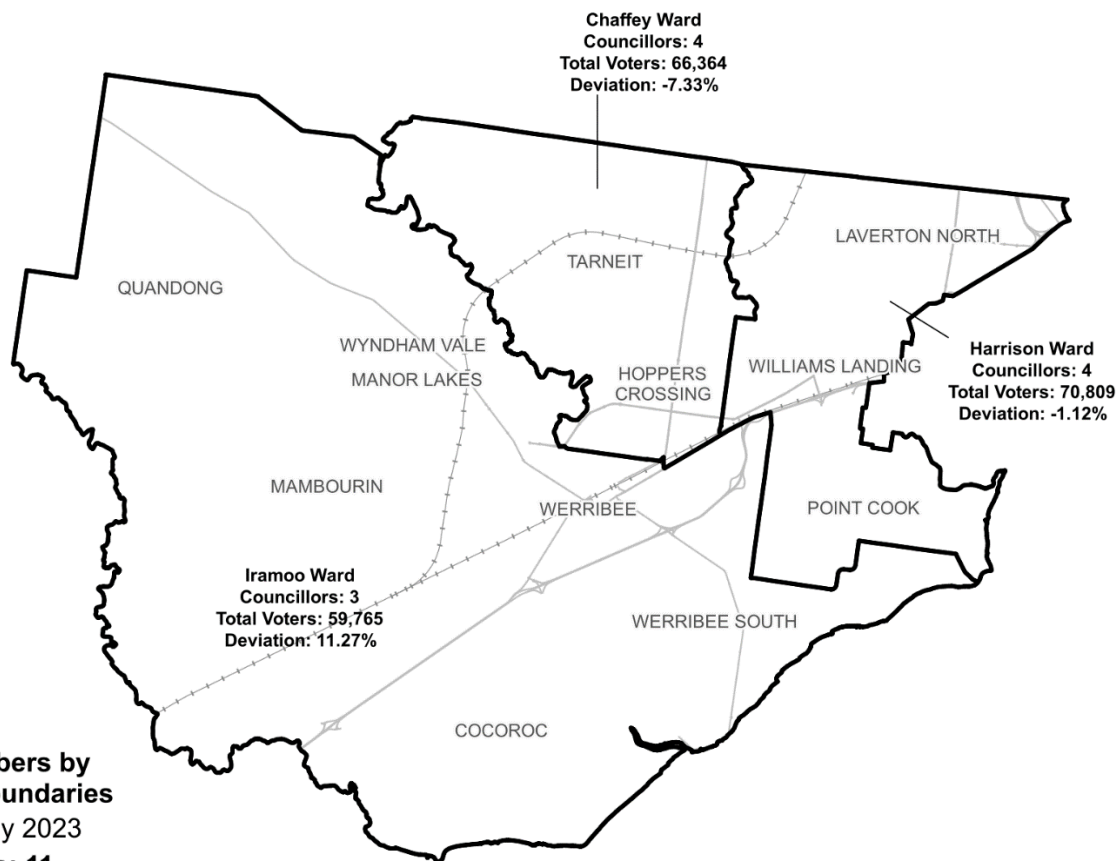
The 'one vote, one value' democratic principle is enshrined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. This means every person's vote counts equally.

When a local council is subdivided into wards, the number of voters each councillor represents in each ward must be plus-or-minus 10% of the average number of voters per councillor for all wards.

The map below includes the current number of voters in each ward and the ward's current deviation from the average. The panel will consider likely population and voter changes to ensure the structure remains equitable.

If you make a submission online, you can use a mapping tool to build your preferred electoral structure. The tool uses current voter numbers to tell you the deviations of the wards you make. This will help you propose a structure that meets the requirements of the Act.

# Current electoral structure



**Voter Numbers by Current Boundaries**  
As at 25 July 2023  
**Councillors: 11**  
**Total Voters: 196,938**

Ward	Councillors	Voters	Deviation
Chaffey Ward	4	66,364	-7.33%
Harrison Ward	4	70,809	-1.12%
Iramoo Ward	3	59,765	+11.27%

## Statistics

Area (km<sup>2</sup>) 542

### Voters

**Voters per square km**

363

**Average voters per councillor**

17,903

### Population

**Current population**

292,011

**Forecast population growth**

3.4% p.a.

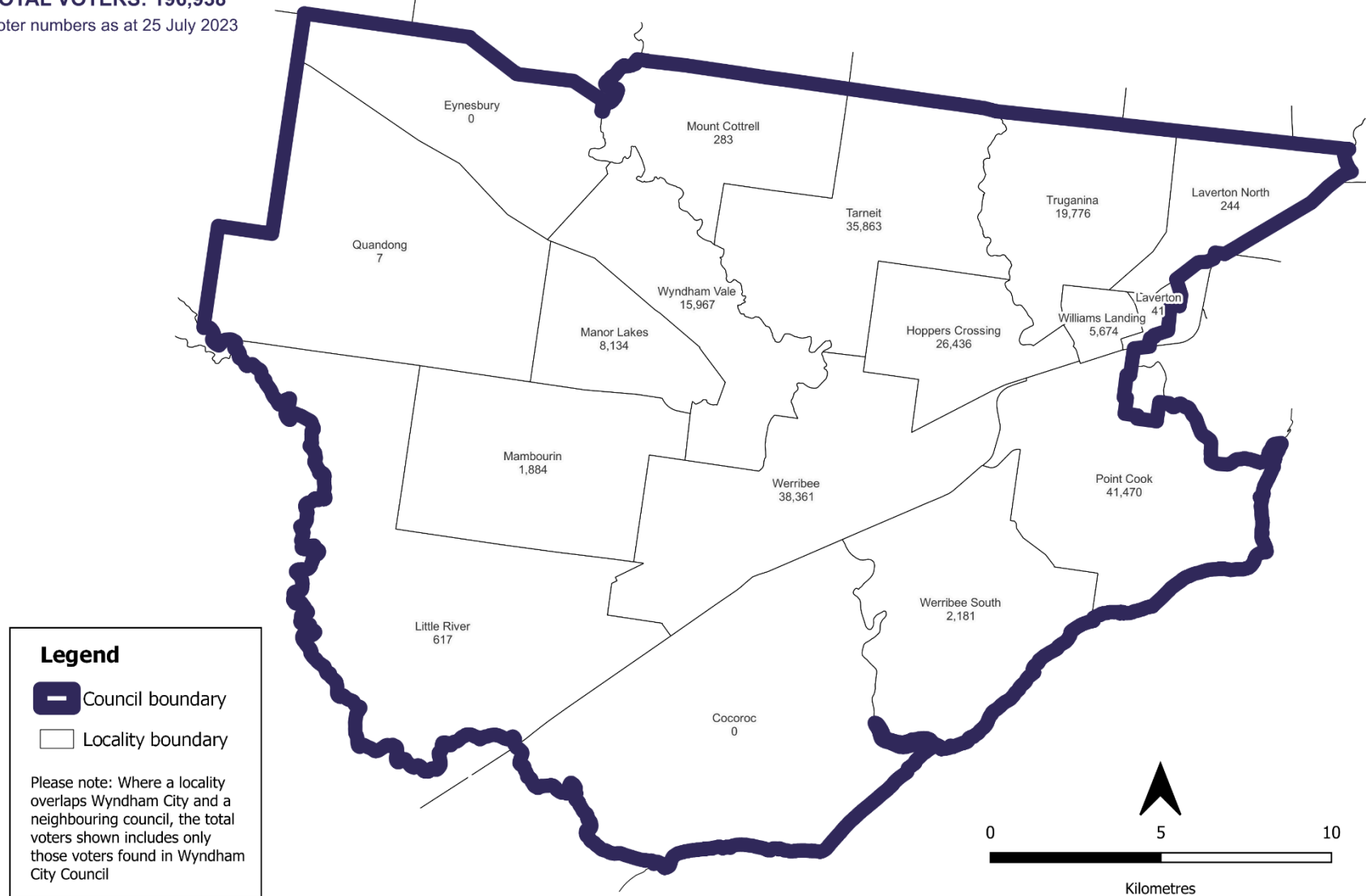
More Census statistics available at [abs.gov.au](https://abs.gov.au)

# Voter numbers by locality (map)

## Wyndham City Council

TOTAL VOTERS: 196,938

Voter numbers as at 25 July 2023



## Voter numbers by locality (table)

### Wyndham City Council voter numbers at 25 July 2023

Locality	Voters
Cocoroc	0
Eynesbury	0
Hoppers Crossing	26,436
Laverton	41
Laverton North	244
Little River	617
Mambourin	1,884
Manor Lakes	8,134
Mount Cottrell	283
Point Cook	41,470
Quandong	7
Tarneit	35,863
Truganina	19,776
Werribee	38,361
Werribee South	2,181
Williams Landing	5,674
Wyndham Vale	15,967