

# Local council electoral structure review

## About Port Phillip City Council

The Traditional Custodians of the land in Port Phillip City Council are the Bunurong and Wurundjeri peoples.

Port Phillip City Council is between 2 and 8 km south-east of Melbourne's city centre, with a population of 101,942 in 2021 and a forecast annual growth rate of 1.1%.

Covering an area of 21 km<sup>2</sup>, the council has distinct and diverse communities in Port Melbourne, South Melbourne, the Carlisle Street area of Balaclava, and Fitzroy and Acland streets in St Kilda.

Port Phillip City Council shares its borders with 4 other councils: Melbourne and Stonnington city councils in the north, Glen Eira City Council in the east, and Bayside City Council to the south. Its western border is Port Phillip Bay.

The council area is home to the Port Phillip foreshore and beaches, Catani Gardens, Luna Park, and Albert Park, which hosts the Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix. Major roads service the area including Queens, St Kilda and Brighton roads. The area is also well-served by public transport.

More Port Phillip City Council residents worked in professional, scientific, and technical services than any other industry in 2021. These industries employed 16.2% of residents.

The council area's median age in 2021 was 38, which was slightly higher than the Greater Melbourne overall median age of 37.

Over 46% of the municipality owned their own home either outright or with a mortgage in 2021, when the median weekly household income was \$2,069.

### Current structure

Port Phillip City Council is divided into 3 wards with a total of 9 councillors:

- 3 wards with 3 councillors each.

### About the review

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

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

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 local council area better than anyone. This is your chance to let the panel know your thoughts about the single-councillor ward electoral structure that you believe would best provide representation for your community.

There are 2 opportunities for you to have your say on the electoral structure of the council:

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

### Last review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of Port Phillip Council in 2015. Visit the VEC website at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) to access a copy of the 2015 review final report.

# Review process

## Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 July

### Information sessions

Session 1: 12 noon, Monday 17 July

Session 2: 6 pm, Tuesday 18 July

Information sessions are for anyone wanting to find out more about the review process. Links to register for an information session will be available on the VEC website.

## Wednesday 19 July

### Preliminary report

The panel will release a preliminary report including one or more options for the electoral structure on Wednesday 19 July.

**Response submissions open from this date.**

## Wednesday 9 August

### Response submission close

The panel must receive all submissions by 5 pm on Wednesday 9 August.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

## Tuesday 15 August

### Public hearing

The panel will hold an online public hearing if anyone requests to speak about their response submission at 2 pm Tuesday 15 August.

The hearing will not be held if there are no requests to speak.

## Wednesday 13 September

### Final report

The panel will submit a final report to the Minister for Local Government including its advice on the electoral structure on Wednesday 13 September.

The Minister will then consider the panel's advice before recommending a change to the electoral structure. Any change to the electoral structure of the council following on from the review will apply at the next local council elections.

## How to make a submission

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

@ By email to

[PortPhillip.ERAPSubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:PortPhillip.ERAPSubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au)

 By post to

Electoral Representation Advisory Panel  
c/o Victorian Electoral Commission  
Level 11, 530 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Submissions must include your:

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

All submissions will be published on the VEC website. Your name and locality (suburb or town) will be published, but your full address and contact details will be removed. See the submission guide and VEC website at [vec.vic.gov.au/privacy](https://vec.vic.gov.au/privacy) for privacy information.

## Submission guide

Download the submission guide from the VEC website at [vec.vic.gov.au](https://vec.vic.gov.au) for more information on the review process and making a submission.

## One vote, one value

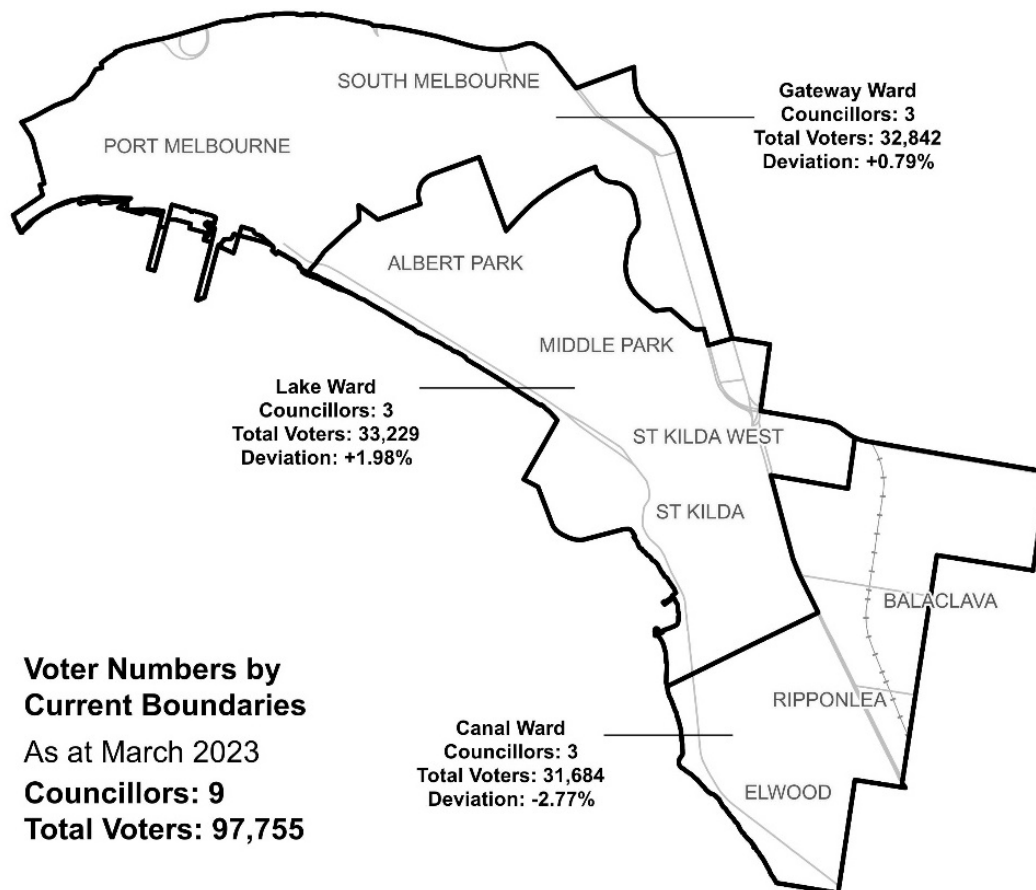
The 'one vote, one value' democratic principle is enshrined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. This means that every person's vote counts equally.

When a local council area is subdivided into wards, the number of voters each councillor represents in each ward must be plus-or-minus 10% of the of the average number of voters per councillor for all the 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 March 2023  
**Councillors: 9**  
**Total Voters: 97,755**

Ward	Councillors	Voters	Deviation
Canal Ward	3	31,684	-2.77%
Gateway Ward	3	32,842	+0.79%
Lake Ward	3	33,229	+1.98%

## Statistics

Area (km<sup>2</sup>): 21

### Voters

**Voters per square km**

4,655

**Average voters per councillor**

10,861

### Population

**Current population**

101,942

**Forecast population growth**

1.1% p.a.

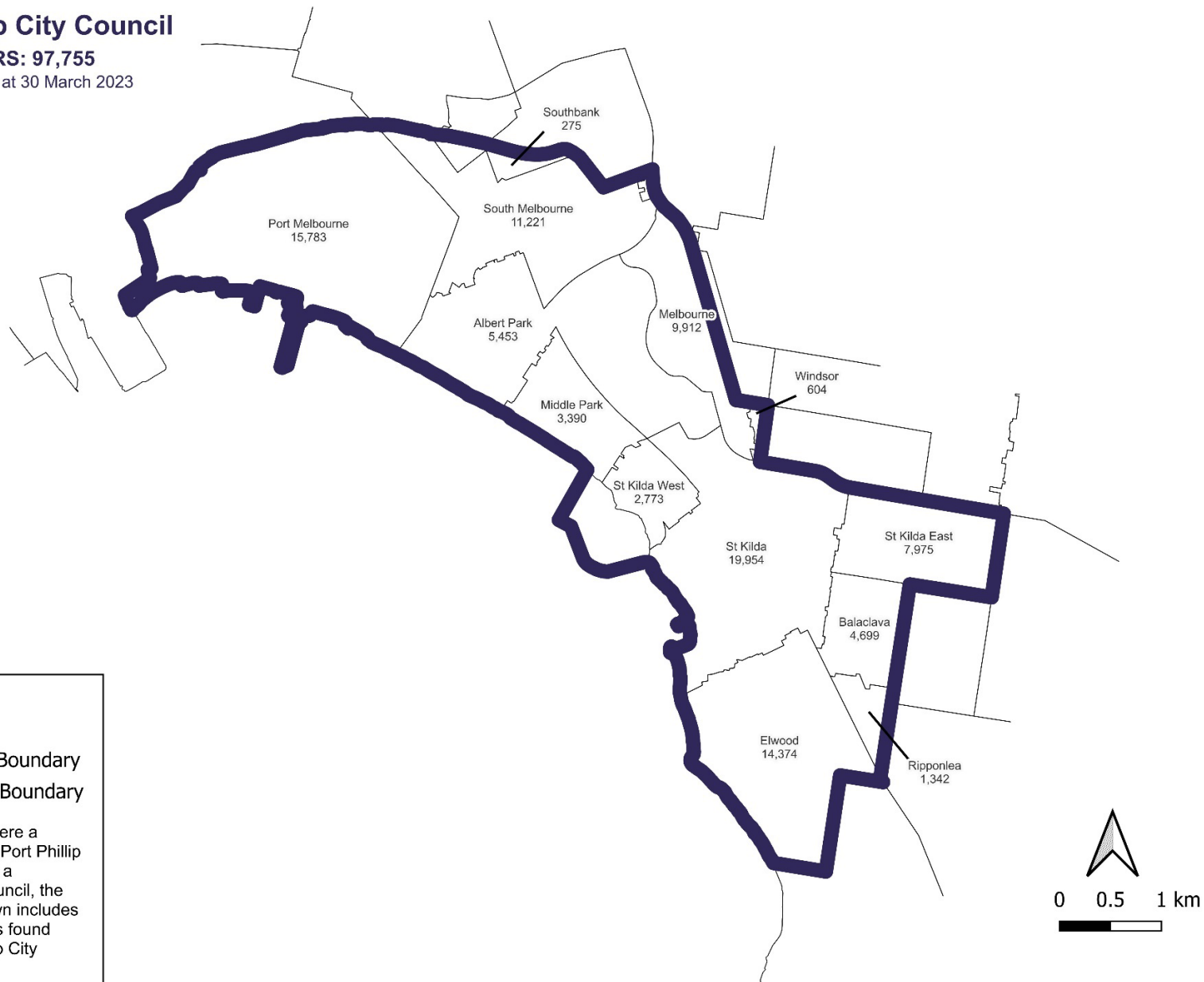
Further census statistics available at [abs.gov.au](https://abs.gov.au)

# Voter numbers by locality (map)

## Port Phillip City Council

**TOTAL VOTERS: 97,755**

Voter numbers as at 30 March 2023



## Voter numbers by locality (table)

### Port Phillip City Council voter numbers at 30 March 2023

Locality	Voters
Albert Park	5,453
Balaclava	4,699
Elwood	14,374
Melbourne	9,912
Middle Park	3,390
Port Melbourne	15,783
Ripponlea	1,342
South Melbourne	11,221
Southbank	275
St Kilda	19,954
St Kilda East	7,975
St Kilda West	2,773
Windsor	604