



REPRESENTATION OPTIONS PAPER

Elector Representation Review

July 2020

Prepared by

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Disclaimer

This Options Paper has been prepared by Kelledy Jones for the District Council of Robe's Representation Review for use by the Council and its constituents. The opinions, estimates and other information contained in this Paper have been made in good faith and, as far as possible, are based on data or sources believed to be reliable. The contents of this Paper are not to be taken as constituting formal legal advice.

1. INTRODUCTION

Councils in South Australia are required to undertake regular reviews of their elector representation arrangements (“Representation Review”). The District Council of Robe (“the Council”) undertook its previous Representation Review in 2012/2013.

In accordance with section 12(4) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (“the Act”) the Council “must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the Council, and the issue of division or potential division, or the area of the Council into wards, are comprehensively reviewed under this section at least once in each relevant period”.

The relevant period for the Council to undertake its comprehensive review was determined by the Minister, regulation 4 of the *Local Government (General Regulations) 2013*, by notice in the Gazette on 1 August 2019.

A copy of the Gazette notice is contained in **Appendix A** of this Paper.

In accordance with the Gazette notice the relevant period for the Council to undertake its Representation Review is June 2020 to June 2021.

1.1 REVIEW PROCESS

The process for the Representation Review requires the Council to undertake the following steps:

- Initiate the preparation of the Representation Options Paper (“Paper”) by a person who, in the opinion of the Council, is qualified to address the representation and governance issues that may arise with respect to the matters under review.
- Conduct the first round of public consultation on the Options Paper pursuant to section 12(7) of the Act. Consultation must be open for a minimum period of six weeks.
- Consider the submissions made during the first public consultation and prepare a Representation Review Report that details the representation arrangements it favours, the reasons why and respond to issues raised during the first consultation.
- Conduct the second round of public consultation providing an opportunity for people making submissions to be heard personally or through a representative on the Representation Review Report by either the Council or a Committee of the Council. Consultation must be open for a minimum period of three weeks with opportunities for verbal submissions to follow.
- Council to adopt a representation structure.
- Prepare the Final Representation Review Report.
- Submit the Final Representation Review Report to the Electoral Commissioner of South Australia (“the Commissioner”) to obtain a certificate of compliance. If the certificate of compliance is not provided the Council will be required to undertake further actions to meet the Commissioner’s requirements.
- Place a notice in the Government Gazette providing for the operation of any proposal in the Final Review Report for which the Commissioner has provided a certificate of compliance.

If the Council wishes to adopt a representation structure that changes the composition of the Council or to have an appointed Chairperson instead of an Elected Mayor a poll must be held on that aspect of the Representation Review.

A timeline for the Representation Review is contained in **Appendix B** of this Paper.

Any changes as a result of the Representation Review take effect for the next periodic Council election to be held in November 2022 unless:

- notice in the Government Gazette (“the Gazette”) of the operation of any proposal occurs after 1 January 2022 in which case the changes will take effect for the periodic election subsequent to November 2022; or
- if the general election is held after the expiration of seven months from the day of publication of the notice (and before polling day for the next periodic election after publication) then the proposal will take effect from polling day for that general election.

This Paper has been prepared by Kelledy Jones and follows the framework included in the publication *Undertaking an Elector Representation Review: Guidelines for Councils* dated May 2016 prepared by the Electoral Commission of South Australia (“ECSA”).

1.2 LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Section 12 of the Act sets out the requirements for conducting a Representation Review.

The Representation Review must also take into account the principles set out in section 26 of the Act, including:

- that any changes to the Council’s representation should benefit ratepayers;
- arrangements should reflect communities of interest, values and aspirations and avoid significant dislocation within the community;
- encourage local community participation in decisions about local matters; and
- provide effective local governance and foster co-operation with other councils.

Regard must also be had to section 33 of the Act that lists the matters that must be taken into account if the Council proposes to introduce wards for election purposes.

A copy of the relevant sections of the Act are contained in **Appendix C** of this Paper.

1.3 REPRESENTATION REVIEW CONSIDERATIONS

In accordance with section 12 of the Act, this Representation Review is required to consider the composition of the Council and the advantages and disadvantages of the options that are available for elector representation under the Act.

The key areas for consideration are:

- election or appointment of the Principal Member (Mayor/Chairperson);
- the number of Councillors;

- how Councillors are elected - from wards, across the whole of the Council area or a combination of both; and
- whether the Council should have wards or no wards.

2. COUNCIL BACKGROUND AND PROFILE

The Council is one of the earliest councils in South Australia and was proclaimed on 28 October 1869. It was named after the fourth Governor of South Australia, Frederick Robe, who chose the site of the town as a port in 1845. The town was proclaimed a port in 1847 and became South Australia's second-busiest international port in the 1850s.

The name of the Council is an important part of the Council's history. For this reason, the name of the Council is not proposed to be reviewed as part of this Representation Review.

The Council has a population of approximately 1378 people (ABS 2016 census data) in an area of 110,576 hectares. The ABS 2016 census data showed a minor population decrease of 1.43% from 2011 (1398) to 2016 (1378).

The main township of the Council is Robe and contains the highest concentration of the Council's population. The Council area experiences significant (temporary) population increases during holiday periods of up to (approximately) 15,000 people due to its scenic coastal areas.

The primary industries and employment in the Council area are accommodation, cafes, restaurants, pubs and cattle and sheep farming (ABS 2016 census data).

The Council undertook its previous Representation Review in 2012/2013 at which time the Council determined to abolish its wards. Prior to this, the Council had two wards, with ward 1 (rural) being represented by two Councillors and ward 2 (town) being represented by four Councillors.

A copy of the previous ward map is contained in **Appendix C** of this Paper.

3. CURRENT REPRESENTATION STRUCTURE

The Council's representation structure comprises:

- six Councillors elected from the whole of the Council area; and
- a Mayor elected from the whole of the Council area.

This structure was put in place for the 2014 periodic election and remains in place today.

As of the 2018 Council election there were 1184 electors on the House of Assembly and Council roll. This equates to an elector/Councillor ratio of 197 electors per Councillor.

4. COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL

The role of the Mayor and Councillors of the Council are set out in sections 58 and 59 of the Act.

58—Specific roles of principal member

(1) *The role of the principal member of a council is—*

(a) *to preside at meetings of the council;*

- (b) *if requested, to provide advice to the chief executive officer between council meetings on the implementation of a decision of the council;*
 - (c) *to act as the principal spokesperson of the council;*
 - (d) *to exercise other functions of the council as the council determines;*
 - (e) *to carry out the civic and ceremonial duties of the office of principal member.*
- (2) *Subsection (1)(c) does not apply in circumstances where a council has appointed another member to act as its principal spokesperson.*

59 Roles of members of councils

- (1) *The role of a member of a council is—*
- (a) *as a member of the governing body of the council—*
 - (i) *to participate in the deliberations and civic activities of the council;*
 - (ii) *to keep the council's objectives and policies under review to ensure that they are appropriate and effective;*
 - (iii) *to keep the council's resource allocation, expenditure and activities, and the efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery, under review;*
 - (iv) *to ensure, as far as is practicable, that the principles set out in section 8 are observed;*
 - (b) *as a person elected to the council—to represent the interests of residents and ratepayers, to provide community leadership and guidance, and to facilitate communication between the community and the council.*
- (2) *A member of a council may, with the principal member's authorisation, act in place of, or represent, the principal member.*
- (3) *A member of a council has no direct authority over an employee of the council with respect to the way in which the employee performs his or her duties.*

4.1 MAYOR OR CHAIRPERSON

In this Representation Review consideration must be given to the two options for the office of the Principal Member. The Principal Member may be:

- elected by electors from the whole of the Council area as the Mayor; or
- appointed by and from within the Councillors for a period of no more than four years and given the title of either Chairperson (default title under the Act) or another title as determined by the Council (refer section 51(1)(b) of the Act).

The roles and responsibilities of the Mayor and Chairperson are identical in all respects. The difference between the two positions is due to the manner in which they are elected or appointed, the terms of office and voting rights, including:

- a Mayor is elected for a term of four years, whereas a Chairperson has a term decided by the Council which cannot exceed four years (in other words appointment could be for a shorter period);
- if a candidate running for the position of the Mayor is unsuccessful, they cannot also be considered as a Councillor and their expertise will be lost;
- a Mayor does not have a deliberative vote in a matter being considered by the Council, but where a vote is tied, has a casting vote; and
- a Chairperson has a deliberative vote but not a casting vote.

There are advantages and disadvantages to both.

In the case of an elected Mayor the main advantage is that they can claim to represent a broader cross section of the community as they are elected from the community as a whole. This can also assist in lobbying for funding. The disadvantage is that electing a Mayor requires an election across the whole of the Council area if more than one nomination for the office is received, which is an additional cost to the Council above what is required for the election of Councillors.

Appointing a Chairperson from within the Councillors is the same principle that applies to leaders of the Federal and State Governments. It reflects the “Westminster” system of government by selecting a spokesperson or leader from within the elected group. The advantages to appointing a Chairperson include that the person appointed represents the majority views of the Councillors, which can assist in decision making. Appointing a Chairperson may also result in cost saving to the Council at election time, depending on the number of Councillors. The disadvantage is that electors may prefer a representative of the community, not of the elected Councillors.

Which option is most appropriate will be a matter for consideration and determination by the Council.

If the Final Review Report proposes that the composition of the Council be altered so that the Council will have a Chairperson rather than a Mayor, then the proposal cannot proceed unless it has been passed by a poll of the electors.

4.2 COUNCILLORS

The number of Councillors and their method of appointment are to be considered as part of this Representation Review.

The Council has three options in determining how Councillors are elected:

- from within wards (‘ward Councillors’);
- from across the whole of the Council area (‘area Councillors’); or
- a combination of wards and Council area.

The roles and responsibilities of Councillors remains the same regardless of the election system used.

4.2.1 How Councillors are elected

At the present time the Council elects its Councillors from the whole of the Council area. The Council had previously (prior to 2014) elected its Councillors from two wards, but the Council's wards were abolished as a result of the 2012/2013 Representation Review. There are benefits and disadvantages to both election methods.

The benefits of electing Councillors from wards include:

- electors within local communities are likely to know the candidates within their ward;
- electors anticipate that Councillors from a ward will be more aware of local issues and feel they are better represented;
- it can be easier for members of the community to approach and talk to ward Councillors;
- if the Council has a large geographic area the role of an area Councillor could be unreasonably time consuming;
- less opportunity for special interest groups to "gain control" of the Council;
- cost to candidates conducting an election campaign for a ward rather than the whole Council area is cheaper and can encourage greater candidacy; and
- lower the cost to the Council in conducting elections.

The benefits of electing Councillors from the whole Council area includes:

- an election across the whole Council area provides electors with greater choice in relation to ideas and skills rather than where a candidate resides;
- voters are able to vote for the best or preferred candidates rather than being restricted to candidates within their ward;
- community members have a larger number of Councillors to raise issues with and are not confined to the Councillors within their ward;
- smaller communities can still have local candidates elected by running a strong campaign (reduces risk regarding special interest groups);
- Councillors are likely to take a whole of Council approach to matters rather than a narrower 'ward' view;
- postal voting and use of technology in elections makes it easier for people to serve as Councillors to the whole Council area; and
- there is no requirement to maintain a quota of electors to Councillors as is required with wards.

4.2.2 Number of Councillors

The number of Councillors the Council elects is to be considered in this Representation Review, including:

- whether the current number of Councillors (six) has an impact on decision making by the Council; and
- the ratio of Councillors to electors as compared to similar councils to ensure adequate and fair representation and to avoid over representation.

The comparison of councils is not an exact science given that no two councils are the same in terms of population, size and composition. However, a comparison of similar councils can assist in providing guidance on the appropriate and comparable levels of representation for the Council.

The following table (Table 1) sets out the comparison regarding composition, size and elector ratio numbers of other rural councils. The councils in the comparison table have been chosen as they are rural councils of a similar or comparable size in terms of population and elector number.

Table 1 – Elected Member and Elector Data: Various Rural Councils

Council	Councillors	Principal Member	Electors	Wards	Ratio (incl Mayor)
Barunga West Council	9	Chairperson	1976	0	1:220
District Council of Cleve	7	Chairperson	1249	0	1:178
District Council of Coober Pedy	8	Mayor	961	0	1:120 (1:107)
District Council of Elliston	8	Chairperson	729	0	1:91
The Flinders Ranges Council	8	Mayor	1186	0	1:148 (1:132)
District Council of Franklin Harbour	6	Chairperson	905	0	1:151
District Council of Karoonda East Murray	6	Mayor	746	0	1:124 (1:107)
District Council of Kimba	7	Chairperson	801	0	1:114
Kingston District Council	7	Mayor	1827	0	1:261 (1:228)
District Council of Peterborough	8	Mayor	1205	0	1:151 (1:134)
District Council of Robe	6	Mayor	1184	0	1:197 (1:169)
Southern Mallee District Council	7	Chairperson	1353	0	1:193
District Council of Streaky Bay	8 (4 from each ward)	Chairperson	1558	2	1:195
District Council of Tumby Bay	6	Mayor	1981	0	1:330 (1:283)
Wudinna District Council	7	Chairperson	846	0	1:121

Statistics taken from the *Local Government Election Report 2018* prepared by ECSA.

The comparison table indicates that:

- the councils reviewed have an almost even split (53%/47%) in regard to the Principal Member being a Chairperson or Mayor (eight have a Chairperson and seven have a Mayor);
- only one of the councils (Streaky Bay) has wards;
- for councils with an appointed Chairperson, the number of Councillors range from six to nine with an average of 7;
- for the councils with an elected Mayor, the number of Councillors range from six to eight with an average of 7 Councillors; and

- the ratio of electors to Councillors ranges from 1:91 to 1:330 with the average ratio being 1:188 (excluding the Mayor) (including the Mayor the average ratio is 1:162).

The Council sits towards the middle to higher range (of the councils reviewed) in terms of its current Councillor representation ratio. Approximately 50% of the councils considered have a similar number of Councillors to that of the Council with seven Councillors (including the Mayor). This indicates that the current elector ratio and number of Councillors of the Council compares favourably to other councils with similar characteristics.

In considering Councillor numbers the Council should also consider whether it would like an odd or even number of Councillors. There is no disadvantage to either option. However, an odd number can alleviate the need for the Mayor to use their casting vote.

4.3 ELECTORS

People that are enrolled as an elector in the House of Assembly in South Australia are automatically enrolled as electors in council elections. This roll is maintained by ECSA.

The Chief Executive Officer of a Council is also required to maintain a roll for other people who have enrolled under other eligibility provisions contained in the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999*. Generally, these provisions apply to persons and corporations owning or occupying but not residing in properties in the Council area.

5. LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES AND MATTERS WHICH MUST BE CONSIDERED

The Council is required to take a number of legislative and other matters into account in conducting the Representation Review. These are set out below.

5.1 DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Development trends are a relevant consideration as part of this Representation Review as they show how and where there may be potential increases to the population of the Council or electors. This is relevant in considering whether the Council will reintroduce wards as section 33(2) of the Act requires that electors represented by councillor must not vary from the ward quota by 10%.

Council records show that there were 22 new dwellings constructed in the Council area during the 2016/2017 financial year, 29 new dwellings constructed in the Council area during the 2017/2018 financial year and 27 new dwellings constructed in the Council area during the 2018/2019 financial year. Other development of note includes a 35-allotment land division approved in 2017 on land owned by the Robe Golf Club, which is in close proximity to the Robe Township.

Residential development trends for the Council area show small increases in residential development and opportunities for further increases of residential development in the Robe township. However, the impact this development will have is difficult to quantify in terms of its impact on elector numbers.

The Council area also has a significant number of holiday homes. Information provided by the Council in its voter's roll shows that approximately 10% of property owners have a postal address outside of the Council area. The proportion of absentee owners impacts on the Representation Review, especially if the Council were to consider returning to a ward system, as the number of people seeking to be enrolled directly with the Council may vary over time.

5.2 POPULATION DATA AND PROJECTIONS

The Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Development (“DPTI”) have undertaken population projections for the Council area. The estimated population projections for the Council in 2021 is 1,454, in 2026 is 1,456 (+2) and in 2031 is 1,453 (-3) (Local Government Area Projections 2011 – 2031 prepared by DPTI). It is noted that the population projections are based on population numbers different to the ABS 2016 census data (DPTI projection for 2016 was 1447 compared to 1378 in the 2016 census). Despite this discrepancy, the data shows very little change to the population of the Council area over the next 12 years. Suggesting that elector numbers are likely to remain similar for the 2022 Council elections.

Population projections are to be given minimal weight due to the date when the base data was collected and assumptions about future fertility, mortality and migration. The data should be considered having regard to the Council’s own knowledge about its area and anticipated population changes (i.e. large housing development or new industry).

5.3 ELECTOR REPRESENTATION

As detailed in Table 1 the ratio of electors per Councillor sits just above the average ratio for similar councils. If the Council were to change the number of Councillors either by increasing or decreasing the number, the representation would still be in an elector ratio range comparable to other similar councils (refer 4.2.2 of this Paper).

5.4 DOES THE CURRENT STRUCTURE REFLECT COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

Communities of interest are identified considering factors relevant to the physical, economic and social environment. Including consideration and analysis of:

- neighborhood communities;
- history/heritage of the Council area and communities;
- sporting facilities;
- community support services;
- recreation and leisure services and centres;
- retail and shopping centres;
- industrial and economic development; and
- environmental and geographic areas of interest.

Local knowledge will be the best tool to identify and determine communities of interest. Along with development characteristics of the Council area.

5.5 WARD STRUCTURE AND QUOTAS

Section 33(2) of the Act sets out the requirements for wards. Importantly, the Council “must observe the principle that the number of electors represented by a councillor must not...vary from the ward quota by 10 per cent”. The ward quota is the average elector ratio for the Council area.

If the Council determines to re-introduce a ward structure, the structure must incorporate wards with an equitable distribution of electors in terms of elector number and/or ratio.

The previous ward structure for the Council was two wards comprising a town and rural ward. Two Councillors were elected from the rural ward and four Councillors were elected from the town ward. The previous ward structure was reflective of the distribution and number of electors.

6. OPTIONS

The following options have been identified for the first round of public consultation for the Representation Review, they are:

- Mayor or Chairperson
 - option 1A – Mayor; or
 - option 1B – Chairperson.
- Wards or no wards
 - option 2A – no wards; or
 - option 2B – wards.
- Number of Councillors
 - option 3A – continue with six Councillors;
 - option 3B – reduce the number of Councillors to five; or
 - option 3C – increase the number of Councillors to seven.

6.1 MAYOR OR CHAIRPERSON

The differences between a Mayor and Chairperson are discussed at 4.1 of this Paper.

If the Council were to change the current representation from a Mayor to a Chairperson the Council should also consider whether an increase in Councillor numbers is required. Discussed further at 6.3 of this Paper.

If the Council did change the current composition of the Council and replaced the Mayor with an appointed Chairperson this can only be implemented if passed by a poll of electors.

6.2 WARDS OR NO WARDS

It is a requirement of the Representation Review that the Council consider whether or not it should have wards. The Council abolished its wards following the 2012/2013 Representation Review.

The current arrangement to have Councillors elected from the whole Council area is consistent with a number of other similar councils (refer Table 1). The benefits of having Councillors elected from wards and the whole Council area are set out at 4.2.1 of this Paper.

The rationale for removing the wards during the previous Representation Review included that:

- it would overcome division of the community based on town and rural residency, which served no purpose other than to ensure direct representation of the electors with the sparsely populated but substantial rural area;
- afford the electors in the “rural” area of the Council the opportunity to elect more than two representatives;
- enable electors within the community to vote for all candidates of the Council regardless of geographical location;
- resolve the fluctuations in elector numbers (no specified quota tolerance limits apply) and therefore the Council would not be required to continually adjust its ward boundaries;
- it could accommodate any number of area Councillors; and
- the varying ward sizes and representation (two and four) could be perceived as having a greater, more influential voice in the Council even if the elector ratio within each of the wards was consistent.

If the Council determines to change its composition to include wards it must ensure that those wards are within a 10% variation from the ward quota in accordance with section 33 of the Act. If wards are introduced there should be a logical basis for the ward structure, as was the case with the previous ward structure which was divided between town and rural. Consideration also need to be given to:

- demographics and concentration of electors within the Council area;
- whether the Council considers it has appropriate representation from the whole Council area; and
- the broader principles set out in section 26(1) of the Act.

The options for the ward structures are limited due to the:

- small number of electors in the Council area; and
- the high concentration of electors located within the Robe township.

There are two options proposed in respect of wards, continuing with Councillors being elected from the whole Council area or introducing wards.

The previous ward structure is contained in **Appendix D** of this Paper and provides one example of a ward structure for the Council.

6.3 NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

There are currently six Councillors representing the Council. Although this is an even number of Councillors there is no apparent disadvantage to the Council and its decision making.

An odd number of Councillors reduces the likelihood of a tied vote in a matter before the Council. However, where a Council has a Mayor, as is the case for the Council, the Mayor has a casting vote where the vote is tied.

There are three options proposed for the number of Councillors, being to continue with six, reduce to five Councillors (with a Mayor) or increase to seven Councillors (with a Mayor or appointed Chairperson).

6.3.1 Continue with six Councillors

With the current number of electors being 1184 the ratio of electors per Councillor under this option would remain at around 197 electors per Councillor (refer Table 1).

The current number of Councillors is comparable with other councils of a similar size. The advantage of continuing with the same number of Councillors is that:

- the Council understands the costs associated with this level of representation;
- individual Councillors understand their responsibilities;
- there is an appropriate level of elector representation; and
- the workload for each Councillor is appropriate.

6.3.2 Reduce the number of Councillors to five

If the number of Councillors was reduced to five, the ratio of electors per Councillor would increase to 237 (excluding the Mayor) and 197 (including the Mayor). These ratios are still comparable to those of similar councils (refer Table 1).

The advantages of reducing the number of Councillors to five are:

- this is an odd number of Councillors which could reduce the incidence of tied voting;
- decision making may be more streamlined; and
- could reduce the cost to the Council.

The disadvantages are:

- the workload for individual Councillors would be greater; and
- a smaller quorum for decision making (three in the case of five Councillors with one being the Mayor compared to four in the current Council).

Any reduction to the number of Councillors will need to ensure that there are sufficient Councillors to:

- manage the affairs of the Council;
- not create excessive workloads for Councillors;
- provide an appropriate level of elector representation; and
- provide adequate lines of communication between the community and the Council.

6.3.3 Increase the number of Councillors to seven

If the number of Councillors were to increase to seven the number of electors per Councillor would reduce to:

- with an elected Mayor, 169 electors per Councillor (excluding the Mayor) and 148 electors per Councillor (including the Mayor); and
- with an appointed Chairperson, 169 electors per Councillor.

The advantages of having a larger number of Councillors include:

- an odd number of Councillors which could remove instances of tied voting;
- the workload associated with attendance at community events and dealing with resident and ratepayer issues is shared between more Councillors reducing individual Councillor workload; and
- residents and ratepayers have more choice in relation to which Councillor to raise issues with.

The disadvantage is that there are higher costs for the Council in relation to allowances, expense reimbursements and support.

If the Council determines to amend the current composition and appoint a Chairperson (refer 6.1 of this Paper) an increase to Councillor numbers would be cost neutral.

7. SUMMARY

A Representation Review must be conducted by a Council. The process for a Representation Review is set out in the Act. Supplementary information and guides prepared by ECSA and the Local Government Association are also available.

Following endorsement of this Paper submission will be invited in respect of the options, being:

- Option 1A – Mayor;
- Option 1B – Chairperson;
- Option 2A – wards;
- Option 2B – no wards;
- Option 3A – continue with six Councillors;
- Option 3B – reduce the number of Councillors to five; and
- Option 3C – increase the number of Councillors to seven.

Public consultation is proposed to run from approximately 3 August 2020 for a period of six weeks. Notice of the consultation will be made in the Government Gazette and local newspaper. A copy of this Paper will be available for inspection at the principal office of the Council and on the Council's website.

Submissions may propose other options in relation to the Council's representation including the number of wards (if there are to be any), ward boundaries and the number of Councillors.

Feedback from the public consultation will be considered by the Council who will determine its preferred representation structure which will include preparation of the draft Representation Report.

The preferred structure will then be subject to a second round of public consultation before the Council makes its final decision and submissions to ECSA for certification.

APPENDIX A

1 August 2019

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

2883

LAND ACQUISITION ACT 1969

SECTION 16

*Form 5—Notice of Acquisition***1. Notice of acquisition**

The Minister for Education (the Authority), of 31 Flinders Street, Adelaide SA 5000, acquires the following interests in the following land:

Comprising an unencumbered estate in fee simple in that piece of land being portion of Allotment 100 in Deposited Plan No 18876 comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 5069 Folio 457, and being the whole of the land identified as Allotment 1 in D121402 lodged in the Lands Titles Office

This notice is given under section 16 of the *Land Acquisition Act 1969*.

2. Compensation

A person who has or had an interest in the land that is divested or diminished by the acquisition or the enjoyment of which is adversely affected by the acquisition who does not receive an offer of compensation from the Authority may apply to the Authority for compensation.

3. Inquiries

Inquiries should be directed to:

Rocco Caruso
GPO Box 1533
Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone: (08) 8343 2569

Dated: 30 July 2019

The Common Seal of the MINISTER FOR EDUCATION was hereto affixed by direction of the Minister in the presence of:

JOHN GARDNER
Minister for Education
Department for Education

DPTI 2019/04429/01

LAND ACQUISITION ACT 1969

SECTION 16

*Form 5—Notice of Acquisition***1. Notice of acquisition**

The Commissioner of Highways (the Authority), of 50 Flinders Street, Adelaide SA 5000, acquires the following interests in the following land:

Comprising an unencumbered estate in fee simple in that piece of land being portion of Allotment 8 in Deposited Plan No 7476 comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 5596 Folio 35, and being the whole of the land identified as Allotment 11 in DP 121326 lodged in the Lands Titles Office

This notice is given under section 16 of the *Land Acquisition Act 1969*.

2. Compensation

A person who has or had an interest in the land that is divested or diminished by the acquisition or the enjoyment of which is adversely affected by the acquisition who does not receive an offer of compensation from the Authority may apply to the Authority for compensation.

3. Inquiries

Inquiries should be directed to:

Carlene Russell
GPO Box 1533
Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone: (08) 8343 2512

Dated: 1 August 2019

The Common Seal of the COMMISSIONER OF HIGHWAYS was hereto affixed by authority of the Commissioner in the presence of:

MOHAMMED ELGAZZAR
Manager
Property Portfolio & Strategy
(Authorised Officer)
Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure

DPTI 2019/01903/01

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF RELEVANT PERIOD

Review of Council Compositions and Wards

Pursuant to section 12(4) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government has determined the relevant period for the next review of council compositions and wards, to be the date as contained in the table listed hereunder:

Council	Last Review	Next Review Period
Adelaide	19/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Adelaide Plains	26/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Alexandrina	26/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Burnside	8/01/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Charles Sturt	5/09/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Coorong	18/09/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Flinders Ranges Council	14/05/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Goyder	16/08/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Light	14/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Marion	27/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Mid Murray	05/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Mitcham	12/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Mount Remarkable	29/11/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Murray Bridge	8/07/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Robe	18/09/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Unley	19/08/2013	June 2020–June 2021
Elliston	14/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Franklin Harbour	9/07/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Gawler	26/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Holdfast Bay	5/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Mount Barker	26/08/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Port Pirie	05/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Prospect	28/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Streaky Bay	28/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Tatiara	05/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Tumby Bay	12/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Wakefield Regional	26/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Wattle Range	26/08/2013	October 2020–October 2021
West Torrens	06/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Wudinna	26/08/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Yorke Peninsula	19/11/2013	October 2020–October 2021
Adelaide Hills	30/11/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Barossa	1/05/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Berri Barmera	29/06/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Campbelltown	1/05/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	7/07/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Grant	8/05/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Kangaroo Island	14/02/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Kimba	5/06/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Mount Gambier	1/05/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Northern Areas	21/08/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	31/08/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Onkaparinga	7/12/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Playford	16/10/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Port Adelaide Enfield	3/07/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Port Lincoln	6/04/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Salisbury	21/11/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Southern Mallee	1/06/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Victor Harbor	27/07/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Yankalilla	27/07/2017	April 2024–April 2025
Barunga West	31/07/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Ceduna	5/10/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Cleve	26/10/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Cooper Pedy	21/11/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Copper Coast	3/10/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Karoonda East Murray	6/11/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Kingston	4/09/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Lower Eyre Peninsula	26/10/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Loxton Waikerie	31/07/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Naracoorte Lucindale	4/09/2017	October 2024–October 2025

1 August 2019

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

2885

Orroroo Carrieton	6/11/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Peterborough	15/12/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Port Augusta	3/10/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Renmark Paringa	3/10/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Tea Tree Gully	28/11/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Walkerville	26/10/2017	October 2024–October 2025
Whyalla	21/11/2017	October 2024–October 2025

Dated: 20 July 2019

HON STEPHAN KNOLL MP
Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government

APPENDIX B**Schedule for Representation Review - June 2020 to June 2021**

	Action	Timeline
Step 1	Initiate Representation Review by resolution of the Council	Resolution of the Council on 13 May 2020
Step 2	Consider current arrangements and future options	Elected Member briefing 24 June 2020
Step 3	Prepare Representation Options Paper Presented to the Council for endorsement and approval for consultation	30 June 2020 15 July 2020 Council meeting
Step 4	First public consultation	Commencing approx. 3 August 2020 to run for 6 weeks
Step 5	Consider submissions from consultation and prepare Representation Review Report (draft) Presented to the Council for endorsement and approval of second public consultation	2 October 2020 14 October 2020 Council meeting
Step 6	Second public notification	Commencing approx. 2 November 2020 to run 3 weeks
Step 7	Hearing of submissions (public hearing to be held by the Council or Council committee)	Conducted between 7 to 20 December 2020
Step 8**	Conduct a poll (if changes to the method of selection of the principal member) (8-10 weeks)	4 January 2021 to 14 March 2021 (if required)
Step 9***	Finalise Representation Review Report Presented to Council for endorsement and approval to submit to Electoral Commissioner	28 March 2021 14 April 2021 Council meeting
Step 10***	Submit final representation review report to the Electoral Commissioner for certification	After Council meeting on 14 April 2021 and by 23 April 2021 (anticipated response by 31 May 2021)
Step 11**	Technical description of boundaries (only if amendments occur to internal ward boundaries – note no current wards in Council area)	April 2021 (if required)
Step 12***	Gazettal of review outcome	June 2021 notice
Step 13***	Council to implement changes	After notice in Gazette
	Completed	June 2021

**steps may not be required

***timeline to be reviewed once consultation and Representation Review Report completed and the proposed composition of the Council known

APPENDIX C**Excerpts from the *Local Government Act 1999*****Division 2—Powers of councils and representation reviews****12—Composition and wards**

- (1) A council may, by notice in the Gazette after complying with the requirements of this section—
 - (a) alter the composition of the council;
 - (b) divide, or redivide, the area of the council into wards, alter the division of the area of the council into wards, or abolish the division of the area of a council into wards.
- (2) A notice under this section may also—
 - (a) change the council from a municipal council to a district council, or change the council from a district council to a municipal council;
 - (b) alter the name of—
 - (i) the council;
 - (ii) the area of the council;
 - (c) give a name to, or alter the name of, a ward, (without the need to comply with section 13).
- (3) A council must, before it publishes a notice, conduct and complete a review under this section for the purpose of determining whether its community would benefit from an alteration to its composition or ward structure.
- (4) A review may relate to a specific aspect of the composition of the council, or of the wards of the council, or may relate to those matters generally—but a council must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the council, and the issue of the division, or potential division, of the area of the council into wards, are comprehensively reviewed under this section at least once in each relevant period that is prescribed by the regulations.
- (5) A council must, in order to commence a review, initiate the preparation of a paper (a representation options paper) by a person who, in the opinion of the council, is qualified to address the representation and governance issues that may arise with respect to the matters under review.
- (6) The representation options paper must examine the advantages and disadvantages of the various options that are available to the council under subsection (1) (insofar as the various features of the composition and structure of the council are under review) and, in particular (to the extent that may be relevant)—
 - (a) if the council is constituted of more than 12 members—examine the question of whether the number of members should be reduced; and
 - (b) if the area of the council is divided into wards—examine the question of whether the division of the area into wards should be abolished, (and may examine such other relevant issues as the council or the person preparing the paper thinks fit).

- (7) The council must—
- (a) by public notice—
 - (i) inform the public of the preparation of the representation options paper; and
 - (ii) invite interested persons to make written submissions to the council on the subject of the review within a period specified by the council (being a period of at least 6 weeks); and
 - (b) publish a copy of the notice in a newspaper circulating within its area.
- (8) The council must ensure that copies of the representation options paper are available for inspection (without charge) and purchase (on payment of a fee fixed by the council) at the principal office of the council during the period that applies under subsection (7)(a)(ii).
- (8a) The council must, at the conclusion of the public consultation undertaken under subsection (7)(a), prepare a report that—
- (a) provides information on the public consultation and the council's response to the issues arising from the submissions made as part of that process; and
 - (b) sets out—
 - (i) any proposal that the council considers should be carried into effect under this section; and
 - (ii) in respect of any such proposal—an analysis of how the proposal relates to the principles under section 26(1)(c) and the matters referred to in section 33 (to the extent that may be relevant); and
 - (c) insofar as a decision of the council is not to adopt any change under consideration as part of the representation options paper or the public consultation process—sets out the reasons for the council's decision.
- (9) The council must—
- (a) make copies of its report available for public inspection at the principal office of the council; and
 - (b) by public notice—
 - (i) inform the public of the preparation of the report and its availability; and
 - (ii) invite interested persons to make written submissions to the council on the report within a period specified by the council (being a period of at least 3 weeks); and
 - (c) publish a copy of the notice in a newspaper circulating within its area.
- (10) The council must give any person who makes written submissions in response to an invitation under subsection (9) an opportunity to appear personally or by representative before the council or a council committee and to be heard on those submissions.

(11) The council must then finalise its report (including in its report recommendations with respect to such related or ancillary matters as it thinks fit).

(11a) If the report proposes that the composition of the council be altered so that—

- (a) the council will have a chairperson rather than a mayor; or
- (b) the council will have a mayor rather than a chairperson, then the proposal cannot proceed unless or until a poll has been conducted on the matter and the requirements of subsection (11c) have been satisfied.

(11b) The council may, with respect to a proposal within the ambit of subsection (11a)—

- (a) insofar as may be relevant in the particular circumstances, separate the proposal (and any related proposal) from any other proposal contained in the report (and then it will be taken that the council is reporting separately on this proposal (and any related proposal));
- (b) determine to conduct the relevant poll—
 - (i) in conjunction with the next general election for the council (so that the proposal (and any related proposal) will then, if approved at the poll, take effect from polling day for the following general election); or
 - (ii) at some other time (so that the proposal (and any related proposal) will then, if approved at the poll, take effect in the manner contemplated by subsection (18)).

(11c) The following provisions apply to a poll required under subsection (11a):

- (a) the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 will apply to the poll subject to modifications, exclusions or additions prescribed by regulation;
- (b) the council must—
 - (i) prepare a summary of the issues surrounding the proposal to assist persons who may vote at the poll; and
 - (ii) obtain a certificate from the Electoral Commissioner that he or she is satisfied that the council has taken reasonable steps to ensure that the summary presents the arguments for and against the proposal in a fair and comprehensive manner; and
 - (iii) after obtaining the certificate of the Electoral Commissioner, ensure that copies of the summary are made available for public inspection at the principal office of the council, are available for inspection on a website determined by the chief executive officer, and are published or distributed in any other way that the Electoral Commissioner may direct;
- (c) the proposal cannot proceed unless—
 - (i) the number of persons who return ballot papers at the poll is at least equal to the prescribed level of voter participation; and
 - (ii) the majority of those persons who validly cast a vote at the poll vote in favour of the proposal.

- (11d) For the purposes of subsection (11c)(c), the prescribed level of voter participation is a number represented by multiplying the total number of persons entitled to cast a vote at the poll by half of the turnout percentage for the council, where the turnout percentage is—
- (a) the number of persons who returned ballot papers in the contested elections for the council held at the last periodic elections, expressed as a percentage of the total number of persons entitled to vote at those elections (viewing all elections for the council as being the one election for the purposes of this provision), as determined by the Electoral Commissioner and published in such manner as the Electoral Commissioner thinks fit; or
 - (b) if no contested elections for the council were held at the last periodic elections, a percentage determined by the Electoral Commissioner for the purposes of the application of this section to the relevant council, after taking into account the turnout percentages of other councils of a similar size and type, as published in such manner as the Electoral Commissioner thinks fit.
- (12) The council must then, taking into account the operation of the preceding subsection, refer the report to the Electoral Commissioner.
- (12a) The report must be accompanied by copies of any written submissions received under subsection (9) that relate to the subject-matter of the proposal.
- (13) On receipt of a report, the Electoral Commissioner must determine whether the requirements of this section have been satisfied and then—
- (a) if of the opinion that the requirements have been satisfied—give an appropriate certificate; or
 - (b) if of the opinion that the requirements have not been satisfied—refer the matter back to the council together with a written explanation of the reasons for not giving a certificate under this subsection.
- (14) The validity of a determination of the Electoral Commissioner under subsection (13) cannot be called into question.
- (15) If a certificate is given by the Electoral Commissioner under subsection (13)(a)—
- (a) the Electoral Commissioner must specify in the certificate a day by which an appropriate notice (or notices) for the purposes of this section must be published by the council in the Gazette; and
 - (b) the council may then, by notice (or notices) in the Gazette, provide for the operation of any proposal under this section that it has recommended in its report.
- (16) If the matter is referred back to the council under subsection (13)(b), the council—
- (a) must take such action as is appropriate in the circumstances (and may, as it thinks fit, alter its report); and
 - (b) may then refer the report back to the Electoral Commissioner.
- (17) However, a council must, if it makes an alteration to its report under subsection (16)(a), comply with the requirements of subsections (9) and (10) (as if the report (as altered) constituted a new report), unless the council determines that the alteration is of a minor nature only.

(18) A proposal under this section takes effect as follows:

- (a) if the day of publication of the relevant notice under subsection (15) occurs before 1 January of the year in which a periodic election is next due to be held then, unless paragraph (c) applies, the proposal will take effect as from polling day for that periodic election;
- (b) if the day of publication of the relevant notice under subsection (15) occurs on or after 1 January of a year in which a periodic election is due to be held (and before polling day for that periodic election) then, unless paragraph (c) applies, the proposal will take effect as from polling day for the periodic election next following the periodic election held in the year of publication;
- (c) if a general election (not being a periodic election) is held after the expiration of 7 months from the day of publication of the relevant notice under subsection (15) (and before polling day for the next periodic election after publication) then the proposal will take effect from polling day for that general election.

(18a) Subsection (18) has effect subject to the operation of subsection (11b)(b)(i).

(19) If a council—

- (a) subject to subsection (22), fails to undertake a review in accordance with the requirements of this section; or
- (b) fails to take appropriate action if a matter is referred back to the council by the Electoral Commissioner under subsection (13)(b); or
- (c) fails to publish an appropriate notice in the Gazette by the day specified by the Electoral Commissioner in a certificate under this section, the chief executive officer must refer the matter to the Electoral Commissioner.

Maximum penalty: \$2 500.

(20) On the referral of a matter under subsection (19), the Electoral Commissioner may take such action as, in the circumstances of the particular case, appears appropriate to the Electoral Commissioner and may then, by notice in the Gazette, give effect to a proposal that could have been carried into effect by the council under this section.

(21) The Electoral Commissioner may recover from councils costs reasonably incurred by the Electoral Commissioner in performing his or her functions under this section.

(22) The Minister may exempt a council from the requirement to hold a review under this section on the basis that relevant issues have already been addressed by a proposal under this Chapter.

(23) An exemption under subsection (22) may be granted on conditions determined by the Minister, including a condition that the council carry out a review under this section by a date specified by the Minister.

(24) If—

- (a) the area of a council is divided into wards; and

- (b) the Electoral Commissioner notifies the council in writing that the number of electors represented by a councillor for a ward varies from the ward quota by more than 20 per cent, then the council must undertake a review under this section within a period specified by the Electoral Commissioner.
- (25) For the purposes of subsection (24)—
- (a) if two or more councillors represent a ward, the number of electors represented by each councillor will be taken to be the number of electors for the ward (as at a date determined by the Electoral Commissioner) divided by the number of councillors who represent the ward (ignoring any fractions resulting from the division); and
 - (b) the ward quota is the number of electors for the area (as at a date determined by the Electoral Commissioner) divided by the number of councillors for the area of the council who represent wards (ignoring any fractions resulting from the division).

26—Principles

- (1) The Commission should, in arriving at recommendations for the purposes of this Chapter (but taking into account the nature of the proposal under consideration), have regard to—
 - (a) the objects of this Act; and
 - (b) the roles, functions and objectives of councils under this Act; and
 - (c) the following principles:
 - (i) the resources available to local communities should be used as economically as possible while recognising the desirability of avoiding significant divisions within a community;
 - (ii) proposed changes should, wherever practicable, benefit ratepayers;
 - (iii) a council should have a sufficient resource base to fulfil its functions fairly, effectively and efficiently;
 - (iv) a council should offer its community a reasonable range of services delivered on an efficient, flexible, equitable and responsive basis;
 - (v) a council should facilitate effective planning and development within an area, and be constituted with respect to an area that can be promoted on a coherent basis;
 - (vi) a council should be in a position to facilitate sustainable development, the protection of the environment and the integration of land use schemes;
 - (vii) a council should reflect communities of interest of an economic, recreational, social, regional or other kind, and be consistent with community structures, values, expectations and aspirations;
 - (viii) a council area should incorporate or promote an accessible centre (or centres) for local administration and services;

- (ix) the importance within the scheme of local government to ensure that local communities within large council areas can participate effectively in decisions about local matters;
 - (xi) residents should receive adequate and fair representation within the local government system, while over-representation in comparison with councils of a similar size and type should be avoided (at least in the longer term);
 - (xii) a scheme that provides for the performance of functions and delivery of services in relation to 2 or more councils (for example, a scheme for regional governance) may improve councils' capacity to deliver services on a regional basis and therefore offer a viable and appropriate alternative to structural change; and (d) the extent and frequency of previous changes affecting the council or councils under this Chapter or the repealed Act.
- (2) The Commission should, so far as is relevant, give preference to structural changes that enhance the capacity of local government to play a significant role in the future of an area or region from a strategic perspective.

33—Ward quotas

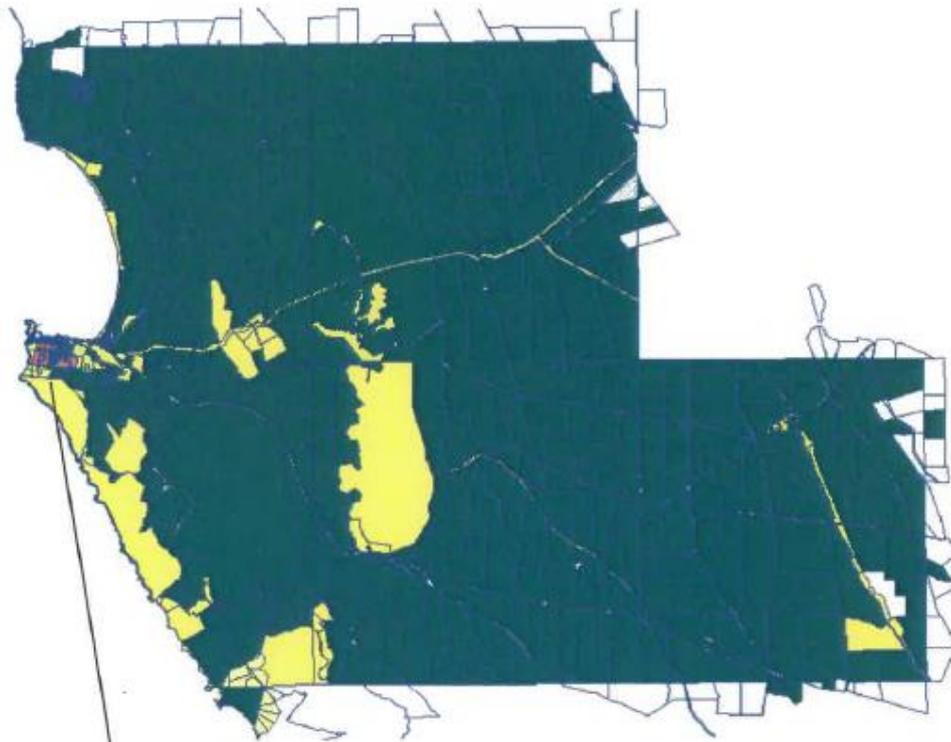
- (1) In addition to the other requirements of this Chapter, the following matters must be taken into account, as far as practicable, in the formulation of a proposal that relates to the boundaries of a ward or wards:
- (a) the desirability of reflecting communities of interest of an economic, social, regional or other kind;
 - (b) the population of the area, and of each ward affected or envisaged by the proposal;
 - (c) the topography of the area, and of each ward affected or envisaged by the proposal;
 - (d) the feasibility of communication between electors affected by the proposal and their elected representatives;
 - (e) the nature of substantial demographic changes that may occur in the foreseeable future;
 - (f) the need to ensure adequate and fair representation while at the same time avoiding over-representation in comparison to other councils of a similar size and type (at least in the longer term).
- (2) A proposal that relates to the formation or alteration of wards of a council must also observe the principle that the number of electors represented by a councillor must not, as at the relevant date (assuming that the proposal were in operation), vary from the ward quota by more than 10 per cent.
- (2a) For the purposes of subsection (2)—
- (a) if it is proposed that two or more councillors represent a particular ward, the number of electors represented by each councillor will be taken to be the number of electors for the ward (as at the relevant date) divided by the number of proposed councillors for the ward (ignoring any fractions resulting from the division); and

- (b) the ward quota will be taken to be the number of electors for the area (as at the relevant date) divided by the number of councillors for the area who represent wards (assuming that the proposal were in operation and ignoring any fractions resulting from the division); and
 - (c) the relevant date, in relation to a proposal that relates to the formation or alteration of wards of the council, will be taken to be the date on which the proposal is finalised for the purposes of this Chapter.
- (3) The 10 per cent tolerance referred to in subsection (2) may be exceeded if, on the basis of demographic changes predicted by a Commonwealth or State government agency, it appears that the ward quota will not, as at the next periodic elections, be exceeded by more than 10 per cent (the relevant date in this case being the date of the next periodic elections).
- (4) If under the repealed Act a proposal relating to the formation or alteration of wards did not comply with the corresponding provisions to subsections (2) and (3) and the relevant proposal proceeded (either in its original or an amended form) then, unless otherwise determined by proclamation, the relevant council (or each relevant council) must conduct (and complete) a review of its composition and wards under Part 1 so as to enable appropriate changes in the composition and wards of the council to take effect on or before the date of the second general election of the council after the proposal took effect or, if an earlier date has been fixed by proclamation, on or before that date.

APPENDIX D

Ward Map

Rural Ward



Town Ward

