



Shire of Pingelly Review of Representation – 2022

Discussion Paper

Background

Under the proposed Local Government Reforms, The Shire of Pingelly has been identified as a Shire which may need to reduce the number of Council members in accordance with population thresholds. The Shire of Pingelly has resolved to undertake a voluntary review of its system of representation. The purpose of the review is to assess whether eight (8) councillors and a no wards structure is still appropriate for the current situation at the Shire.

Current situation

Currently the Shire of Pingelly has eight (8) councillors and 816 electors with a councillor/elector ratio of 1 councillor to each 102 electors.

One vacancy was created upon the resignation of Councillor Camilleri June 2022. Approval has been given under section 4.17(3) of the Act to maintain one vacancy until the next ordinary election in October 2023.

Review process

The review process involves a number of steps:

- The Council resolves to undertake the review
- Public submission period opens
- Information provided to the community for discussion
- Public submission period closes
- The Council considers all submissions and relevant factors and makes a decision
- The Council submits a report to the Local Government Advisory Board (the Board) for its consideration by 14 February 2023
- If a change is proposed, The Board submits a recommendation to the Minister for Local Government (the Minister).

Any changes approved by the Minister will be in place for the next ordinary election October 2023.

Factors to be considered

Several factors will be taken into account as part of the review process and will include:

- The advantages and disadvantages of no wards
- The advantages and disadvantages of reducing the number of councillors
- The implications of any change to the councillor/elector ratio
- The cost of elected members
- The effectiveness and efficiency of Council meetings

Options to consider

The Council will consider the following options and members of the community may suggest others:

Option 1: Reduce the number of councillors to 7.

Option 2: Reduce the number of councillors to 5.

Council welcomes your comments on any matters that may assist it to make informed and responsible decisions for the benefit of the people of the Shire of Pingelly. Thank you for your interest and involvement in this review.

Public submissions

Submission must be received by 4.00pm Friday 16 December 2022.

Please email your submission to shana.smith@pingelly.wa.gov.au and title 'Representation Review'.

Submissions can also be hand delivered to the Shire Office:

17 Queen Street
Pingelly WA 6308

For more information, please contact Shana Smith, Executive Governance Officer on 9886 1066 or by email.