



Review of Wards and Representation



Submissions can be made by no later than _____
(Six week public consultation period from date of public notice)

Contents

Background	2
Review process	3
Factors to be considered	4
What do these factors mean?	4
What does this mean for the City of Greater Geraldton?	5
Options to consider	7
Option 1 - 6 wards, 12 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward	8
Option 2 - 4 Wards, 8 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward	9
Option 3 - 4 Wards, 12 Councillors, 3 Councillors per ward	10
Option 4 - 5 Wards, 14 Councillors, variable number of Councillors per ward ..	11
Option 5 – No wards	12
Option 6 - Mullewa ward (1 Councillor), North/Hills Ward (3 Councillors), 4 other wards with 2 Councillors each	13
Other Options	13
Transitional arrangements	14
How to make a Submission	15
Appendix	16
Localities and Suburbs of the City of Greater Geraldton	16
Option 1 – 6 wards, 12 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward	17
Option 2 – 4 Wards, 8 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward	20
Option 3 – 4 Wards, 12 Councillors, 3 Councillors per ward	23
Option 4 - 5 Wards, 14 Councillors, variable number of Councillors per ward ..	26
Option 5 – No wards	28
Option 6 - Mullewa ward (1 Councillor), North/Hills Ward (3 Councillors), 4 other wards with 2 Councillors each	29

Background

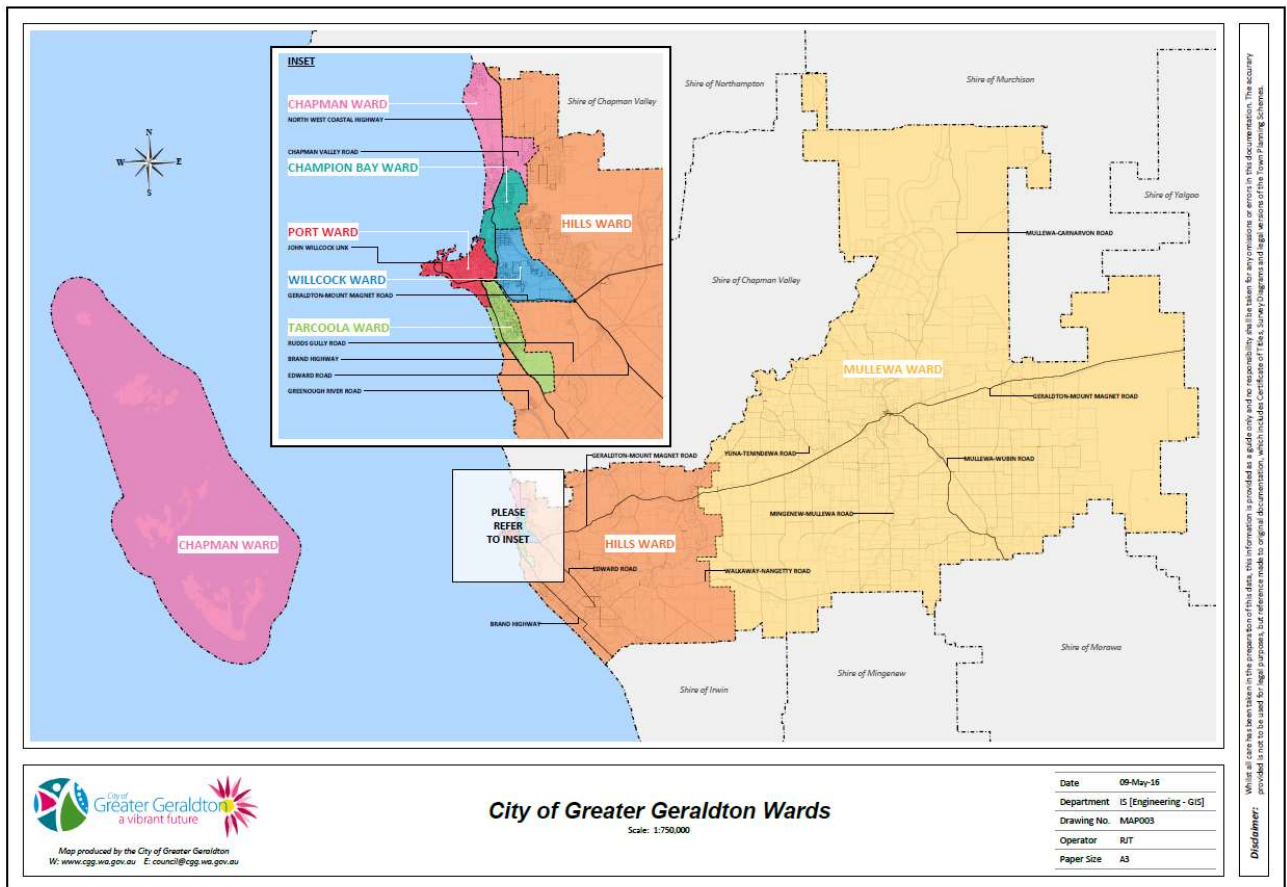
The City of Greater Geraldton is undertaking a review of its ward system and representation.

Under the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), local governments with wards must carry out reviews of the ward boundaries and the number of Councillors for each ward at least once every eight years.

Wards and representation were last reviewed when the then City of Geraldton-Greenough merged with the Shire of Mullewa in 2010.

The Council of the City of Greater Geraldton is presently comprised of 14 Councillors elected from 7 wards with two Councillors each, plus a Mayor elected at large.

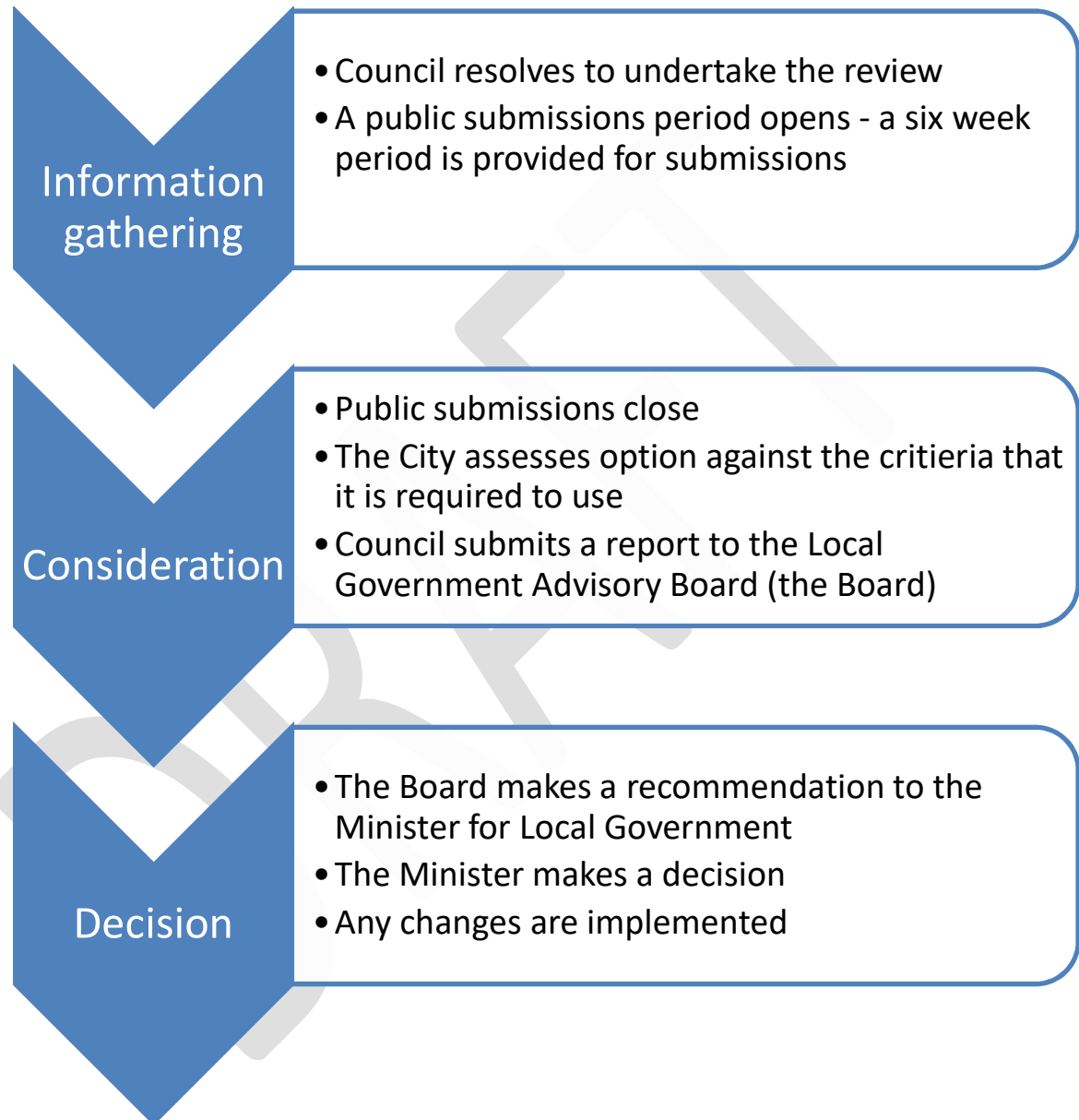
The present wards are shown below:



Review process

The review process must be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995.

It involves a number of steps:



Council elections are scheduled to be held in October 2019. In order to ensure any required changes are made, the City will need to make a submission to the Board by 31 March 2019.

Factors to be considered

The purpose of the review is to assess the arrangements in place for the ward boundaries and representation that is most appropriate and best suits the characteristics of the City of Greater Geraldton and its residents.

As a result of the Review, the City may propose any of the following:

- Creating new wards;
- Changing ward boundaries;
- Abolishing any or all wards;
- Changing the name of a district or a ward;
- Changing the number of Councillors; and/or
- Specifying or changing the number of offices of Councillor for a ward.
- Section 2.17 of the Local Government Act 1995 provides that where its Mayor is elected at large, a local government must have a minimum of six and no more than 15 (including the Mayor and up to 14 Councillors) elected members.

The City currently has 14 Councillors and a Mayor elected at large, the allowable maximum number of elected members.

When considering changes to wards and representation, Schedule 2.2 of the Act specifies the factors that must be taken into account by a local government as part of the review process:

- Community of interest;
- Physical and topographic features;
- Demographic trends;
- Economic factors; and
- Ratio of Councillors to electors in the various wards.

What do these factors mean?

The Local Government Advisory Board (LGAB) receives and reviews requests by local governments and makes recommendations to the Minister, who may accept or reject the Board's recommendation.

More detail about the LGAB, its roles and processes is available at <https://www.dlqc.wa.gov.au/AboutUs/Pages/LGAB.aspx>.

The criteria in the Act can be interpreted as:

Community of interest	Physical and topographic features	Demographic trends	Economic factors	Ratio of Councillors to electors
<p>The term community of interest has a number of elements. These include a sense of community identity and belonging, similarities in the characteristics of the residents of a community and similarities in the economic activities. It can also include dependence on the shared facilities in an area as reflected in catchment areas of local schools and sporting teams, or the circulation areas of local newspapers. Neighbourhoods, suburbs and towns are important units in the physical, historical and social infrastructure and often generate a feeling of community and belonging.</p>	<p>These may be natural or man-made features that will vary from area to area. Water features such as rivers and catchment boundaries may be relevant considerations. Coastal plain and foothills regions, parks and reserves may be relevant as may other man made features such as railway lines and freeways.</p>	<p>Several measurements of the characteristics of human populations, such as population size, and its distribution by age, sex, occupation and location provide important demographic information. Current and projected population characteristics will be relevant as well as similarities and differences between areas within the local government.</p>	<p>Economic factors can be broadly interpreted to include any factor that reflects the character of economic activities and resources in the area. This may include the industries that occur in a local government area (or the release of land for these) and the distribution of community assets and infrastructure such as road networks.</p>	<p>The Board considers that the ratio of Councillors to electors is particularly significant - it is expected that each local government will have similar ratios of electors to Councillors across its wards. The Board will not support deviations of more than plus or minus 10% of the average ratio of electors to Councillors between wards.</p>

What does this mean for the City of Greater Geraldton?

Communities of interest are generally reflected in terms of three broad groupings:

- Urban (Chapman, Champion Bay, Port, Tarcoola, and Willcock wards);
- Hills/hinterland (Hills ward); and
- Rural (Mullewa ward).

Physical and topographical features also tend to be reflected in the Mullewa and Hills wards to a degree. In urban areas physical and topographic features are less prominent. A number of localities are split between wards:

- Geraldton (3,148 electors) - between Champion Bay and Port wards;
- Mahomets Flats (828 electors) – between Port and Tarcoola wards;
- Tarcoola Beach (1,288 electors) – between Port and Tarcoola wards; and
- Wonthella (1,613 electors) – between Willcock, Champion Bay, and Hills Wards.

In terms of demographic trends, population growth is expected in Chapman, Champion Bay, Hills to the immediate east of the existing urban area, Port, Tarcoola, and Willcock wards. Little or no growth relative to other areas is expected in Mullewa ward.

Current boundaries tend to reflect economic factors, although there is considerably less distinction between the wards in urban areas.

The ratio of Councillors to electors in the various wards should be as even as possible, with a rule of thumb being that deviations should not be more than plus or minus 10% of the average ratio of electors to Councillors between wards.

There are significant deviations between wards at present. The ratio of electors to Councillors using WA Electoral Commission statistics as at the October 2017 City of Greater Geraldton elections are:

Ward	Councillors	Electors	Ratio of electors per Councillor	% ratio deviation
Champion Bay	2	3,246	1,623	14.46%
Chapman	2	4,599	2,300	-21.19%
Hills	2	5,137	2,569	-35.37%
Mullewa	2	394	197	89.62%
Port	2	3,989	1,995	-5.12%
Tarcoola	2	5,553	2,777	-46.33%
Willcock	2	3,646	1,823	3.92%
Total average or	14	26,564	1,897	

Of note is that:

- Mullewa and Champion Bay wards are over represented;
- In particular Mullewa ward deviates significantly from the average – an electors vote from this ward is worth almost 9 times the value of the average of the rest;
- Chapman, Hills and Tarcoola wards are significantly under represented; and
- Port and Willcock wards are close to the average.

Options to consider

The City does not have an established position on this topic, and the following points are provided to aid discussion only.

There are a wide number of options that could be considered. Changes could include:

- Creating new wards;
- Combining wards;
- Changing the boundaries of a ward;
- Having no wards;
- Changing the name of a district or a ward;
- Changing the number of Councillors; and/or
- Specifying or changing the number of Councillors for a ward.

It is possible to have anywhere between no wards and up to 14 wards of one member each. The range of wards and required number of electors to achieve an even number of electors in each is:

Wards	Electors per ward	Wards	Electors per ward
0	26,564	8	3,321
2	13,282	9	2,952
3	8,855	10	2,656
4	6,641	11	2,415
5	5,313	12	2,214
6	4,427	13	2,043
7	3,795	14	1,897

A number of localities within the urban area of the City are split between wards. Overall, it may assist to group 'whole' localities (suburbs) within wards.

In terms of particular outcome for the City, there are three broad categories:

1. Vary ward boundaries to achieve a more even ratio of electors per Councillor;
2. Change the number of wards and/or Councillors to simplify representation and also achieve a more even ratio of electors per Councillor; or
3. Dispense with wards altogether.

When comparing or devising options, note that:

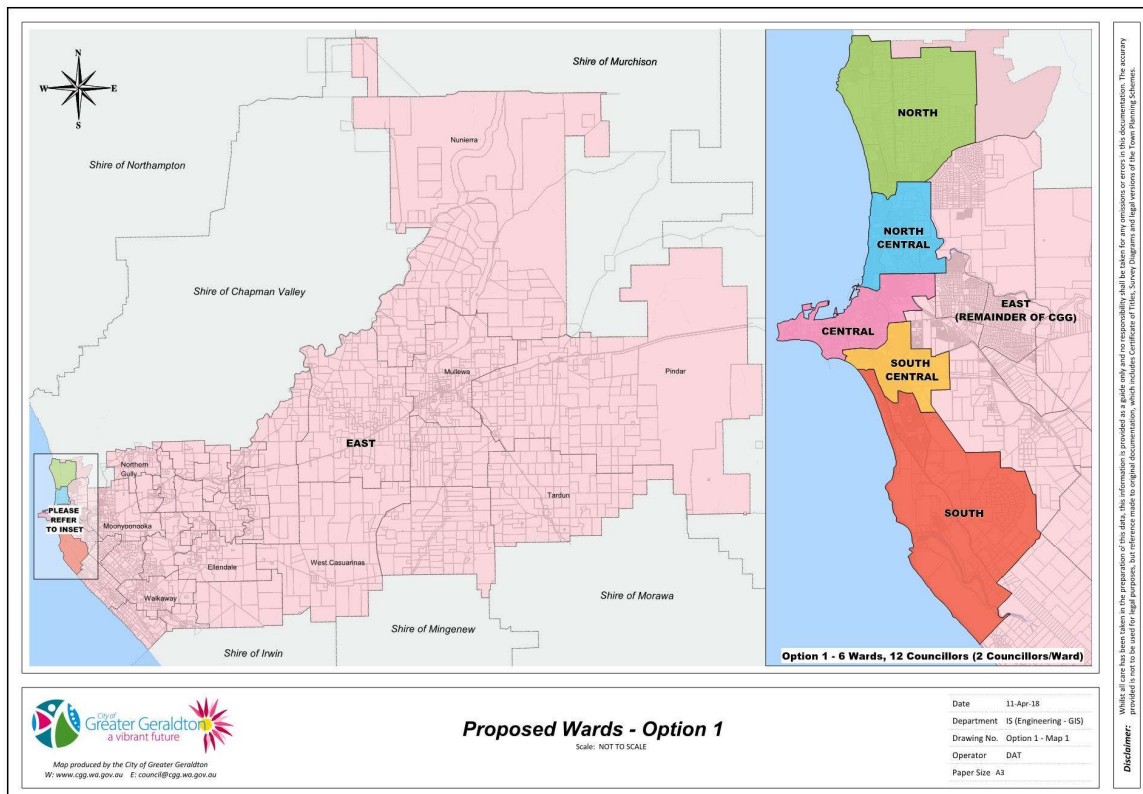
1. Unless otherwise stated, when considering potential boundaries, locality (i.e. suburb) boundaries are used;
2. Each option seeks to get as close as possible to the required tolerance of plus or minus 10% of the average number of electors per Councillor within the option parameters; and
3. The proportion of the population who are electors (that is, over 18 and enrolled to vote) has been estimated using the overall percentage of the City as a whole (i.e. 69%).

Option 1 - 6 wards, 12 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward

Under this option, the average ratio of electors per Councillor is 2,214. The ratio of Councillor to electors by ward is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	2	2,171	-1.93%
North central	2	2,192	-0.96%
Central	2	2,320	4.82%
South central	2	2,097	-5.29%
South	2	2,127	-3.92%
East	2	2,375	7.291%

A list of localities included in each Ward is detailed in the Appendix.

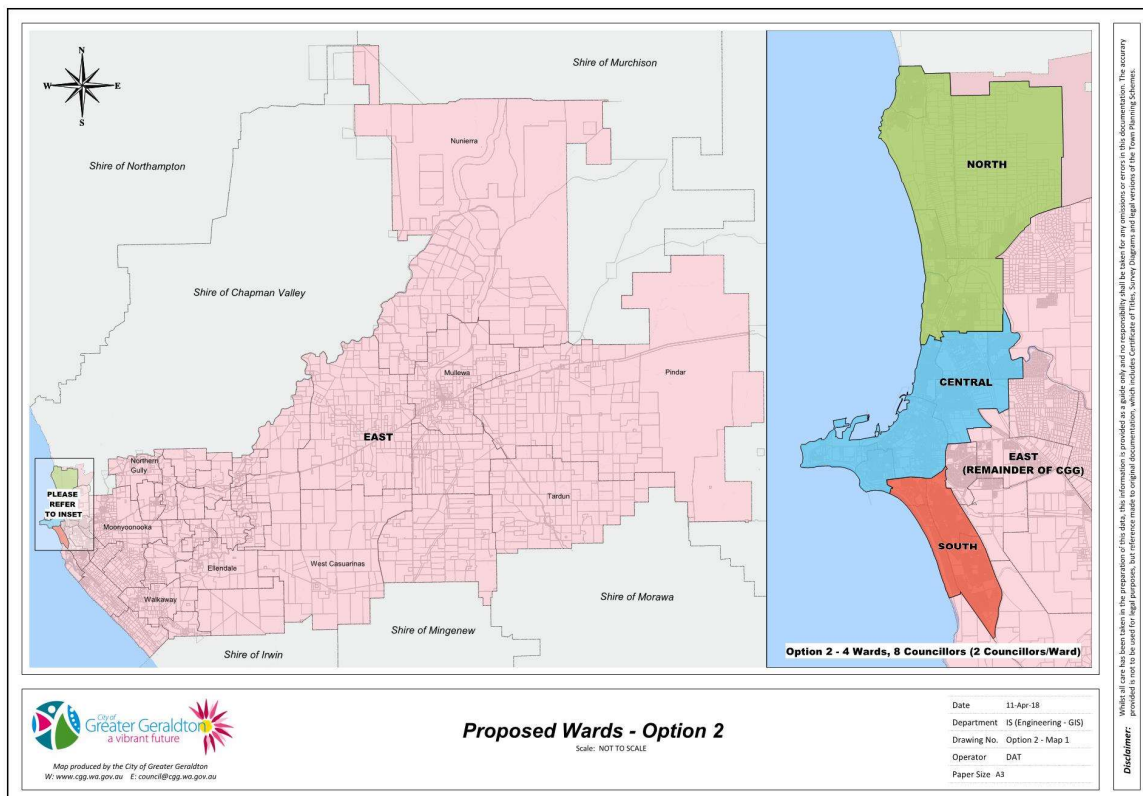


Option 2 - 4 Wards, 8 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward

The average ratio of electors per Councillor is 3,321. The ratio of Councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	2	3,357	1.10%
Central	2	3,326	0.18%
South	2	3,286	-1.04%
East	2	3,313	-0.24%

A list of localities included in each Ward is detailed in the Appendix.



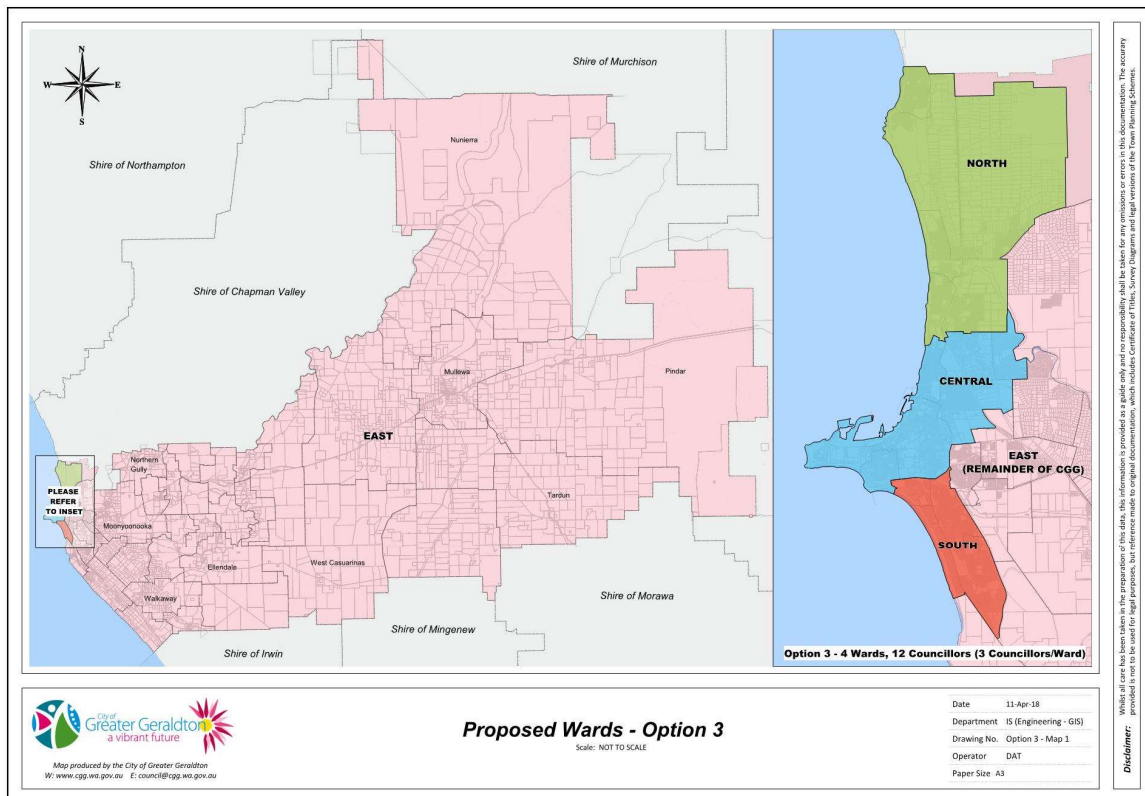
Option 3 - 4 Wards, 12 Councillors, 3 Councillors per ward

Possible ward boundaries under this option are the same as Option 2, the number of Councillors differs.

The average ratio of electors per Councillor is 2,214. The ratio of Councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	3	2,238	1.10%
Central	3	2,218	0.18%
South	3	2,191	-1.04%
East	3	2,208	-0.24%

A list of localities included in each Ward is detailed in the Appendix.



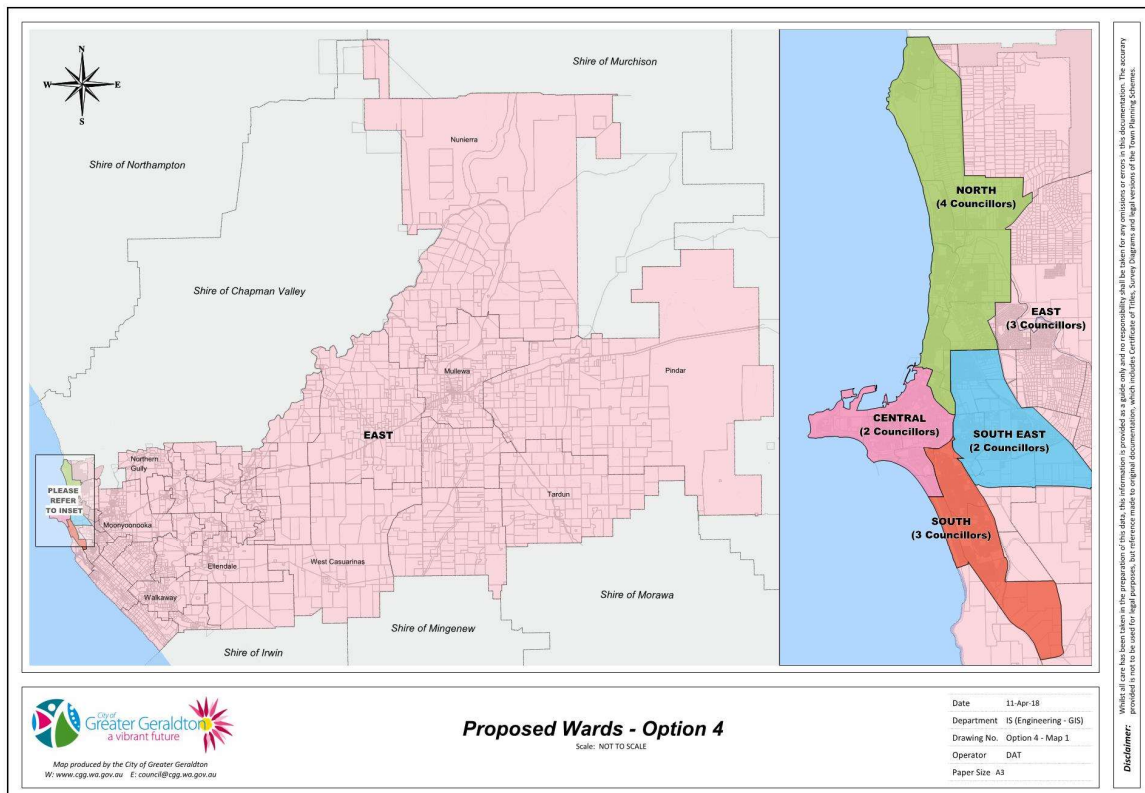
Option 4 - 5 Wards, 14 Councillors, variable number of Councillors per ward

This option uses existing Ward boundaries with wards being combined to achieve even representation.

Differing numbers of Councillors per ward are necessary to 'even out' representation ratios, and the average ratio of electors per Councillor is 1,897.

The ratio of Councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Current ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	Champion Bay/ Chapman	4	1,961	-3.36%
East	Hills/ Mullewa	3	1,844	2.83%
Central	Port	2	1,995	-5.12%
South	Tarcoola	3	1,851	2.45%
South East	Willcock	2	1,823	3.92%



Option 5 – No wards

Under this option, there are no wards. The only variable is the number of Councillors.

The ratio of electors per Councillor is:

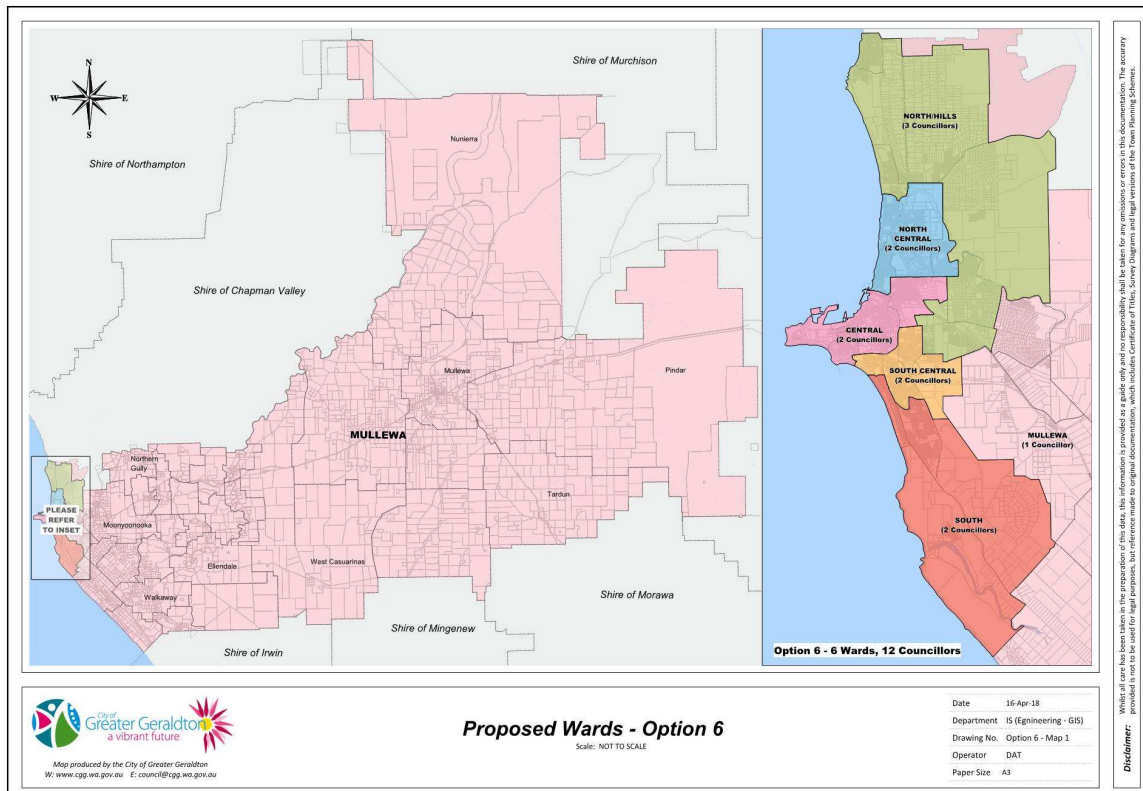
Number of Councillors	Ratio of electors to Councillor
6	4,427
7	3,795
8	3,321
9	2,952
10	2,656
11	2,415
12	2,214
13	2,043
14 (current)	1,897

Option 6 - Mullewa ward (1 Councillor), North/Hills Ward (3 Councillors), 4 other wards with 2 Councillors each

In this option the existing Mullewa ward is expanded, represented by one Councillor. A North/Hills ward with 3 Councillors is created; and 4 other wards with 2 Councillors each.

Whole localities (suburbs) are located within each Ward; the average ratio of electors per Councillor is 2,214. The ratio of Councillor to electors is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
Mullewa	1	2,245	1.43%
North/Hills	3	2,282	3.09%
North Central	2	2,192	-0.96%
Central	2	2,320	4.82%
South central	2	2,097	-5.29%
South	2	2,127	-3.92%



Other Options

The list above is meant simply to assist with community input and discussion – it is not meant to be exhaustive and other options are welcome.

Transitional arrangements

After undertaking community consultation, the City must make a proposal to the LGAB. The effect of proposed changes on existing Councillors will depend on the precise proposal put forward.

When offices of Councillor are to be redistributed into new wards, or there is a reduction or increase in the number of offices of Councillor, the implementation method must give consideration to clauses 1 and 2 of Schedule 4.2 of the Act.

In summary, this provides that as near as practical to half of the total number of Councillors are to retire every two years and as near as practical to half of the Councillors representing each ward are to retire every two years. It may also be necessary to include in the Governors Order a provision to allocate the existing Councillors to wards, which must also be done in accordance with the provisions and intent of the Act.

How to make a Submission

Submissions must be received by:

5pm (date to be advised)

Members of the community are invited to make a written submission about any aspect of this Review of Wards and Elected Member Representation.

Submissions may be forwarded via:

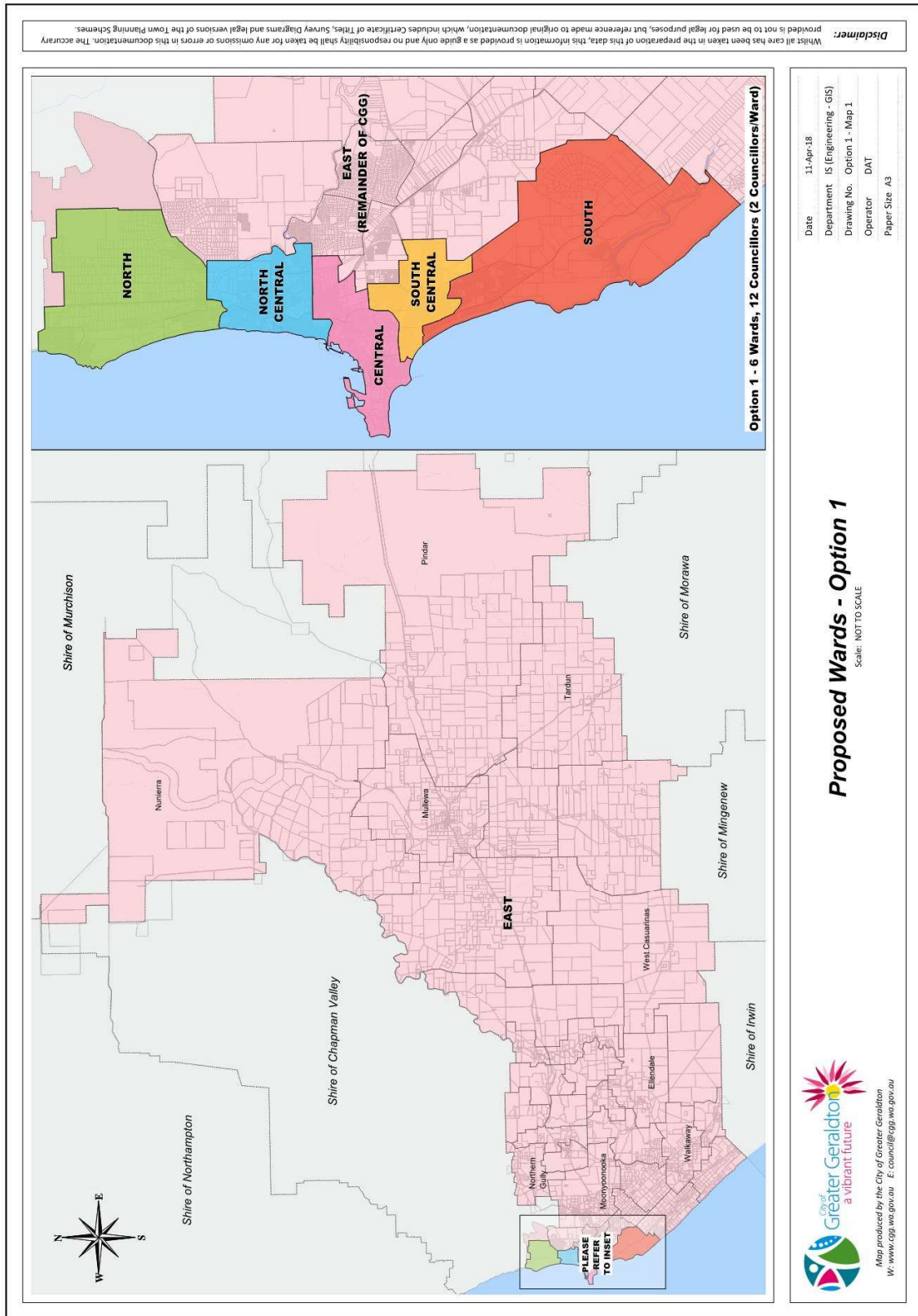
Email: council@cgg.wa.gov.au

Post: PO Box 101 Geraldton WA 6531

In Person: Administration Building, Civic Centre, 63 Cathedral Avenue
Geraldton WA 6530

For further information on this discussion paper, please contact Margot Adam,
Coordinator Governance on (08) 99566600 or email council@cgg.wa.gov.au

Option 1 – 6 wards, 12 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward



Whole localities (suburbs) are located within each Ward; the average ratio of electors per councillor is 2,214.

The ratio of councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	2	2171	-1.93%
North central	2	2192	-0.96%
Central	2	2320	4.82%
South central	2	2097	-5.29%
South	2	2127	-3.92%
East	2	2375	7.291%

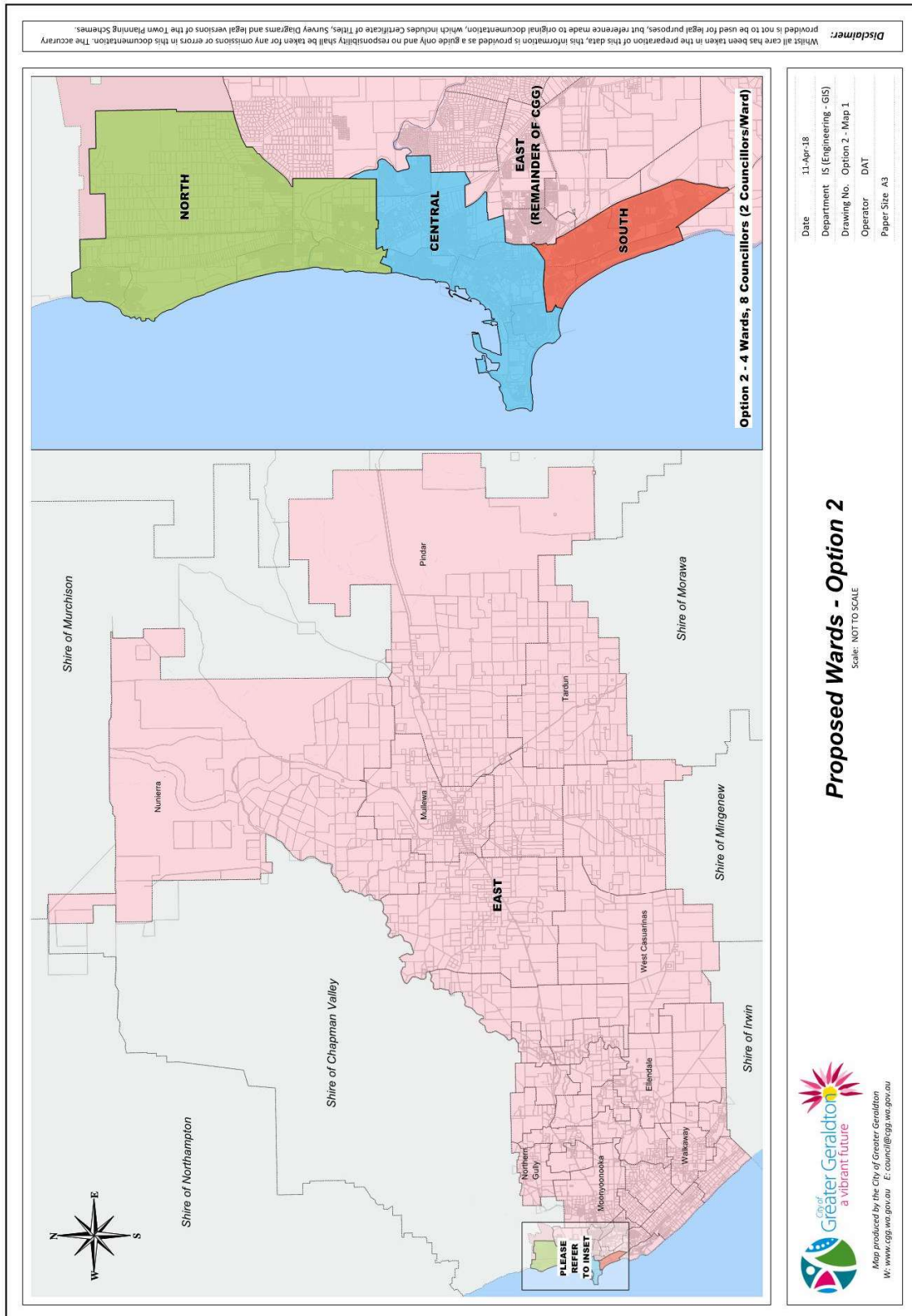
Detail by locality

Option 1 - 6 wards, 12 councillors, 2 councillors per ward	
Target ratio of electors per councillor	2,214

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	Drummond Cove	1,024	2	2171	-1.93%
	Glenfield	651			
	Houtman Abrolhos	4			
	Sunset Beach	1,017			
	Waggrakine	1,646			
	Total	4,342			
North central	Bluff Point	933	2	2192	-0.96%
	Spalding	1,439			
	Strathalbyn	853			
	Webborton	132			
	Beresford	1,028			
	Total	4,385			
Central	Wonthella	1,119	2	2320	4.82%
	Geraldton	2,183			
	West End	352			
	Beachlands	987			
	Total	4,641			
South central	Mahomets Flats	574	2	2097	-5.29%
	Mount Tarcoola	2,217			
	Rangeway	1,309			
	Karloo	94			
	Total	4,193			

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
South	Tarcoola Beach	893	2	2127	-3.92%
	Wandina	2,888			
	Cape Burney	347			
	Rudds Gully	126			
	Total	4,254			
East	Bootenal	28	2	2375	7.291%
	Bringoo	28			
	Burma Road	0			
	Deepdale	606			
	Ellendale	8			
	Eradu	11			
	Eradu South	14			
	Georgina	53			
	Greenough	196			
	Kojarena	18			
	Meru	24			
	Minnenooka	28			
	Moonyoonoka	170			
	Moresby	603			
	Mount Hill	28			
	Northern Gully	11			
	Sandsprings	6			
	South Greenough	69			
	Tibradden	3			
	Walkaway	187			
	Wicherina	7			
	Wicherina South	0			
	Wooree	930			
	Ambania	8			
	Devils Creek	21			
	Mullewa	310			
	Nunierra	8			
	Pindar	21			
	Tardun	24			
	Tenindewa	41			
	West Causuarinas	21			
	Wongoondy	21			
	Utakarra	972			
Narngulu	273				
Total	4,750				
Total electors	26,564		12		

Option 2 – 4 Wards, 8 Councillors, 2 Councillors per ward



Whole localities (suburbs) are located within each Ward; the average ratio of electors per councillor is 3,321.

The ratio of councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	2	3,357	1.10%
Central	2	3,326	0.18%
South	2	3,286	-1.04%
East	2	3,313	-0.24%

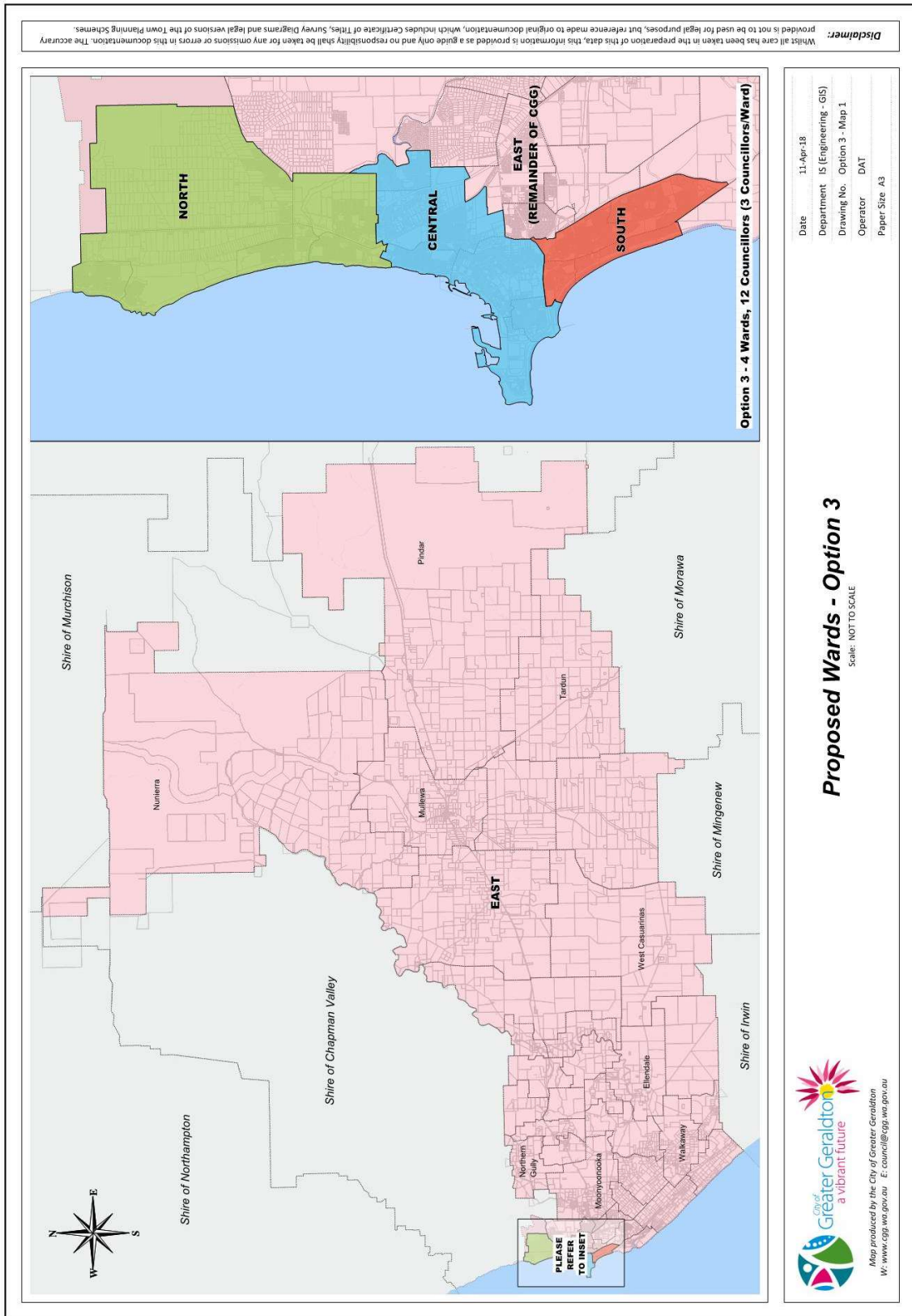
Detail by locality

Option 2 - 4 wards, 8 Councillors, 2 councillors per ward	
Target ratio of electors per councillor	3321

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	Drummond Cove	1,024	2	3,357	1.10%
	Glenfield	651			
	Houtman Abrolhos	4			
	Sunset Beach	1,017			
	Waggrakine	1,646			
	Bluff Point	933			
	Spalding	1,439			
	Total	6,714			
Central	Strathalbyn	853	2	3,326	0.18%
	Webborton	132			
	Beresford	1,028			
	Wonthella	1,119			
	Geraldton	2,183			
	West End	352			
	Beachlands	987			
	Total	6,653			
South	Mahomets Flats	574	2	3,286	-1.04%
	Mount Tarcoola	2,217			
	Tarcoola Beach	893			
	Wandina	2,888			
	Total	6,572			
East	Karlooloo	94	2	3,313	-0.24%

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
	Cape Burney	347			
	Rudds Gully	126			
	Rangeway	1,309			
	Bootenal	28			
	Bringoo	28			
	Burma Road	0			
	Deepdale	606			
	Ellendale	8			
	Eradu	11			
	Eradu South	14			
	Georgina	53			
	Greenough	196			
	Kojarena	18			
	Meru	24			
	Minnenooka	28			
	Moonyoonoka	170			
	Moresby	603			
	Mount Hill	28			
	Northern Gully	11			
	Sandsprings	6			
	South Greenough	69			
	Tibradden	3			
	Walkaway	187			
	Wicherina	7			
	Wicherina South	0			
	Wooree	930			
	Ambania	8			
	Devils Creek	21			
	Mullewa	310			
	Nunierra	8			
	Pindar	21			
	Tardun	24			
	Tenindewa	41			
	West Causuarinas	21			
	Wongoondy	21			
	Utakarra	972			
	Narngulu	273			
	Total	6,625			
	Total electors	26,564	8		

Option 3 – 4 Wards, 12 Councillors, 3 Councillors per ward



Whole localities (suburbs) are located within each Ward; the average ratio of electors per councillor is 2,214.

The ratio of councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	3	2,238	1.10%
Central	3	2,218	0.18%
South	3	2,191	-1.04%
East	3	2,208	-0.24%

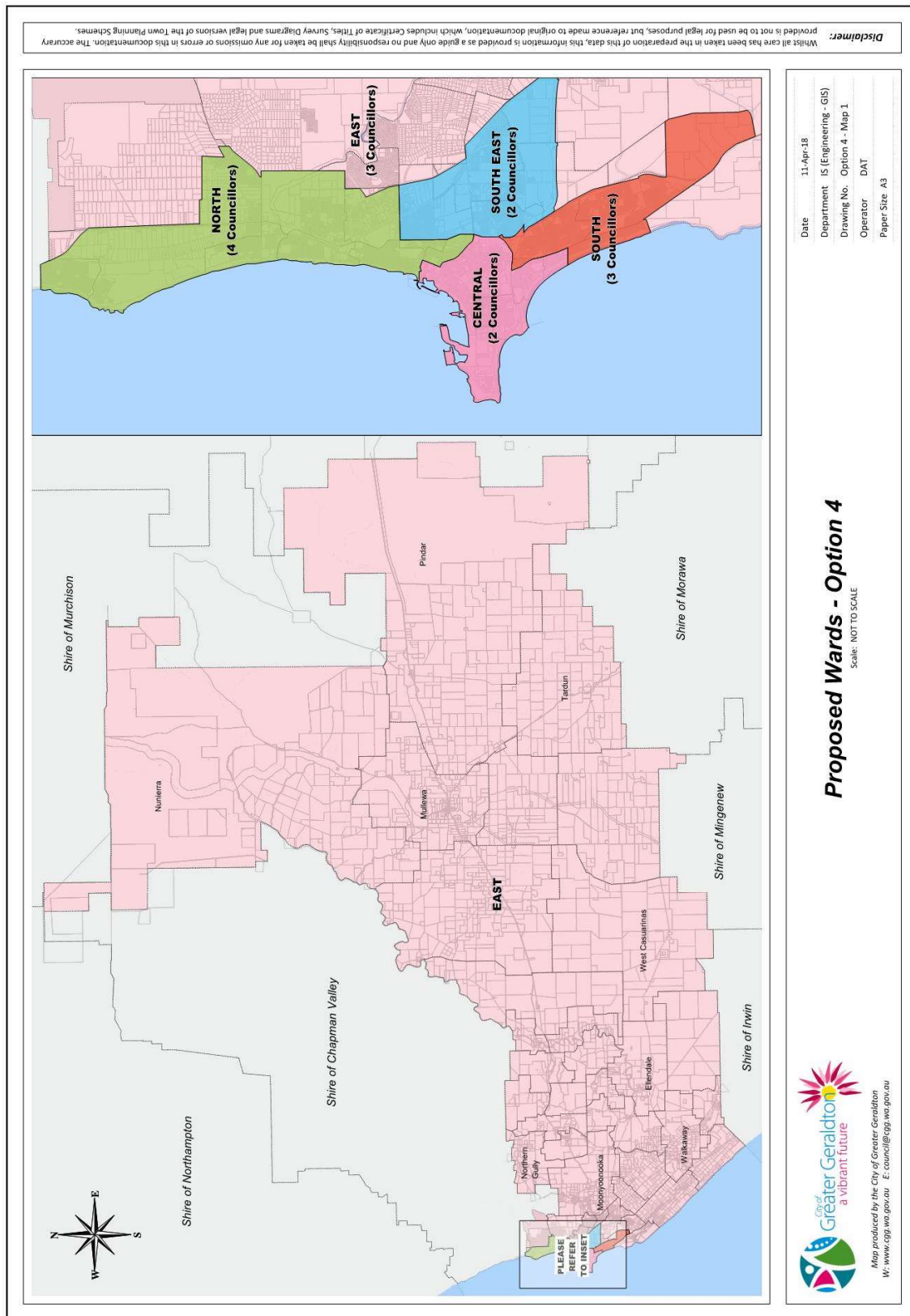
Detail by locality

Option 3 - 4 wards, 12 Councillors, 3 councillors per ward	
Target ratio of electors per councillor	2214

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	Drummond Cove	1,024	3	2,238	1.10%
	Glenfield	651			
	Houtman Abrolhos	4			
	Sunset Beach	1,017			
	Waggrakine	1,646			
	Bluff Point	933			
	Spalding	1,439			
	Total	6,714			
Central	Strathalbyn	853	3	2,218	0.18%
	Webborton	132			
	Beresford	1,028			
	Wonthella	1,119			
	Geraldton	2,183			
	West End	352			
	Beachlands	987			
	Total	6,653			
South	Mahomets Flats	574	3	2,191	-1.04%
	Mount Tarcoola	2,217			
	Tarcoola Beach	893			
	Wandina	2,888			
	Total	6,572			
East	Karlooloo	94	3	2,208	-0.24%
	Cape Burney	347			
	Rudds Gully	126			
	Rangeway	1,309			

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
	Bootenal	28			
	Bringoo	28			
	Burma Road	0			
	Deepdale	606			
	Ellendale	8			
	Eradu	11			
	Eradu South	14			
	Georgina	53			
	Greenough	196			
	Kojarena	18			
	Meru	24			
	Minnenooka	28			
	Moonyoonooka	170			
	Moresby	603			
	Mount Hill	28			
	Northern Gully	11			
	Sandsprings	6			
	South Greenough	69			
	Tibradden	3			
	Walkaway	187			
	Wicherina	7			
	Wicherina South	0			
	Wooree	930			
	Ambania	8			
	Devils Creek	21			
	Mullewa	310			
	Nunierra	8			
	Pindar	21			
	Tardun	24			
	Tenindewa	41			
	West Causuarinas	21			
	Wongoondy	21			
	Utakarra	972			
	Narngulu	273			
	Total	6,625			
	Total electors	26,564	12		

Option 4 - 5 Wards, 14 Councillors, variable number of Councillors per ward



This option uses existing Ward boundaries. Differing numbers of Councillors per ward are necessary to 'even out' representation ratios, and the average ratio of electors per councillor is 1,897.

The ratio of councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Previous ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
North	Champion Bay/ Chapman	4	1,961	-3.36%
East	Hills/ Mullewa	3	1,844	2.83%
Central	Port	2	1,995	-5.12%
South	Tarcoola	3	1,851	2.45%
South East	Willcock	2	1,823	3.92%

DRAFT

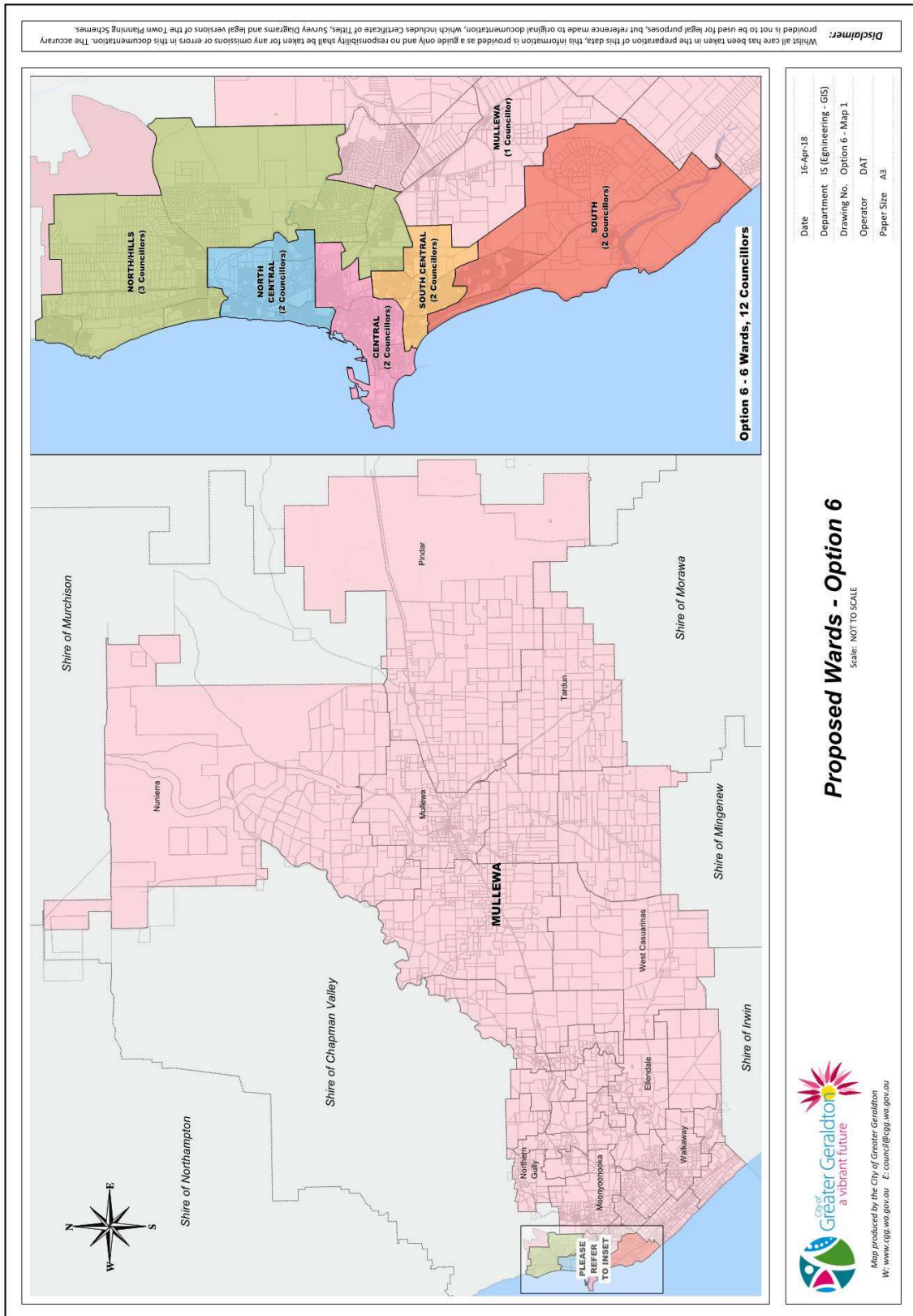
Option 5 – No wards

Under this option, there are no wards. The only variable is the number of Councillors.

The ratio of electors per Councillor is:

Number of Councillors	Ratio of electors to Councillor
6	4,427
7	3,795
8	3,321
9	2,952
10	2,656
11	2,415
12	2,214
13	2,043
14 (current)	1,897

Option 6 - Mullewa ward (1 Councillor), North/Hills Ward (3 Councillors), 4 other wards with 2 Councillors each



Whole localities (suburbs) are located within each Ward; the average ratio of electors per councillor is 2,214.

The ratio of councillor to electors in each ward is:

Ward	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
Mullewa	1	2,245	1.43%
North/Hills	3	2,282	3.09%
North central	2	2,192	-0.96%
Central	2	2,320	4.82%
South central	2	2,097	-5.29%
South	2	2,127	-3.92%

Detail by locality

Option 6 - Mullewa ward (1 councillor), North/Hills Ward (3 councillors), 4 other wards with 2 councillors each	
Target ratio of electors per councillor	2,214

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
Mullewa	Ambania	8	1	2,245	1.43%
	Devils Creek	21			
	Mullewa	310			
	Nunierra	8			
	Pindar	21			
	Tardun	24			
	Tenindewa	41			
	West Causuarinas	21			
	Wongoondy	21			
	Burma Road	0			
	Ellendale	8			
	Mount Hill	28			
	Eradu	11			
	Eradu South	14			
	Wicherina	7			
	Wicherina South	0			
	South Greenough	69			
	Walkaway	187			
	Minnenooka	28			
	Georgina	53			
	Greenough	196			
	Sandsprings	6			
	Moonyoonoka	170			

Ward	Locality	Electors	Councillors	Ratio	% ratio deviation
	Bootenal	28			
	Deepdale	606			
	Meru	24			
	Narngulu	273			
	Northern Gully	11			
	Tibradden	3			
	Bringo	28			
	Kojarena	18			
	Total	2,245			
North/Hills	Moresby	603	3	2,282	3.09%
	Wooree	930			
	Utakarra	972			
	Drummond Cove	1,024			
	Glenfield	651			
	Houtman Abrolhos	4			
	Sunset Beach	1,017			
	Waggrakine	1,646			
	Total	6,846			
North central	Bluff Point	933	2	2,192	-0.96%
	Spalding	1,439			
	Strathalbyn	853			
	Webborton	132			
	Beresford	1,028			
	Total	4,385			
Central	Wonthella	1,119	2	2,320	4.82%
	Geraldton	2,183			
	West End	352			
	Beachlands	987			
	Total	4,641			
South central	Mahomets Flats	574	2	2,097	-5.29%
	Mount Tarcoola	2,217			
	Rangeway	1,309			
	Karloo	94			
	Total	4,193			
South	Tarcoola Beach	893	2	2127	-3.92%
	Wandina	2,888			
	Cape Burney	347			
	Rudds Gully	126			
	Total	4,254			
	Total electors	26,564	12		