



**MOUNT BARKER**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

18 January 2022

**Media Release**

## **Council wards to change at next Local Government elections**

A representation review is undertaken periodically to consider the structure of wards and composition of Council to ensure that electors are being fairly represented.

Simply, this means that the ratio of Council elected members to population needs to be within prescribed limits.

Mount Barker District Council undertook a periodical elector representation review between October 2020 and October 2021 which included two rounds of public consultation.

“The review was important for Mount Barker because the current ward structure could not be retained due to population pressures” Mayor Ann Ferguson said.

“Our existing Central and South wards’ ratio breach the limits prescribed in the Local Government Act and anticipated future population growth would put further pressure on the existing ward boundaries”.

In a letter dated 1 December 2021 Council was advised that the Electoral Commissioner determined that the relevant requirements of the Local Government Act had been satisfied in Council’s submission. The letter further served as the required certificate for a change to the electoral representation structure for the Mount Barker District Council area.

Council will retain a 3 ward structure (South, Central and North) with an elected Mayor and 10 councillors. However ward boundaries have been adjusted including Hahndorf moving from the North Ward to the South Ward. South and North Wards will now be represented by 3 councillors while Central Ward will continue to have 4 councillors.

The revised ward structure for Mount Barker District Council will take effect from the Local Government election in November 2022.

A community awareness campaign about the changes, including the shift of the township of Hahndorf from the North to South ward, will form part of the promotion for the 2022 council election.

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