

Local council electoral structure review

About Moonee Valley City Council

The Traditional Custodians of the land in Moonee Valley City Council are the Wurundjeri people.

Moonee Valley is located 10 kilometres north-west of Melbourne and covers an area of approximately 43 km². It has a population of about 122,000 people, which is expected to reach 166,143 by 2041. The highest population growth is expected in Moonee Ponds.

Major suburbs include Essendon, Moonee Ponds, Ascot Vale and Keilor East and around two-thirds of the council area is residential. High density living is prominent mainly in the south-east of the council area and along major transport routes. Essendon Fields, which includes the airport and commercial services, takes up a large section of the north of the council area.

Moonee Valley is culturally diverse, with nearly a third of the population born overseas and more than a third speaking a language other than English at home. After English, the most common languages spoken are Italian, Greek and Vietnamese.

Income and education levels are significantly higher than the averages for Greater Melbourne and Victoria.

Features of significance in the council area include the Maribyrnong River, Moonee Ponds Creek, the Calder and Tullamarine Freeways, Moonee Valley Racecourse and Essendon Airport.

Current electoral structure

Moonee Valley 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*, Moonee Valley City Council must now have a single-councillor ward structure.

The Minister for Local Government has appointed an electoral representation advisory panel to review the electoral structure of Moonee Valley City Council and advise on the most appropriate single-councillor ward structure.

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

You can have your say:

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

Last review

The VEC conducted an electoral representation review of Moonee Valley City Council in 2015.

Visit the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au to access a copy of the 2015 review final report.

Review process

Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 October

Information sessions

Session 1: 12 noon, Monday 16 October

Session 2: 6 pm, Tuesday 17 October

These sessions will give you more information about the review process. You will be able to register for a session on the VEC website.

Wednesday 18 October

Preliminary report

The panel will release a preliminary report with one or more options for the electoral structure on Wednesday 18 October.

You can make a response submission from this date.

Wednesday 8 November

Response submissions

The panel must receive your submission by 5 pm on Wednesday 8 November 2023.

The panel will not accept late submissions.

Tuesday 14 November

Public hearing

The panel will hold an online public hearing if anyone asks to speak about their response submission at 2 pm Tuesday 14 November.

The public hearing will not be held if no one asks to speak.

Wednesday 13 December

Final report

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

The minister will consider the panel's advice before recommending a change to the electoral structure. Any change is expected to apply at the next local council general election.

Submission guide

You can download a submission guide from the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au

How to make a submission

 On the VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au

@ By email to:

MooneeValley.ERAPSubmissions@vec.vic.gov.au

✉ By post to:

Electoral representation advisory panel
c/o Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins St
Melbourne VIC 3000

Submissions must include your:

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

Your submission will be published on the VEC website, including your name and suburb or town but not your full address or contact details. See the submission guide or VEC website at vec.vic.gov.au/privacy for privacy information.

One vote, one value

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

When a local council is subdivided into wards, the number of voters each councillor represents in each ward must be plus-or-minus 10% of the average number of voters per councillor for all 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.

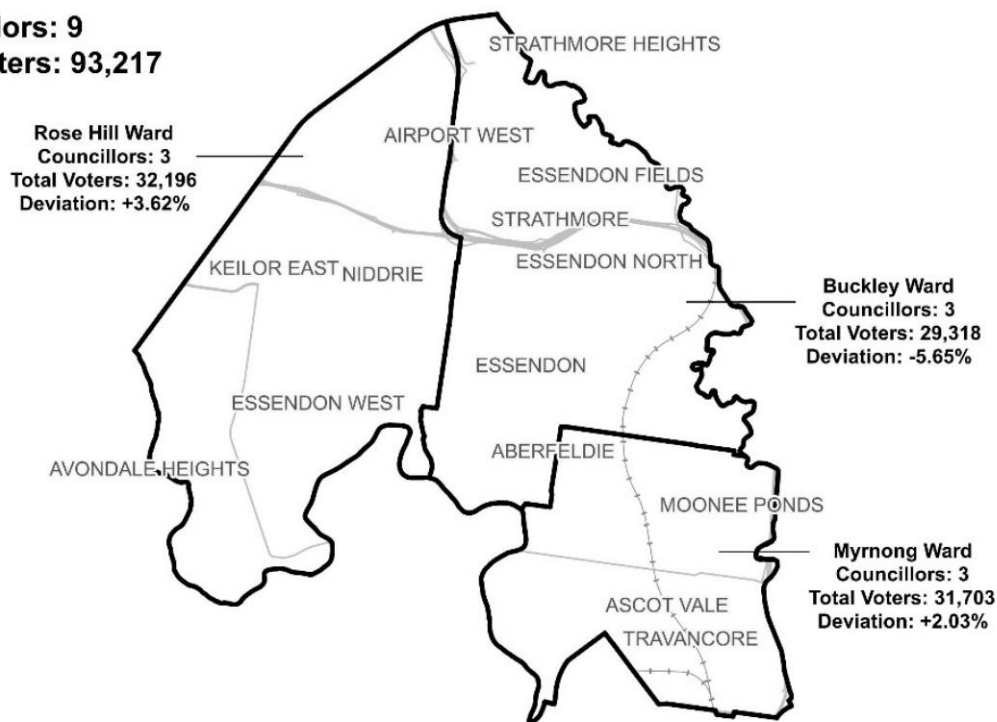
Current electoral structure

Voter Numbers by Current Boundaries

As at 25 July 2023

Councillors: 9

Total Voters: 93,217



Ward	Councillors	Voters	Deviation
Buckley Ward	3	29,318	-5.65%
Myrmong Ward	3	31,703	+2.03%
Rose Hill Ward	3	32,196	+3.62%

Statistics

Area (km²) 43

Voters

Voters per square km

2,168

Average voters per councillor

10,357

Population

Current population

121,851

Forecast population growth

1.5% p.a.

More Census statistics available at abs.gov.au



Voter numbers by locality (map)

Moonee Valley City Council

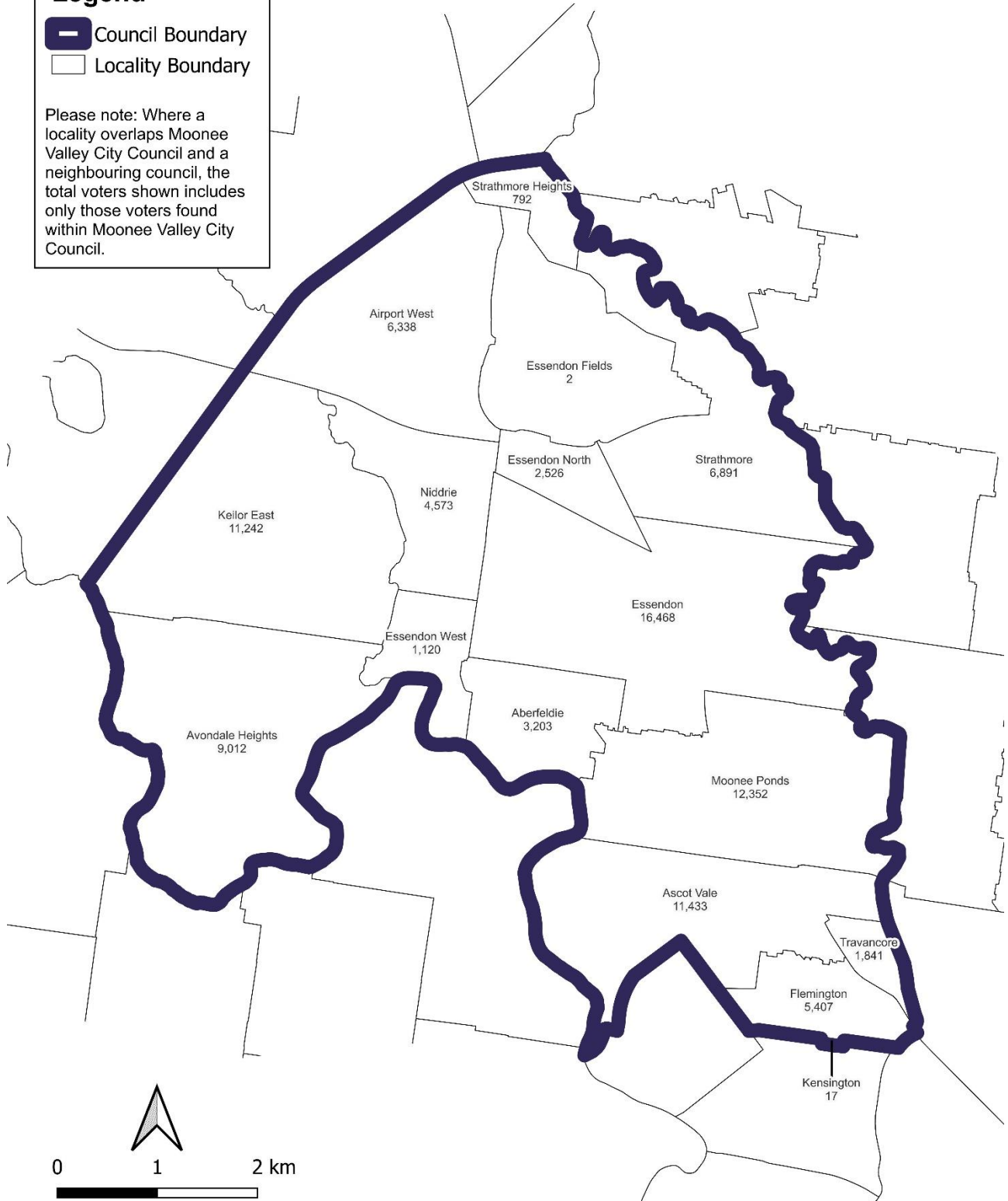
TOTAL VOTERS: 93,217

Voter numbers as at 25 July 2023

Legend

-  Council Boundary
-  Locality Boundary

Please note: Where a locality overlaps Moonee Valley City Council and a neighbouring council, the total voters shown includes only those voters found within Moonee Valley City Council.



Voter numbers by locality (table)

Moonee Valley City Council voter numbers at 25 July 2023

Locality	Voters
Aberfeldie	3,203
Airport West	6,338
Ascot Vale	11,433
Avondale Heights	9,012
Essendon	16,468
Essendon Fields	2
Essendon North	2,526
Essendon West	1,120
Flemington	5,407
Keilor East	11,242
Kensington	17
Moonee Ponds	12,352
Niddrie	4,573
Strathmore	6,891
Strathmore Heights	792
Travancore	1,841