
2	SUBJECT:	Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels 2022
	DIRECTOR:	Business Services
	MEETING:	Council Meeting
	MEETING DATE:	24 January 2023

Summary

Under section 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), the City of Mandurah (City) is required to review its wards from time to time and at least every eight years.

Following the six-week public consultation process, Council is requested to consider the submissions received on the options presented. City officers are recommending that the City's ward, boundaries and councillor representation levels, be either of the following options:

- Option 1: Four Wards, Boundary Adjustment, 12 Councillors
- Option 2: Four Wards, Boundary Adjustment, 8 Councillors

Council is now requested to adopt the preferred Option (refer **Option 1 Attachment 2.3** and **Option 2 Attachment 2.4**) and make a recommendation to the Local Government Advisory Board.

Disclosure of Interest

N/A. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries have advised that the *Local Government Act 1995* places responsibilities on elected members to conduct reviews and make recommendations as part of their role.

Previous Relevant Documentation

- G.16/9/2022 27 September 2022 Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels 2022

Background

The current ward system and its boundaries were last reviewed in 2014. Since 1992, the City has had four wards with 12 Councillors. The last ward review, conducted in 2014, resulted in no changes to the ward system or councillor representation levels.

The structure of the City of Mandurah Council currently consists of a Mayor, who is popularly elected by the City's electors and 12 Councillors elected from four Wards, with three councillors representing each Ward. At its meeting held on 27 September 2022, Council adopted a Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper (Discussion Paper) (refer **Attachment 2.1**).

Following Council adoption of the Discussion Paper, the City undertook a six-week local public notice process to inform the community of the proposed review and invite comments and submissions which will inform the review process.

Comment

The *Local Government Act 1995* requires every local government to review its wards, boundaries and council representation levels at least every eight years. The City's last Ward Review was conducted in 2014, requiring the Council to make a recommendation to the Local Government Advisory Board by no later than the 31 January 2023.

Since 1992, the City has had four Wards with 12 councillors. Due to the rapid population growth within the District of Mandurah an adjustment to the Ward boundaries is required to ensure the ratio between councillor and elector remains within a deviation of plus or minus 10%. However, a councillor to elector deviation of greater than plus or minus 10% will be considered by the Local Government Advisory Board if the local government can provide adequate justification for such circumstances (for example where development and subsequent population growth is expected to correct over representation in a future period).

Current ratio of councillors to electors

Over the last two decades, the District of Mandurah has experienced a rapid expansion in the size of its population, with annual growth of more than 3 per cent per annum between 2000 and 2020. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census Population for Mandurah District, the City has a current population of 93,414. It is anticipated that the population by 2036, will be 119,877 (Forecast id).

The purpose of the review is to assess the City's current structure and to evaluate options to ensure that the ward system and representation levels best suit the characteristics of the district and community.

The structure of the City of Mandurah Council currently consists of a Mayor, who is popularly elected by the City's electors and 12 Councillors elected from four Wards, with three councillors representing each Ward.

The City's current Ward system, demonstrates that there is an imbalance in representation across the City as following:

- North Ward and Coastal Ward being under-represented (-16.44% and -10.79% respectively).
- Town Ward and East Ward are considered to be over-represented (13.20% and 14.03% respectively).

The percentage ratio deviation shown in the table below, provides an indication of the current percentage difference between the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole of the City district (one Councillor to 5,602 electors) and the Councillor/elector ratio for each Ward (Statistical Area Level 1, Western Australia Electoral Commission, 14 September 2022). The information is set out in the table below:

Ward Name	Suburb (No. of Electors)	No. of Electors Per Ward	No. Councillors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation	Comment
Coastal Ward	Bouvard (732) Dawesville (5,259) Clifton (0) Erskine (4,559) Falcon (4,449) Herron (366) Wannanup (3,254)	18,619	3	1 : 6,206	-10.79%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
East Ward	Coodanup (3,265) Dudley Park (4,954) Greenfields (4,680) Mandurah (1,548)	14,447	3	1 : 4,816	14.03%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
North Ward	Greenfields (2,948) Lakelands (3,998) Madora Bay (2,704) Mandurah (1,521) Meadow Springs (6,066) Parklands (453) San Remo (773) Silver Sands (1,105)	19,568	3	1 : 6,523	-16.44%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
Town Ward	Dudley Park (398) Halls Head (10,710) Mandurah (3,480)	14,588	3	1 : 4,863	13.20%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
TOTAL		67,222	12	1 : 5602		

Public submissions on the Discussion Paper

Following extensive Elected Member consultation, a Discussion Paper (refer **Attachment 2.1**) outlining five options was adopted by Council on 27 September 2022. The Discussion Paper was prepared to encourage discussion and input from the community. The options detailed in the Discussion Paper were provided for discussion purposes only and were not intended to be all encompassing or to indicate which options would be supported by the Council.

The following options were proposed in the discussion paper:

- Option 1 - Four Wards, 12 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 2 - Four Wards, 8 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 3 - No Wards, 12 Councillors
- Option 4 - No Wards, 10 Councillors
- Option 5 - No Wards, 8 Councillors
- Opportunity for other options to be recommended by the community

Members of the community were invited to provide any options for change to the City for consideration as part of the ward and representation review process. The Discussion Paper included in its review the current wards, boundaries, councillor representation levels and the following assessment criteria as required by the Act:

- community of interests;
- physical and topographic features;
- demographic trends;
- economic factors; and
- the ratio of councillors to electors in the various wards.

Each of the above factors were addressed for the District of Mandurah as a whole and where relevant, addressed within the context of each option within the Discussion Paper.

Through an extensive engagement process a total of 64 submissions were received. The individual submissions have been summarised in Public Submissions Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels (refer **Attachment 2.2**).

A summary of the submission results is below:

- 47% of the public submissions (30 out of 64) supported the Council retaining the current level of Councillors, noting that of the 30 responses in favour of the current level, 23 supported Option 1, 5 supported Option 3 (retain 12 Councillors/no Ward System) and 2 provided alternative options which retained the current levels of councillor representation and proposed to:
 - Retain the four wards/12 Councillors and investigate a system of indigenous engagement; and
 - Retain the four wards/12 Councillors and increase Councillor representation levels in Coastal and North to 4 per ward and in the East and Town 2 per ward.
- 53% (34 out of 64) supported the Council reducing the Councillor representation levels, noting that 24 out of 64 supported Option 2 (reduction to 8 Councillors), 2 supported Option 4 (10 Councillors/no Ward System), 5 supported Option 5 (8 councillors/no Ward System) and 3 other options suggested by the community proposed a reduction to the number of Councillors:
 - Remove wards and reduce Councillors to 5;
 - Retain 4 wards and reduce Councillors to 10; and
 - Retain 4 wards but reduce Councillors to Town and East to 2 per ward (overall 10 Councillors).
- 81% (52 out of 64) supported retaining the Ward System.

Options for Council consideration

Options 1 and 2 propose to retain the current four Ward System, noting a boundary adjustment is required for both options due to the current ratios. Option 1 retains the same number of Councillors and Option 2 proposes a reduction to the number of Councillors to 8.

The following options are proposed for Council consideration:

Option 1 – Four Wards, 12 Councillors

An overview of Option 1 is below:

- 12 Councillors
- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)
- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio

Due to significant growth forecast for the North Ward a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. A summary of the ratio of Councillor to Electors is provided in the table below:

Option 1: Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	3	5,618	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	3	5,830	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	3	5,033	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	3	5,926	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	12	5,602	

Refer to the Final Report Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels **Attachment 2.3** setting out the assessment factors for this option. If Option 1 is selected this Final Report will be submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board with the following reference documents:

- Council Resolution and Submission
- Minute Number G.16/9/2022, 27 September 2022, Report 9 Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Council
- Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper (released) (Refer **Attachment 2.1**)
- Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels (Refer **Attachment 2.2**)
- Survey Submission Form, Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels (Refer **Attachment 2.3**)
- Public Notice, social media and community engagement (Refer **Attachment 2.3**)
- District of Mandurah Boundary Maps (Refer **Attachment 2.3**)

Option 2 – Four Ward, 8 Councillors

An overview of Option 2 is below:

- 8 Councillors with a transition period, where the 2023 Local Government Election reduces the representation to 10 (reducing North and Coastal to a total of two councillors per ward between 2023-2025 resulting in only one seat that is vacant at the 2023 election) and the final adjustment

is made at the 2025 Local Government Election where the representation reduces to 8 (reducing the East Ward and Town Ward to a total of two councillors per ward resulting in only one seat that is vacant at the 2025 election).

- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)
- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio

Due to significant growth forecast for the North Ward, a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. A summary of the ratio of Councillor to Electors is provided in the table below:

Option 2 - Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	2	8,428	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	2	8,745	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	2	7,550	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	2	8,890	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	8	8,403	

Refer to **Attachment 2.4** setting out the assessment factors for this option. If Option 2 is selected this Final Report will be submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board with the following reference documents:

- Council resolution of the decision
- Minute Number G.16/9/2022, 27 September 2022, Report 9 Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Council
- Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper (released) (Refer **Attachment 2.1**)
- Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels (refer **Attachment 2.2**)
- Survey Submission Form, Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels (refer **Attachment 2.4**)
- Public Notice, social media and community engagement (refer **Attachment 2.4**)
- District of Mandurah Boundary Maps (refer **Attachment 2.4**)

Consultation

The Ward Review Discussion Paper (refer **Attachment 2.1**) was advertised for public comment for 46 days from 29 September 2022 to 14 November 2022 via the following methods:

- Local Public Notice
 - Website
 - Newspaper
 - Public Noticeboards
 - Social Media
- Online via the Mandurah Matters Website;
- Emails to all Residents Associations
- Community Engagement
 - Information stand at the Wearable Art Festival, Sunday 16 October 2022
 - Place Enrichment Strategy Community Workshops
 - Greenfields Community Centre
 - Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre

Statutory Environment

2.2. Districts may be divided into wards

(1) *The Governor, on the recommendation of the Minister, may make an order —*

- (a) dividing a district into wards; or*
- (b) creating new wards in a district that is already divided into wards; or*
- (c) changing the boundaries of a ward; or*
- (d) abolishing any or all of the wards into which a district is divided; or*
- (e) as to a combination of any of those matters.*

(2) *For the purposes of this Act —*

- (a) an order that divides a district into wards is to be regarded as establishing a ward system for the district; and*
- (b) an order that abolishes all of the wards into which a district is divided and does not create new wards, is to be regarded as discontinuing the ward system for the district.*

(3) *Schedule 2.2 (which deals with wards and representation) has effect.*

(4) *The Minister can only make a recommendation under subsection (1) if the Advisory Board has recommended under Schedule 2.2 that the order in question should be made.*

2.18. Fixing and changing number of councillors

(1) *When a local government is newly established the Governor, by order made on the recommendation of the Minister, is to —*

- (a) specify the number of offices of councillor on the council of the local government; and*
- (b) if the district is to have a ward system, specify the numbers of offices of councillor for the wards.*

(2) *When an order is made under section 2.2 discontinuing a ward system for a district, the number of offices of councillor on the council remains unchanged unless the order specifies otherwise.*

(3) *The Governor, on the recommendation of the Minister, may make an order —*

- (a) changing the number of offices of councillor on a council; or*
- (b) specifying or changing the number of offices of councillor for a ward; or*
- (c) as to a combination of those matters.*

(4) *The Minister can only make a recommendation under subsection (1) or (3) if the Advisory Board has recommended under Schedule 2.2 that the order in question should be made.*

Policy Implications

N/A

Financial Implications

In considering the options for the review, the option to reduce councillor numbers would have financial implications relating to savings of four Elected Member fees and allowances.

Risk Analysis

The review is required to be carried out in accordance with the Act. Failure to do so may result in the City's process being rejected by the Local Government Advisory Board, who makes a recommendation to the Minister.

It should be noted that if Council support Option 2 and transition over two election cycles, a future council could potentially decide (between 2023-25) to not reduce the size of council further.

Strategic Implications

The following strategies from the City of Mandurah Strategic Community Plan 2020 – 2040 are relevant to this report:

Social:

- Promote and encourage community connection to create social interaction and a strong sense of belonging.

Organisational Excellence:

- Demonstrate regional leadership and advocate for the needs of our community.
- Provide professional customer service, and engage our community in the decision making process.

Conclusion

Council is requested to consider the Options set out in this report (refer **Attachment 2.3** and **Attachment 2.4**) and make a recommendation to the Local Government Advisory Board.

NOTE:

- Refer **Attachment 2.1** **Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper (released)**
Attachment 2.2 **Public Submission Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels**
Attachment 2.3 **Option 1 – Final Report to the Local Government Advisory Board**
Attachment 2.4 **Option 2 – Final Report to the Local Government Advisory Board**

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Option 1: Four Wards, 12 Councillors

*In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, proposes to the Local Government Advisory Board that:

1. An order be made under section 2.2(1)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1995* to change the ward boundaries of the City of Mandurah as detailed in Attachment 2.3.
2. No change occurs to the councillor representation levels for the City's wards and that all councillors will continue to represent their respective wards and that their terms continue in line with their relevant Local Government Election result.
3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to forward this resolution, the City of Mandurah Final Report as detailed in Attachment 2.3, Attachments 2.1 and 2.2 to the Local Government Advisory Board for its consideration.

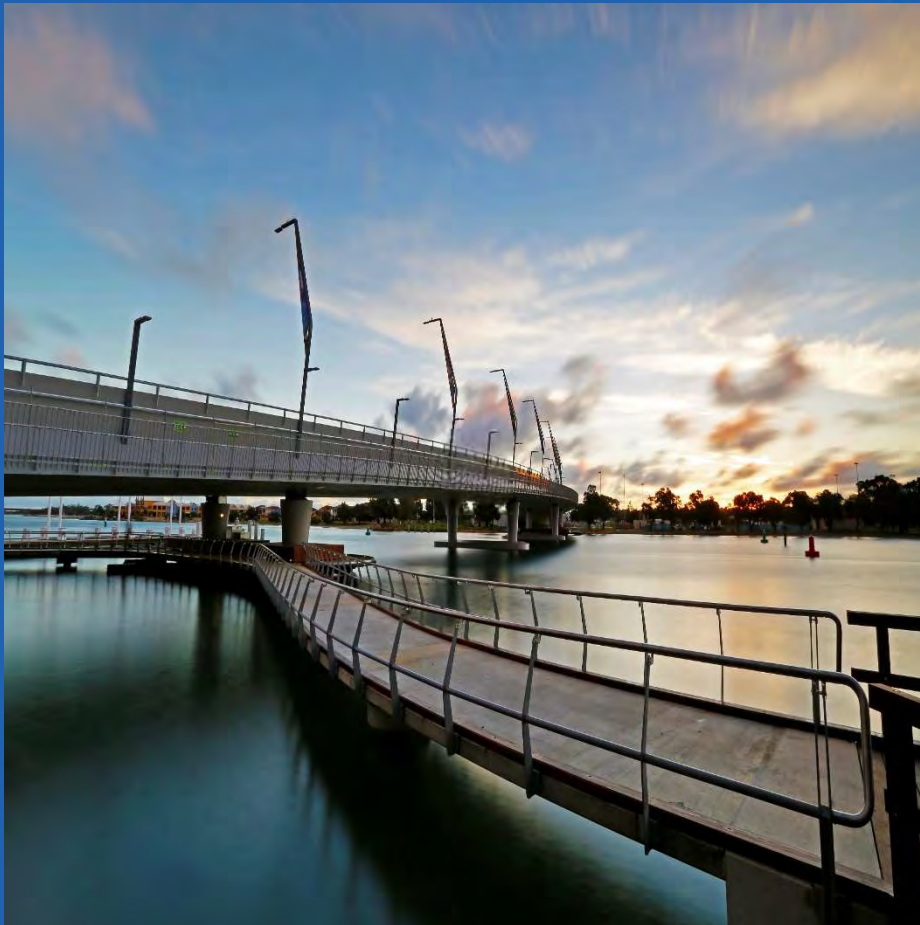
Option 2: Four Wards, 8 Councillors

That Council:

***In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, proposes to the Local Government Advisory Board that:**

- 1. An order be made under section 2.2(1)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1995* to change the ward boundaries of the City of Mandurah as detailed in Attachment 2.4.**
- 2. An order be made under section 2.18(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995* to decrease the number of councillors for the City of Mandurah from twelve (12) to eight (8) to take effect over a transition period of two Local Government Elections as set out below:**
 - a. At the 2023 Local Government Election decrease the number of councillors for the City of Mandurah from twelve (12) to ten (10), reducing the North Ward and Coastal Ward to a total of two councillors per Ward between 2023-2025, and only one (1) office for the North Ward and one (1) office for the Coastal Ward at the 2023 Local Government Election is vacant.**
 - b. At the 2025 Local Government Election reduce the East Ward and Town Ward to a total of two councillors and only one (1) office for the East Ward and one (1) office for the Town Ward at the 2025 Local Government Election is vacant.**
- 3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to forward this resolution, the City of Mandurah Final Report as detailed in Attachment 2.4, Attachments 2.1 and 2.2 to the Local Government Advisory Board for its consideration.**

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY REQUIRED



Discussion Paper

Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

The City of Mandurah invites the community to consider the current ward system and councillor representation levels and suggest options for change. Details of the current ward system, the review process and, to assist with providing feedback, the options for change, are set out in this Discussion Paper.

If you have questions please contact the Governance Services team on 9550 3777 or governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au for more information.

Submissions must be received by 4:30pm, Monday 14 November 2022

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Introduction

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995*, the City of Mandurah (the City) is reviewing its Ward system, Ward boundaries and Councillor representation levels across the City of Mandurah District.

The purpose of the Ward review is to assess the City's current structure and to evaluate options to ensure that the Ward system and representation levels best suit the characteristics of the district and community.

This Discussion Paper outlines five options which have been developed to encourage discussion and input from the community. It should be noted that the options presented do not represent all possible options, and through this Discussion Paper the City is seeking input from the community on the options set out within, or suggestions for an alternative.

Summary of Statutory Requirements

Under the *Local Government Act* (the Act) the City is required to review its wards from time to time and at least every eight years. The current Ward system and its boundaries were last reviewed in 2014.

A local government's ward and representation requirements are set out in the Act.

The key requirements are:

- a Council must comprise of no fewer than six and no more than 15 elected members including a Mayor popularly elected (section 2.17); and
- a district (local government area) can be divided into wards (section 2.2).

A ward system provides for the division of the local government district into wards with councillors elected from each ward. A no ward system provides for all councillors to be elected by all electors throughout its district. Regardless of whether a local government has a ward system or not, the Act sets out that councillors are to represent all the electors and residents across the entire local government district, not just those electors within their respective ward.

Schedule 2.2 of the Act provides that a local government that has a ward system is required to carry out reviews of:

- a) its ward boundaries; and
- b) the number of offices of councillor for each ward from time to time so that not more than eight years elapse between successive reviews.

The Act provides that when undertaking a review of wards and representation any of the following may be considered:

- Creating new wards in a district already divided into wards
- Changing the boundaries of a ward
- Abolishing any or all of the wards into which a district is divided
- Changing the name of a district or a ward

- Changing the number of offices of councillor on a council
- Specifying or changing the number of offices of councillor for a ward.

Community Consultation

Prior to conducting the review, the City must provide at least six weeks local public notice that a review will be carried out. The purpose of the local public notice is to inform the community of the proposed review and invite comments and submissions which will inform the review process.

The public is invited to consider the City's current ward system and suggest options for ward and representation change, and the local government can facilitate this by providing some options of ward and representation change as suggestions.

The City cannot constrain the public to certain options, and must consider all options put forward by the public. Upon receiving the public comments, the City will conduct a review, taking into account the public comments and with regard to the following assessment factors:

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

The results of this review and consultation process is expected to be completed early 2023 to ensure the changes are in place for the next ordinary local government election in October 2023.

How to make a Submission

Submissions must be received by **4:30pm, Monday 14 November 2022**.

Please email your submission to governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au. Submissions can also be hand delivered to the City of Mandurah Administration Building at 3 Peel St, Mandurah or posted to PO Box 210, Mandurah, WA 6210.

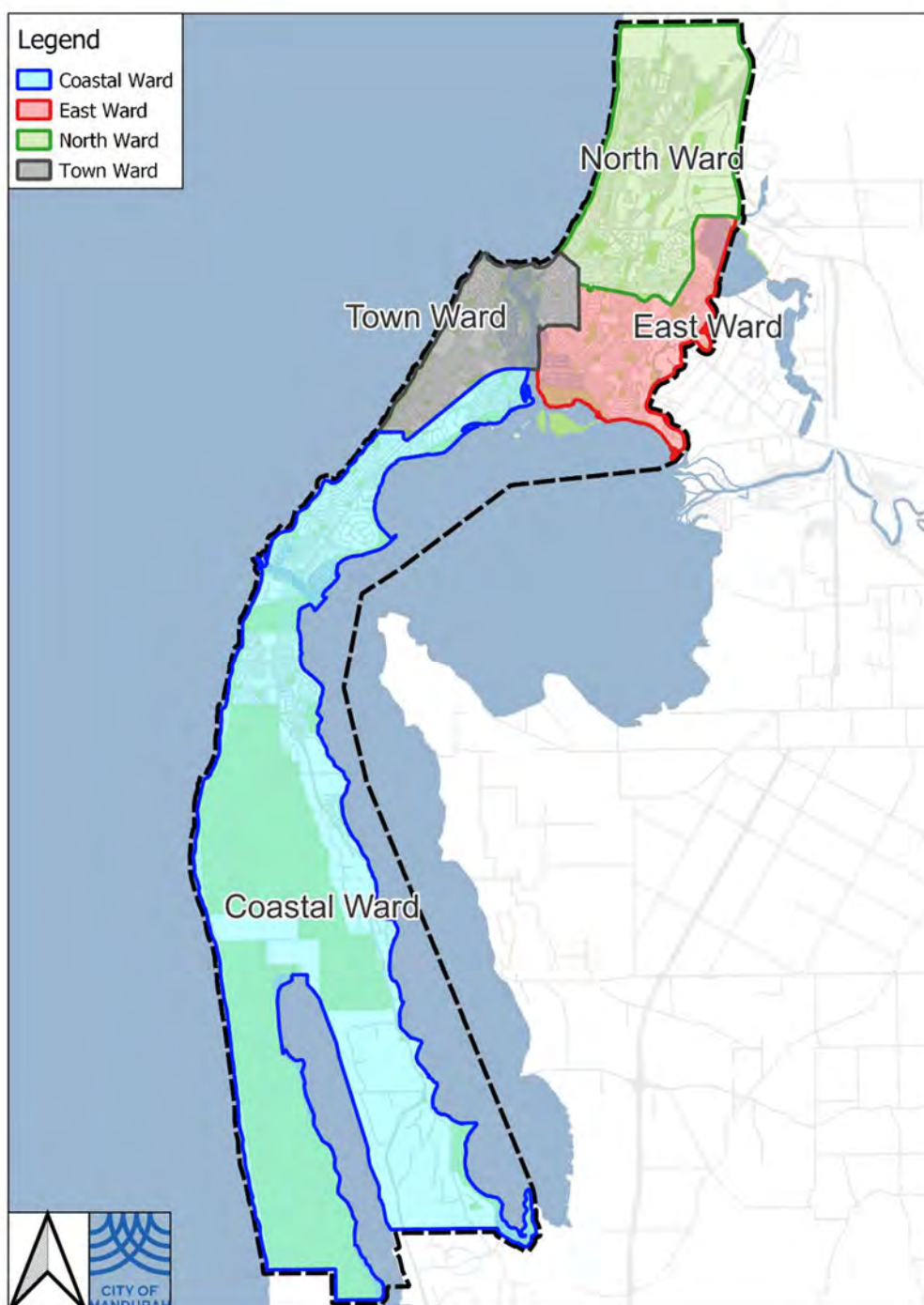
If you have questions please contact the Governance Services team on 9550 3777 or governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au for more information.

Current Ward and Councillor Representation

Since 1992, the City has had four Wards with 12 councillors. The last ward review, conducted in 2014, resulted in no changes to the Ward system or councillor representation levels. Due to the rapid population growth within the District, if the ward system remains, an adjustment to the Ward boundaries is required to ensure the ratio between councillor and elector remains within a deviation of plus or minus 10%.

The structure of the City of Mandurah Council currently consists of a Mayor, who is popularly elected by the City’s electors and 12 Councillors elected from four Wards, with three councillors representing each Ward.

A map depicting the current Ward boundaries is below:



Assessment Factors

When considering changes to Ward boundaries and councillor representation levels, the Act specifies certain factors that must be taken into account as part of any review process, including:

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

Each of the above factors are addressed for the District of Mandurah as a whole and where relevant, addressed within the context of each option.

Physical and Topographical features

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 also be relevant as may other man-made features, such as railway lines and freeways.

City of Mandurah Response:

The District of Mandurah covers 173 square kilometres, is 50km long yet only 8km wide (at its widest point), and stretches from Madora Bay and Lakelands in the north to Herron and Clifton in the south. Mandurah's natural environment and visual landscape forms part of the District's Ward boundaries, including Peel-Harvey Estuary, Mandurah Estuary, Peel Inlet, the Indian Ocean and Yalgorup National Park. Significant physical built features include the Old Coast Road, Mandjoogoordap Drive, Pinjarra Road and Mandurah Road and key bridge infrastructure including Dawesville, Mandurah and Estuary bridges.

A summary of most significant physical and topographical features for each Ward is set out below:

Coastal Ward

The Coastal Ward consists of seven suburbs which are located at the southern end of Mandurah, abutting the East and Town Ward Boundaries. The suburbs of Bouvard, Clifton and Herron are largely rural residential areas situated in the most southern end of the District. The Old Coast Road, the RAMSAR listed Peel-Harvey Estuary, Yalgorup National Park, Island Point, Tims Thicket Beach, Thrombolites and the Indian Ocean are some of the key features of these areas.

The suburb of Dawesville is located between the Peel-Harvey Estuary and the Indian Ocean south of the Dawesville Channel and east of the Old Coast Road. This includes Southport, which is part of the Port Bouvard canal development bordering the Dawesville Cut. Dawesville includes localities of Melros and Florida Beach, and several landmarks including Pyramids Beach, the Cut Golf Course, Caddadup Reserve, Dawesville Foreshore Reserve and Warrungup Spring Reserve.

Falcon locality spans the northern part of the Ward and the suburb is between the Indian Ocean to the west and the Peel-Harvey Estuary to the east, its southern boundary abutting Wannanup

and its northern boundary abutting Halls Head (Seascapes) and Erskine. Falcon includes Cox Bay, Falcon Bay, Novara Beach, Pleasant Grove Reserve.

Wannanup and Erskine share a boundary with Falcon. Wannanup is bounded by Falcon in the north, Peel Inlet in the east, the Dawesville Channel in the south and the Indian Ocean in the west. Some of the key features include Avalon Beach, North Port and East Port canals and Village Beach. Erskine is bounded by Old Coast Road and the Mandurah Bypass in the north, the Mandurah Estuary in the east, Peel Inlet in the south. Some of the most significant physical features of Erskine include Len Howard Conservation Park, Mandurah Quay Marina and Boundary Island.

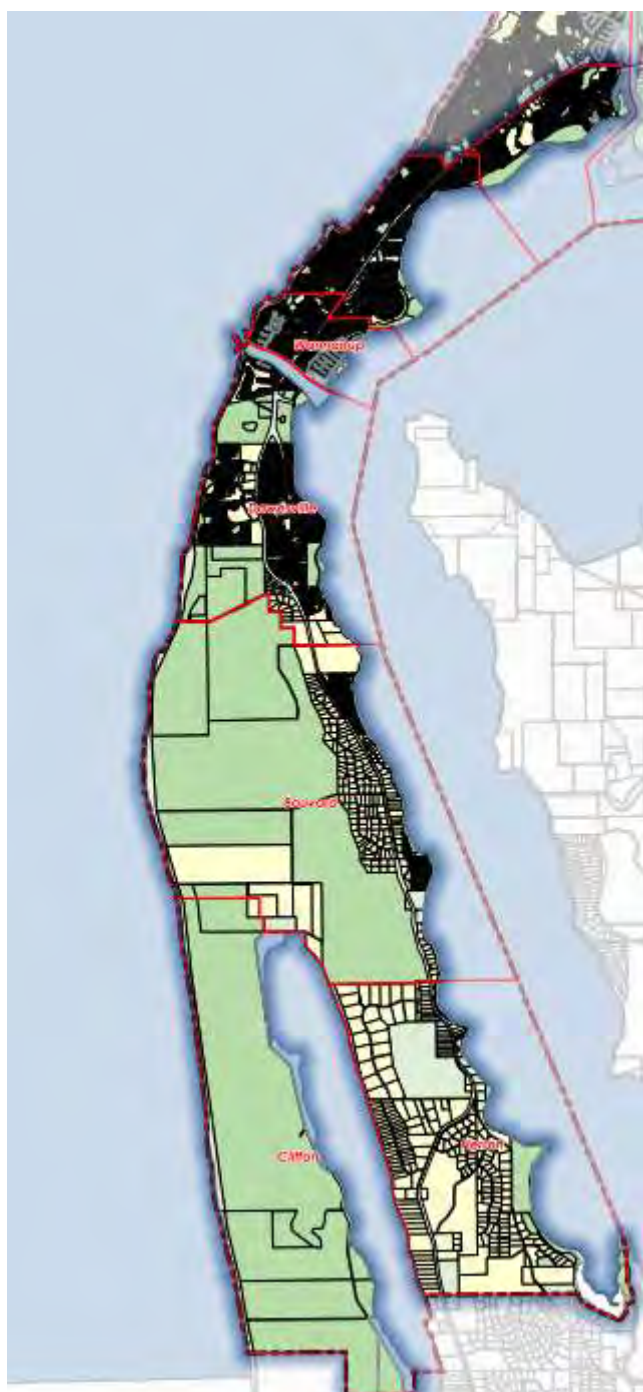


Image: Coastal Ward Boundary (current)

Town Ward

The Town Ward consists of three suburbs. Mandurah is bounded by the Indian Ocean, Henson Street and Mandurah Terrace in the north, Mandurah Road in the east, Boundary Road and near Pinjarra Road in the south and the Mandurah Estuary in the west. Some of the key features include the Mandurah Bridge, Kwillena Gabi Pool, Town Beach, Mandurah Ocean Marina and the Eastern Foreshore Reserve. The suburb of Mandurah is shared with the East and North Ward.

Halls Head is bounded by the Indian Ocean in the north and west, the Mandurah Estuary in the east and the Mandurah Bypass/Old Coast Road and a line north of Vanessa Road, Falcon in the south. A large suburb, Halls Head includes localities of Old Halls Head and Seascapes and several landmarks including Robert Point, Doddies Beach, Blue Bay Beach and Mandurah Country Club and Port Mandurah canals.

A small portion of Dudley Park is included in the Town Ward. Refer to East Ward below for the key physical and topographical features of the Dudley Park suburb.



Image: Town Ward Boundary (current)

North Ward

The North Ward consists of eight suburbs.

Silver Sands and San Remo are smaller beachside housing estates that consist of local parks and coastline. They are bounded by the Indian Ocean in the west and Mandurah Terrace/Mandurah Road in the east.

Parklands is bounded by Mandjoorgoordap Drive and Kwinana Freeway to the north, Stock Road to the east, Mandjoorgoordap Drive to the west and Gordon Road to the south. Parklands is home to Marlee Reserve, Lakes Lawn Cemetery and is a rural residential housing estate. Lakelands is bounded by the City of Rockingham boundary in the north, Mandjoorgoordap Drive in the east, suburb of Meadow Springs in the south and Mandurah Road in the west. Lakelands is home to Black Swan Lake, Paganoni Lake and wetlands.

Madora Bay is bounded by the City of Rockingham boundary in the north, Mandurah Road in the east, Karinga Road in the south and the Indian Ocean in the west. Madora Bay is home to beachside estate consisting of, local parks, reserves and coastline.

Meadow Springs is bounded by the Mandjoorgoordap Drive in the east, Gordon Road in the south and Mandurah Road in the west. This suburb includes Meadow Springs Golf and Country Club and Quarry Adventure Park.

Greenfields is bounded by Gordon Road/Lakes Road in the north, Mandurah Road in the west, Pinjarra Road in the south and Serpentine River in the east. The suburb includes Geogrup Lake Nature Reserve and Bortolo Park. Greenfields is shared with the East Ward.



Image: North Ward Boundary (current)

East Ward

In addition to the suburbs of Dudley Park, Greenfields and Mandurah which are shared with Town and North Ward, the suburb of Coodanup is bounded by Pinjarra Road in the north, the Serpentine River in the east, Peel Inlet in the south and by Wanjeep Street, Coodanup Drive and the Mandurah Bypass in the west. Some of the key features include Coodanup and Riverview Foreshore and Beacham Reserve.

Dudley Park is bounded by Pinjarra Road, Boundary Road, and Coodanup Drive in the north, Wanjeep Street in the east, Peel Inlet in the south and the Mandurah Estuary in the west. Features includes Soldiers Cove, Creery Wetlands, Samphire Cove Nature Reserve and Mariners Cove canals. A small portion of suburb of Dudley Park is located in the Town Ward.



Image: East Ward Boundary (current)

Demographic Trends

Several measurements of the characteristics of populations, such as population size, and its distribution by age, gender, occupation and location provide important demographic information. Current and projected population characteristics are relevant, as well as similarities and differences between areas within the local government.

City of Mandurah Response

Over the last two decades, Mandurah has experienced a rapid expansion in the size of its population, with annual growth of more than 3 per cent per annum between 2000 and 2020.

The City has a current population of 93,414¹. It is anticipated that the population by 2036, will be 119,877².

City of Mandurah	Forecasted Population
Year	2036
City of Mandurah	119,877
Coodanup	6,093
Dawesville - Bouvard - Herron - Clifton	13,636
Dudley Park	8,059
Erskine	6,307
Falcon	6,263
Greenfields - Parklands	13,490
Halls Head	17,080
Lakelands	10,888
Madora Bay	7,724
Mandurah	14,004
Meadow Springs	9,257
Silver Sands - San Remo	2,532
Wannanup	4,545

Table: Population and household forecast, by 2036 (Forcast ID).

Mandurah will become home to approximately 26,000³ new residents over the next 15 years. This equates approximately 14,000⁴ additional dwellings being required to be built within Mandurah.

The most significant developments are located within the North Ward. The Madora Bay North, Lakelands East and Ocean Hills developments could result in approximately 4650 new residential dwellings being developed and approximately 13,000 new residents over the next five to ten years. Other suburbs for significant development, located in the south, are Florida and Melros, which will result in approximately 500 dwellings accommodating an additional 1400 new residents over the next five years.

In addition, through the implementation of the City's Local Planning Strategy, the suburb of Mandurah may result in the densification of dwellings, with an estimated increase of 8,500 dwellings. Significant areas of land have already been zoned to allow for infill development within these areas. However, this will take some time and is not likely to be of significance for this Ward review.

¹ 2021 Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census Population for Mandurah District

² ID Forecast

³ 2021 ABS Census population for Mandurah District is 93,414. ID Forecast population estimates at 2036 for Mandurah is 119,877

⁴ 2021 ABS Census for the number of dwellings is 44,094. ID Forecast estimates the number of dwelling at 2036 for Mandurah is 58,443.

The median age for the City is 45 years of age compared to 38 years of age for Western Australia and Australia. The highest proportion of the population is aged between 65 and 69 years of age and 70 – 74 years of age compared to Western Australia's highest proportion age group being 35 – 39 years of age. 66% of Mandurah's population is born in Australia, with the next highest country of birth being England at 11.3 per cent.

The City's unemployment rate is 5.4%⁵, and is higher than that of the Western Australia average of 3.4%. Mandurah also has a significantly lower rate of participation in the labour force than the rest of Western Australia, attributable to its older population (including early retirees) and low rates of workforce engagement among females and young people.

Mandurah has a substantially lower share of professionals and a higher share of machinery operators and drivers, and sales workers relative to Western Australia. Professionals make up 14% per cent of the total workforce, compared with 20.5% for Western Australia. In contrast, technicians and trade workers form 19.7% per cent of Mandurah's most common occupations compared to 16.2% for Western Australia.

The table below demonstrates the unemployment rate across the District of Mandurah.

	Unemployed	Labour Force	Unemployment Rate
Dawesville - Bouvard	139	3,622	3.8%
Falcon - Wannanup	161	4,183	3.8%
Greenfields	334	3,755	8.9%
Halls Head - Erskine	277	8,626	3.2%
Mandurah	491	3,608	13.6%
Mandurah - North	280	9,755	2.9%
Mandurah - South	330	3,982	8.3%
Total City of Mandurah	2,012	37,531	5.4%

There is a higher proportion of couple families without children at 46.3% in Mandurah compared with 38.8% for Western Australia. There is a lower proportion of couple families with children under 15 years of age at 35.3% compared with 44.6% for Western Australia. There is a slightly higher proportion of one-parent families in Mandurah at 17.1%, compared with 15.1% for Western Australia.

⁵ March 2022 National Skills Commission Small Area Labour Markets

Economic Factors

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 district (or the release of land for these) and the distribution of community assets and infrastructure such as road networks.

City of Mandurah Response

For the most part, the Ward boundaries do not align to similar economic activities as Mandurah's unique tourism and commercial offerings overlap Wards. Mandurah has historically been seen as a tourism destination with its natural assets in abundance making the tourism industry a significant contributor to the City's economy. The Mandurah Foreshore and Peel Harvey Estuary and surrounds remain significant tourist attractions. Across all Wards, Mandurah's beaches, waterways and national parks provide the basis for a range of recreation and leisure activities, as well as retail and commercial opportunities.

The majority of identified tourism sites are located within the Mandurah City Centre precinct. The Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah Ocean Marina and Mandurah City Centre Precincts provide for a mix of tourism accommodation, tourist related commercial, restaurant and retail functions required for Mandurah to continue to operate as a tourism destination.

The Mandurah Quay Precinct in the Coastal Ward contains the Mandurah Quay Resort and Boundary Island Brewery. The City's Tourism Strategy highlights the importance of retaining this site for tourism purposes due to its location adjacent to an established resort with facilities and amenities, and adjacent to the waterfront.

The City has identified three 'district centres' within the District of Mandurah located within the suburbs of Lakelands, Halls Head, and Falcon. District centres generally serve the main weekly household shopping, service and community needs of the district. District centres are predominantly retail focused, but may include a limited mix of other uses such as offices, medical and professional services, hospitality and entertainment and housing.

Under Local Planning Scheme No. 12, light, service and general industries, showroom and bulky goods developments are accommodated within the Industrial, Service Commercial zones and Activity Centres. The Service Commercial zones and Activity Centres are within the precincts of Pinjarra Road, Gordon Road, Mandurah Ocean Marina, Lakelands, Halls Head and Galbraith Loop.

The Gordon Road Precinct has also been identified as being ideally situated in terms of its central location, access to regional roads and infrastructure, to be considered a Service Commercial and Light Industry zone.

Community of interest

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*
- *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.

City of Mandurah Response

The Peel-Harvey Estuary is highly valued by the community for its natural and recreational values and is a significant tourism drawcard. The Peel-Harvey Estuary forms part of the Peel Yalgorup RAMSAR listing and is one of the largest and most diverse estuarine complexes in South Western Australia supporting an array of species and communities.

The District of Mandurah has 28 public and private schools providing both primary and secondary education, as well as special education programs. The Murdoch University Peel Campus, is co-located with John Tonkin College and Challenger TAFE at the Peel Education Campus.

Peel Health Campus provides a wide range of healthcare services with a 24-hour emergency care centre and comprehensive medical, surgical, maternity and rehabilitation services. The hospital accommodates a specialist medical centre as well as pharmacy and diagnostic services.

The City is home to a number of key sporting and recreation facilities including Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre and Rushton Park, in addition to a range of sporting grounds and courts available across the district. The District of Mandurah has a broad range of sporting clubs with 65 sporting groups operating across all Wards, however are predominately located in the East Ward.

There are three libraries within the District of Mandurah, with Mandurah Library located in the Eats Ward, Falcon e-Library and Community Centre located in the Coastal Ward and Lakelands Library and Community Centre in the North.

Ratio of Councillors to electors

It is expected that each local government will have similar ratios of electors to councillors across the wards of its district. A balanced representation would be reflected in the ratio deviation being within plus or minus 10% for all wards.

The percentage ratio deviation is calculated by subtracting the councillor/elector ratio for a ward from the average councillor/elector ratio for the whole district. The result is then divided by the average councillor/elector ratio for the whole district and multiplied by 100 to give a percentage.

A **negative** result indicates that the ward is **under-represented**, and a **positive** result indicates the ward is **over-represented**.

The City's current Ward system, demonstrates that there is an imbalance in representation across the City as following:

- North Ward and Coastal Ward being **under-represented** (-16.44% and -10.79% respectively).
- Town Ward and East Ward are considered to be **over-represented** (13.20% and 14.03% respectively).

The percentage ratio deviation shown in the table below, provides an indication of the current percentage difference between the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole of the City district (one Councillor to 5,602 electors) and the Councillor/elector ratio for each Ward⁶.

Ward Name	Suburb (No. of Electors)	No. of Electors Per Ward	No. Councillors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation	Comment
Coastal Ward	Bouvard (732) Dawesville (5,259) Clifton (0) Erskine (4,559) Falcon (4,449) Herron (366) Wannanup (3,254)	18,619	3	1 : 6,206	-10.79%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
East Ward	Coodanup (3,265) Dudley Park (4,954) Greenfields (4,680) Mandurah (1,548)	14,447	3	1 : 4,816	14.03%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
North Ward	Greenfields (2,948) Lakelands (3,998) Madora Bay (2,704) Mandurah (1,521) Meadow Springs (6,066) Parklands (453) San Remo (773) Silver Sands (1,105)	19,568	3	1 : 6,523	-16.44%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
Town Ward	Dudley Park (398) Halls Head (10,710) Mandurah (3,480)	14,588	3	1 : 4,863	13.20%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
TOTAL		67,222	12	1 : 5602		

⁶ 14 September 2022 Statistical Area Level 1, Western Australian Electoral Commission

Options for Consideration

The City has put forward a number of options for Ward and representation change for discussion and to encourage submissions and comments. It is important to note that the options are provided for discussion purposes only and are not intended to be all encompassing or to indicate which options would be supported by the City. Members of the community are invited to provide any options for change to the City for consideration as part of the ward and representation review process.

Ward System (Options 1 and 2)

Options 1 and 2 propose to retain the current four Ward System, noting a boundary adjustment is required for both options due to the current ratios. Option 1 retains the same number of Councillors and Option 2 proposes a reduction to the number of Councillors.

It should be noted that the current Ward boundaries for the most part, do not align with physical and topographical features, such as the Peel Inlet and Dawesville Channel, Old Coast Road/Mandurah Road, and Pinjarra Road. Further, current Ward boundaries divide a number of localities. For example, Greenfields is represented by both North and East Wards, Dudley Park is represented by both East and Town Wards, and Mandurah is represented by North, East and Town Wards.

Whilst it is preferable that any future amendments to Ward boundaries do not dissect suburbs, this has not been fully achieved in this Ward Review, however the City has attempted, where available, to use main roads to define the boundaries.

A Ward system divides the local government district into Wards with Councillors elected from each Ward and representing the electors in that Ward.

The **advantages** of a ward system may include:

- Councillors may be more accessible to electors of the Ward they represent.
- Different sectors of the community can be represented ensuring a good spread of representation and interests amongst elected members.
- There is potentially more opportunity for elected members to have a greater knowledge and interest in the issues in their ward.
- It may be easier for a candidate to be elected if they only need to canvass one ward.

The **disadvantages** of a ward system may include:

- Elected members can become too focused on their wards and less focused on the affairs of other wards and the whole local government.
- An unhealthy competition for resources can develop where electors in each ward come to expect the services and facilities provided in other wards, whether they are appropriate or not.
- The community and elected members may regard the local government in terms of wards rather than as a whole community.
- Ward boundaries may appear to be placed arbitrarily and may not reflect the social interaction and communities of interest of the community.

- Balanced representation across the local government may be difficult to achieve, particularly if a local government has highly populated urban areas and sparsely populated rural areas.

Reduction in Councillor Representation

The ideal number of Councillors for a local government is determined independently by each local government. The City of Mandurah Council currently has 12 Councillors, and a popularly elected Mayor.

Options 2, 4 and 5 propose a reduction in the number of Elected Members.

The **advantages** of a reduction in the number of elected members may include the following:

- The decision-making process may be more effective and efficient if the number of elected members is reduced.
- Cost efficiencies for the City and ratepayers, saving approximately \$42,000⁷ per Councillor per annum.
- Fewer elected members are more readily identifiable to the community.
- Fewer positions on council may lead to greater interest in elections with contested elections and those elected obtaining a greater level of support from the community.

The **disadvantages** of a reduction in the number of elected members may include the following:

- A smaller number of elected members may result in an increased workload for incumbent members and may reduce efficiency and effectiveness.
- There is the potential for dominance in the council by a particular interest group.
- A reduction in the number of elected members may limit the diversity of interests around the council table.
- Opportunities for community participation in council's affairs may be reduced if there are fewer elected members for the community to contact.

The options are further explained below.

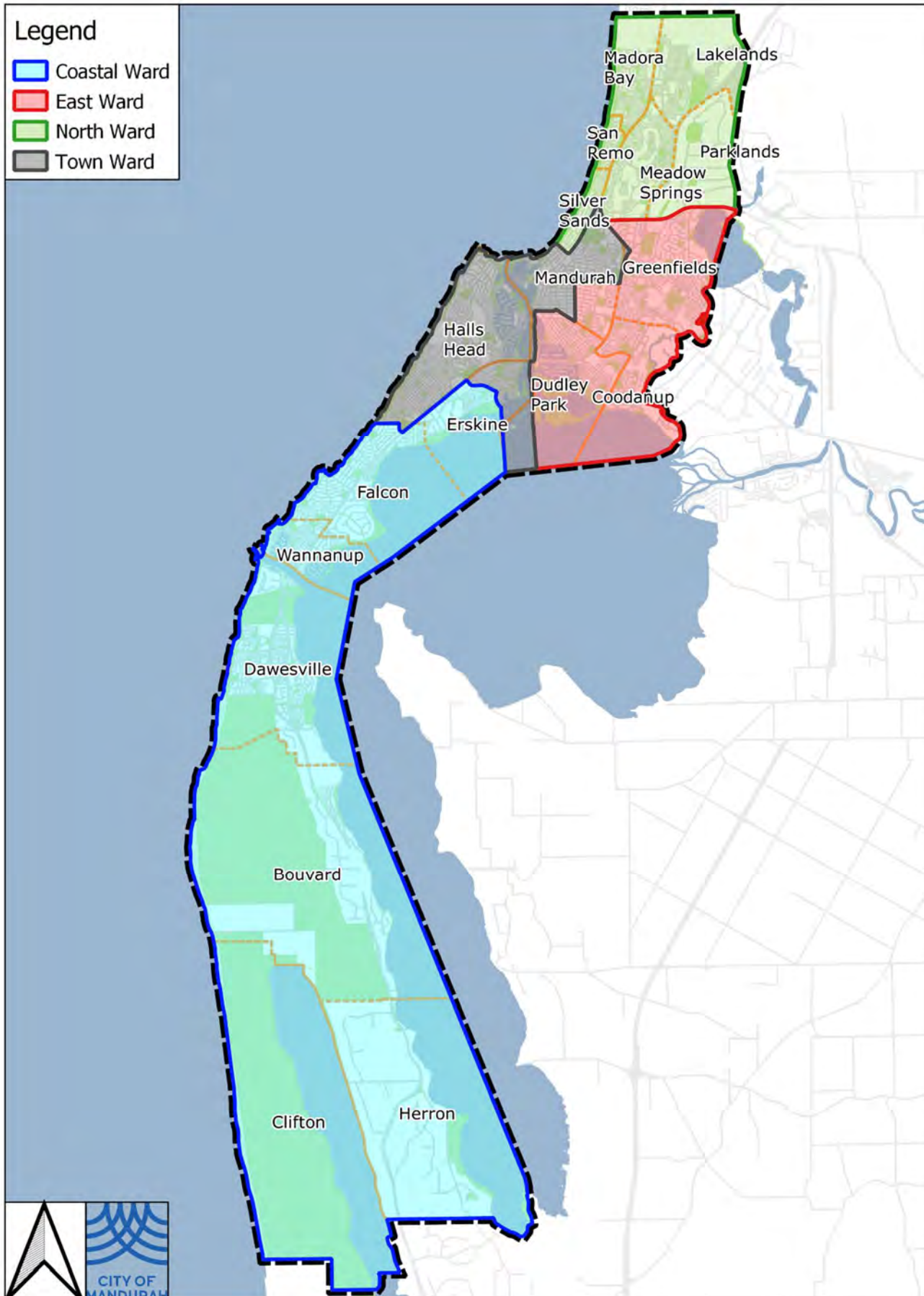
Option 1 – Four Wards, 12 Councillors

Option 1 Overview

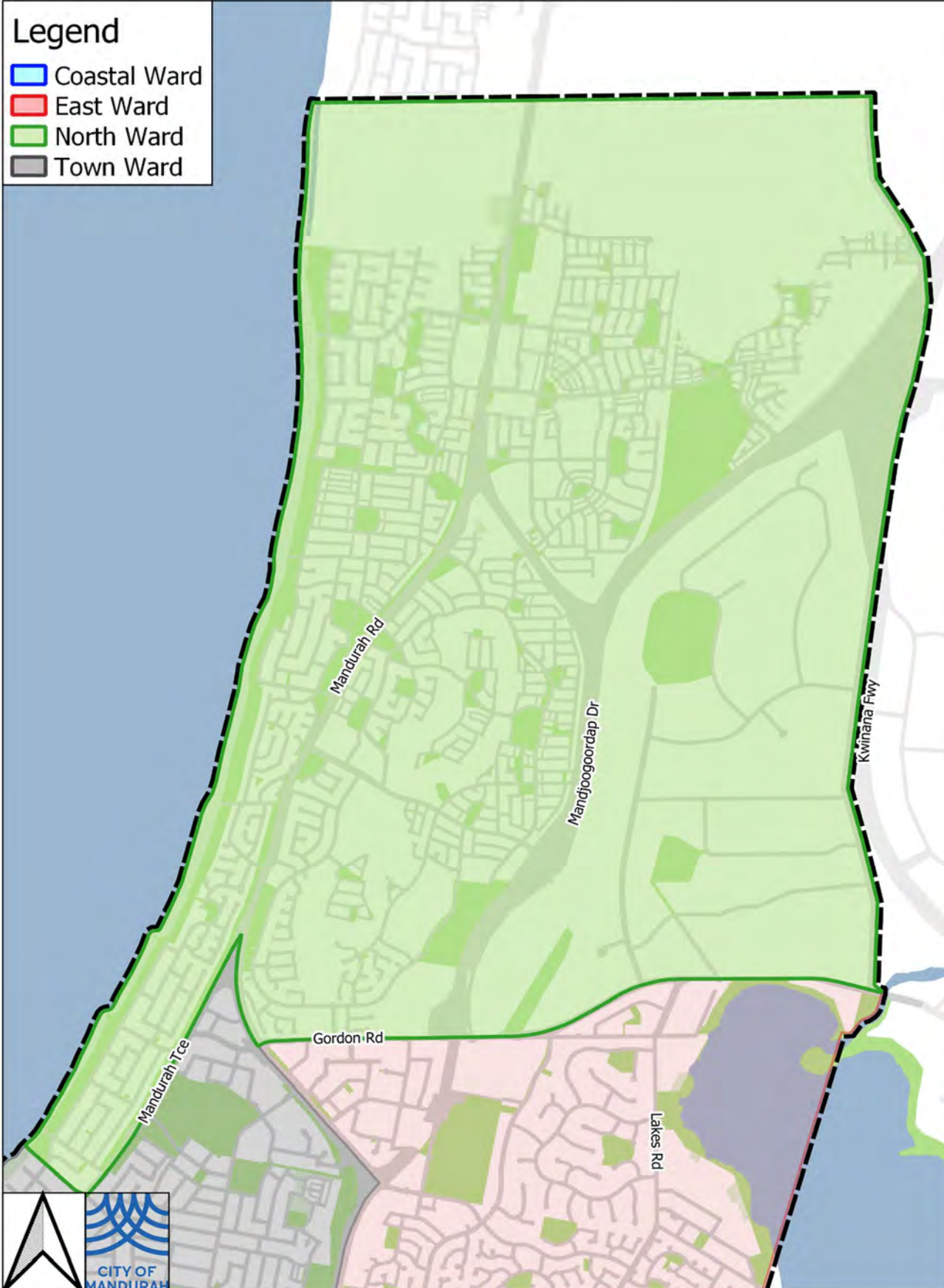
- 12 Councillors
- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)
- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio

⁷ 2022/23 Councillor Sitting Fee \$32,470; ICT Allowance \$3,500; Training Allocation \$4,000; Home Office \$125; Clothing \$500; Mileage/travel \$1,405

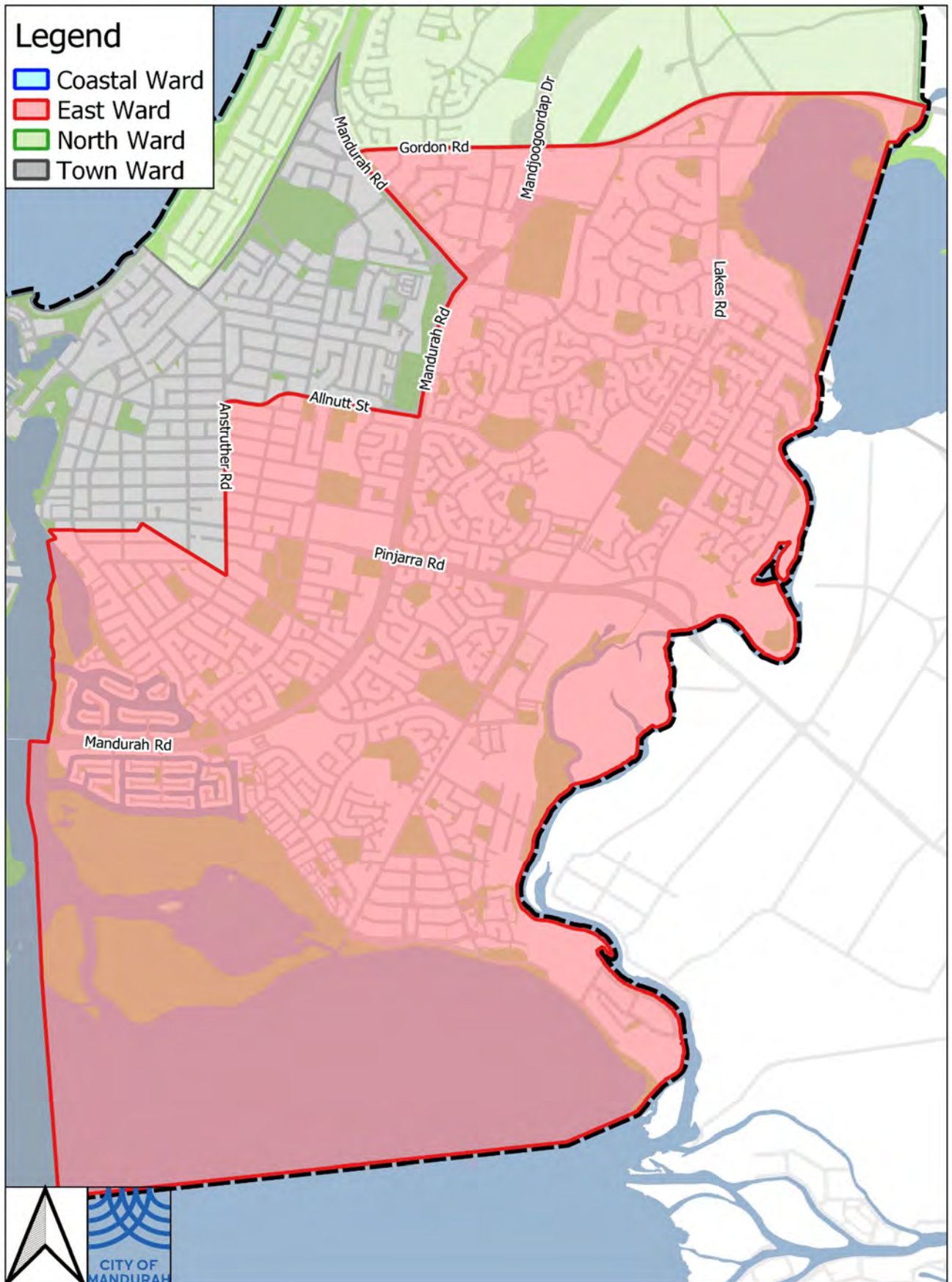
Option 1: District Ward Maps



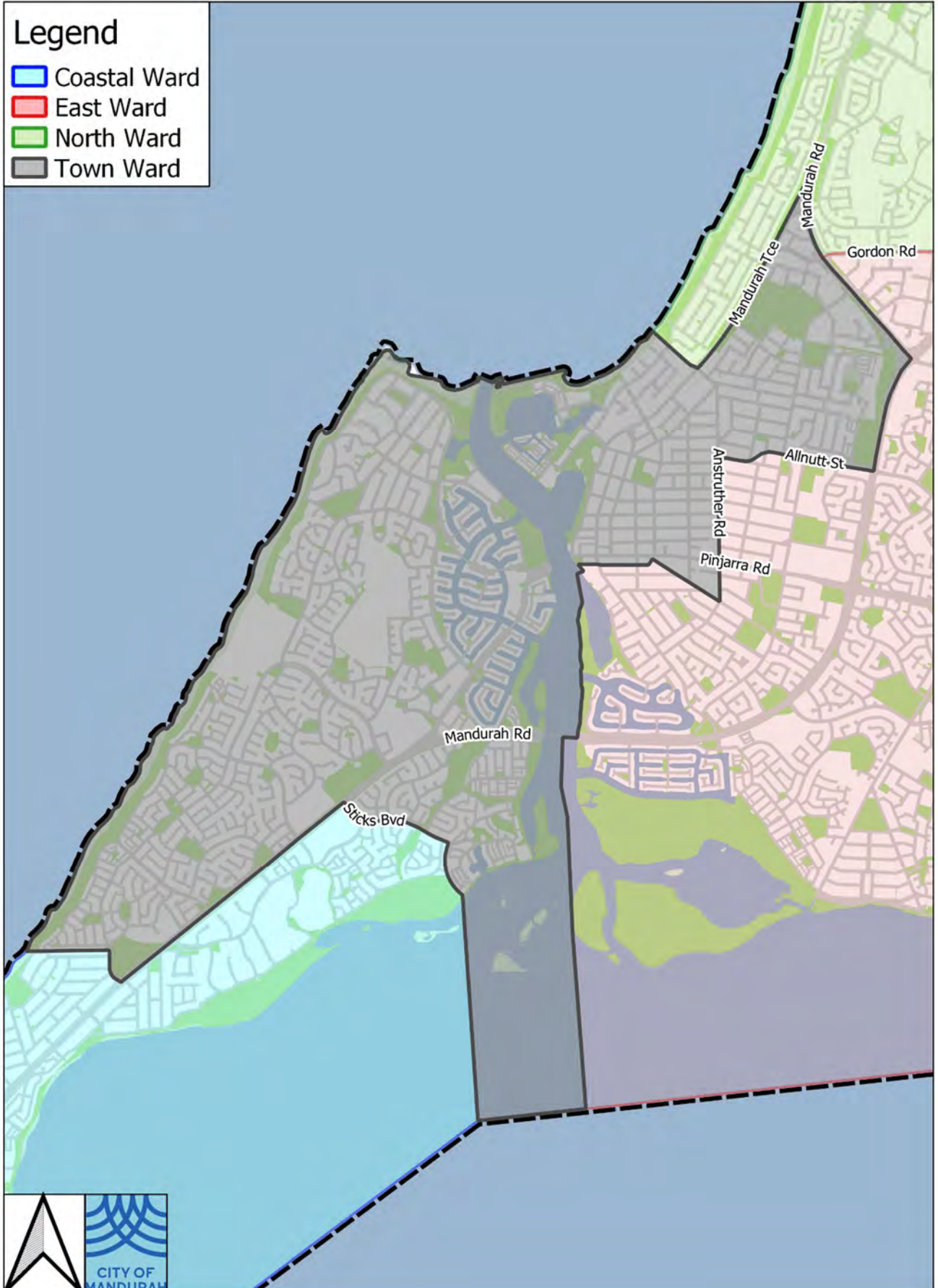
Option 1 - North Ward Map



Option 1 - East Ward Map



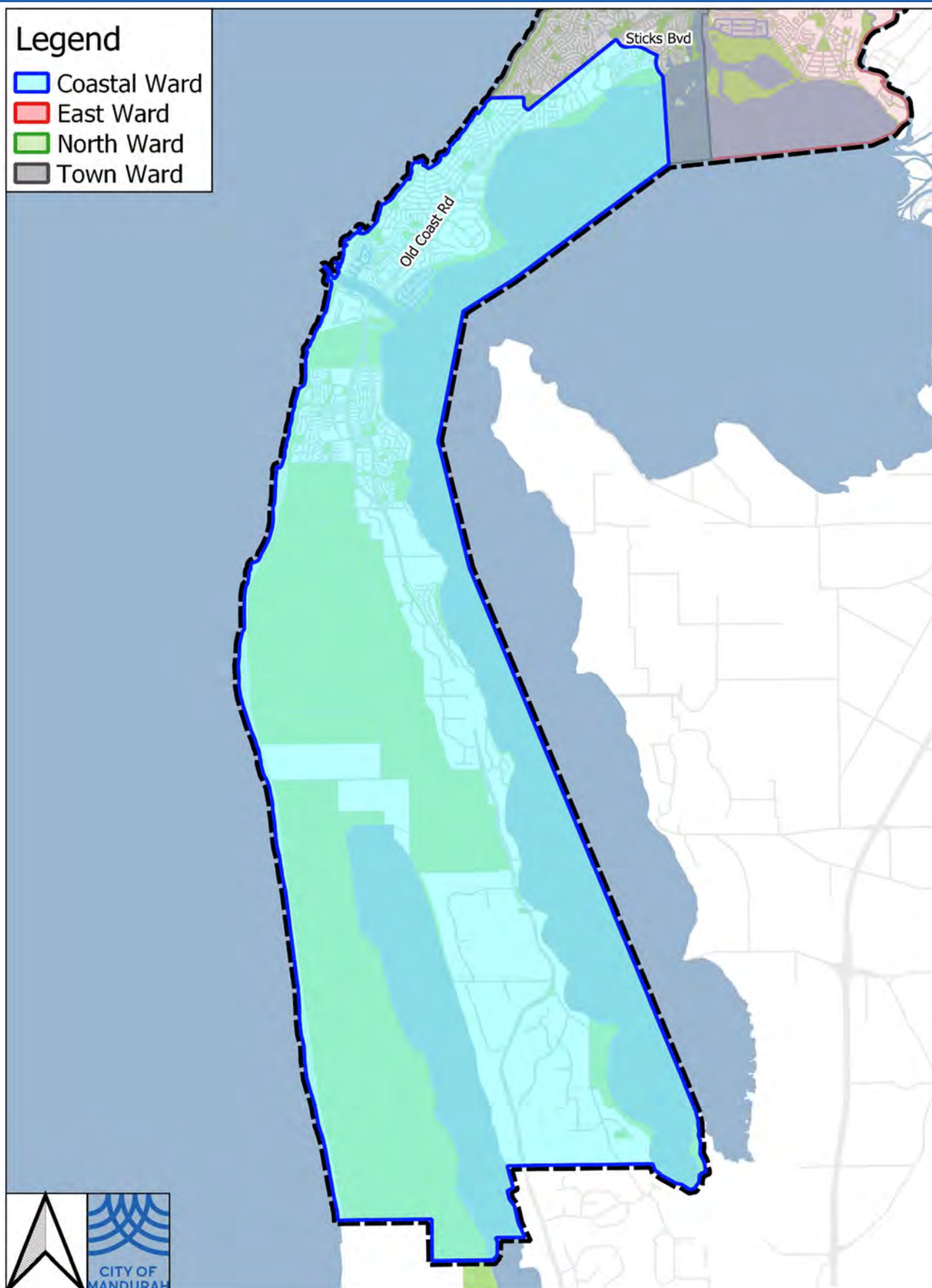
Option 1 - Town Ward Maps



Option 1 - Coastal Ward Maps

Legend

-  Coastal Ward
-  East Ward
-  North Ward
-  Town Ward



Option 1: Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	3	5,618	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	3	5,830	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	3	5,033	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	3	5,926	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	12	5,602	

Note: significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward, therefore a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. This is further explained in the demographic trends of the Option1 and 2 Assessment Factor section below.

Option 2 – Four wards, 8 Councillors

Option 2 Overview

- 8 Councillors with a transition period, where the 2023 Local Government Election reduces the representation to 10 (reducing North and Coastal to two councillors between 2023-2025 and only one seat at the 2023 election is vacant) and the final adjustment is made at the 2025 Local Government Election where the representation reduces to 8 (reducing the East Ward and Town Ward to two councillors and only one seat at the 2025 election is vacant).
- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)
- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio – as per Option 1 Ward Maps

Option 2 - Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	2	8,428	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	2	8,745	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	2	7,550	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	2	8,890	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	8	8,403	

Note: significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward, therefore a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. This is further explained in the demographic trends of the Option1 and 2 Assessment Factor section below.

Option 1 and 2 Assessment Factors

Physical and topographic features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjustment to the East Ward boundary will align, at the Northern and Western sides, to main roads of Gordon Road and Mandurah Road. This adjustment will result in the suburb of Greenfields forming part of East Ward. An additional boundary adjustment will result in the whole suburb of Dudley Park forming part of the East Ward. • North Ward boundary will align, at the southern end to Gordon Road and Mandurah Road. This adjustment will place the northern portion of Mandurah in the Town Ward and the southern component of Greenfields in the East Ward. This adjustment will reduce the suburbs in the North Ward from eight to six to include Silver Sands, San Remo, Meadow Springs, Parklands, Madora Bay and Lakelands. • Town Ward boundary at the northern end will align to Mandurah Road and Mandurah Terrace resulting in the Mandurah Train station forming part of the Town Ward boundary. • The northern end of the Coastal Ward boundary will align with the existing suburb boundary of Halls Head of the Western side and a new boundary of the Eastern side of Sticks Boulevard (Erskine).
Demographic trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Ward population is expected to experience slow growth and low potential for expansion in the coming years and any growth is unlikely to impact on the ratios.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madora Bay North, Lakelands East and Ocean Hill District plans within North Ward is expected to be the largest growth areas which the population forecast to increase by approximately 4650 new residential dwellings being developed and approximately 13,000 new residents over the next five to ten years. • Coastal Ward's population forecast is expected to increase through residential developments in Florida and Melros with a potential increase in approximately 500 dwellings accommodating an additional 1400 new residents over the next five years. • The Mandurah City Centre precinct which includes the suburb of Mandurah has been identified as a significant growth area. It is anticipated through this regeneration and redevelopment of the inner Mandurah area, approximately 8,455 new dwellings will be created, however this increase will unlikely impact on this ward review and could take decades to be realised.
<p>Economic factors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the close proximity to the Town Ward, a portion of the northern end of Erskine, which includes the Boundary Island Brewery would form part of the Town Ward. • The southern end of Mandurah, located between Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah Road and Allnutt Street (currently in North Ward) contains commercial, residential and transport (Mandurah Train Station). It is proposed that these areas form part of the Town Ward. This area is in close proximity to the City Centre.
<p>Community of interest</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The boundary adjustment will result in the Murdoch University Mandurah Campus forming part of the East Ward (currently North Ward). There are clear synergies with the University Campus forming part of the East Ward as the University Campus specialises in health courses including Nursing and postgraduate Counselling-Creative Arts Therapies. Bortolo Pavilion, Greenfields will also form part of the East Ward. Foundation Christian College would form part of East Ward (currently North Ward). • North Mandurah Primary School and Mandurah High School would form part of Town Ward (currently North Ward). • There are no other significant impacts to the other boundary adjustments.

No Ward Systems (Options 3 – 5)

A no Ward System provides for all Councillors to be elected by all constituents. These Councillors represent all electors across the entire local government district.

The **advantages** of a no ward system may include:

- Elected members are elected by the whole community not just a section of it. Knowledge and interest in all areas of the council's affairs would result in broadening the views beyond the immediate concerns of those in a ward.
- Members of the community who want to approach an elected member can speak to any elected member.
- Social networks and communities of interest are often spread across a local government and elected members may have a broader overview and understanding of these.
- Elected members can use their specialty skills and knowledge for the benefit of the whole local government.
- There is balanced representation with each elected member representing the whole community.
- The election process is much simpler for the community to understand and for the council to administer.

The **disadvantages** of a no ward system may include:

- Electors may feel that they are not adequately represented if they don't have an affinity with any of the elected members.
- Elected members living in a certain area may have a greater affinity and understanding of the issues specific to that area.
- There is potential for an interest group to dominate the council.
- Elected members may feel overwhelmed by having to represent all electors and may not have the time or opportunity to understand and represent all the issues.
- It may be more difficult and costly for candidates to be elected if they need to canvass the whole local government area.

Reduction in Councillor Representation

[As outlined above.](#)

Option 3 – No wards, 12 Councillors

Option 3 Overview

- 12 Councillors
- No Wards

Option 3 - Ratio of Councillors to electors		
Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	12	1:5,602

Option 4 – No wards, 10 Councillors

Option 4 Overview

- 10 Councillors
- 10 Councillors with no transition period, resulting in 10 councillors at the 2023 Local Government Election
- No Wards

Option 4 - Ratio of Councillors to electors		
Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	10	1:6,722

Option 5 – No Wards, 8 Councillors

Option 5 Overview

- 8 Councillors
- 8 Councillors with a transition period, where the 2023 Local Government Election reduces the representation to 10 and the final adjustment is made at the 2025 Local Government Election where the representation reduces to 8.
- No Wards

Option 5 - Ratio of Councillors to electors		
Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	8	1:8,403

Option 3, 4 and 5 Assessment Factors

The assessment factors – community of interest, physical and topographic features, demographic trends and economic factors have not been addressed for Options 3 – 5 as each Councillor would represent the entire Mandurah district, rather than only one Ward.

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
OPTION 1 – Four Wards, 12 Councillors							
Moira (no surname provided)	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes	-		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
K Beake	East	Option 1	Yes	Yes	We need to have representation for residents and ratepayers to protect our interests and community. Increase as population grows	Equal distribution balance is good, adjustment needed with growth accordingly Councillor representation to remain the same for now, with view to increase based on population growth	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level Councillor Representation to increase based on population growth
T Glover	East	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Current system works		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
N Henning	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Does well as it is and has good representation	It's the CEO Job to make sure the representation is equal	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
J Grafham	East	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Working currently, why change what isn't broken.		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
B White	North	Option 1	Yes	No	More people to make things easier and to make things known - like town services to people	Need more wards	Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level <i>*Preference to increase number of wards</i>

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
Jessica (no surname provided)	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes		Support 4 ward system as needs are different depending on area.	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
L Smart	East	Option 1	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
J Kennett	Coastal	Option 1					Supports the current 4 ward system Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
J Sally	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Prefer them to be separate	Support of 4 wards - I feel this is a good overall representation of the areas	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
M Sally	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Prefer them to be separate	Support of 4 wards - I feel this is a good overall representation of the areas	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
T Clark	Coastal	Option 1	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
C Rickers	Coastal	Option 1	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
P Dell	East	Option 1	No	Yes	Wards need representation. If wards are not represented, it could happen that most of the councillors come		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
					from a small area, and that area would probably end up being given preferential treatment.		
G Parsons	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Less is better		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
Margie (no surname provided)	Coastal	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Because of population growth and expansion of Mandurah I want the current representation of councillors to remain as is.. I feel to reduce the numbers we would not get the attention needed when an issue arises. Am happy with the current arrangements.	Councillor Representation COMMENT: 3 councillors are needed to address various issues in our fast growing ward. Support 4 Ward System COMMENT: To prevent concentration of councillors to be responsible in one whole area	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
B Elkington	Coastal	Option 1	Yes	No	Suggestion would be to have more wards and 1 Councillor per Ward	Councillor Representation COMMENT: Reducing numbers could cause more small interest groups 4 Ward System COMMENT: Better spread per population required General COMMENT: Would support more wards and reduce number of Councillor's from 2 to 1 in each Ward	Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
W Billham	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
A McKerrell	North	Option 1	Yes	Y/N	As per the results from the 2021 ordinary election, voter engagement was stable across all 4 wards (29%-32%) with no significant spikes or shortcomings. This	Support of 4 Ward COMMENT: Whilst having equal representation can simplify the selection process for electors, it does result in Councillors competing and advocating for the	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
					indicates the current system is working sufficiently and no large structural change is needed	duplication of services in their specific wards in order to justify their role to those electors. Moving to a wardless system would in theory see a mix of representatives working towards a collective vision, however could result in an imbalance of representation with those coming from more affluent areas who have greater resources available to them during election cycles.	
D Willmott	Coastal	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Local ward understanding and representation is critical. Local government needs to be as local as possible	-	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
K Marsh	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes	<p>1) I think wards are best as they facilitate a more focussed view for Councillors & better enables contact by residents with a Councillor who has a focus on their area/Ward;</p> <p>2) I think 3 Councillors for each Ward (12 in total) provides a good ratio of Councillors to residents that provides Councillors with a manageable workload & facilitates them having sufficient time to respond to residents concerns & focus on issues within their Ward.</p> <p>3) Overall, this is essentially the best option for the quality of local government I expect & require.</p>		<p>Supports the current 4 ward system</p> <p>Supports the proposed boundary adjustment</p> <p>Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level</p>

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
K Devenish	Town	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Having 3 members in each ward means it's more likely to have one close		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
L Krombas	Coastal	Option 1	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
OPTION 2 – Four Wards, 8 Councillors							
Kirsty (no surname provided)	North	Option 2	Yes	Yes	Nil	-	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
G Delahunty	East	Option 2	Yes	Yes	12 Councillors and a Mayor dilutes the quality of councillors		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
D Harrop	Coastal	Option 2	Yes	Yes	Too many councillors currently representing the wards and providing feedback and advice well outside the scope of what a local government should be providing. The money saved through less councillors could be put to better use in providing services to ratepayers	I feel that councillors should have to reside in the ward they wish to represent	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
Robert (no surname provided)	Town	Option 2	Yes	Yes	-		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
J Patterson	North	Option 2	Yes	Yes	-		No Comment
L Mangano	East	Option 2	Yes	Yes	-	4 Ward system is supported - it would be good if we can balance it out.	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
Irvine (no surname provided)	North	Option 2	Yes	Yes	Keep wards to keep equal representation for each area		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
P Lunt	Town	Option 2	Yes		Reduce cost		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
C Ritchie	Town	Option 2	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
							Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
Justin (no surname provided)	N/A	Option 2	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
M Quatember	Coastal	Option 2	Yes	Yes	I think having Wards is important to keep all the areas together		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
Brett (no surname provided)	East	Option 1	Yes	Yes	Maintaining the area of the community interest is important	Reduce Councillors without losing diversity on Council Councillors should have set terms (8 years for example)	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
Pallavi (no surname provided)	Town	Option 2	Yes	Yes	They are getting paid for doing not much		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
P Jacklin	East	Option 2	Yes	Yes	I think 2 councillors per ward is sufficient. I mainly look to one per ward who I can have the most confidence in. In council mtgs 2 should be adequate to speak for a ward	General Comment: councillors should be more in the public eye, not just in council meetings otherwise they become faceless people.	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
A Lewis	North	Option 2	Yes	Yes	If wards kept, 2 per seems suitable. Wards seems a better representation of areas over removal of wards If no wards more councillors should be used for better representation		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
A Bernadini	Coastal	Option 2	Yes	Yes			Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
P Thompson	Town	Option 2	Yes	Yes	I believe the ward system better represents rate payers' interests, but also feel we have too many Councillors. If the majority support abolishing wards my vote would be to further reduce the number of Councillors to 6		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
C Sweeney	North	Option 2	Yes	Yes	After having experienced and attended Council meetings I favour option 2, retaining wards and reducing councillor representations to 8. I believe it will bring greater commitment, professionalism, responsibility and availability to residents.	Councillor Representation COMMENT: Too much dead wood 4 Ward System COMMENT: Localised representation and answerable to residents	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
G Keen	East	Option 2	Yes	Yes	-	-	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
H Keen	East	Option 2	Yes	Yes	-	-	Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
D Tander	Coastal	Option 2	Yes	Yes	Less councillors relates to more effective action - to many cooks spoil the broth!		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
Jo (no surname provided)	East	Option 2	No	Yes	Diversity across the City requires stability		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
Brian (no surname provided)	Town	Option 2	Yes	Yes	Option 2 will ensure a streamlined structure at Council and support effective decision making		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
A Mylotte	North	Option 2	Yes	Yes	I am strongly not in favour of removing all wards as I do not believe it would be in the best interests of electors		Supports the current 4 ward system Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
OPTION 3 – No Ward System, 12 Councillors							
Shaun (no surname provided)	North	Option 3	Yes	No	Certain Councillors support their own ward more than others	Dog park is needed for north and south now. After successful implementation of central one.	Supports the removal of wards. Supports maintaining proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
Terina (no surname provided)	North	Option 3	Yes	Yes	I feel that Council representation is important, but I don't feel confident to represent.	I support current 4 ward system and also no wards. I would like to see more active representation in North Ward.	Supports the removal of wards. Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
T Hendrikse	Coastal	Option 3	No		As we reside near the Estuary, we feel it is important to remain under Coastal as it seems		Supports the removal of wards. Does not support the proposed boundary adjustment

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
					more relevant to resident needs ¹		Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
Irma (no surname provided)	North	Option 3	Yes	No			Supports the removal of wards. Support the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
M Pantell	Town	Option 3	Yes	Yes	We need the balance of councillor so don't reduce but allow them to represent any area of our city issues		Supports the removal of wards. Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports maintaining the current councillor representation level
OPTION 4 – No Ward System, 10 Councillors							
D Maybury	Town	Option 4	Yes	No	I choose option 4 to remove all wards and segregation. To unify as a whole, create connection within all aspects, to become representatives for all of the people of		Supports the removal of wards. Supports the proposed boundary adjustment

¹ Note: It appears the person may have selected the incorrect option as it appears they support the Ward system.

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
					Mandurah, and to create a connected community in every sense of the word		Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 10
D Perry	North	Option 4	Yes	No	The city requires big thinking to meet the demands of the future. Removing the ward system allows for wholistic collaboration rather than segmented interests.	<p>Councillor Representation Level COMMENT: Increased visibility with opportunity for greater council cohesiveness leading to improved efficiencies. No support for 4 Wards COMMENT: The promotion and facilitation of whole-city rather than ward-based management will assist Mandurah to meet the huge social, energy, economic and environmental challenges of the next several decades.</p> <p>General Comment: No thanks. I appreciate this opportunity to submit my views.</p>	<p>Supports the removal of wards.</p> <p>Supports the proposed boundary adjustment</p> <p>Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 10</p>
OPTION 5 – No Ward System, 8 Councillors							

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
Danielle (no surname provided)	East	Option 5	Yes	No	-		Supports the removal of wards. Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
G Reid	North	Option 5	No	No	The North Ward is geographically divided by Mandurah Rd, therefore Greenfields is completely ignored by the North Ward Councillors. For the 4 years that I've lived in Greenfields North ward, the Councillors don't deliver on cleanliness and more requests for beautification.	Decrease level of Councillors - The North ward councillors in particular don't give two hoots about the entire ward. They only seem to represent west of Mandurah Road.	Supports the removal of wards. Does not supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8
S Schaulat	Coastal	Option 5	Yes	No	It is one city therefore it needs to be managed as one and not in different wards. The less people the more efficient and cost effective the council will be.		Supports the removal of wards. Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
F Hide	Coastal	Option 5	Yes	No	-		<p>Supports the removal of wards.</p> <p>Supports the proposed boundary adjustment</p> <p>Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8</p>
I Hill	Coastal	Option 5	No Comment : Would not compromise above viewpoint with tacit 'approval' of anything else!	No COMMENT: Outdated, unnecessarily, fosters division, competition and parochialism	Recent legislative and regulatory requirements underpin the requirement for facilitating 'quality rather than quantity' in our local government board of directors. The role of elected members is now clearly and correctly focused on the essential principles of robust governance including vision, direction, sustainability, etc. Wards are an anachronism dating back to the origins of local government when transport,	Again there is a bias towards Wards/the Ward system in this question. It is NOT a 'Ward Review', it is a review of the currently outdated processes and structures of electing our local government representatives.	<p>Supports the removal of wards.</p> <p>Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 8</p>

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
					communications etc were nothing like they are in the 21st century.		
OPTION 6 – other options							
Jarrold (no surname provided)	Town	Option 6	No	No	Less is more - reduce to 5 councillors, no wards		Supports the removal of wards. Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 5
N Hoggarth	North	Option 6	Yes	Yes	10 Councillors - 4 Wards	Decrease to 10 or keep the same	Supports maintaining the current ward system. Supports the proposed boundary adjustment Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 10
M Leavesley	Coastal	Option 6		Yes	Retain the four ward system but reduce the number of Councillors in Town and East to two. I understand that this option would still require some boundary changes to stay within the 10% elector ratio required. Council would then	Any option that removes the Ward system currently in place should be rejected, primarily because every prospective Councillor would be running the equivalent of a Mayoral campaign to get elected. A Council candidate would have to have substantial financial	Supports maintaining the current ward system. Supports reducing the councillor representation level to 10

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
					<p>be made up of 10 elected councillors plus an elected Mayor.</p> <p>This option keeps the ratio of residents to councillor to below 8,000 which is I believe manageable from the point of view of Councillor workload.</p>	<p>resources or alternative financial backing to stand any chance of success.</p> <p>This cost alone would discourage many from seeking office and considerably reduce diversity and life experience amongst your elected representatives. All issues are local and having a councillor who lives in your ward is I believe important to electors.</p>	
S Way	North	Option 6	Yes	Yes	<p>A new suggestion is to keep the 4 wards with 12 Councillors and investigate a system that could enable indigenous involvement in Council. This could potentially be in the form of an indigenous Councillor position representing the whole City, in addition to also encouraging</p>	<p>COMMENT: Supporting 4 Wards & Number of councillors - I support the number of Councillors remaining the same due to the projected population growth in the City. I also think it is important to preserve diversity in representation. The only reason I may support a reduction in the number of Councillors (Option2) within adjusted wards is if it enables</p>	<p>Supports maintaining the current ward system.</p> <p>Supports maintain the current representation level.</p>

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
					indigenous candidates to run in wards. I think having wards is important to enable Councillors to focus on engaging with their immediate community and be across their local issues. It would be difficult for Councillors to build rapport and engagement with ratepayers across the entire City	renumeration to be increased so Councillors can focus on their roles and not have to concurrently hold down full time/part time work, which may decrease their time & opportunities to fully engage with their community and council matters. Councillor representation to remain the same Thank you for the opportunity to comment.	

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
J Beaton	N/A	Option 6	Yes	Yes	<p>With the prediction growth of population within the Mandurah community 97160 Electors 67222 total for the year 2022 Western Australia Electoral Commission. Number expected to increase to 119877 by 2036 the number of Councillors will need to increase to have equal representation for the community.</p> <p>I would propose at this time ; Coastal Ward has 4 councillors East Ward has 2 Councillors North Ward has 4 Councillors Town Ward has 2 Councillors.</p>	<p>The other suggestion I would like to see happen, as to when the Wards increase with growth of population, a review is taken for increasing the Councillor ratio.</p> <p>Not submitted via Form or Survey Maybe this could be considered when the Community Strategic Community Plan is held every two years or The Mayor Review every four years.</p> <p>The feedback I would like to give is it would have been an excellent opportunity for the City of Mandurah to have an information on the Discussion Paper with the community. To have an explanation on the document, questions could have been asked . This I am sure if offered the City of Mandurah would have an increase</p>	

Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

Name	Ward	Preferred Option	Support proposed boundary adjustment Y/N	Support Maintaining 4 Ward System	Preferred Option Comments	Comments	Responses summary
						<p>with Community response for the Discussion Paper.</p> <p>I have read a paragraph from the Strategic Community Plan 2020 - 2040 The Community aspiration and Vision determines the City's direction and operations now and into the future. The recent plan included a renewed long term visioning process, and extensive community engagement. Once again this would have been a worthwhile exercise for community engagement.</p> <p>I still feel confused with the document and really don't understand the document, however with searching for information I hope my points for suggestion are taken into account.</p>	



Final Report

Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

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Introduction

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), the City of Mandurah (the City) is reviewing its Ward system, Ward boundaries and Councillor representation levels across the City of Mandurah District. The purpose of the review is to evaluate the current ward and representation levels and consider other options to identify a Ward System that best reflects the characteristics of the City's community. The Final Report Review of Ward, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels (this Report) addresses these matters and considers the options to formulate a preferred option to the Local Government Advisory Board.

Background

Under the *Local Government Act 1995*, the City is required to review its wards from time to time and at least every eight years. The current Ward system and its boundaries were last reviewed in 2014. Since 1992, the City has had four wards with 12 Councillors. The last ward review, conducted in 2014, resulted in no changes to the ward system or councillor representation levels.

The structure of the City of Mandurah Council currently consists of a Mayor, who is popularly elected by the City's electors and 12 Councillors elected from four Wards, with three councillors representing each Ward.

At its meeting held on 27 September 2022, Council adopted a Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper. Following Council adoption of the Discussion Paper, the City undertook a six-week local public notice process to inform the community of the proposed review and invite comments and submissions which will inform the review process.

Community Consultation

The Discussion Paper Ward Review, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels was advertised for public comment for 46 days from 29 September 2022 to 14 November 2022 via the following methods:

- Local Public Notice
 - Website
 - Newspaper
 - Public Noticeboards
 - Social Media
- Online via the Mandurah Matters Website
- Emails to all Residents Associations
- Community Engagement
 - Information Stand at the Wearable Art Festival, Sunday 16 October 2022
 - Place Enrichment Strategy Community Workshops (information provided)
 - Greenfields Community Centre
 - Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre

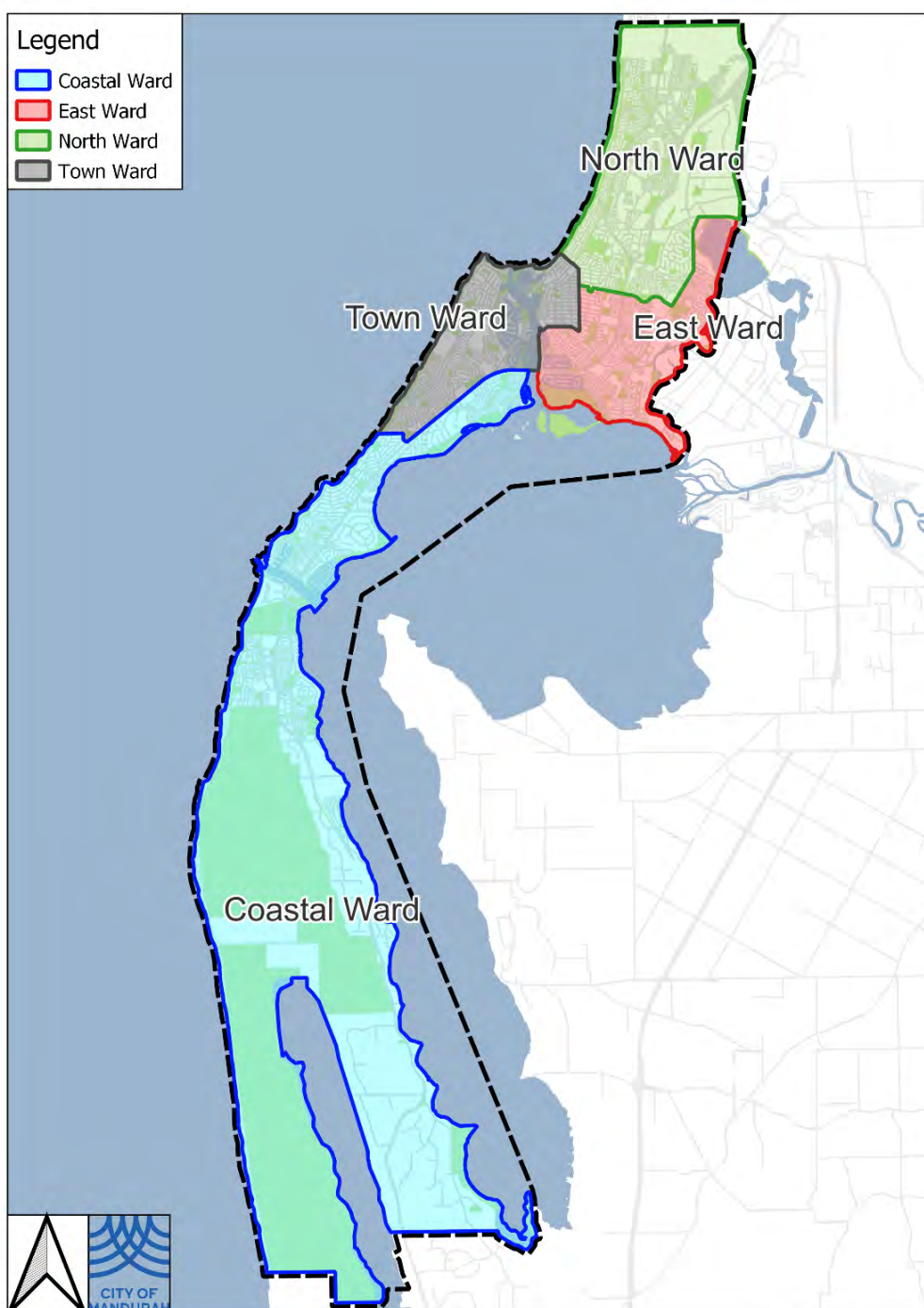
Through this engagement process the City received 64 submissions from members of the community.

Current Ward and Councillor Representation

Since 1992, the City has had four Wards with 12 councillors. The last ward review, conducted in 2014, resulted in no changes to the Ward system or councillor representation levels. Due to the rapid population growth within the District, if the ward system remains, an adjustment to the Ward boundaries is required to ensure the ratio between councillor and elector remains within a deviation of plus or minus 10%.

The structure of the City of Mandurah Council currently consists of a Mayor, who is popularly elected by the City’s electors and 12 Councillors elected from four Wards, with three councillors representing each Ward.

A map depicting the **current** Ward boundaries is below:



Assessment Factors

When considering changes to Ward boundaries and councillor representation levels, the Act specifies certain factors that must be taken into account as part of any review process, including:

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

Each of the above factors are addressed for the District of Mandurah as a whole and where relevant, addressed within the context of each option.

Physical and Topographical features

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 also be relevant as well as other man-made features, such as railway lines and freeways.

City of Mandurah Response:

The District of Mandurah covers 173 square kilometres, is 50km long yet only 8km wide (at its widest point), and stretches from Madora Bay and Lakelands in the north to Herron and Clifton in the south. Mandurah's natural environment and visual landscape forms part of the District's Ward boundaries, including Peel-Harvey Estuary, Mandurah Estuary, Peel Inlet, the Indian Ocean and Yalgorup National Park. Significant physical built features include the Old Coast Road, Mandjoogoordap Drive, Pinjarra Road and Mandurah Road and key bridge infrastructure including Dawesville, Mandurah and Estuary bridges.

A summary of most significant physical and topographical features for each Ward is set out below:

Coastal Ward

The Coastal Ward consists of seven suburbs which are located at the southern end of Mandurah, abutting the East and Town Ward Boundaries. The suburbs of Bouvard, Clifton and Herron are largely rural residential areas situated in the most southern end of the District. The Old Coast Road, the RAMSAR listed Peel-Harvey Estuary, Yalgorup National Park, Island Point, Tims Thicket Beach, Thrombolites and the Indian Ocean are some of the key features of these areas.

The suburb of Dawesville is located between the Peel-Harvey Estuary and the Indian Ocean south of the Dawesville Channel and east of the Old Coast Road. This includes Southport, which is part of the Port Bouvard canal development bordering the Dawesville Cut. Dawesville includes localities of Melros and Florida Beach, and several landmarks including Pyramids Beach, the Cut Golf Course, Caddadup Reserve, Dawesville Foreshore Reserve and Warrungup Spring Reserve.

Falcon locality spans the northern part of the Ward and the suburb is between the Indian Ocean to the west and the Peel-Harvey Estuary to the east, its southern boundary abutting Wannanup

and its northern boundary abutting Halls Head (Seascapes) and Erskine. Falcon includes Cox Bay, Falcon Bay, Novara Beach, Pleasant Grove Reserve.

Wannanup and Erskine share a boundary with Falcon. Wannanup is bounded by Falcon in the north, Peel Inlet in the east, the Dawesville Channel in the south and the Indian Ocean in the west. Some of the key features include Avalon Beach, North Port and East Port canals and Village Beach. Erskine is bounded by Old Coast Road and the Mandurah Bypass in the north, the Mandurah Estuary in the east, Peel Inlet in the south. Some of the most significant physical features of Erskine include Len Howard Conservation Park, Mandurah Quay Marina and Boundary Island.

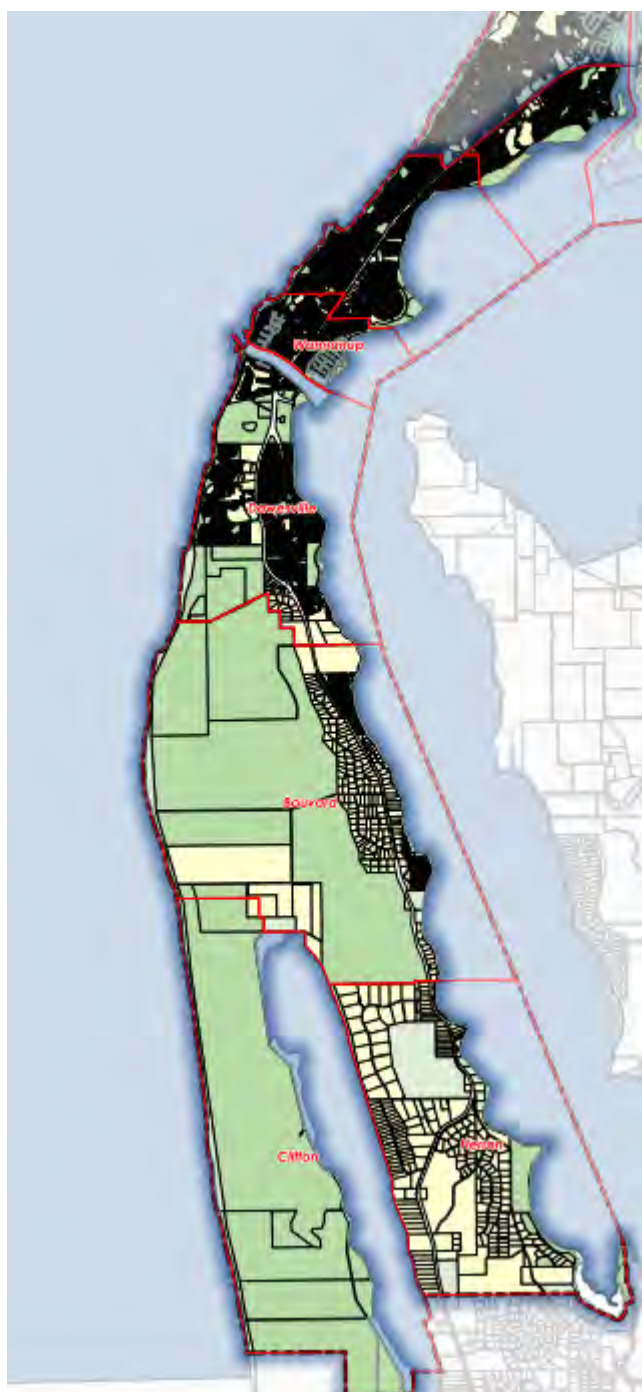


Image: Coastal Ward Boundary (current)

Town Ward

The Town Ward consists of three suburbs. Mandurah is bounded by the Indian Ocean, Henson Street and Mandurah Terrace in the north, Mandurah Road in the east, Boundary Road and near Pinjarra Road in the south and the Mandurah Estuary in the west. Some of the key features include the Mandurah Bridge, Kwillena Gabi Pool, Town Beach, Mandurah Ocean Marina and the Eastern Foreshore Reserve. The suburb of Mandurah is shared with the East and North Ward.

Halls Head is bounded by the Indian Ocean in the north and west, the Mandurah Estuary in the east and the Mandurah Bypass/Old Coast Road and a line north of Vanessa Road, Falcon in the south. A large suburb, Halls Head includes localities of Old Halls Head and Seascapes and several landmarks including Robert Point, Doddies Beach, Blue Bay Beach and Mandurah Country Club and Port Mandurah canals.

A small portion of Dudley Park is included in the Town Ward. Refer to East Ward below for the key physical and topographical features of the Dudley Park suburb.



Image: Town Ward Boundary (current)

North Ward

The North Ward consists of eight suburbs.

Silver Sands and San Remo are smaller beachside housing estates that consist of local parks and coastline. They are bounded by the Indian Ocean in the west and Mandurah Terrace/Mandurah Road in the east.

Parklands is bounded by Mandjoorgoordap Drive and Kwinana Freeway to the north, Stock Road to the east, Mandjoorgoordap Drive to the west and Gordon Road to the south. Parklands is home to Marlee Reserve, Lakes Lawn Cemetery and is a rural residential housing estate. Lakelands is bounded by the City of Rockingham boundary in the north, Mandjoorgoordap Drive in the east, suburb of Meadow Springs in the south and Mandurah Road in the west. Lakelands is home to Black Swan Lake, Paganoni Lake and wetlands.

Madora Bay is bounded by the City of Rockingham boundary in the north, Mandurah Road in the east, Karinga Road in the south and the Indian Ocean in the west. Madora Bay is home to beachside estate consisting of, local parks, reserves and coastline.

Meadow Springs is bounded by the Mandjoorgoordap Drive in the east, Gordon Road in the south and Mandurah Road in the west. This suburb includes Meadow Springs Golf and Country Club and Quarry Adventure Park.

Greenfields is bounded by Gordon Road/Lakes Road in the north, Mandurah Road in the west, Pinjarra Road in the south and Serpentine River in the east. The suburb includes Geogrup Lake Nature Reserve and Bortolo Park. Greenfields is shared with the East Ward.

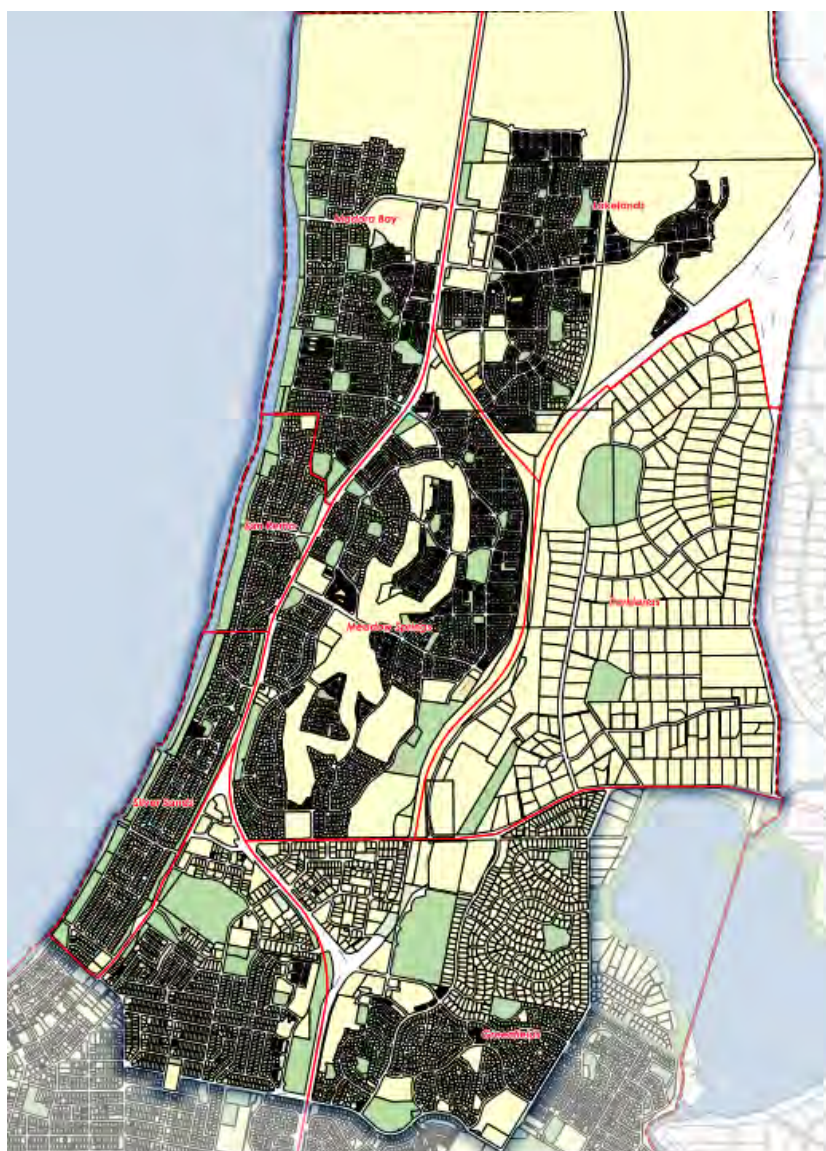


Image: North Ward Boundary (current)

East Ward

In addition to the suburbs of Dudley Park, Greenfields and Mandurah which are shared with Town and North Ward, the suburb of Coodanup is bounded by Pinjarra Road in the north, the Serpentine River in the east, Peel Inlet in the south and by Wanjeep Street, Coodanup Drive and the Mandurah Bypass in the west. Some of the key features include Coodanup and Riverview Foreshore and Beacham Reserve.

Dudley Park is bounded by Pinjarra Road, Boundary Road, and Coodanup Drive in the north, Wanjeep Street in the east, Peel Inlet in the south and the Mandurah Estuary in the west. Features includes Soldiers Cove, Creery Wetlands, Samphire Cove Nature Reserve and Mariners Cove canals. A small portion of suburb of Dudley Park is located in the Town Ward.

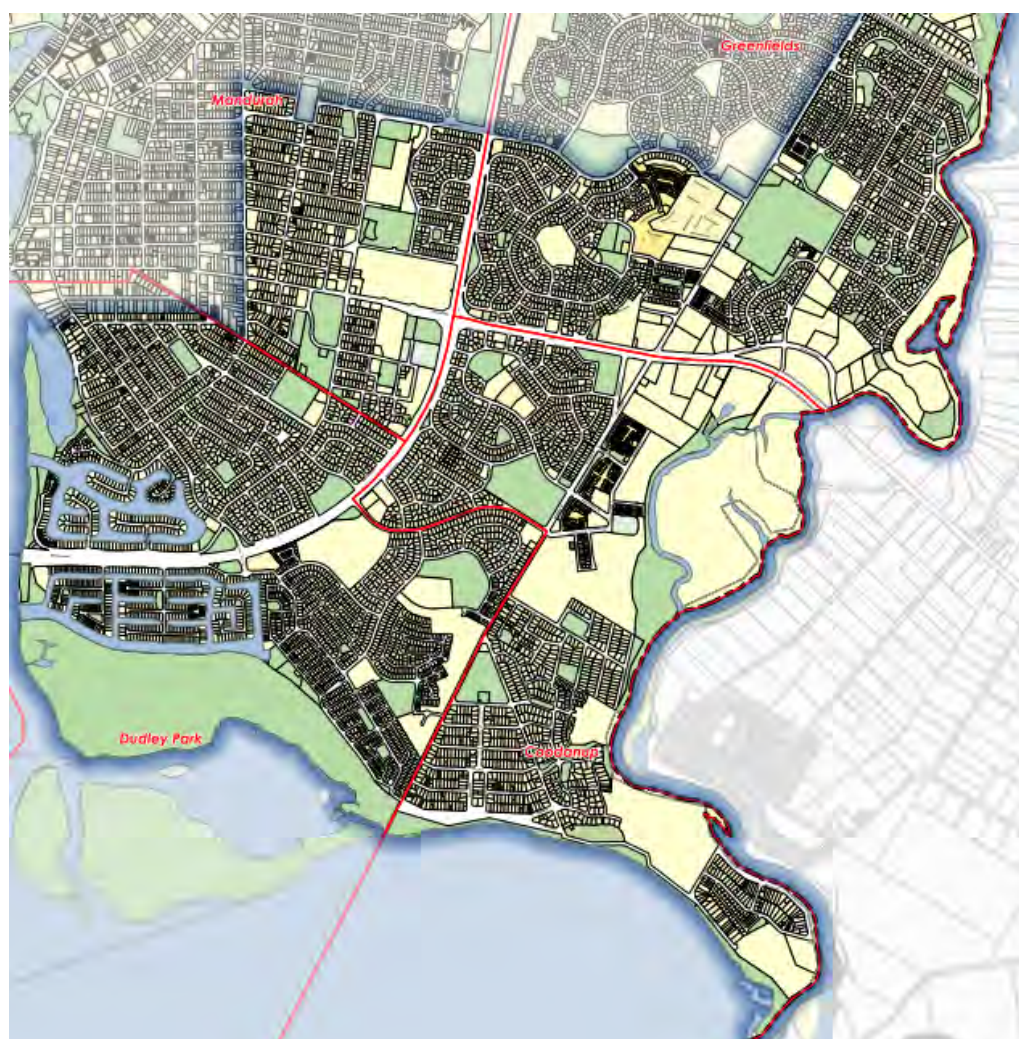


Image: East Ward Boundary (current)

Demographic Trends

Several measurements of the characteristics of populations, such as population size, and its distribution by age, gender, occupation and location provide important demographic information. Current and projected population characteristics are relevant, as well as similarities and differences between areas within the local government.

City of Mandurah Response

Over the last two decades, Mandurah has experienced a rapid expansion in the size of its population, with annual growth of more than 3 per cent per annum between 2000 and 2020.

The City has a current population of 93,414¹. It is anticipated that the population by 2036, will be 119,877².

City of Mandurah	Forecasted Population
Year	2036
City of Mandurah	119,877
Coodanup	6,093
Dawesville - Bouvard - Herron - Clifton	13,636
Dudley Park	8,059
Erskine	6,307
Falcon	6,263
Greenfields - Parklands	13,490
Halls Head	17,080
Lakelands	10,888
Madora Bay	7,724
Mandurah	14,004
Meadow Springs	9,257
Silver Sands - San Remo	2,532
Wannanup	4,545

Table: Population and household forecast, by 2036 (Forecast ID).

Mandurah will become home to approximately 26,000³ new residents over the next 15 years. This equates approximately 14,000⁴ additional dwellings being required to be built within Mandurah.

The most significant developments are located within the North Ward. The Madora Bay North, Lakelands East and Ocean Hills developments could result in approximately 4,650 new residential dwellings being developed and approximately 13,000 new residents over the next five to ten years. Other suburbs for significant development, located in the south, are Florida and Melros, which will result in approximately 500 dwellings accommodating an additional 1,400 new residents over the next five years.

In addition, through the implementation of the City's Local Planning Strategy, the suburb of Mandurah may result in the densification of dwellings, with an estimated increase of 8,500 dwellings. Significant areas of land have already been zoned to allow for infill development within these areas. However, this will take some time and is not likely to be of significance for this Ward review.

The median age for the City is 45 years of age compared to 38 years of age for Western Australia and Australia. The highest proportion of the population is aged between 65 and 69 years of age and 70 – 74 years of age compared to Western Australia's highest proportion age group being 35 – 39 years of age. 66% of Mandurah's population is born in Australia, with the next highest country of birth being England at 11.3%.

¹ 2021 Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census Population for Mandurah District

² ID Forecast

³ 2021 ABS Census population for Mandurah District is 93,414. ID Forecast population estimates at 2036 for Mandurah is 119,877

⁴ 2021 ABS Census for the number of dwellings is 44,094. ID Forecast estimates the number of dwelling at 2036 for Mandurah is 58,443.

The City's unemployment rate is 5.4%⁵ and is higher than that of the Western Australia average of 3.4%. Mandurah also has a significantly lower rate of participation in the labour force than the rest of Western Australia, attributable to its older population (including early retirees) and low rates of workforce engagement among females and young people.

Mandurah has a substantially lower share of professionals and a higher share of machinery operators and drivers, and sales workers relative to Western Australia. Professionals make up 14% per cent of the total workforce, compared with 20.5% for Western Australia. In contrast, technicians and trade workers form 19.7% of Mandurah's most common occupations compared to 16.2% for Western Australia.

The table below demonstrates the unemployment rate across the District of Mandurah.

	Unemployed	Labour Force	Unemployment Rate
Dawesville - Bouvard	139	3,622	3.8%
Falcon - Wannanup	161	4,183	3.8%
Greenfields	334	3,755	8.9%
Halls Head - Erskine	277	8,626	3.2%
Mandurah	491	3,608	13.6%
Mandurah - North	280	9,755	2.9%
Mandurah - South	330	3,982	8.3%
Total City of Mandurah	2,012	37,531	5.4%

There is a higher proportion of couple families without children at 46.3% in Mandurah compared with 38.8% for Western Australia. There is a lower proportion of couple families with children under 15 years of age at 35.3% compared with 44.6% for Western Australia. There is a slightly higher proportion of one-parent families in Mandurah at 17.1%, compared with 15.1% for Western Australia.

Economic Factors

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 district (or the release of land for these) and the distribution of community assets and infrastructure such as road networks.

City of Mandurah Response

For the most part, the Ward boundaries do not align to similar economic activities as Mandurah's unique tourism and commercial offerings overlap Wards. Mandurah has historically been seen as a tourism destination with its natural assets in abundance making the tourism industry a significant contributor to the City's economy. The Mandurah Foreshore and Peel Harvey Estuary and surrounds remain significant tourist attractions. Across all Wards, Mandurah's beaches, waterways and national parks provide the basis for a range of recreation and leisure activities, as well as retail and commercial opportunities.

The majority of identified tourism sites are located within the Mandurah City Centre precinct. The Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah Ocean Marina and Mandurah City Centre Precincts provide for a mix of tourism accommodation, tourist related commercial, restaurant and retail functions required for Mandurah to continue to operate as a tourism destination.

⁵ March 2022 National Skills Commission Small Area Labour Markets

The Mandurah Quay Precinct in the Coastal Ward contains the Mandurah Quay Resort and Boundary Island Brewery. The City's Tourism Strategy highlights the importance of retaining this site for tourism purposes due to its location adjacent to an established resort with facilities and amenities, and adjacent to the waterfront.

The City has identified three 'district centres' within the District of Mandurah located within the suburbs of Lakelands, Halls Head, and Falcon. District centres generally serve the main weekly household shopping, service and community needs of the district. District centres are predominantly retail focused, but may include a limited mix of other uses such as offices, medical and professional services, hospitality and entertainment and housing.

Under Local Planning Scheme No. 12, light, service and general industries, showroom and bulky goods developments are accommodated within the Industrial, Service Commercial zones and Activity Centres. The Service Commercial zones and Activity Centres are within the precincts of Pinjarra Road, Gordon Road, Mandurah Ocean Marina, Lakelands, Halls Head and Galbraith Loop.

The Gordon Road Precinct has also been identified as being ideally situated in terms of its central location, access to regional roads and infrastructure, to be considered a Service Commercial and Light Industry zone.

Community of interest

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*
- *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.

City of Mandurah Response

The Peel-Harvey Estuary is highly valued by the community for its natural and recreational values and is a significant tourism drawcard. The Peel-Harvey Estuary forms part of the Peel Yalgorup RAMSAR listing and is one of the largest and most diverse estuarine complexes in South, Western Australia supporting an array of species and communities.

The District of Mandurah has 28 public and private schools providing both primary and secondary education, as well as special education programs. The Murdoch University Peel Campus, is co-located with John Tonkin College and Challenger TAFE at the Peel Education Campus.

Peel Health Campus provides a wide range of healthcare services with a 24-hour emergency care centre and comprehensive medical, surgical, maternity and rehabilitation services. The hospital accommodates a specialist medical centre as well as pharmacy and diagnostic services.

The City is home to a number of key sporting and recreation facilities including Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre and Rushton Park, in addition to a range of sporting grounds and courts available across the district. The District of Mandurah has a broad range of sporting clubs with 65 sporting groups operating across all Wards, however are predominately located in the East Ward.

There are three libraries within the District of Mandurah, with Mandurah Library located in the East Ward, Falcon e-Library and Community Centre located in the Coastal Ward and Lakelands Library and Community Centre in the North.

Ratio of Councillors to electors

It is expected that each local government will have similar ratios of electors to councillors across the wards of its district. A balanced representation would be reflected in the ratio deviation being within plus or minus 10% for all wards.

The percentage ratio deviation is calculated by subtracting the councillor/elector ratio for a ward from the average councillor/elector ratio for the whole district. The result is then divided by the average councillor/elector ratio for the whole district and multiplied by 100 to give a percentage.

A **negative** result indicates that the ward is **under-represented**, and a **positive** result indicates the ward is **over-represented**.

The City's current Ward system, demonstrates that there is an imbalance in representation across the City as following:

- North Ward and Coastal Ward being **under-represented** (-16.44% and -10.79% respectively).
- Town Ward and East Ward are considered to be **over-represented** (13.20% and 14.03% respectively).

The percentage ratio deviation shown in the table below, provides an indication of the current percentage difference between the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole of the City district (one Councillor to 5,602 electors) and the Councillor/elector ratio for each Ward⁶.

Ward Name	Suburb (No. of Electors)	No. of Electors Per Ward	No. Councillors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation	Comment
Coastal Ward	Bouvard (732) Dawesville (5,259) Clifton (0) Erskine (4,559) Falcon (4,449) Herron (366) Wannanup (3,254)	18,619	3	1 : 6,206	-10.79%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
East Ward	Coodanup (3,265) Dudley Park (4,954) Greenfields (4,680) Mandurah (1,548)	14,447	3	1 : 4,816	14.03%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
North Ward	Greenfields (2,948) Lakelands (3,998) Madora Bay (2,704) Mandurah (1,521) Meadow Springs (6,066) Parklands (453) San Remo (773) Silver Sands (1,105)	19,568	3	1 : 6,523	-16.44%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
Town Ward	Dudley Park (398) Halls Head (10,710) Mandurah (3,480)	14,588	3	1 : 4,863	13.20%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
TOTAL		67,222	12	1 : 5602		

⁶ 14 September 2022 Statistical Area Level 1, Western Australian Electoral Commission

Public Submissions

The City has put forward a number of options for Ward and representation change for discussion and to encourage submissions and comments. It is important to note that the options were provided for discussion purposes only and are not intended to be all encompassing or to indicate which options would be supported by the City.

The following options were proposed in the discussion paper:

- Option 1 - Four Wards, 12 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 2 - Four Wards, 8 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 3 - No Wards, 12 Councillors
- Option 4 - No Wards, 10 Councillors
- Option 5 - No Wards, 8 Councillors
- Opportunity for other options to be recommended by the community

Members of the community were invited to provide any options for change to the City for consideration as part of the ward and representation review process. The City received a total of 64 submissions.

A summary of the submissions is below:

- 47% of the public submissions (30 out of 64) supported the Council retaining the current level of Councillors, noting that of the 30 responses in favour of the current level, 23 supported Option 1, 5 supported Option 3 (retain 12 Councillors/no Ward System) and 2 provided alternative options which retained the current levels of councillor representation and proposed to:
 - Retain the four wards/12 Councillors and investigate a system of indigenous engagement; and
 - Retain the four wards/12 Councillors and increase Councillor representation levels in Coastal and North to 4 per ward and in the East and Town 2 per ward.
- 53% (34 out of 64) supported the Council reducing the Councillor representation levels, noting that 24 out of 64 supported Option 2 (reduction to 8 Councillors), 2 supported Option 4 (10 Councillors/no Ward System), 5 supported Option 5 (8 councillors/no Ward System) and 3 other options suggested by the community proposed a reduction to the number of Councillors:
 - Remove wards and reduce Councillors to 5;
 - Retain 4 wards and reduce Councillors to 10; and
 - Retain 4 wards but reduce Councillors to Town and East to 2 per ward (overall 10 Councillors).
- 81% (52 out of 64) supported retaining the Ward System.

Options

The Local Government Advisory Board considers that the ratio of councillors to electors is the most relevant determining factor in undertaking a ward review. The options presented in the discussion paper, and as assessed in this Report, sets out the approach for achieving a balanced representation across the ward system and explores options for the retention or reduction to Councillor representation levels.

Ward System (Options 1 and 2)

Options 1 and 2 propose to retain the current four Ward System, noting a boundary adjustment is required for both options due to the current ratios. Option 1 retains the same number of Councillors and Option 2 proposes a reduction to the number of Councillors.

It should be noted that the current Ward boundaries for the most part, do not align with physical and topographical features, such as the Peel Inlet and Dawesville Channel, Old Coast Road/Mandurah Road, and Pinjarra Road. Further, current Ward boundaries divide a number of localities. For example, Greenfields is represented by both North and East Wards, Dudley Park is represented by both East and Town Wards, and Mandurah is represented by North, East and Town Wards.

Whilst it is preferable that any future amendments to Ward boundaries do not dissect suburbs, this has not been fully achieved in this Ward Review, however the City has attempted, where available, to use main roads to define the boundaries.

A Ward system divides the local government district into Wards with Councillors elected from each Ward and representing the electors in that Ward.

The **advantages** of a ward system may include:

- Councillors may be more accessible to electors of the Ward they represent.
- Different sectors of the community can be represented ensuring a good spread of representation and interests amongst elected members.
- There is potentially more opportunity for elected members to have a greater knowledge and interest in the issues in their ward.
- It may be easier for a candidate to be elected if they only need to canvass one ward.

The **disadvantages** of a ward system may include:

- Elected members can become too focused on their wards and less focused on the affairs of other wards and the whole local government.
- An unhealthy competition for resources can develop where electors in each ward come to expect the services and facilities provided in other wards, whether they are appropriate or not.
- The community and elected members may regard the local government in terms of wards rather than as a whole community.
- Ward boundaries may appear to be placed arbitrarily and may not reflect the social interaction and communities of interest of the community.
- Balanced representation across the local government may be difficult to achieve, particularly if a local government has highly populated urban areas and sparsely populated rural areas.

Reduction in Councillor Representation

The ideal number of Councillors for a local government is determined independently by each local government. The City of Mandurah Council currently has 12 Councillors, and a popularly elected Mayor.

Options 2, 4 and 5 propose a reduction in the number of Elected Members.

The **advantages** of a reduction in the number of elected members may include the following:

- The decision-making process may be more effective and efficient if the number of elected members is reduced.
- Cost efficiencies for the City and ratepayers, saving approximately \$42,000⁷ per Councillor per annum.
- Fewer elected members are more readily identifiable to the community.
- Fewer positions on Council may lead to greater interest in elections with contested elections and those elected obtaining a greater level of support from the community.

The **disadvantages** of a reduction in the number of elected members may include the following:

- A smaller number of elected members may result in an increased workload for incumbent members and may reduce efficiency and effectiveness.
- There is the potential for dominance in the Council by a particular interest group.
- A reduction in the number of elected members may limit the diversity of interests of Council.
- Opportunities for community participation in Council's affairs may be reduced if there are fewer elected members for the community to contact.

The options are further explained below.

Option 1 – Four Wards, 12 Councillors

Option 1 is the recommended option.

Option 1 Overview

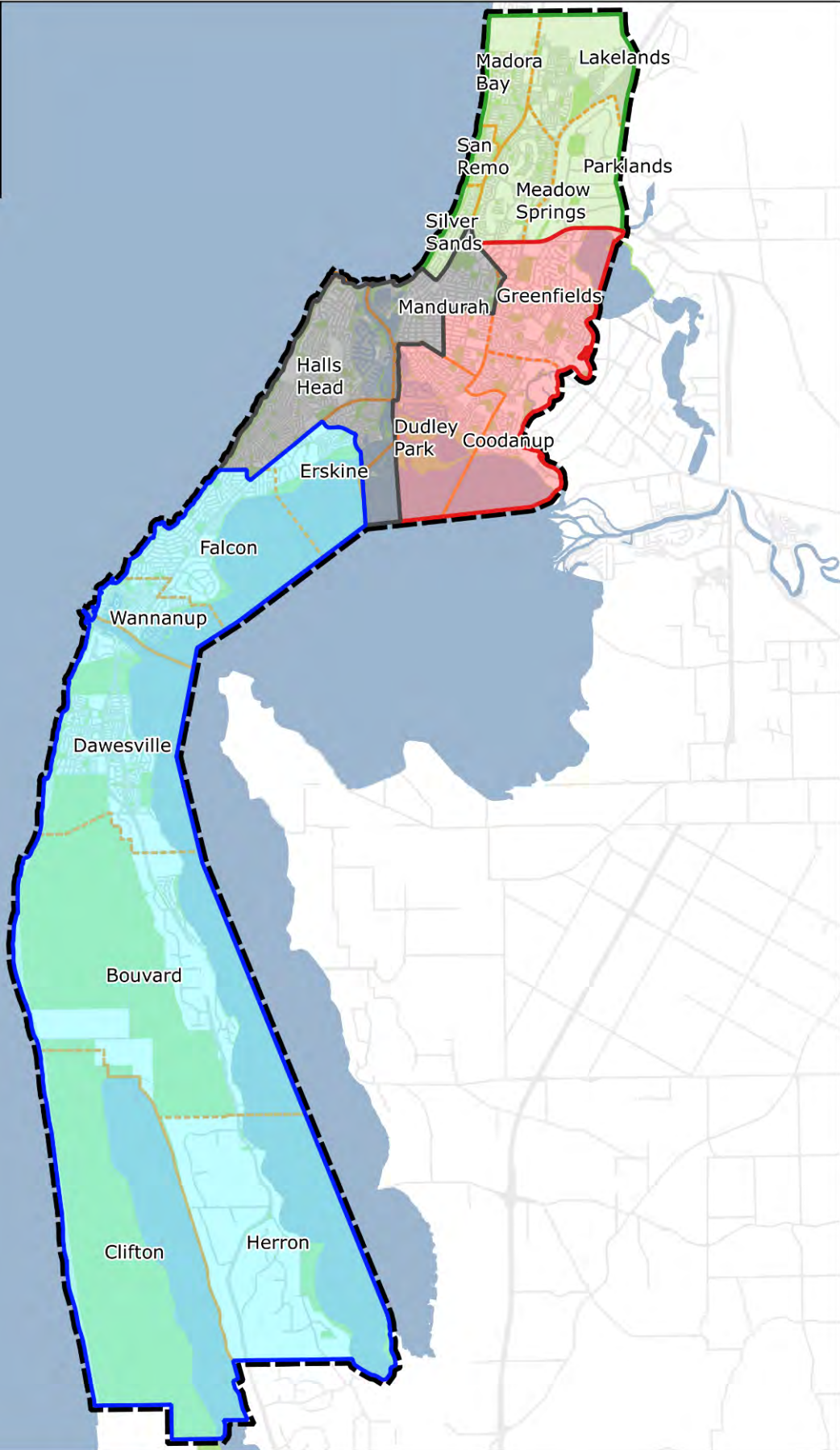
- 12 Councillors
- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)
- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio

⁷ 2022/23 Councillor Sitting Fee \$32,470; ICT Allowance \$3,500; Training Allocation \$4,000; Home Office \$125; Clothing \$500; Mileage/travel \$1,405

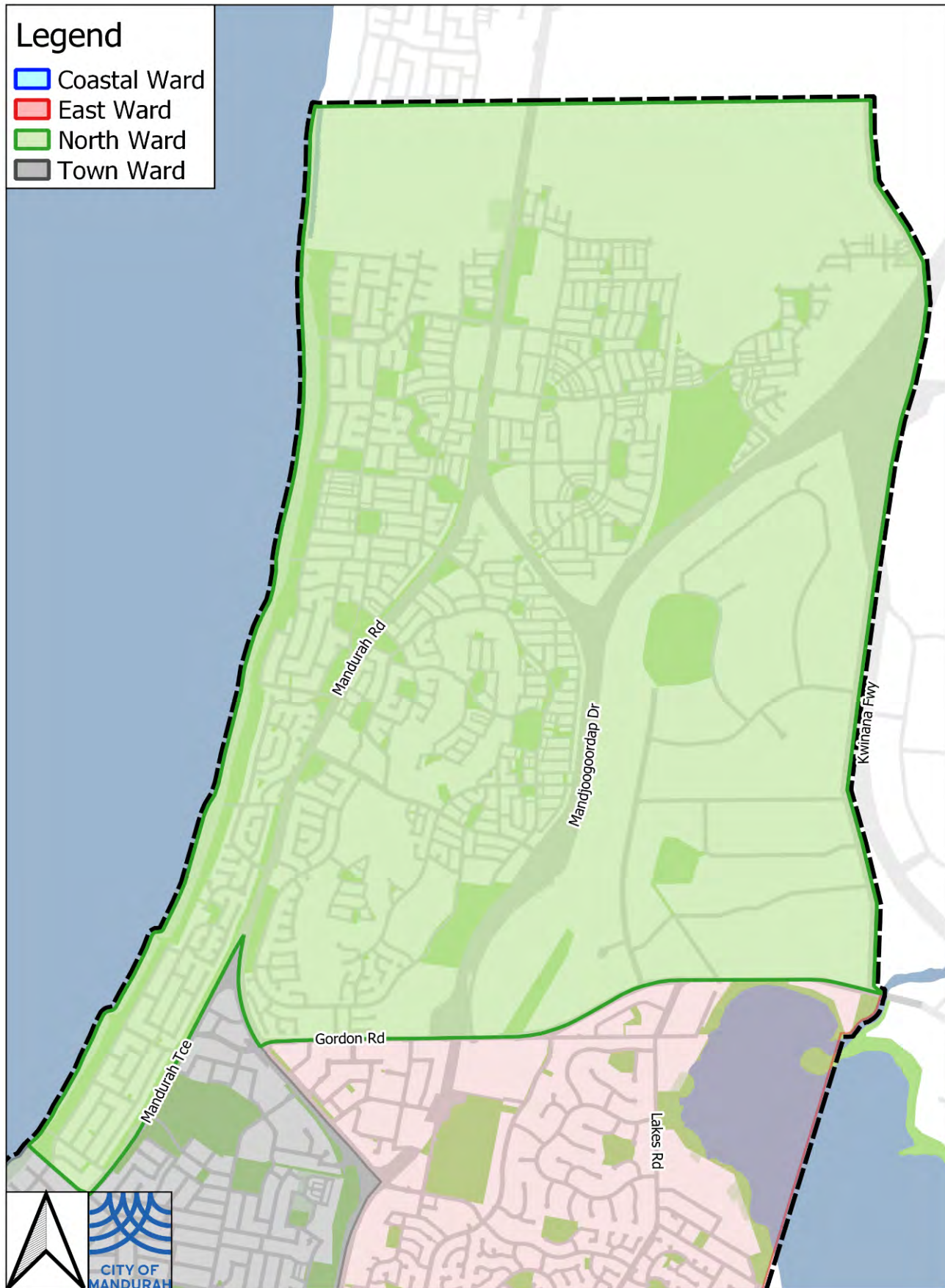
Option 1: District Ward Maps

Legend

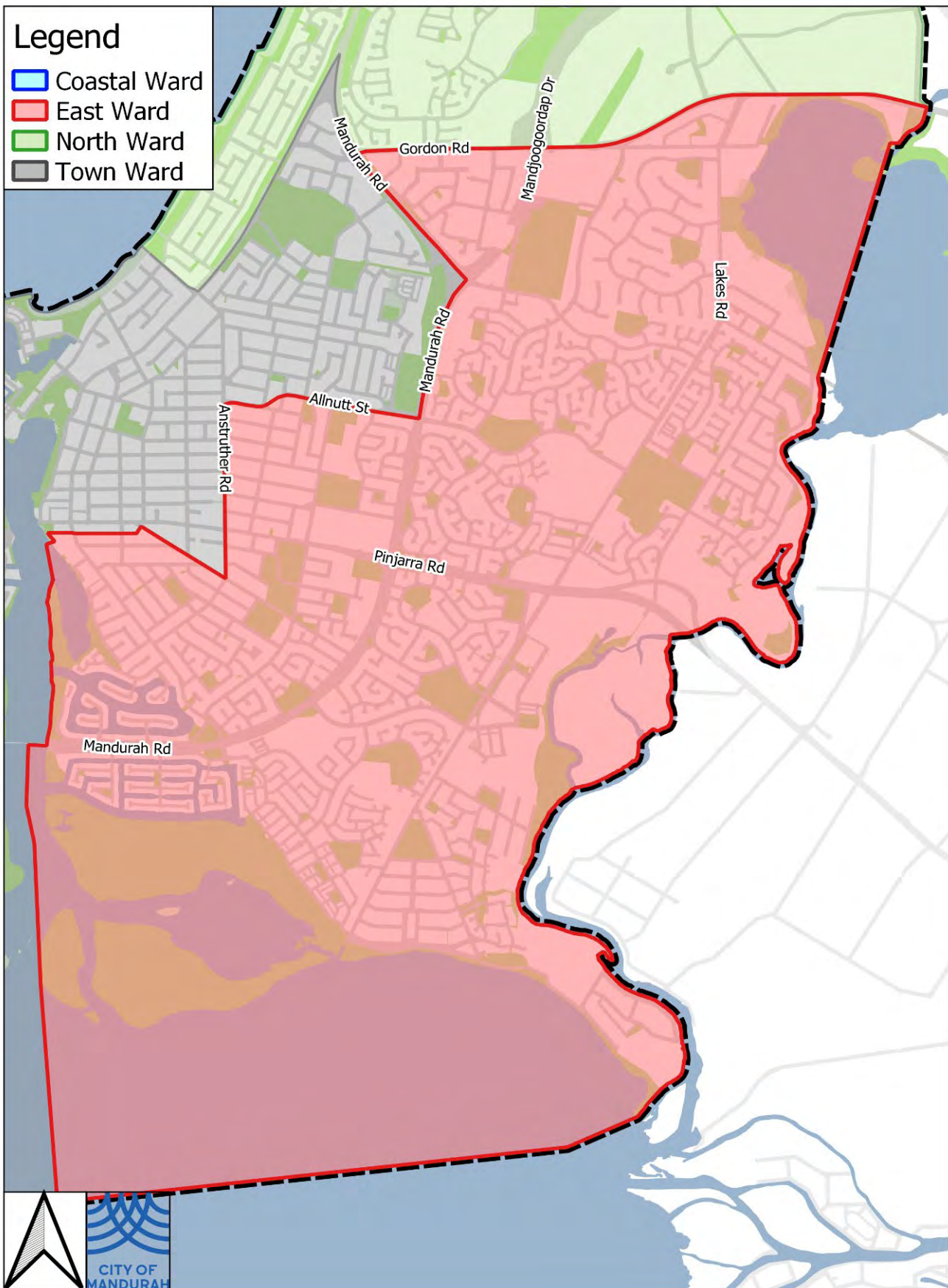
- Coastal Ward
- East Ward
- North Ward
- Town Ward



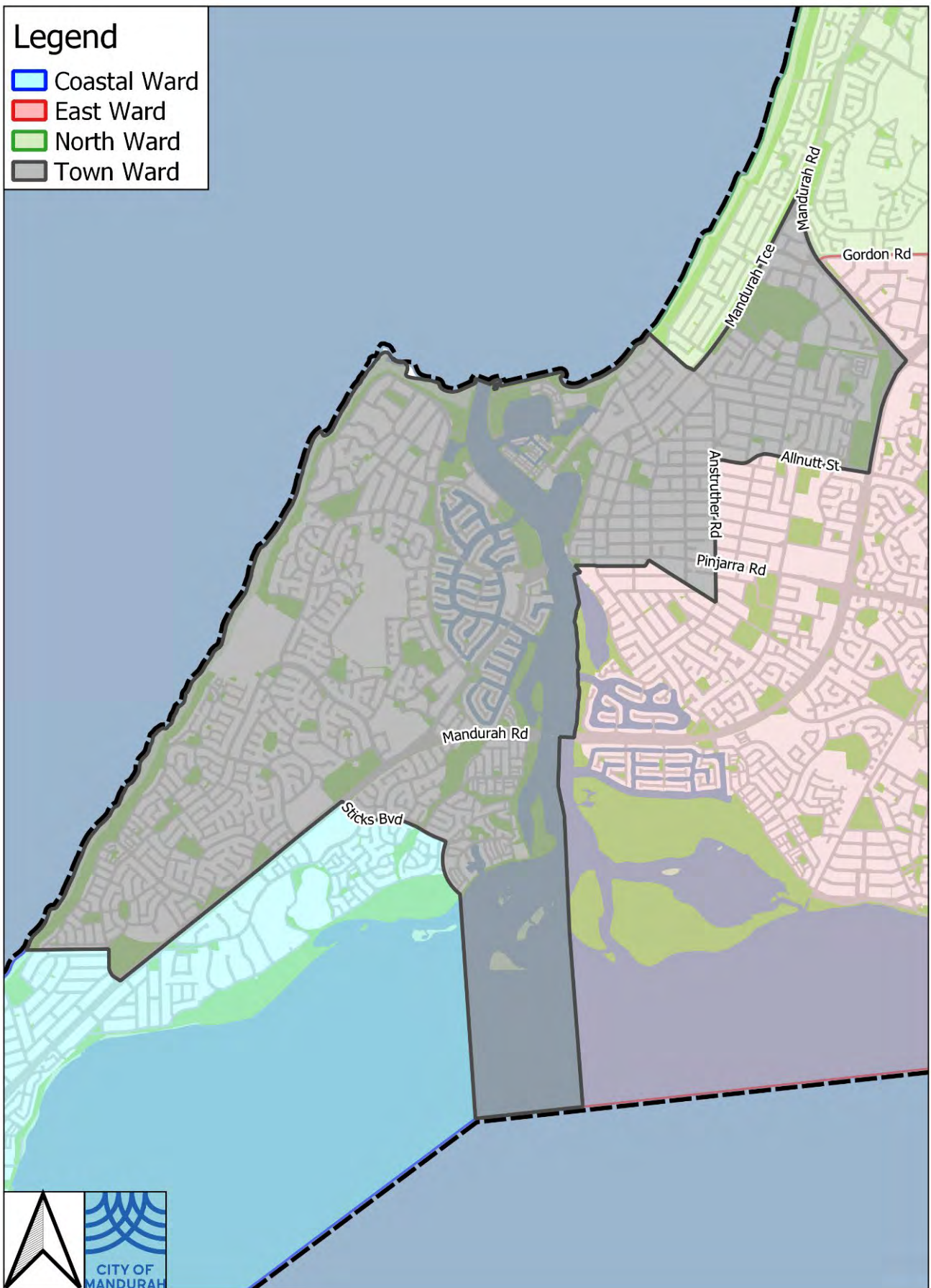
Option 1 - North Ward Map



Option 1 - East Ward Map

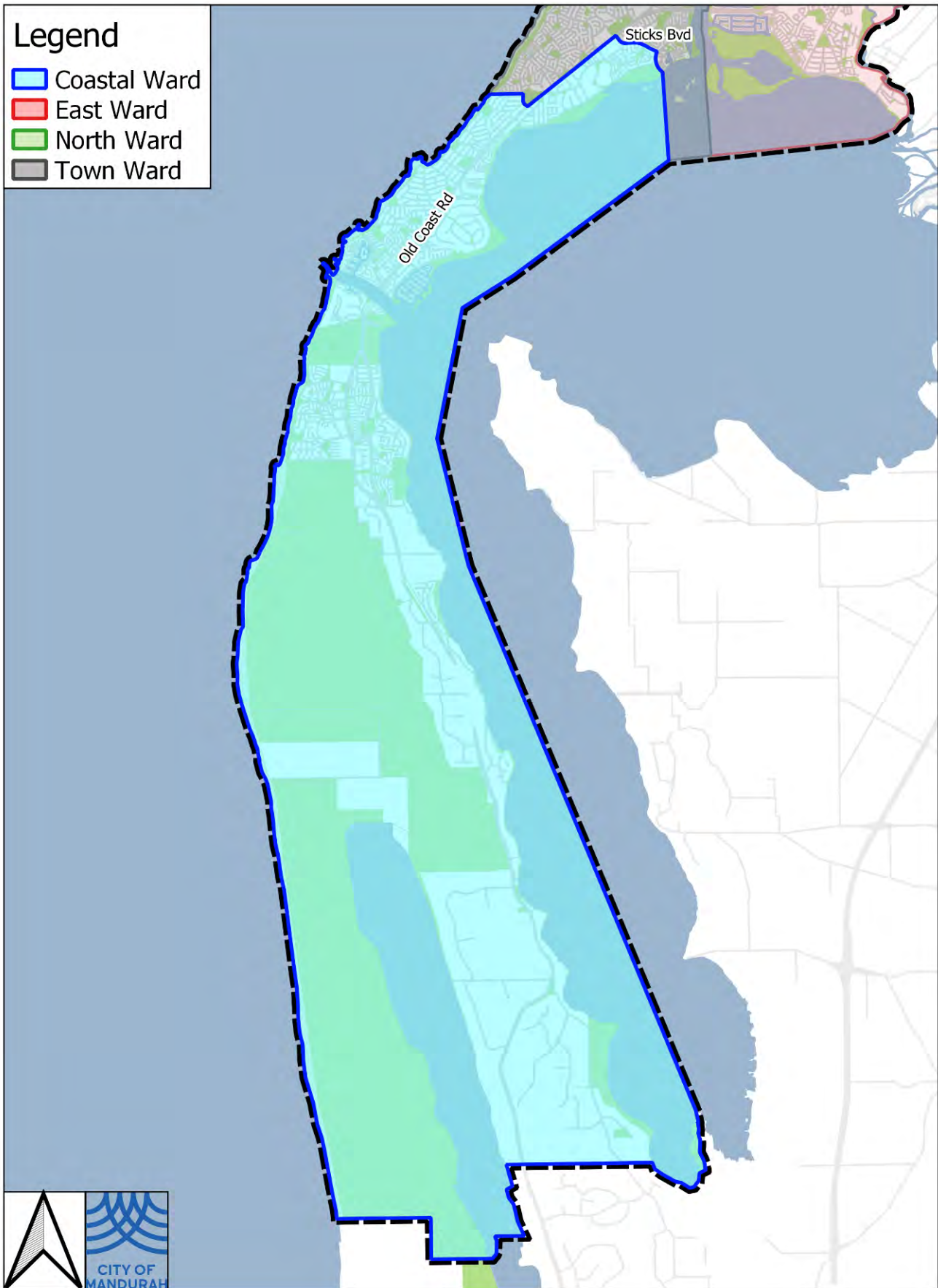


Option 1 - Town Ward Maps



Option 1 - Coastal Ward Maps

- Legend**
- Coastal Ward
 - East Ward
 - North Ward
 - Town Ward



Option 1: Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	3	5,618	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	3	5,830	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	3	5,033	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	3	5,926	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	12	5,602	

Note: significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward, therefore a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. This is further explained in the demographic trends of the Option 1 Assessment Factors section below.

Option 1 Assessment Factors

Physical and topographic features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjustment to the East Ward boundary will align, at the Northern and Western sides, to main roads of Gordon Road and Mandurah Road. This adjustment will result in the suburb of Greenfields forming part of East Ward. An additional boundary adjustment will result in the whole suburb of Dudley Park forming part of the East Ward. North Ward boundary will align, at the southern end to Gordon Road and Mandurah Road. This adjustment will place the northern portion of Mandurah in the Town Ward and the southern component of Greenfields in the East Ward. This adjustment will reduce the suburbs in the North Ward from eight to six to include Silver Sands, San Remo, Meadow Springs, Parklands, Madora Bay and Lakelands. Town Ward boundary at the northern end will align to Mandurah Road and Mandurah Terrace resulting in the Mandurah Train station forming part of the Town Ward boundary. The northern end of the Coastal Ward boundary will align with the existing suburb boundary of Halls Head of the Western side and a new boundary of the Eastern side of Sticks Boulevard (Erskine).
Demographic trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Ward population is expected to experience slow growth and low potential for expansion in the coming years and any growth is unlikely to impact on the ratios. Madora Bay North, Lakelands East and Ocean Hill District plans within North Ward is expected to be the largest growth areas which the population forecast to increase by approximately 4,650 new residential dwellings being developed and approximately 13,000 new residents over the next five to ten years. Coastal Ward's population forecast is expected to increase through residential developments in Florida and Melros with a potential increase in approximately 500 dwellings accommodating an additional 1,400 new residents over the next five years. The Mandurah City Centre precinct which includes the suburb of Mandurah has been identified as a significant growth area. It is anticipated through this regeneration and redevelopment of the inner Mandurah area, approximately 8,455 new dwellings will be created,

	however this increase will unlikely impact on this ward review and could take decades to be realised.
Economic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the close proximity to the Town Ward, a portion of the northern end of Erskine, which includes the Boundary Island Brewery would form part of the Town Ward. • The southern end of Mandurah, located between Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah Road and Allnutt Street (currently in North Ward) contains commercial, residential and transport (Mandurah Train Station). It is proposed that these areas form part of the Town Ward. This area is in close proximity to the City Centre.
Community of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The boundary adjustment will result in the Murdoch University Mandurah Campus forming part of the East Ward (currently North Ward). There are clear synergies with the University Campus specialises in health courses including Nursing and postgraduate Counselling-Creative Arts Therapies. Bortolo Pavilion, Greenfields will also form part of the East Ward. Foundation Christian College would form part of East Ward (currently North Ward). • North Mandurah Primary School and Mandurah High School would form part of Town Ward (currently North Ward). • There are no other significant impacts to the other boundary adjustments.

Recommendation

Option 1 is the recommended option. Option 1 retains the current four ward system and 12 Councillors and provides for a boundary adjustment.

A summary of the recommendation is below:

Retaining the ward system

The District of Mandurah covers 173 square kilometres and is 50km long and stretches from Madora Bay and Lakelands in the north to Herron and Clifton in the south. The need to maintain relevance with a large geographical boundary may place a burden on councillors when fulfilling their duties to the community. The current four Ward System enables Councillors to represent their Wards and develop an understanding of local issues within their geographic Ward area. Notwithstanding section 2.10 of the Act requires Councillors to represent the interests of electors, ratepayers and residents in the district, not just their particular ward.

The community consultation process strongly supported a ward structure similar to that which already exists, with 81% supporting the Ward System.

The **advantage** of a ward system includes:

- Councillors may be more accessible to electors of the Ward they represent.
- Different sectors of the community can be represented ensuring a good spread of representation and interests amongst elected members.
- There is potentially more opportunity for elected members to have a greater knowledge and interest in the issues in their ward.

- It may be easier for a candidate to be elected if they only need to canvass one ward.

Retaining 12 Councillors

47% of the public submissions (30 out of 64) supported the Council retaining the current level of Councillors. This was marginally less than the response to reduce Councillor representation level which attributed to 53% (34 out of 64) of the submissions.

The **disadvantages** of reducing the number of elected members include:

- A smaller number of elected members may result in an increased workload for incumbent members and may reduce efficiency and effectiveness.
- There is the potential for dominance in the Council by a particular interest group.
- A reduction in the number of elected members may limit the diversity of interests of Council.
- Opportunities for community participation in Council's affairs may be reduced if there are fewer elected members for the community to contact.

As the City experiences growth into the future, Option 1 presents a more desirable Councillor to Elector Ratio of 1:5,602, as opposed to Option 2 of 1:8,403.

Boundary Adjustment

As significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. Refer to Option 1 Assessment Factors for detailed information supporting the adjustment.

Option 2 – Four wards, 8 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 2 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 2 Overview

- 8 Councillors with a transition period, where the 2023 Local Government Election reduces the representation to 10 (reducing North and Coastal to a total of two councillors between 2023-2025 and only one seat at the 2023 election is vacant) and the final adjustment is made at the 2025 Local Government Election where the representation reduces to 8 (reducing the East Ward and Town Ward to a total of two councillors and only one seat at the 2025 election is vacant).
- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)
- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio – as per Option 1 Ward Maps

Option 2 - Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	2	8,428	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	2	8,745	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	2	7,550	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	2	8,890	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	8	8,403	

Note: significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward, therefore a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. This is further explained in the demographic trends of the Option 2 Assessment Factors section below.

Option 2 Assessment Factors

Refer to Option 1 Assessment Factors.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Option 2 be eliminated from further consideration.

Whilst the community responses for a reduction of Councillors was marginally higher for Option 2, this is not the recommended Option. A reduction to the Councillor representation levels may impact on the Council's ability to adequately represent the District of Mandurah during a period of forecasted growth expected over the next five to ten years.

No Ward Systems (Options 3 – 5)

A no Ward System provides for all Councillors to be elected by all constituents. These Councillors represent all electors across the entire local government district.

The **advantages** of a no ward system may include:

- Elected members are elected by the whole community not just a section of it. Knowledge and interest in all areas of the Council's affairs would result in broadening the views beyond the immediate concerns of those in a ward.
- Members of the community who want to approach an elected member can speak to any elected member.
- Social networks and communities of interest are often spread across a local government and elected members may have a broader overview and understanding of these.
- Elected members can use their specialty skills and knowledge for the benefit of the whole local government.
- There is balanced representation with each elected member representing the whole community.

- The election process is much simpler for the community to understand and for the council to administer.

The **disadvantages** of a no ward system may include:

- Electors may feel that they are not adequately represented if they don't have an affinity with any of the elected members.
- Elected members living in a certain area may have a greater affinity and understanding of the issues specific to that area.
- There is potential for an interest group to dominate the Council.
- Elected members may feel overwhelmed by having to represent all electors and may not have the time or opportunity to understand and represent all the issues.
- It may be more difficult and costly for candidates to be elected if they need to canvass the whole local government area.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Options 3, 4 and 5 be eliminated from further consideration.

Based on the feedback from the community, the majority of the submissions (81%) support the current ward system.

Reduction in Councillor Representation

[As outlined above.](#)

Option 3 – No wards, 12 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 3 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 3 Overview

- 12 Councillors
- No Wards

Option 3 - Ratio of Councillors to electors

Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	12	1:5,602

Option 4 – No wards, 10 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 4 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 4 Overview

- 10 Councillors
- 10 Councillors with no transition period, resulting in 10 councillors at the 2023 Local Government Election
- No Wards

Option 4 - Ratio of Councillors to electors

Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	10	1:6,722

Option 5 – No Wards, 8 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 5 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 5 Overview

- 8 Councillors
- 8 Councillors with a transition period, where the 2023 Local Government Election reduces the representation to 10 and the final adjustment is made at the 2025 Local Government Election where the representation reduces to 8.
- No Wards

Option 5 - Ratio of Councillors to electors

Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	8	1:8,403

Option 3, 4 and 5 Assessment Factors

The assessment factors – community of interest, physical and topographic features, demographic trends and economic factors have not been addressed for Options 3 – 5 as each Councillor would represent the entire Mandurah district, rather than only one Ward.

Recommended Option

At the Council Meeting of 24 January 2023 Council recommended the following:

That Council approve Option 1: Four Wards, 12 Councillors, Boundary Adjustment

***In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council proposes to the Local Government Advisory Board that:**

1. An order be made under section 2.2(1)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1995* to change the ward boundaries of the City of Mandurah as detailed in *Attachment 2.3*.
2. No change occurs to the councillor representation levels for the City's wards and that all councillors will continue to represent their respective wards and that their terms continue in line with their relevant Local Government Election result.

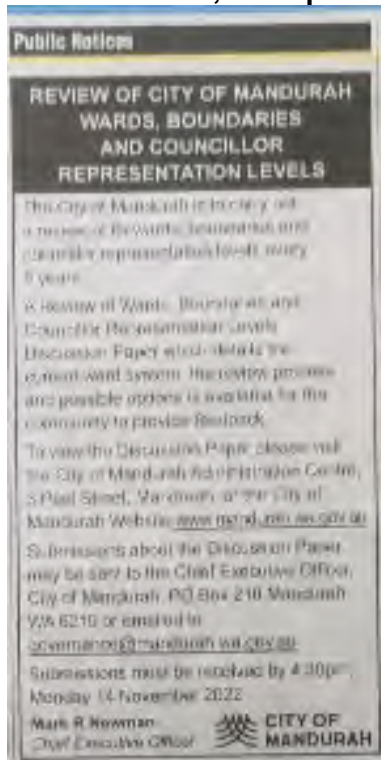
- 3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to forward this resolution, the City of Mandurah Final Report as detailed in Attachment 2.3, Attachments 2.1 and 2.2 to the Local Government Advisory Board for its consideration.**

Reference

- Report 2 Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Council Minute (XXXXX)
- Minute Number G.16/9/2022, 27 September 2022, Report 9 Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Council,
- Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper (released)
- Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels
- Survey Submission Form, Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels
- Public Notice, social media and community engagement

Public Notice, social media and community consultation

Mandurah Mail, 29 September 2022, Public Notice



City of Mandurah Website, 29 September 2022



CITY OF MANDURAH Live Explore Community Learn Business Council [1 want to](#)

Home → Explore → Whats On → News → Review of City of Mandurah wards boundaries and councillor representation levels

Review of City of Mandurah wards, boundaries and councillor representation levels

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR: ALL **Thursday, 29 September 2022**

The City of Mandurah is to carry out a review of its wards, boundaries and councillor representation levels every 8 years.

A Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper which details the current ward system, the review process and possible options is available for the community to provide feedback.

To view the Discussion Paper please visit the City of Mandurah Administration Centre, 3 Peel Street, Mandurah, or the City of Mandurah Website www.mandurah.wa.gov.au

Submissions about the Discussion Paper may be sent to the Chief Executive Officer:

City of Mandurah
PO Box 210
Mandurah WA 6210

or emailed to governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au

Submissions must be received by 4:30pm, Monday 14 November 2022

Mark R Newman
Chief Executive Officer

Share 



City of Mandurah, Mandurah Matters Campaign, Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillors Representation Levels 2022



Home / Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels 2022

Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels 2022



At the Council Meeting 27 September 2022, the City of Mandurah resolved to undertake a review of its Ward system to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act).

Schedule 2.2 of the Act requires local governments with Wards to carry out reviews of their Ward boundaries and the number of Councillors for each Ward from time to time, so that no more than eight years elapse between successive reviews.

Council has developed a [Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper](#) which details the current ward system, the review process and possible options is available for the community to provide feedback.

Have Your Say Mandurah

Public submissions closed on Monday 14 November 2022. Thank you to everyone who submitted feedback.

Ward Review Submission

Ward Review Submission

The City of Mandurah invites the community to consider the [Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Level Discussion Paper](#) which looks at the current ward system and councillor representation levels and possible options for change.

This Discussion Paper outlines five options which have been developed to encourage discussion and input from the community. It should be noted that the options presented do not represent all possible options, and through this Discussion Paper the City is seeking input from the community on the options set out within, or suggestions for an alternative.

You need to be signed in to take this survey

[SIGN IN](#) [REGISTER](#)

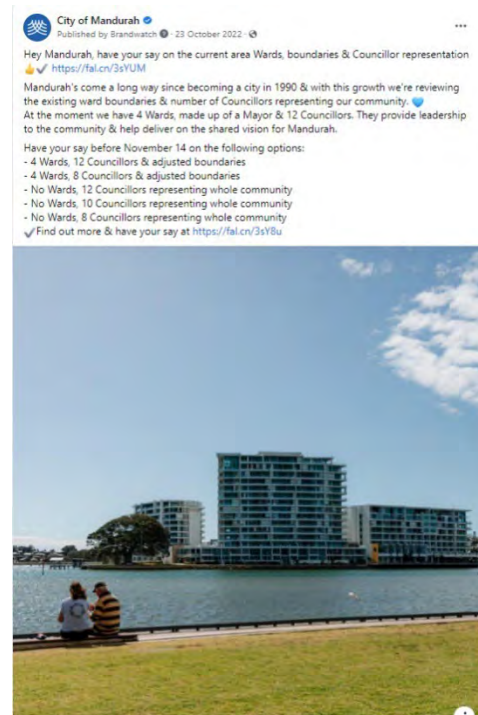
Page last updated: 17 Nov 2022, 03:02 PM

Review Documents

- Ward Review Discussion Paper.pdf (5.09 MB) (pdf)
- Current City of Mandurah Ward Map - Community Consultation.pdf (1.1 MB) (pdf)
- Proposed Ward Boundary Maps - Option 1 & 2 - Public consultation.pdf (2.82 MB) (pdf)
- Survey Submission Form - Hard copy.docx (221 KB) (docx)

- Council resolved to undertake a review of the ward, boundaries and Councillor representation levels**
Meeting held Tuesday 27 September 2022
- Public Consultation Opens**
Thursday 29 September
Public consultation is open for submissions.
- Sunday 16 October - Public Consultation at the Wearable Art Festival**
Please come along and discuss the review, ask questions and complete the survey.
- Public Consultation Period Closes - 14 November 2022**
Closing at 4.30pm
- Final report**
The final outcomes of the consultation are reported to Council so that a recommendation may be made to the Local Government Advisory Board.
- Implementation of Ministers decision before the 2023 October Election**

Social Media Posts



Content performance 1 Filters

DATE	POSTS	REACH	NEGATIVE FEEDBACK	SHARES	CLICKS	ENGAGEMENTS
	2	6.72K	2	4	225	56
9 Nov 7:31 AM	 Mandurah has come a long way since becoming a city... City of Mandurah ORG. EXCELLENCE + 3 more	3.5K	1	3	46	26
23 Oct 1:45 PM	 Hey Mandurah, have your say on the current area War... City of Mandurah ward review	3.2K	1	1	179	30

Newspaper advertisement

Hey Mandurah, have your say!

City of Mandurah Wards, Boundaries & Councillor representation.

Mandurah has come a long way since becoming a city in 1990, and with this growth and changes over time we are reviewing the existing Ward boundaries and number of Councillors representing our community.

There are currently four Wards represented by twelve Councillors and a popularly elected Mayor. The Mayor and Councillors provide leadership to the community and help deliver on the shared vision for Mandurah.

Your input will ensure that the Ward system and Councillor representation levels best suit Mandurah and the community.

See more details on the review at www.mandurahmatters.com.au


Have your say on the following options or make your own suggestion:

1. Four Wards, 12 Councillors and adjusted boundaries
2. Four Wards, 8 Councillors and adjusted boundaries
3. No Wards, 12 Councillors representing whole community
4. No Wards, 10 Councillors representing whole community
5. No Wards, 8 Councillors representing whole community

Submissions close at 4.30pm, Monday 14 November, 2022 and can be made by:

 Online survey

 Email to governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au

 Deliver in person to the City of Mandurah Administration Building (3 Peel St)

Scan me for details or to complete survey



Please note, it is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1995 that local governments with Wards must carry out reviews of Ward boundaries and the number of Councillors for each ward, every eight years.



Community Engagement

Ward Review Information Stand, City of Mandurah Arts Festival, Saturday 16 October 2022



Survey Submission Form

The City of Mandurah invites the community to consider the [Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Level Discussion Paper](#) which looks at the current ward system and councillor representation levels and possible options for change.

The Discussion Paper outlines five options which have been developed to encourage discussion and input from the community. It should be noted that the options presented do not represent all possible options, and through this Discussion Paper the City is seeking input from the community on the options set out within, or suggestions for an alternative.

The five options outlined in the Discussion Paper are:

- Option 1 – Four Wards, 12 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 2 – Four Wards, 8 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 3 – No Wards, 12 Councillors
- Option 4 – No Wards, 10 Councillors
- Option 5 – No Wards, 8 Councillors

Please complete your submission and return to the City of Mandurah:

- Via email to governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au; or
- hand delivered to the City of Mandurah Administration Building located at 3 Peel St, Mandurah; or
- posted to PO Box 210, Mandurah, WA 6210.

Submissions must be received by 4:30pm, Monday 14 November 2022.

Submission

Your Contact Details			
Name:		Last Name:	
Address:			
Email:			
If you are submitting on behalf of an resident's association:			
Name of the association:			
Which ward do you current reside in or represent?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal	<input type="checkbox"/> East	<input type="checkbox"/> North	<input type="checkbox"/> Town

Please review the Discussion Paper prior to completing the survey.

Survey Questions
Question 1: Please rank the options in order of preference:

Option 1: Four Wards, 12 Councillors (boundary adjustment)		Please number from 1 to 6. (1 being your most preferred option and 6 being your least preferred)
Option 2: Four Wards, 8 Councillors (boundary adjustment)		
Option 3: No Wards, 12 Councillors		
Option 4: No Wards, 10 Councillors		
Option 5: No Wards, 8 Councillors		
Option 6: New suggestion		
<i>Please provide comments as to why this is your preferred ranking and/or details of your new suggestion (option 6):</i>		
<p>The following questions are about the proposed boundary adjustments – Options 1 & 2 Options 1 & 2 sets out the proposed boundary adjustments to balance the representation levels of councillors to electors between wards. Proposed wards maps are included in the discussion paper for your reference</p>		
Question 2: Do you support the proposed boundary adjustment as detailed in the proposed ward maps for option 1 and 2?		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Question 3: Do you have any comments or alternative suggestions for how the City might structure its boundaries and why?		
<p>The following question is in relation to Councillor Representation Levels. The City is currently represented by 12 Councillors and a Mayor.</p>		
Question 4: Do you support: <i>(Please choose)</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased level of councillor representation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decreased level of councillor representation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillor representation to remain the same	
<i>Please state your reason why:</i>		
Question 5: In the past 12 months have you contacted a Councillor about a local matter?		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
Question 6: <i>If answered yes to question:</i> Did the Councillor represent the Ward that you live in?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I contacted my local Ward Councillor	<input type="checkbox"/> I contacted Councillors both in my Ward and outside

<input type="checkbox"/>	I contacted a Councillor outside of my Ward	<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't know
The following question is in relation to the ward system.			
Question 7: Do you support maintain the current 4 Ward System:			
<input type="checkbox"/> YES		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<i>Please state your reason why:</i>			
Question 8: What are the advantages of a Ward System? Choose which applies:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors are more accessible to me (e.g. I know who to contact in my Ward when I have a matter to raise)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors in my Ward have a greater knowledge of the community they represent		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors in my Ward understand the challenges and issues associated with my Ward		
<i>Other Comments:</i>			
Question 9: What are the disadvantages of a Ward System? Choose which applies:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors may become too focused on their Wards and less focused on the affairs of the City as a whole		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors may compete for their Wards, resulting in an unfair distribution of services and facilities		
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Wards do not reflect my community (ie suburb or community that I belong to)		
<i>Other Comments:</i>			
Question 10: Do you have any other feedback on the Ward Review?			
<i>Comments:</i>			



Final Report

Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels

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Introduction

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act), the City of Mandurah (the City) is reviewing its Ward system, Ward boundaries and Councillor representation levels across the City of Mandurah District. The purpose of the review is to evaluate the current ward and representation levels and consider other options to identify a Ward System that best reflects the characteristics of the City's community. The Final Report Review of Ward, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels (this Report) addresses these matters and considers the options to formulate a preferred option to the Local Government Advisory Board.

Background

Under the *Local Government Act 1995*, the City is required to review its wards from time to time and at least every eight years. The current Ward system and its boundaries were last reviewed in 2014. Since 1992, the City has had four wards with 12 Councillors. The last ward review, conducted in 2014, resulted in no changes to the ward system or councillor representation levels.

The structure of the City of Mandurah Council currently consists of a Mayor, who is popularly elected by the City's electors and 12 Councillors elected from four Wards, with three councillors representing each Ward.

At its meeting held on 27 September 2022, Council adopted a Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper. Following Council adoption of the Discussion Paper, the City undertook a six-week local public notice process to inform the community of the proposed review and invite comments and submissions which will inform the review process.

Community Consultation

The Discussion Paper Ward Review, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels was advertised for public comment for 46 days from 29 September 2022 to 14 November 2022 via the following methods:

- Local Public Notice
 - Website
 - Newspaper
 - Public Noticeboards
 - Social Media
- Online via the Mandurah Matters Website
- Emails to all Residents Associations
- Community Engagement
 - Information Stand at the Wearable Art Festival, Sunday 16 October 2022
 - Place Enrichment Strategy Community Workshops (information provided)
 - Greenfields Community Centre
 - Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre

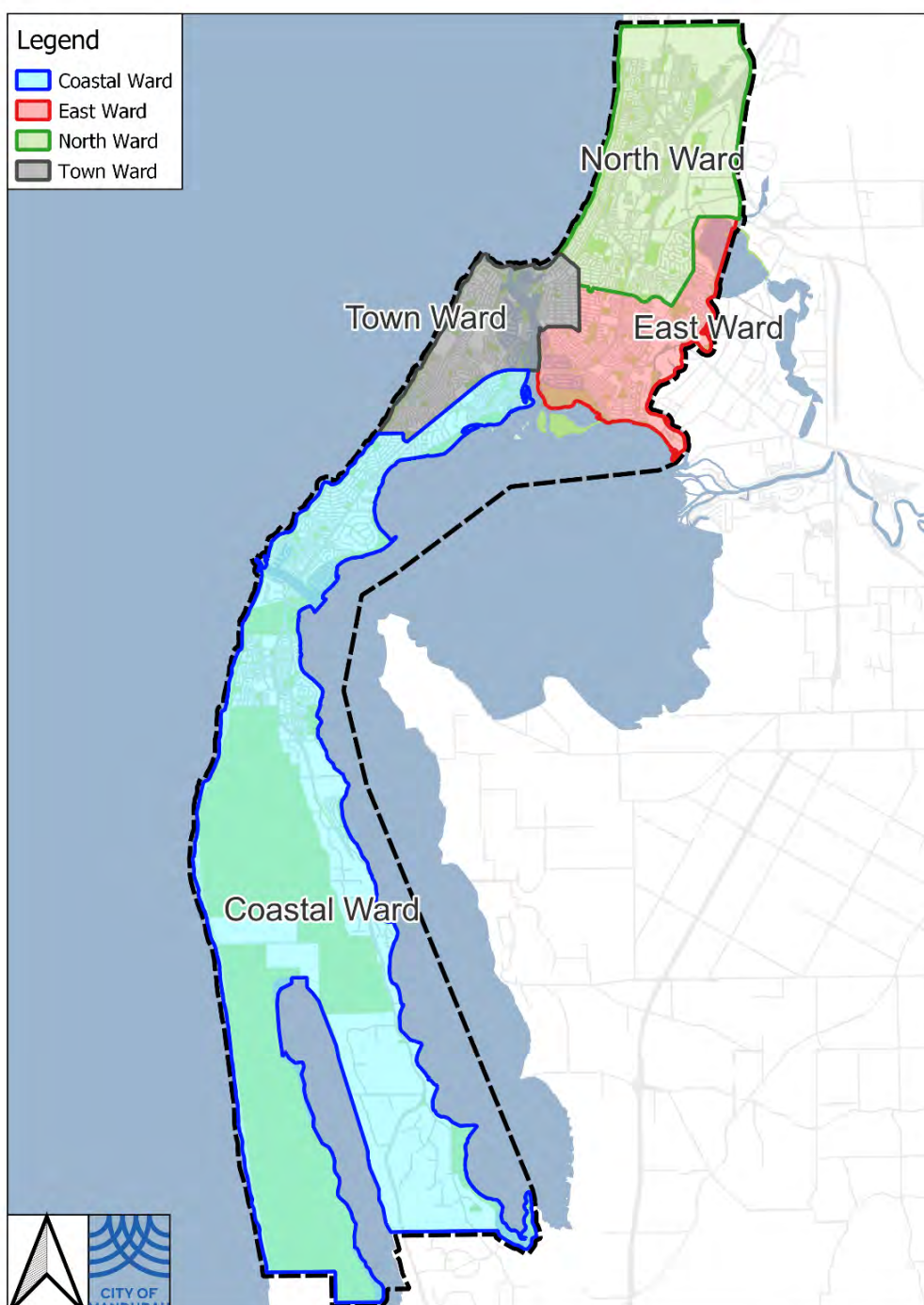
Through this engagement process the City received 64 submissions from members of the community.

Current Ward and Councillor Representation

Since 1992, the City has had four Wards with 12 councillors. The last ward review, conducted in 2014, resulted in no changes to the Ward system or councillor representation levels. Due to the rapid population growth within the District, if the ward system remains, an adjustment to the Ward boundaries is required to ensure the ratio between councillor and elector remains within a deviation of plus or minus 10%.

The structure of the City of Mandurah Council currently consists of a Mayor, who is popularly elected by the City’s electors and 12 Councillors elected from four Wards, with three councillors representing each Ward.

A map depicting the **current** Ward boundaries is below:



Assessment Factors

When considering changes to Ward boundaries and councillor representation levels, the Act specifies certain factors that must be taken into account as part of any review process, including:

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

Each of the above factors are addressed for the District of Mandurah as a whole and where relevant, addressed within the context of each option.

Physical and Topographical features

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 also be relevant as well as other man-made features, such as railway lines and freeways.

City of Mandurah Response:

The District of Mandurah covers 173 square kilometres, is 50km long yet only 8km wide (at its widest point), and stretches from Madora Bay and Lakelands in the north to Herron and Clifton in the south. Mandurah's natural environment and visual landscape forms part of the District's Ward boundaries, including Peel-Harvey Estuary, Mandurah Estuary, Peel Inlet, the Indian Ocean and Yalgorup National Park. Significant physical built features include the Old Coast Road, Mandjoogoordap Drive, Pinjarra Road and Mandurah Road and key bridge infrastructure including Dawesville, Mandurah and Estuary bridges.

A summary of most significant physical and topographical features for each Ward is set out below:

Coastal Ward

The Coastal Ward consists of seven suburbs which are located at the southern end of Mandurah, abutting the East and Town Ward Boundaries. The suburbs of Bouvard, Clifton and Herron are largely rural residential areas situated in the most southern end of the District. The Old Coast Road, the RAMSAR listed Peel-Harvey Estuary, Yalgorup National Park, Island Point, Tims Thicket Beach, Thrombolites and the Indian Ocean are some of the key features of these areas.

The suburb of Dawesville is located between the Peel-Harvey Estuary and the Indian Ocean south of the Dawesville Channel and east of the Old Coast Road. This includes Southport, which is part of the Port Bouvard canal development bordering the Dawesville Cut. Dawesville includes localities of Melros and Florida Beach, and several landmarks including Pyramids Beach, the Cut Golf Course, Caddadup Reserve, Dawesville Foreshore Reserve and Warrungup Spring Reserve.

Falcon locality spans the northern part of the Ward and the suburb is between the Indian Ocean to the west and the Peel-Harvey Estuary to the east, its southern boundary abutting Wannanup

and its northern boundary abutting Halls Head (Seascapes) and Erskine. Falcon includes Cox Bay, Falcon Bay, Novara Beach, Pleasant Grove Reserve.

Wannanup and Erskine share a boundary with Falcon. Wannanup is bounded by Falcon in the north, Peel Inlet in the east, the Dawesville Channel in the south and the Indian Ocean in the west. Some of the key features include Avalon Beach, North Port and East Port canals and Village Beach. Erskine is bounded by Old Coast Road and the Mandurah Bypass in the north, the Mandurah Estuary in the east, Peel Inlet in the south. Some of the most significant physical features of Erskine include Len Howard Conservation Park, Mandurah Quay Marina and Boundary Island.

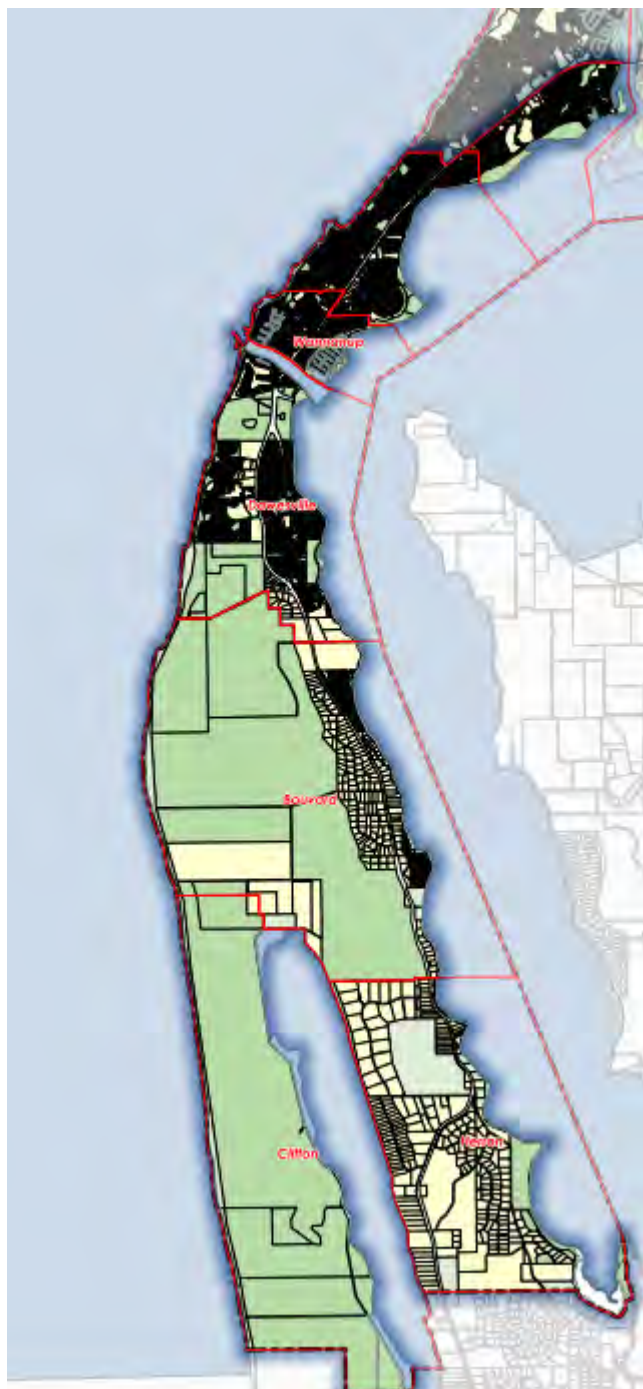


Image: Coastal Ward Boundary (current)

Town Ward

The Town Ward consists of three suburbs. Mandurah is bounded by the Indian Ocean, Henson Street and Mandurah Terrace in the north, Mandurah Road in the east, Boundary Road and near Pinjarra Road in the south and the Mandurah Estuary in the west. Some of the key features include the Mandurah Bridge, Kwillena Gabi Pool, Town Beach, Mandurah Ocean Marina and the Eastern Foreshore Reserve. The suburb of Mandurah is shared with the East and North Ward.

Halls Head is bounded by the Indian Ocean in the north and west, the Mandurah Estuary in the east and the Mandurah Bypass/Old Coast Road and a line north of Vanessa Road, Falcon in the south. A large suburb, Halls Head includes localities of Old Halls Head and Seascapes and several landmarks including Robert Point, Doddies Beach, Blue Bay Beach and Mandurah Country Club and Port Mandurah canals.

A small portion of Dudley Park is included in the Town Ward. Refer to East Ward below for the key physical and topographical features of the Dudley Park suburb.



Image: Town Ward Boundary (current)

North Ward

The North Ward consists of eight suburbs.

Silver Sands and San Remo are smaller beachside housing estates that consist of local parks and coastline. They are bounded by the Indian Ocean in the west and Mandurah Terrace/Mandurah Road in the east.

Parklands is bounded by Mandjoorgoordap Drive and Kwinana Freeway to the north, Stock Road to the east, Mandjoorgoordap Drive to the west and Gordon Road to the south. Parklands is home to Marlee Reserve, Lakes Lawn Cemetery and is a rural residential housing estate. Lakelands is bounded by the City of Rockingham boundary in the north, Mandjoorgoordap Drive in the east, suburb of Meadow Springs in the south and Mandurah Road in the west. Lakelands is home to Black Swan Lake, Paganoni Lake and wetlands.

Madora Bay is bounded by the City of Rockingham boundary in the north, Mandurah Road in the east, Karinga Road in the south and the Indian Ocean in the west. Madora Bay is home to beachside estate consisting of, local parks, reserves and coastline.

Meadow Springs is bounded by the Mandjoorgoordap Drive in the east, Gordon Road in the south and Mandurah Road in the west. This suburb includes Meadow Springs Golf and Country Club and Quarry Adventure Park.

Greenfields is bounded by Gordon Road/Lakes Road in the north, Mandurah Road in the west, Pinjarra Road in the south and Serpentine River in the east. The suburb includes Geogrup Lake Nature Reserve and Bortolo Park. Greenfields is shared with the East Ward.

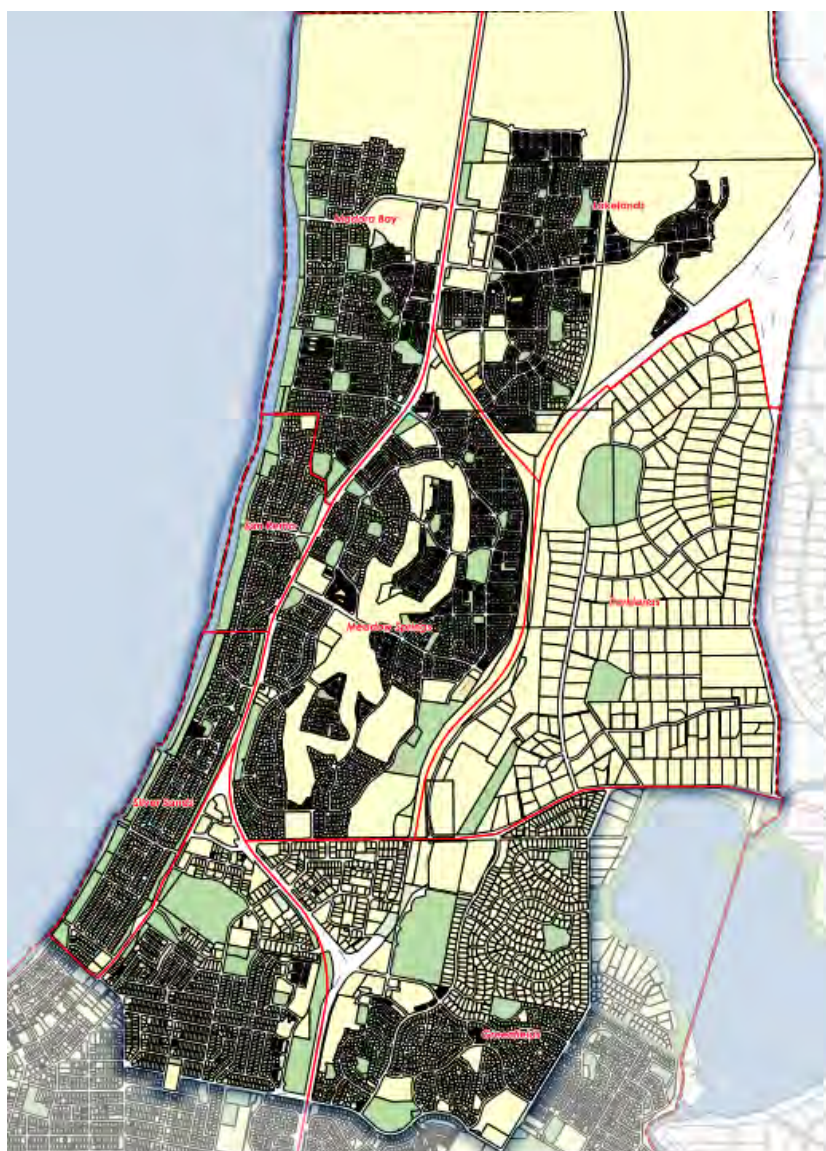


Image: North Ward Boundary (current)

East Ward

In addition to the suburbs of Dudley Park, Greenfields and Mandurah which are shared with Town and North Ward, the suburb of Coodanup is bounded by Pinjarra Road in the north, the Serpentine River in the east, Peel Inlet in the south and by Wanjeep Street, Coodanup Drive and the Mandurah Bypass in the west. Some of the key features include Coodanup and Riverview Foreshore and Beacham Reserve.

Dudley Park is bounded by Pinjarra Road, Boundary Road, and Coodanup Drive in the north, Wanjeep Street in the east, Peel Inlet in the south and the Mandurah Estuary in the west. Features includes Soldiers Cove, Creery Wetlands, Samphire Cove Nature Reserve and Mariners Cove canals. A small portion of suburb of Dudley Park is located in the Town Ward.

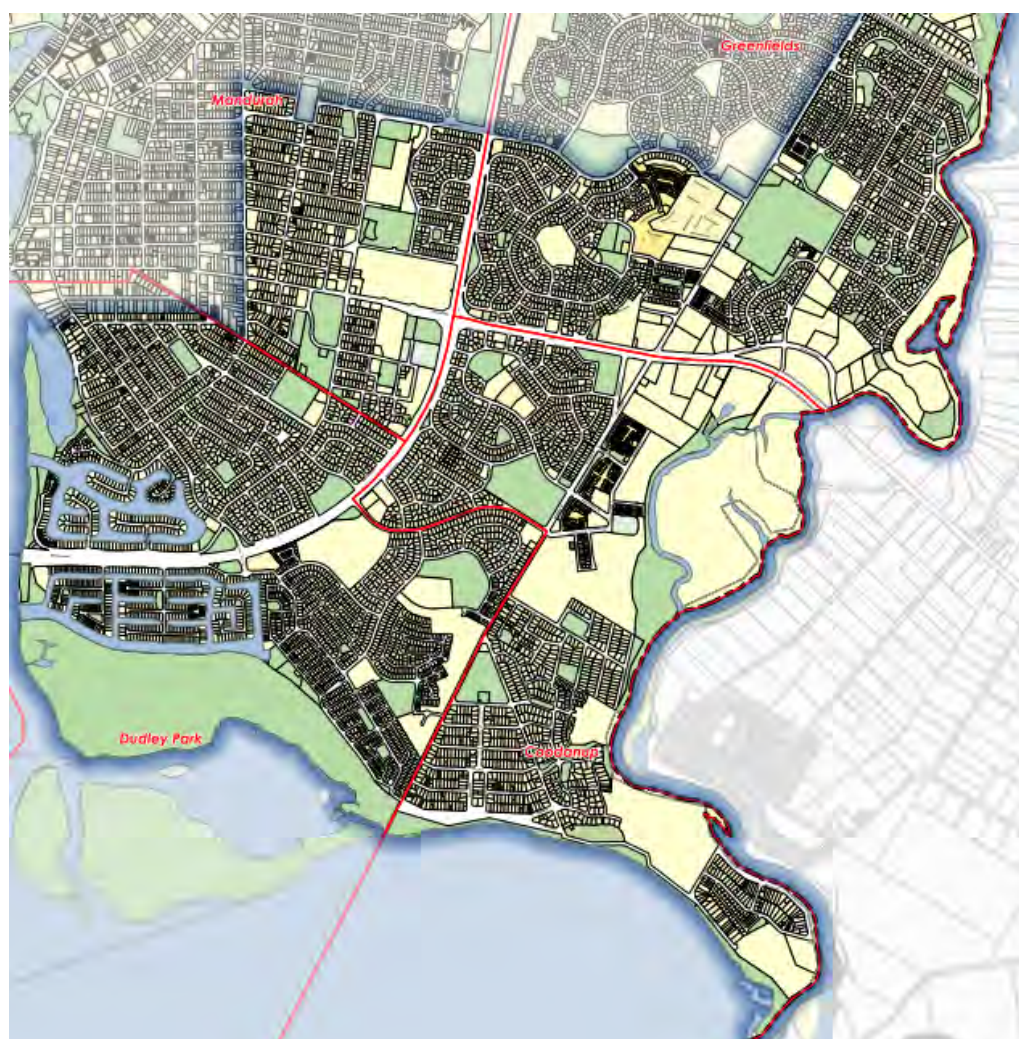


Image: East Ward Boundary (current)

Demographic Trends

Several measurements of the characteristics of populations, such as population size, and its distribution by age, gender, occupation and location provide important demographic information. Current and projected population characteristics are relevant, as well as similarities and differences between areas within the local government.

City of Mandurah Response

Over the last two decades, Mandurah has experienced a rapid expansion in the size of its population, with annual growth of more than 3 per cent per annum between 2000 and 2020.

The City has a current population of 93,414¹. It is anticipated that the population by 2036, will be 119,877².

City of Mandurah	Forecasted Population
Year	2036
City of Mandurah	119,877
Coodanup	6,093
Dawesville - Bouvard - Herron - Clifton	13,636
Dudley Park	8,059
Erskine	6,307
Falcon	6,263
Greenfields - Parklands	13,490
Halls Head	17,080
Lakelands	10,888
Madora Bay	7,724
Mandurah	14,004
Meadow Springs	9,257
Silver Sands - San Remo	2,532
Wannanup	4,545

Table: Population and household forecast, by 2036 (Forecast ID).

Mandurah will become home to approximately 26,000³ new residents over the next 15 years. This equates approximately 14,000⁴ additional dwellings being required to be built within Mandurah.

The most significant developments are located within the North Ward. The Madora Bay North, Lakelands East and Ocean Hills developments could result in approximately 4,650 new residential dwellings being developed and approximately 13,000 new residents over the next five to ten years. Other suburbs for significant development, located in the south, are Florida and Melros, which will result in approximately 500 dwellings accommodating an additional 1,400 new residents over the next five years.

In addition, through the implementation of the City's Local Planning Strategy, the suburb of Mandurah may result in the densification of dwellings, with an estimated increase of 8,500 dwellings. Significant areas of land have already been zoned to allow for infill development within these areas. However, this will take some time and is not likely to be of significance for this Ward review.

The median age for the City is 45 years of age compared to 38 years of age for Western Australia and Australia. The highest proportion of the population is aged between 65 and 69 years of age and 70 – 74 years of age compared to Western Australia's highest proportion age group being 35 – 39 years of age. 66% of Mandurah's population is born in Australia, with the next highest country of birth being England at 11.3%.

¹ 2021 Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census Population for Mandurah District

² ID Forecast

³ 2021 ABS Census population for Mandurah District is 93,414. ID Forecast population estimates at 2036 for Mandurah is 119,877

⁴ 2021 ABS Census for the number of dwellings is 44,094. ID Forecast estimates the number of dwelling at 2036 for Mandurah is 58,443.

The City's unemployment rate is 5.4%⁵ and is higher than that of the Western Australia average of 3.4%. Mandurah also has a significantly lower rate of participation in the labour force than the rest of Western Australia, attributable to its older population (including early retirees) and low rates of workforce engagement among females and young people.

Mandurah has a substantially lower share of professionals and a higher share of machinery operators and drivers, and sales workers relative to Western Australia. Professionals make up 14% per cent of the total workforce, compared with 20.5% for Western Australia. In contrast, technicians and trade workers form 19.7% of Mandurah's most common occupations compared to 16.2% for Western Australia.

The table below demonstrates the unemployment rate across the District of Mandurah.

	Unemployed	Labour Force	Unemployment Rate
Dawesville - Bouvard	139	3,622	3.8%
Falcon - Wannanup	161	4,183	3.8%
Greenfields	334	3,755	8.9%
Halls Head - Erskine	277	8,626	3.2%
Mandurah	491	3,608	13.6%
Mandurah - North	280	9,755	2.9%
Mandurah - South	330	3,982	8.3%
Total City of Mandurah	2,012	37,531	5.4%

There is a higher proportion of couple families without children at 46.3% in Mandurah compared with 38.8% for Western Australia. There is a lower proportion of couple families with children under 15 years of age at 35.3% compared with 44.6% for Western Australia. There is a slightly higher proportion of one-parent families in Mandurah at 17.1%, compared with 15.1% for Western Australia.

Economic Factors

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 district (or the release of land for these) and the distribution of community assets and infrastructure such as road networks.

City of Mandurah Response

For the most part, the Ward boundaries do not align to similar economic activities as Mandurah's unique tourism and commercial offerings overlap Wards. Mandurah has historically been seen as a tourism destination with its natural assets in abundance making the tourism industry a significant contributor to the City's economy. The Mandurah Foreshore and Peel Harvey Estuary and surrounds remain significant tourist attractions. Across all Wards, Mandurah's beaches, waterways and national parks provide the basis for a range of recreation and leisure activities, as well as retail and commercial opportunities.

The majority of identified tourism sites are located within the Mandurah City Centre precinct. The Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah Ocean Marina and Mandurah City Centre Precincts provide for a mix of tourism accommodation, tourist related commercial, restaurant and retail functions required for Mandurah to continue to operate as a tourism destination.

⁵ March 2022 National Skills Commission Small Area Labour Markets

The Mandurah Quay Precinct in the Coastal Ward contains the Mandurah Quay Resort and Boundary Island Brewery. The City's Tourism Strategy highlights the importance of retaining this site for tourism purposes due to its location adjacent to an established resort with facilities and amenities, and adjacent to the waterfront.

The City has identified three 'district centres' within the District of Mandurah located within the suburbs of Lakelands, Halls Head, and Falcon. District centres generally serve the main weekly household shopping, service and community needs of the district. District centres are predominantly retail focused, but may include a limited mix of other uses such as offices, medical and professional services, hospitality and entertainment and housing.

Under Local Planning Scheme No. 12, light, service and general industries, showroom and bulky goods developments are accommodated within the Industrial, Service Commercial zones and Activity Centres. The Service Commercial zones and Activity Centres are within the precincts of Pinjarra Road, Gordon Road, Mandurah Ocean Marina, Lakelands, Halls Head and Galbraith Loop.

The Gordon Road Precinct has also been identified as being ideally situated in terms of its central location, access to regional roads and infrastructure, to be considered a Service Commercial and Light Industry zone.

Community of interest

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*
- *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.

City of Mandurah Response

The Peel-Harvey Estuary is highly valued by the community for its natural and recreational values and is a significant tourism drawcard. The Peel-Harvey Estuary forms part of the Peel Yalgorup RAMSAR listing and is one of the largest and most diverse estuarine complexes in South, Western Australia supporting an array of species and communities.

The District of Mandurah has 28 public and private schools providing both primary and secondary education, as well as special education programs. The Murdoch University Peel Campus, is co-located with John Tonkin College and Challenger TAFE at the Peel Education Campus.

Peel Health Campus provides a wide range of healthcare services with a 24-hour emergency care centre and comprehensive medical, surgical, maternity and rehabilitation services. The hospital accommodates a specialist medical centre as well as pharmacy and diagnostic services.

The City is home to a number of key sporting and recreation facilities including Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre and Rushton Park, in addition to a range of sporting grounds and courts available across the district. The District of Mandurah has a broad range of sporting clubs with 65 sporting groups operating across all Wards, however are predominately located in the East Ward.

There are three libraries within the District of Mandurah, with Mandurah Library located in the East Ward, Falcon e-Library and Community Centre located in the Coastal Ward and Lakelands Library and Community Centre in the North.

Ratio of Councillors to electors

It is expected that each local government will have similar ratios of electors to councillors across the wards of its district. A balanced representation would be reflected in the ratio deviation being within plus or minus 10% for all wards.

The percentage ratio deviation is calculated by subtracting the councillor/elector ratio for a ward from the average councillor/elector ratio for the whole district. The result is then divided by the average councillor/elector ratio for the whole district and multiplied by 100 to give a percentage.

A **negative** result indicates that the ward is **under-represented**, and a **positive** result indicates the ward is **over-represented**.

The City's current Ward system, demonstrates that there is an imbalance in representation across the City as following:

- North Ward and Coastal Ward being **under-represented** (-16.44% and -10.79% respectively).
- Town Ward and East Ward are considered to be **over-represented** (13.20% and 14.03% respectively).

The percentage ratio deviation shown in the table below, provides an indication of the current percentage difference between the average Councillor/elector ratio for the whole of the City district (one Councillor to 5,602 electors) and the Councillor/elector ratio for each Ward⁶.

Ward Name	Suburb (No. of Electors)	No. of Electors Per Ward	No. Councillors	Councillor: Elector Ratio	% Ratio Deviation	Comment
Coastal Ward	Bouvard (732) Dawesville (5,259) Clifton (0) Erskine (4,559) Falcon (4,449) Herron (366) Wannanup (3,254)	18,619	3	1 : 6,206	-10.79%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
East Ward	Coodanup (3,265) Dudley Park (4,954) Greenfields (4,680) Mandurah (1,548)	14,447	3	1 : 4,816	14.03%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
North Ward	Greenfields (2,948) Lakelands (3,998) Madora Bay (2,704) Mandurah (1,521) Meadow Springs (6,066) Parklands (453) San Remo (773) Silver Sands (1,105)	19,568	3	1 : 6,523	-16.44%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is under-represented</i>
Town Ward	Dudley Park (398) Halls Head (10,710) Mandurah (3,480)	14,588	3	1 : 4,863	13.20%	<i>Ratio of councillor to elector is over-represented</i>
TOTAL		67,222	12	1 : 5602		

⁶ 14 September 2022 Statistical Area Level 1, Western Australian Electoral Commission

Public Submissions

The City has put forward a number of options for Ward and representation change for discussion and to encourage submissions and comments. It is important to note that the options were provided for discussion purposes only and are not intended to be all encompassing or to indicate which options would be supported by the City.

The following options were proposed in the discussion paper:

- Option 1 - Four Wards, 12 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 2 - Four Wards, 8 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 3 - No Wards, 12 Councillors
- Option 4 - No Wards, 10 Councillors
- Option 5 - No Wards, 8 Councillors
- Opportunity for other options to be recommended by the community

Members of the community were invited to provide any options for change to the City for consideration as part of the ward and representation review process. The City received a total of 64 submissions.

A summary of the submissions is below:

- 47% of the public submissions (30 out of 64) supported the Council retaining the current level of Councillors, noting that of the 30 responses in favour of the current level, 23 supported Option 1, 5 supported Option 3 (retain 12 Councillors/no Ward System) and 2 provided alternative options which retained the current levels of councillor representation and proposed to:
 - Retain the four wards/12 Councillors and investigate a system of indigenous engagement; and
 - Retain the four wards/12 Councillors and increase Councillor representation levels in Coastal and North to 4 per ward and in the East and Town 2 per ward.
- 53% (34 out of 64) supported the Council reducing the Councillor representation levels, noting that 24 out of 64 supported Option 2 (reduction to 8 Councillors), 2 supported Option 4 (10 Councillors/no Ward System), 5 supported Option 5 (8 councillors/no Ward System) and 3 other options suggested by the community proposed a reduction to the number of Councillors:
 - Remove wards and reduce Councillors to 5;
 - Retain 4 wards and reduce Councillors to 10; and
 - Retain 4 wards but reduce Councillors to Town and East to 2 per ward (overall 10 Councillors).
- 81% (52 out of 64) supported retaining the Ward System.

Options

The Local Government Advisory Board considers that the ratio of councillors to electors is the most relevant determining factor in undertaking a ward review. The options presented in the discussion paper, and as assessed in this Report, sets out the approach for achieving a balanced representation across the ward system and explores options for the retention or reduction to Councillor representation levels.

Ward System (Options 1 and 2)

Options 1 and 2 propose to retain the current four Ward System, noting a boundary adjustment is required for both options due to the current ratios. Option 1 retains the same number of Councillors and Option 2 proposes a reduction to the number of Councillors.

It should be noted that the current Ward boundaries for the most part, do not align with physical and topographical features, such as the Peel Inlet and Dawesville Channel, Old Coast Road/Mandurah Road, and Pinjarra Road. Further, current Ward boundaries divide a number of localities. For example, Greenfields is represented by both North and East Wards, Dudley Park is represented by both East and Town Wards, and Mandurah is represented by North, East and Town Wards.

Whilst it is preferable that any future amendments to Ward boundaries do not dissect suburbs, this has not been fully achieved in this Ward Review, however the City has attempted, where available, to use main roads to define the boundaries.

A Ward system divides the local government district into Wards with Councillors elected from each Ward and representing the electors in that Ward.

The **advantages** of a ward system may include:

- Councillors may be more accessible to electors of the Ward they represent.
- Different sectors of the community can be represented ensuring a good spread of representation and interests amongst elected members.
- There is potentially more opportunity for elected members to have a greater knowledge and interest in the issues in their ward.
- It may be easier for a candidate to be elected if they only need to canvass one ward.

The **disadvantages** of a ward system may include:

- Elected members can become too focused on their wards and less focused on the affairs of other wards and the whole local government.
- An unhealthy competition for resources can develop where electors in each ward come to expect the services and facilities provided in other wards, whether they are appropriate or not.
- The community and elected members may regard the local government in terms of wards rather than as a whole community.
- Ward boundaries may appear to be placed arbitrarily and may not reflect the social interaction and communities of interest of the community.
- Balanced representation across the local government may be difficult to achieve, particularly if a local government has highly populated urban areas and sparsely populated rural areas.

Reduction in Councillor Representation

The ideal number of Councillors for a local government is determined independently by each local government. The City of Mandurah Council currently has 12 Councillors, and a popularly elected Mayor.

Options 2, 4 and 5 propose a reduction in the number of Elected Members.

The **advantages** of a reduction in the number of elected members may include the following:

- The decision-making process may be more effective and efficient if the number of elected members is reduced.
- Cost efficiencies for the City and ratepayers, saving approximately \$42,000⁷ per Councillor per annum.
- Fewer elected members are more readily identifiable to the community.
- Fewer positions on Council may lead to greater interest in elections with contested elections and those elected obtaining a greater level of support from the community.

The **disadvantages** of a reduction in the number of elected members may include the following:

- A smaller number of elected members may result in an increased workload for incumbent members and may reduce efficiency and effectiveness.
- There is the potential for dominance in the Council by a particular interest group.
- A reduction in the number of elected members may limit the diversity of interests of Council.
- Opportunities for community participation in Council's affairs may be reduced if there are fewer elected members for the community to contact.

The options are further explained below.

Option 1 – Four Wards, 12 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 1 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 1 Overview

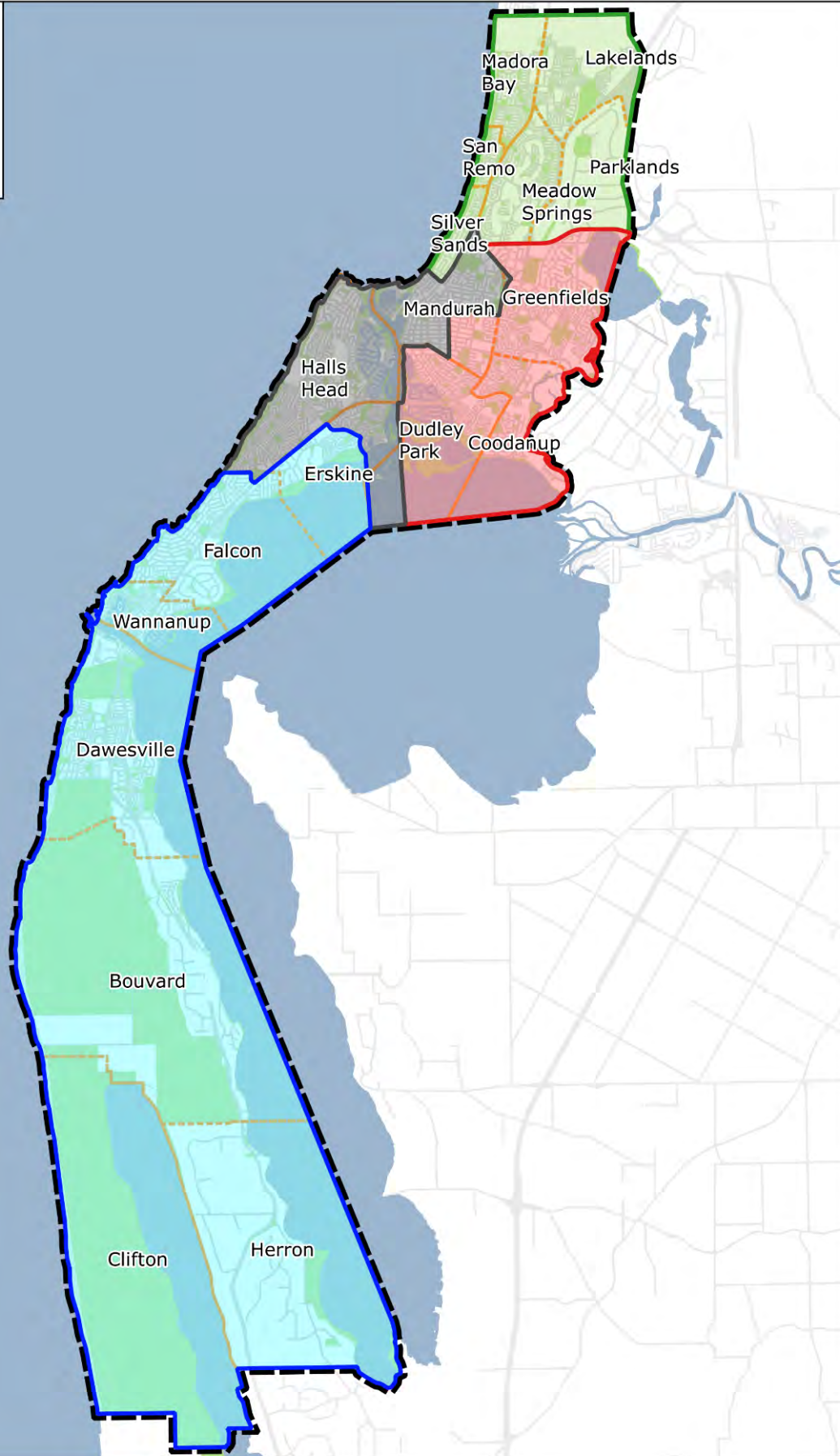
- 12 Councillors
- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)
- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio

⁷ 2022/23 Councillor Sitting Fee \$32,470; ICT Allowance \$3,500; Training Allocation \$4,000; Home Office \$125; Clothing \$500; Mileage/travel \$1,405

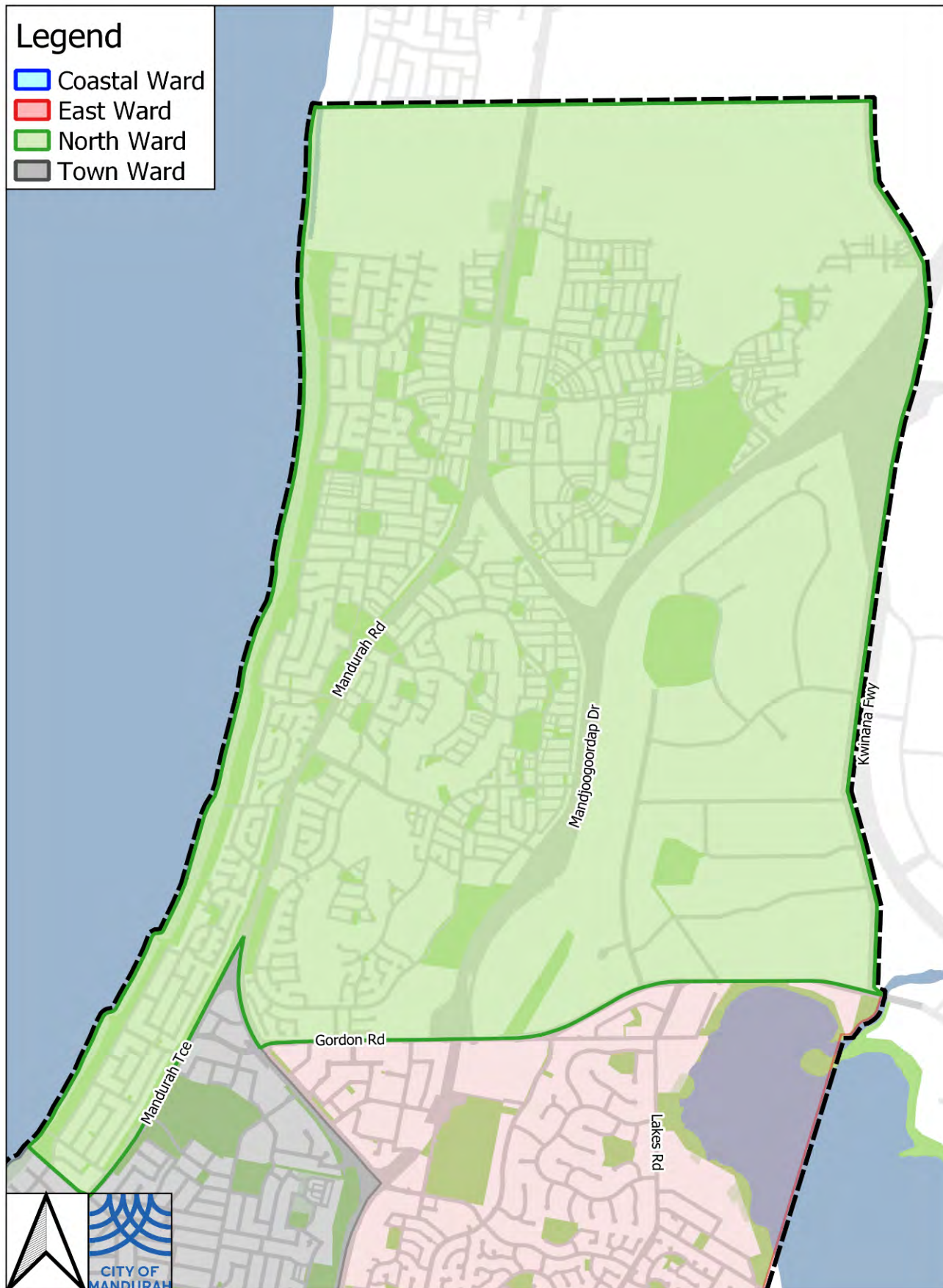
Option 1: District Ward Maps

Legend

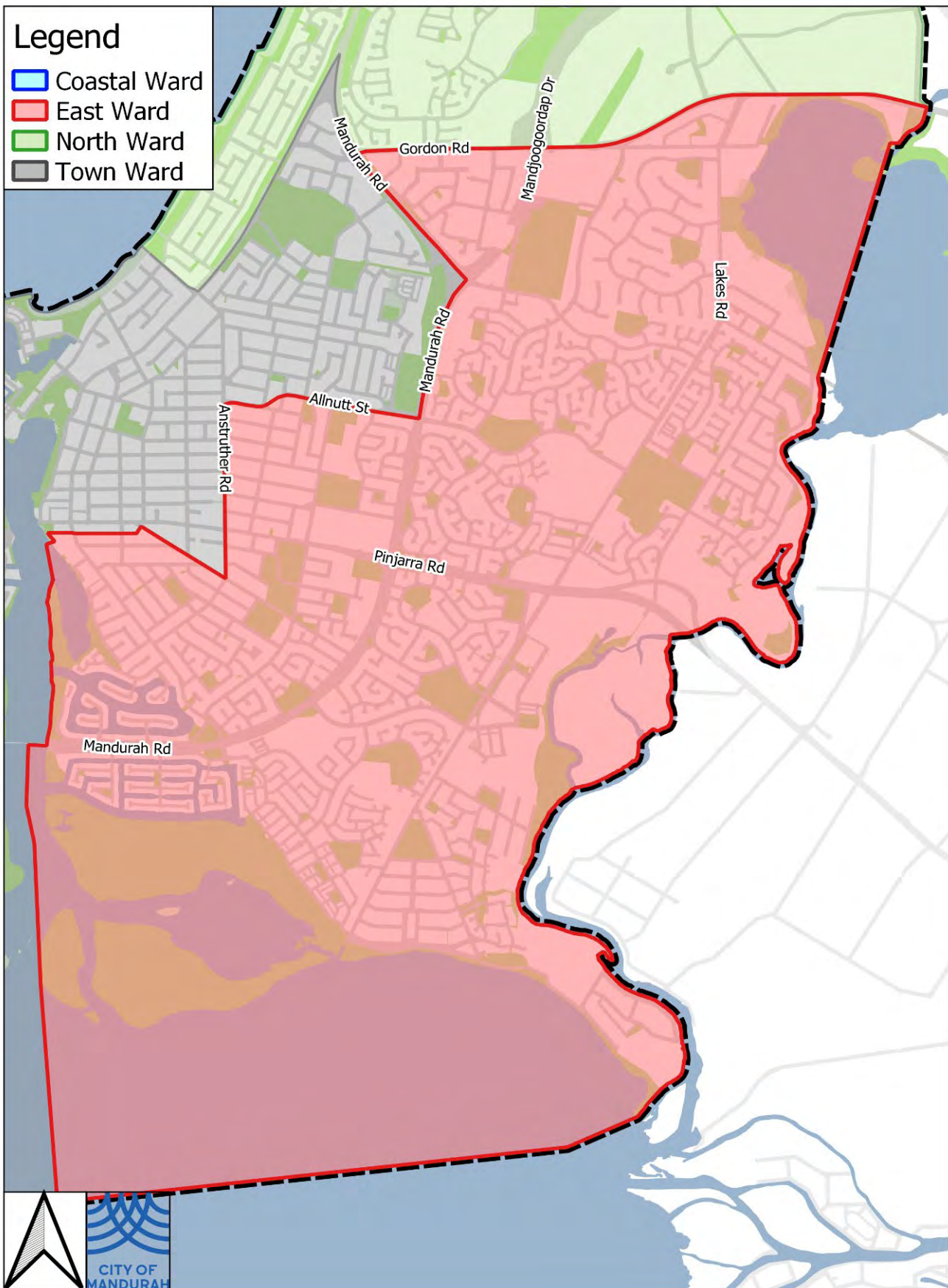
- Coastal Ward
- East Ward
- North Ward
- Town Ward



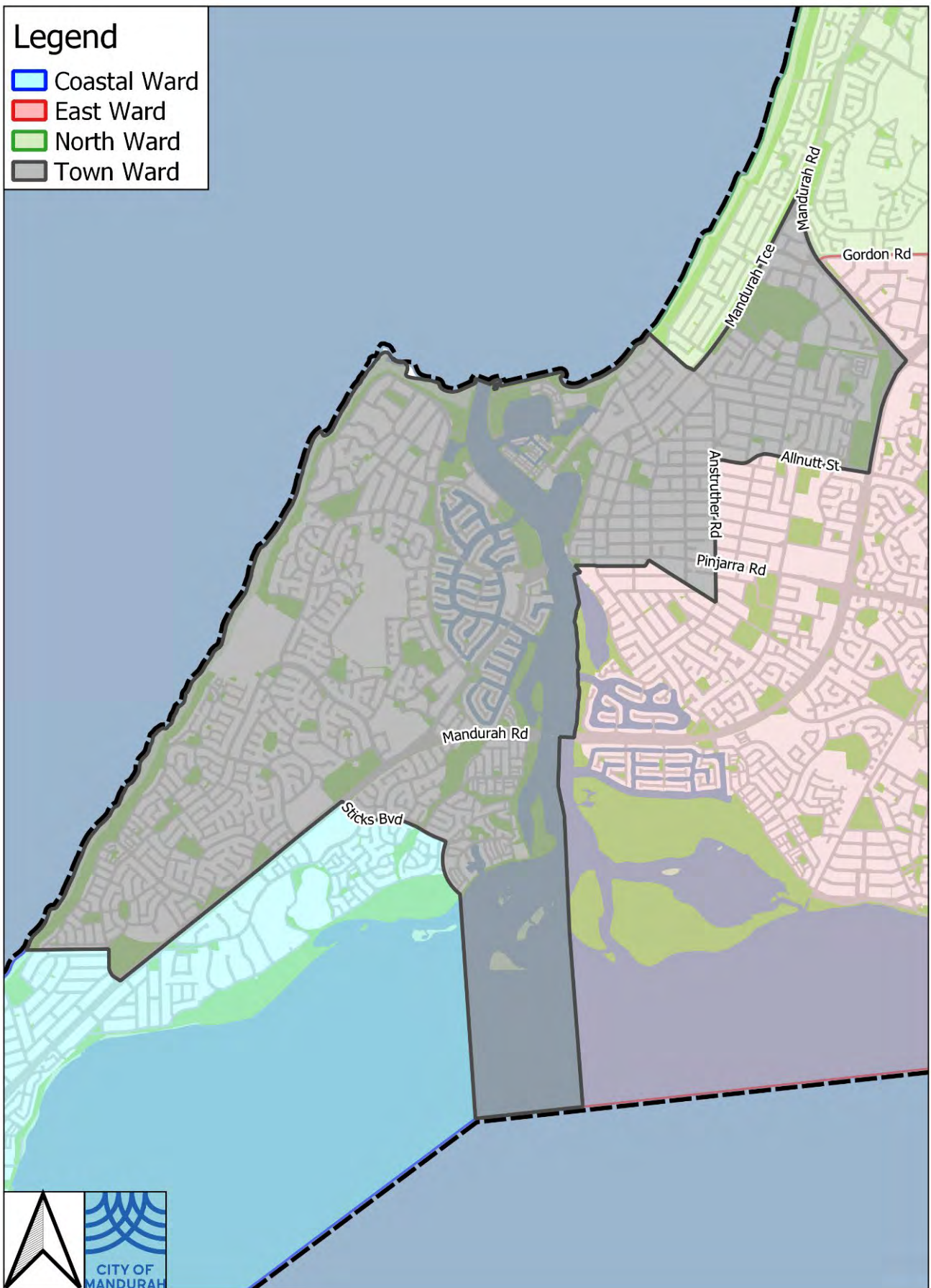
Option 1 - North Ward Map



Option 1 - East Ward Map



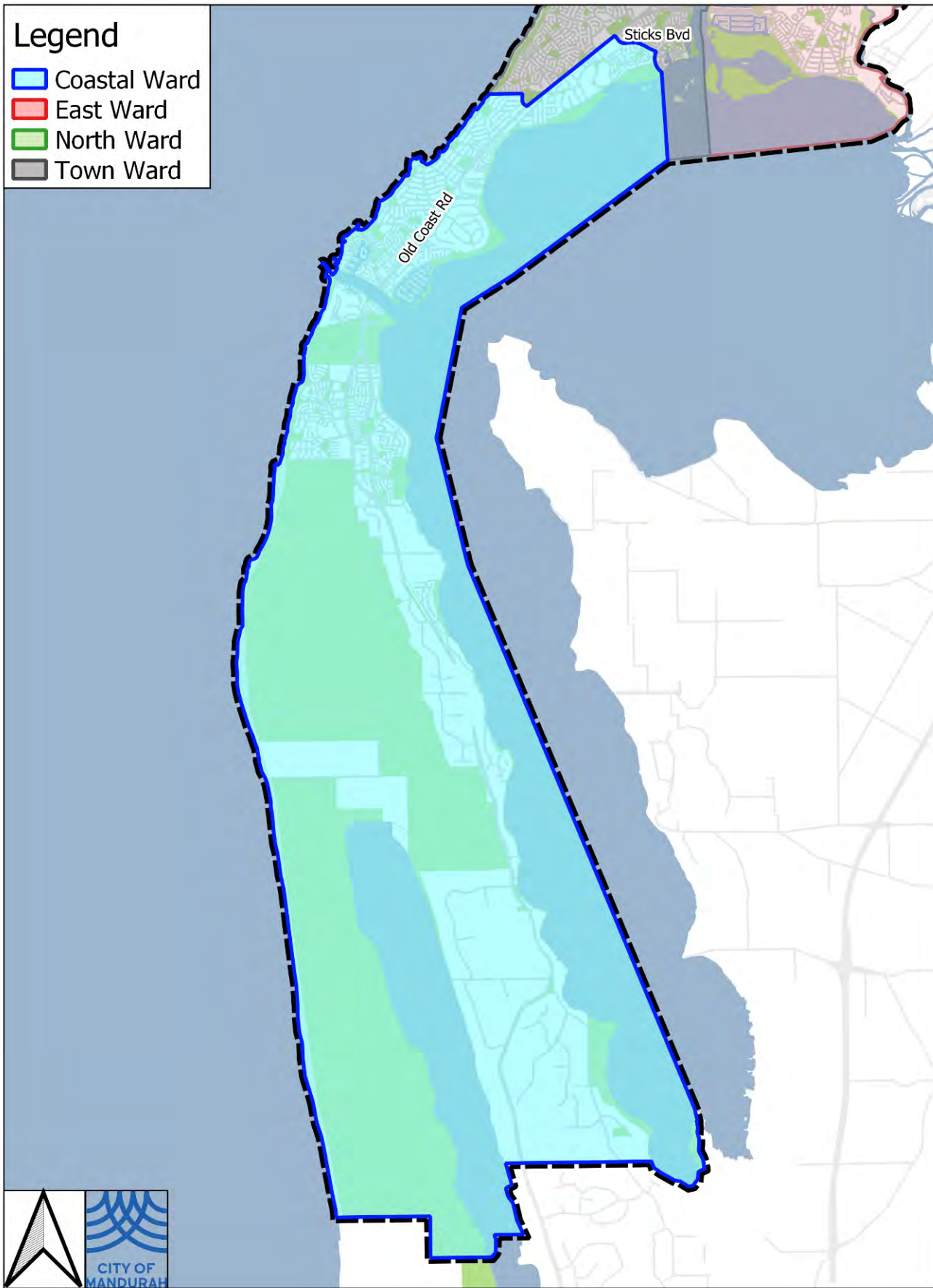
Option 1 - Town Ward Maps



Option 1 - Coastal Ward Maps

Legend

-  Coastal Ward
-  East Ward
-  North Ward
-  Town Ward



Option 1: Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	3	5,618	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	3	5,830	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	3	5,033	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	3	5,926	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	12	5,602	

Note: significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward, therefore a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. This is further explained in the demographic trends of the Option 1 Assessment Factors section below.

Option 1 Assessment Factors

Physical and topographic features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjustment to the East Ward boundary will align, at the Northern and Western sides, to main roads of Gordon Road and Mandurah Road. This adjustment will result in the suburb of Greenfields forming part of East Ward. An additional boundary adjustment will result in the whole suburb of Dudley Park forming part of the East Ward. North Ward boundary will align, at the southern end to Gordon Road and Mandurah Road. This adjustment will place the northern portion of Mandurah in the Town Ward and the southern component of Greenfields in the East Ward. This adjustment will reduce the suburbs in the North Ward from eight to six to include Silver Sands, San Remo, Meadow Springs, Parklands, Madora Bay and Lakelands. Town Ward boundary at the northern end will align to Mandurah Road and Mandurah Terrace resulting in the Mandurah Train station forming part of the Town Ward boundary. The northern end of the Coastal Ward boundary will align with the existing suburb boundary of Halls Head of the Western side and a new boundary of the Eastern side of Sticks Boulevard (Erskine).
Demographic trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Ward population is expected to experience slow growth and low potential for expansion in the coming years and any growth is unlikely to impact on the ratios. Madora Bay North, Lakelands East and Ocean Hill District plans within North Ward is expected to be the largest growth areas which the population forecast to increase by approximately 4,650 new residential dwellings being developed and approximately 13,000 new residents over the next five to ten years. Coastal Ward's population forecast is expected to increase through residential developments in Florida and Melros with a potential increase in approximately 500 dwellings accommodating an additional 1,400 new residents over the next five years. The Mandurah City Centre precinct which includes the suburb of Mandurah has been identified as a significant growth area. It is anticipated through this regeneration and redevelopment of the inner Mandurah area, approximately 8,455 new dwellings will be created,

	however this increase will unlikely impact on this ward review and could take decades to be realised.
Economic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the close proximity to the Town Ward, a portion of the northern end of Erskine, which includes the Boundary Island Brewery would form part of the Town Ward. • The southern end of Mandurah, located between Mandurah Terrace, Mandurah Road and Allnutt Street (currently in North Ward) contains commercial, residential and transport (Mandurah Train Station). It is proposed that these areas form part of the Town Ward. This area is in close proximity to the City Centre.
Community of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The boundary adjustment will result in the Murdoch University Mandurah Campus forming part of the East Ward (currently North Ward). There are clear synergies with the University Campus specialises in health courses including Nursing and postgraduate Counselling-Creative Arts Therapies. Bortolo Pavilion, Greenfields will also form part of the East Ward. Foundation Christian College would form part of East Ward (currently North Ward). • North Mandurah Primary School and Mandurah High School would form part of Town Ward (currently North Ward). • There are no other significant impacts to the other boundary adjustments.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Option 1 be eliminated from further consideration.

Whilst the community responses also demonstrated support for Option 1, a reduction to the number of Councillors may enable the decision-making process be more effective and efficient. The reduction will also provide cost efficiencies for the City and ratepayers, saving approximately \$42,000⁸ per Councillor per annum.

Option 2 – Four wards, 8 Councillors

Option 2 is the recommended option.

Option 2 Overview

- 8 Councillors with a transition period, where the 2023 Local Government Election reduces the representation to 10 (reducing North and Coastal to a total of two councillors between 2023-2025 and only one seat at the 2023 election is vacant) and the final adjustment is made at the 2025 Local Government Election where the representation reduces to 8 (reducing the East Ward and Town Ward to a total of two councillors and only one seat at the 2025 election is vacant).
- Four Ward System (North, East, Town and Coastal)

⁸ 2022/23 Councillor Sitting Fee \$32,470; ICT Allowance \$3,500; Training Allocation \$4,000; Home Office \$125; Clothing \$500; Mileage/travel \$1,405

- Adjustments to the boundaries to rectify the imbalance of councillor to elector ratio – as per Option 1 Ward Maps

Option 2 - Ratio of Councillors to Electors				
Ward Name	No of electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio	% Ratio deviation
Coastal Ward	16,855	2	8,428	-0.29%
East Ward	17,489	2	8,745	-4.07%
North Ward	15,099	2	7,550	10.15%
Town Ward	17,779	2	8,890	-5.79%
Totals	67,222	8	8,403	

Note: significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward, therefore a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. This is further explained in the demographic trends of the Option 2 Assessment Factors section below.

Option 2 Assessment Factors

Refer to Option 1 Assessment Factors.

Recommendation

Option 2 is the recommended option. Option 2 retains the current four ward system, reduces the Councillors to 8 and provides for a boundary adjustment.

A summary of the recommendation is below:

Retaining the ward system

The District of Mandurah covers 173 square kilometres and is 50km long and stretches from Madora Bay and Lakelands in the north to Herron and Clifton in the south. The need to maintain relevance with a large geographical boundary may place a burden on councillors when fulfilling their duties to the community. The current four Ward System enables Councillors to represent their Wards and develop an understanding of local issues within their geographic Ward area. Notwithstanding section 2.10 of the Act requires Councillors to represent the interests of electors, ratepayers and residents in the district, not just their particular ward.

The community consultation process strongly supported a ward structure similar to that which already exists, with 81% supporting the Ward System.

The **advantage** of a ward system includes:

- Councillors may be more accessible to electors of the Ward they represent.
- Different sectors of the community can be represented ensuring a good spread of representation and interests amongst elected members.
- There is potentially more opportunity for elected members to have a greater knowledge and interest in the issues in their ward.
- It may be easier for a candidate to be elected if they only need to canvass one ward.

Reducing to 8 Councillors

53% (34 out of 64) of the submissions supported a reduction to the Councillor representation levels, noting that 24 out of 64 supported Option 2 (reduction to 8 Councillors), 2 supported Option 4 (10 Councillors/no Ward System), 5 supported Option 5 (8 councillors/no Ward System) and 3 other options suggested by the community proposed a reduction. This was marginally higher than the responses to retain the current levels with 47% of the public submissions (30 out of 64) supported the Council retaining 12 Councillors.

The **advantages** of a reduction in the number of elected members include the following:

- The decision-making process may be more effective and efficient if the number of elected members is reduced.
- Cost efficiencies for the City and ratepayers, saving approximately \$42,000⁹ per Councillor per annum.
- Fewer elected members are more readily identifiable to the community.
- Fewer positions on Council may lead to greater interest in elections with contested elections and those elected obtaining a greater level of support from the community.

If this option is supported it is recommended that there be a reduction to the Councillor representation levels over two Local Government Elections. This will enable the Council to transition from 12 to 10 at the 2023 Local Government Election and finalise the reduction to 8 at the 2025 Local Government Election.

This approach will provide Council and community time to adjust to the representation levels over a transition period and reduce the immediate impact on elector to councillor ratios. Following the full transition to elector to Councillor Ratio will be 1:8,403, which is considered reasonable for the City of Mandurah, particularly given the retention of the Ward System which enables Councillors to represent their wards at a local level.

Boundary Adjustment

As significant growth is forecasted for the North Ward a ratio marginally greater than 10% (10.15%) is proposed for this Ward. Refer to Option 1 Assessment Factors for detailed information supporting the adjustment.

No Ward Systems (Options 3 – 5)

A no Ward System provides for all Councillors to be elected by all constituents. These Councillors represent all electors across the entire local government district.

The **advantages** of a no ward system may include:

- Elected members are elected by the whole community not just a section of it. Knowledge and interest in all areas of the Council's affairs would result in broadening the views beyond the immediate concerns of those in a ward.

⁹ 2022/23 Councillor Sitting Fee \$32,470; ICT Allowance \$3,500; Training Allocation \$4,000; Home Office \$125; Clothing \$500; Mileage/travel \$1,405

- Members of the community who want to approach an elected member can speak to any elected member.
- Social networks and communities of interest are often spread across a local government and elected members may have a broader overview and understanding of these.
- Elected members can use their specialty skills and knowledge for the benefit of the whole local government.
- There is balanced representation with each elected member representing the whole community.
- The election process is much simpler for the community to understand and for the council to administer.

The **disadvantages** of a no ward system may include:

- Electors may feel that they are not adequately represented if they don't have an affinity with any of the elected members.
- Elected members living in a certain area may have a greater affinity and understanding of the issues specific to that area.
- There is potential for an interest group to dominate the Council.
- Elected members may feel overwhelmed by having to represent all electors and may not have the time or opportunity to understand and represent all the issues.
- It may be more difficult and costly for candidates to be elected if they need to canvass the whole local government area.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Options 3, 4 and 5 be eliminated from further consideration.

Based on the feedback from the community, the majority of the submissions (81%) support the current ward system.

Reduction in Councillor Representation

[As outlined above.](#)

Option 3 – No wards, 12 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 3 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 3 Overview

- 12 Councillors
- No Wards

Option 3 - Ratio of Councillors to electors

Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	12	1:5,602

Option 4 – No wards, 10 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 4 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 4 Overview

- 10 Councillors
- 10 Councillors with no transition period, resulting in 10 councillors at the 2023 Local Government Election
- No Wards

Option 4 - Ratio of Councillors to electors

Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	10	1:6,722

Option 5 – No Wards, 8 Councillors

It is recommended that Option 5 be eliminated from further consideration.

Option 5 Overview

- 8 Councillors
- 8 Councillors with a transition period, where the 2023 Local Government Election reduces the representation to 10 and the final adjustment is made at the 2025 Local Government Election where the representation reduces to 8.
- No Wards

Option 5 - Ratio of Councillors to electors

Number of Electors	No of councillors	Councillor to elector ratio
67,222	8	1:8,403

Option 3, 4 and 5 Assessment Factors

The assessment factors – community of interest, physical and topographic features, demographic trends and economic factors have not been addressed for Options 3 – 5 as each Councillor would represent the entire Mandurah district, rather than only one Ward.

Recommended Option

At the Council Meeting of 24 January 2023 Council recommended the following:

That Council approve Option 2: Four Wards, 8 Councillors, Boundary Adjustment

***In accordance with clause 9 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, proposes to the Local Government Advisory Board that:**

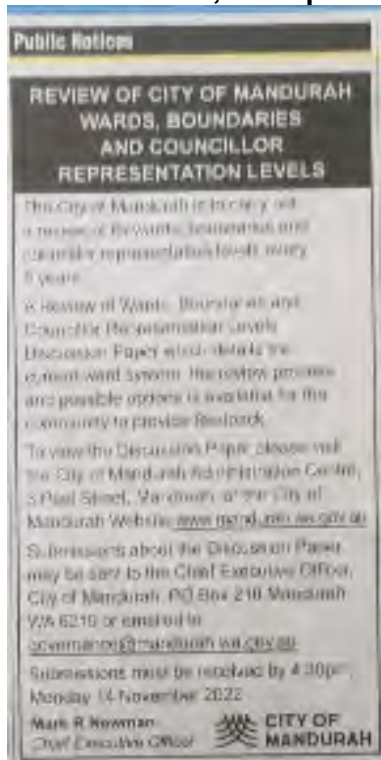
- 1. An order be made under section 2.2(1)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1995* to change the ward boundaries of the City of Mandurah as detailed in Attachment 2.4.**
- 2. An order be made under section 2.18(3) of the *Local Government Act 1995* to decrease the number of councillors for the City of Mandurah from twelve (12) to eight (8) to take effect over a transition period of two Local Government Elections as set out below:**
 - a. At the 2023 Local Government Election decrease the number of councillors for the City of Mandurah from twelve (12) to ten (10), reducing the North Ward and Coastal Ward to a total of two councillors per Ward between 2023-2025, and only one (1) office for the North Ward and one (1) office for the Coastal Ward at the 2023 Local Government Election is vacant.**
 - b. At the 2025 Local Government Election reduce the East Ward and Town Ward to a total of two councillors and only one (1) office for the East Ward and one (1) office for the Town Ward at the 2025 Local Government Election is vacant.**
- 3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to forward this resolution, the City of Mandurah Final Report as detailed in Attachment 2.4, Attachments 2.1 and 2.2 to the Local Government Advisory Board for its consideration.**

Reference

- Report 2 Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Council Minute (XXXXX)
- Minute Number G.16/9/2022, 27 September 2022, Report 9 Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Council,
- Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper (released)
- Public Submissions on Discussion Paper Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels
- Survey Submission Form, Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels
- Public Notice, social media and community engagement

Public Notice, social media and community engagement

Mandurah Mail, 29 September 2022, Public Notice



City of Mandurah Website, 29 September 2022



CITY OF MANDURAH Live Explore Community Learn Business Council [I want to](#)

Home → Explore → Whats On → News → Review of City of Mandurah wards boundaries and councillor representation levels

Review of City of Mandurah wards, boundaries and councillor representation levels

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR: ALL 🕒 Thursday, 29 September 2022 Share

The City of Mandurah is to carry out a review of its wards, boundaries and councillor representation levels every 8 years.

A Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper which details the current ward system, the review process and possible options is available for the community to provide feedback.

To view the Discussion Paper please visit the City of Mandurah Administration Centre, 3 Peel Street, Mandurah, or the City of Mandurah Website www.mandurah.wa.gov.au

Submissions about the Discussion Paper may be sent to the Chief Executive Officer:

City of Mandurah
PO Box 210
Mandurah WA 6210

or emailed to governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au

Submissions must be received by 4:30pm, Monday 14 November 2022.

Mark R Newman
Chief Executive Officer




City of Mandurah, Mandurah Matters Campaign, Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillors Representation Levels 2022



Home / Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels 2022

Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels 2022



At the Council Meeting 27 September 2022, the City of Mandurah resolved to undertake a review of its Ward system to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1995 (the Act).

Schedule 2.2 of the Act requires local governments with Wards to carry out reviews of their Ward boundaries and the number of Councillors for each Ward from time to time, so that no more than eight years elapse between successive reviews.

Council has developed a [Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Levels Discussion Paper](#) which details the current ward system, the review process and possible options is available for the community to provide feedback.

Have Your Say Mandurah

Public submissions closed on Monday 14 November 2022. Thank you to everyone who submitted feedback.

Ward Review Submission

Ward Review Submission

The City of Mandurah invites the community to consider the [Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Level Discussion Paper](#) which looks at the current ward system and councillor representation levels and possible options for change.

This Discussion Paper outlines five options which have been developed to encourage discussion and input from the community. It should be noted that the options presented do not represent all possible options, and through this Discussion Paper the City is seeking input from the community on the options set out within, or suggestions for an alternative.

You need to be signed in to take this survey

[SIGN IN](#) [REGISTER](#)

Page last updated: 17 Nov 2022, 03:02 PM

Review Documents

- Ward Review Discussion Paper.pdf (5.09 MB) (pdf)
- Current City of Mandurah Ward Map - Community Consultation.pdf (1.1 MB) (pdf)
- Proposed Ward Boundary Maps - Option 1 & 2 - Public consultation.pdf (2.82 MB) (pdf)
- Survey Submission Form - Hard copy docx (221 KB) (docx)

- Council resolved to undertake a review of the ward, boundaries and Councillor representation levels**
Meeting held Tuesday 27 September 2022
- Public Consultation Opens Thursday 29 September**
Public consultation is open for submissions.
- Sunday 16 October - Public Consultation at the Wearable Art Festival**
Please come along and discuss the review, ask questions and complete the survey.
- Public Consultation Period Closes - 14 November 2022**
Closing at 4.30pm
- Final report**
The final outcomes of the consultation are reported to Council so that a recommendation may be made to the Local Government Advisory Board.
- Implementation of Ministers decision before the 2023 October Election**

Social Media Posts

City of Mandurah
Published by Brandwatch · 9 November 2022

Mandurah has come a long way since becoming a city in 1990... From a quiet fishing town, to WA's largest city outside of the Perth metro area. 🇺🇦 🇵🇹

We are reviewing the existing Ward boundaries & Councillor representation to ensure that it reflects Mandurah's growth & the communities needs.

There are currently 4 Wards represented by 12 Councillors & a popularly elected Mayor. You can have your say on the following options as part of the review:

- 4 wards, 12 OR 8 Councillors & adjusted boundaries
- No wards, 12, 10 OR 8 Councillors representing whole community

✓ Have your say before 14 November here <https://fal.cn/2trkQ>

■ Community members captured at our epic Kanyana Weekend event in 2021



City of Mandurah
Published by Brandwatch · 23 October 2022

Hey Mandurah, have your say on the current area Wards, boundaries & Councillor representation 🇺🇦 🇵🇹 <https://fal.cn/3eYUM>

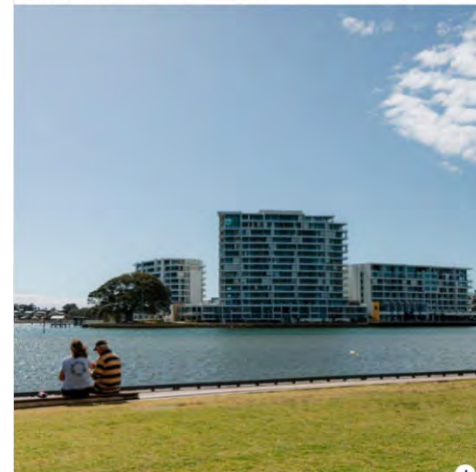
Mandurah's come a long way since becoming a city in 1990 & with this growth we're reviewing the existing ward boundaries & number of Councillors representing our community 🇺🇦 🇵🇹

At the moment we have 4 Wards, made up of a Mayor & 12 Councillors. They provide leadership to the community & help deliver on the shared vision for Mandurah.

Have your say before November 14 on the following options:

- 4 Wards, 12 Councillors & adjusted boundaries
- 4 Wards, 8 Councillors & adjusted boundaries
- No Wards, 12 Councillors representing whole community
- No Wards, 10 Councillors representing whole community
- No Wards, 8 Councillors representing whole community

✓ Find out more & have your say at <https://fal.cn/3eY8u>



Content performance 1 Filters

DATE	POSTS	REACH	NEGATIVE FEEDBACK	SHARES	CLICKS	ENGAGEMENTS
	2	6.72K	2	4	225	56
9 Nov 7:31 AM	 Mandurah has come a long way since becoming a city... City of Mandurah ORG. EXCELLENCE + 3 more	3.5K	1	3	46	26
23 Oct 1:45 PM	 Hey Mandurah, have your say on the current area War... City of Mandurah ward review	3.2K	1	1	179	30

Newspaper advertisement

Hey Mandurah, have your say!

City of Mandurah Wards, Boundaries & Councillor representation.

Mandurah has come a long way since becoming a city in 1990, and with this growth and changes over time we are reviewing the existing Ward boundaries and number of Councillors representing our community.

There are currently four Wards represented by twelve Councillors and a popularly elected Mayor. The Mayor and Councillors provide leadership to the community and help deliver on the shared vision for Mandurah.

Your input will ensure that the Ward system and Councillor representation levels best suit Mandurah and the community.

See more details on the review at www.mandurahmatters.com.au


Have your say on the following options or make your own suggestion:

1. Four Wards, 12 Councillors and adjusted boundaries
2. Four Wards, 8 Councillors and adjusted boundaries
3. No Wards, 12 Councillors representing whole community
4. No Wards, 10 Councillors representing whole community
5. No Wards, 8 Councillors representing whole community

Submissions close at 4.30pm, Monday 14 November, 2022 and can be made by:

 Online survey

 Email to governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au

 Deliver in person to the City of Mandurah Administration Building (3 Peel St)

Scan me for details or to complete survey



Please note, it is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1995 that local governments with Wards must carry out reviews of Ward boundaries and the number of Councillors for each ward, every eight years.



Community Engagement

Ward Review Information Stand, City of Mandurah Arts Festival, Saturday 16 October 2022



Survey Submission Form

The City of Mandurah invites the community to consider the [Review of Wards, Boundaries and Councillor Representation Level Discussion Paper](#) which looks at the current ward system and councillor representation levels and possible options for change.

The Discussion Paper outlines five options which have been developed to encourage discussion and input from the community. It should be noted that the options presented do not represent all possible options, and through this Discussion Paper the City is seeking input from the community on the options set out within, or suggestions for an alternative.

The five options outlined in the Discussion Paper are:

- Option 1 – Four Wards, 12 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 2 – Four Wards, 8 Councillors (boundary adjustment)
- Option 3 – No Wards, 12 Councillors
- Option 4 – No Wards, 10 Councillors
- Option 5 – No Wards, 8 Councillors

Please complete your submission and return to the City of Mandurah:

- Via email to governance@mandurah.wa.gov.au; or
- hand delivered to the City of Mandurah Administration Building located at 3 Peel St, Mandurah; or
- posted to PO Box 210, Mandurah, WA 6210.

Submissions must be received by 4:30pm, Monday 14 November 2022.

Submission

Your Contact Details			
Name:		Last Name:	
Address:			
Email:			
If you are submitting on behalf of an resident's association:			
Name of the association:			
Which ward do you current reside in or represent?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal	<input type="checkbox"/> East	<input type="checkbox"/> North	<input type="checkbox"/> Town

Please review the Discussion Paper prior to completing the survey.

Survey Questions
Question 1: Please rank the options in order of preference:

Option 1: Four Wards, 12 Councillors (boundary adjustment)		Please number from 1 to 6. (1 being your most preferred option and 6 being your least preferred)
Option 2: Four Wards, 8 Councillors (boundary adjustment)		
Option 3: No Wards, 12 Councillors		
Option 4: No Wards, 10 Councillors		
Option 5: No Wards, 8 Councillors		
Option 6: New suggestion		
<i>Please provide comments as to why this is your preferred ranking and/or details of your new suggestion (option 6):</i>		
<p>The following questions are about the proposed boundary adjustments – Options 1 & 2 Options 1 & 2 sets out the proposed boundary adjustments to balance the representation levels of councillors to electors between wards. Proposed wards maps are included in the discussion paper for your reference</p>		
Question 2: Do you support the proposed boundary adjustment as detailed in the proposed ward maps for option 1 and 2?		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Question 3: Do you have any comments or alternative suggestions for how the City might structure its boundaries and why?		
<p>The following question is in relation to Councillor Representation Levels. The City is currently represented by 12 Councillors and a Mayor.</p>		
Question 4: Do you support: <i>(Please choose)</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased level of councillor representation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decreased level of councillor representation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillor representation to remain the same	
<i>Please state your reason why:</i>		
Question 5: In the past 12 months have you contacted a Councillor about a local matter?		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
Question 6: <i>If answered yes to question:</i> Did the Councillor represent the Ward that you live in?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	I contacted my local Ward Councillor	<input type="checkbox"/> I contacted Councillors both in my Ward and outside

<input type="checkbox"/>	I contacted a Councillor outside of my Ward	<input type="checkbox"/>	I don't know
The following question is in relation to the ward system.			
Question 7: Do you support maintain the current 4 Ward System:			
<input type="checkbox"/> YES		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<i>Please state your reason why:</i>			
Question 8: What are the advantages of a Ward System? Choose which applies:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors are more accessible to me (e.g. I know who to contact in my Ward when I have a matter to raise)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors in my Ward have a greater knowledge of the community they represent		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors in my Ward understand the challenges and issues associated with my Ward		
<i>Other Comments:</i>			
Question 9: What are the disadvantages of a Ward System? Choose which applies:			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors may become too focused on their Wards and less focused on the affairs of the City as a whole		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Councillors may compete for their Wards, resulting in an unfair distribution of services and facilities		
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Wards do not reflect my community (ie suburb or community that I belong to)		
<i>Other Comments:</i>			
Question 10: Do you have any other feedback on the Ward Review?			
<i>Comments:</i>			