



# Ward and Representation Review

Discussion Paper  
2022/2023





**Acknowledgement of Country**

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners, the Whadjuk Noongar People as the Custodians of this land. We also pay respect to all Aboriginal community Elders, past, present and future who have and continue to reside in the area and have been an integral part of the history of this region.

*Artwork by Aurora Abraham, Rainbow Bee Eater*



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## INTRODUCTION

The State Government as part of a major review of the *Local Government Act 1995*, has recently announced significant changes with respect to councillor numbers and the method of election of the Mayor/President for some local governments.

The minimum/maximum number of councillors will now be determined by population and for local governments within the Band 1 or 2 classifications, the Mayor/President must be elected by the electors of the district.

Councillor numbers permitted by population bands are:

- Up to 5,000 – 5 councillors (including the President).
- Between 5,000 and 75,000 – 5 to 9 councillors (including the Mayor/President)
- Above 75,000 – 9 to 15 councillors (including the Mayor)

Consequently, the City of Kalamunda (City) which is classified as a band 2 local government and has a current population nearing 61,000, can now only have a minimum of 5 and maximum of 8 councillors plus a Mayor elected by the electors.

The City currently operates under a four-ward structure.

1. North Ward
2. North West Ward
3. South West ward
4. South East Ward

To ensure there is no imbalance in the number of electors per councillor between the wards and the number of councillors for the City, as well as each ward, meets the legislative requirements and is appropriate for providing proper governance and community representation across the district, the City is reviewing its wards and representative structure.

Currently the City's four (4) electoral wards have been electing three (3) councillors. The Mayor is elected by the councillors.

Council last reviewed its wards and representation in November 2016.

The review is being carried out in accordance with clause 6 of Schedule 2.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and will assess the appropriateness of: -

- the current ward boundaries.
- the number of councillors representing each ward.

## AN OVERVIEW OF OUR COMMUNITY

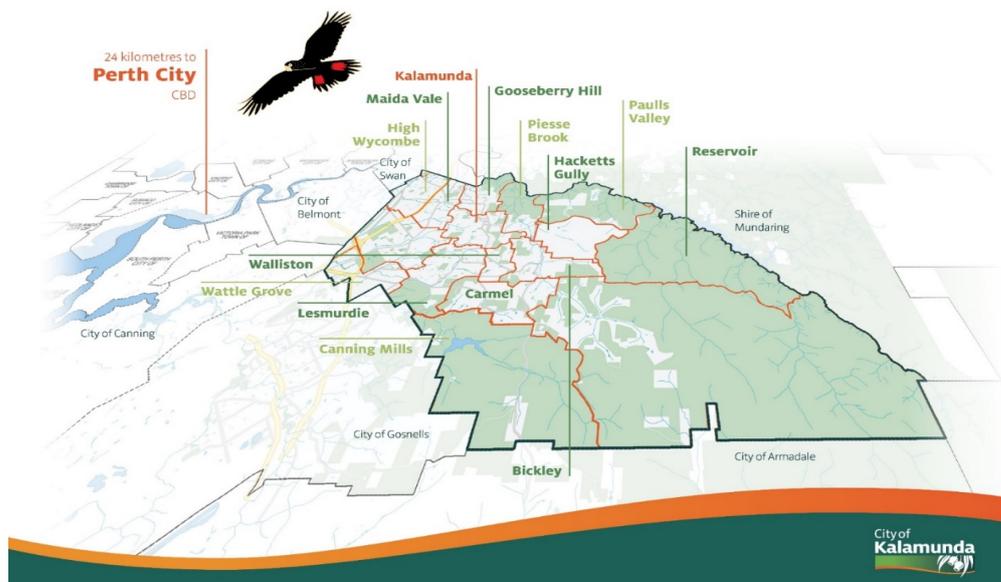
The City of Kalamunda is approximately 24 kilometres (under 30 minute drive) from Perth’s CBD, located in the foothills of Perth’s eastern suburbs and part of the Darling Ranges. The area features natural bushland, amazing views, and beautiful countryside. With a long history, proud artistic identity, fresh produce, and an abundance of recreational opportunities such as bush walks and mountain bike trails, the City of Kalamunda offers a unique lifestyle for its residents.

Geographically, the City is made up of three distinct areas:

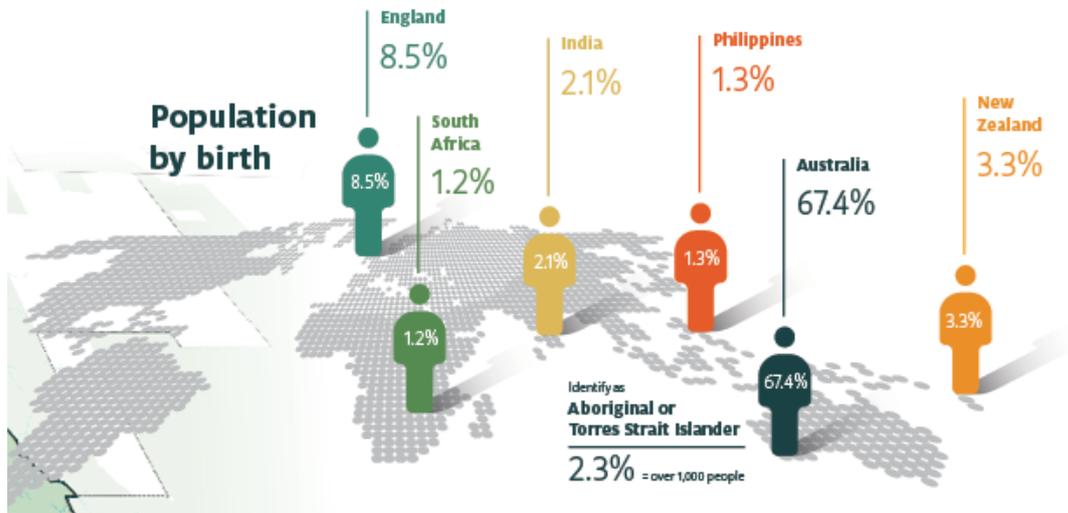
- The Foothills/Plains: Forrestfield, High Wycombe, Maida Vale and Wattle Grove
- The Escarpment: Lesmurdie, Kalamunda and Gooseberry Hill
- The Eastern Rural Districts: Walliston, Bickley, Carmel, Pickering Brook, Piesse Brook, Pauls Valley, Hacketts Gully and Canning Mills

The name Kalamunda comes from local Aboriginal words **Cala** (home or fire) and **Munnda** (forest – also associated with Munday – the fire of Munday). The City of Kalamunda is located in Perth’s south-eastern suburbs, about 24 kilometres from the Perth CBD. The City of Kalamunda is bounded by the City of Swan in the north, the Shire of Mundaring in the east, the Cities of Armadale and Gosnells in the south, and the Cities of Canning and Belmont in the west.

The City of Kalamunda Estimated Resident Population for 2021 is 60,803, with a population density of 187.6 persons per square km. The land area within the boundaries of the City is 324 square kilometres



The City of Kalamunda is located in Perth's south-eastern suburbs, about 24 kilometres from the Perth CBD.



City of Kalamunda - Households (Enumerated)	2021			2016			Change
	Number	%	Greater Perth %	Number	%	Greater Perth %	
Total dwellings	23,340	100.0	100.0	22,786	100.0	100.0	+554
Occupied private dwellings	21,938	94.0	91.7	21,097	92.6	89.4	+841
Population in non-private dwellings	723			746	--	--	-23
Average household size (persons per dwelling)	3		2.5	3	--	--	-0

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2016 and 2021 (Enumerated).  
 Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id (informed decisions).  
<http://www.id.com.au>

In 2021, the largest age group in City of Kalamunda was 10 to 14 year olds. The group that changed the most since 2016 was 70 to 74 year olds, increasing by 813 people.

The Age Structure of City of Kalamunda provides key insights into the level of demand for age based services and facilities such as child care. It is also an indicator of City of Kalamunda's residential role and function and how it is likely to change in the future.

The following chart shows the comparison of the City's population against greater Perth.



**Employment**

**The predominant sectors are:**

- Freight and Logistics
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Professional
- Scientific
- Technical

**Rural land use consists of:**

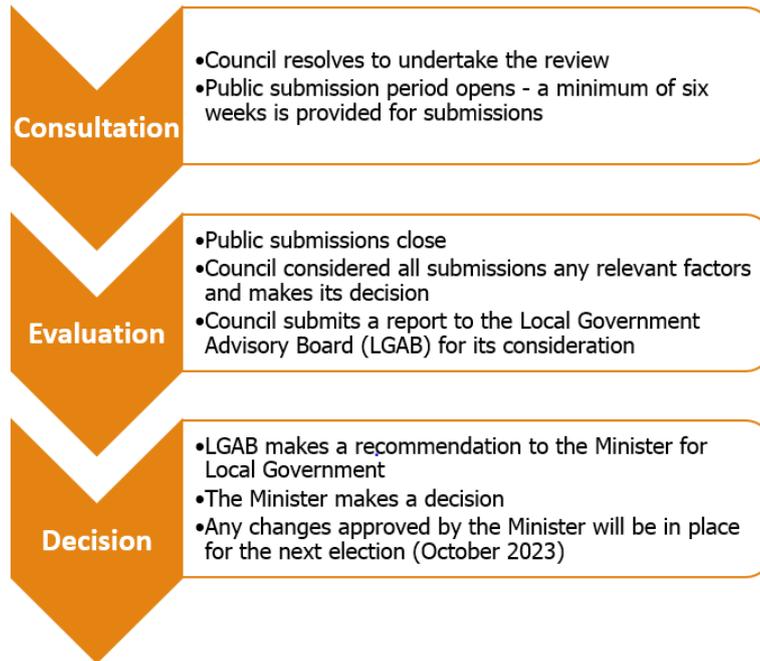
- Orchards
- Wineries and Cideries
- Horticulture
- Grazing
- Animal Agistment
- Tourism Enterprises



## REVIEW PROCESS

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

It involves several steps as follows:



## ROLE OF THE DISCUSSION PAPER

This discussion paper has been developed to assist the community in considering proposals and ideas. The paper outlines several options which have been developed to encourage discussion. The City is not promoting any single option and is open to alternative proposals from the community.

The City, in discussion with Council, has based the proposals outlined in this paper on having the allowable maximum of 8 councillors. This was considered based on the size of the City, the population and current workloads of councillors. External committees and advisory committees are numerous and often councillors are attending meetings and events up to 3 nights a week. Community and civic events, requiring councillor participation, occur frequently and community groups hold an expectation that councillors will attend their events.

Whilst the Council can have a minimum of 5 councillors it is viewed that any outcome other than 8 councillors is considered not practicable from a community engagement and workload perspective. Notwithstanding this view, the City through the public consultation phase is interested to hear the community's view on councillor representation and how many councillors would be appropriate under the new requirements.

Residents, ratepayers, and businesses within the City are encouraged to review the discussion paper and provide feedback on the options presented. You do not have to limit submissions to the options presented in this document, if you have a different option, please make a submission. Council will consider all submissions received and will then decide on ward boundaries and elected member representation levels. Any Council supported changes to the current structure will then be submitted to the Local Government Advisory Board (LGAB) and Minister for approval.

A submission form is provided at the end of this document for your convenience. You do not have to use this form if you would prefer to make your submission in another manner.

**All submissions must be received by  
5pm Friday 20 January 2023.**

Your submission can be lodged by any of the following methods –

Complete online: [engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au](https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au)

Hand delivery to the City Administration Office, 2 Railway Road, KALAMUNDA or any of the City of Kalamunda Libraries or Recreation Centres

By mail to City of Kalamunda PO Box 42, KALAMUNDA WA 6926

By Email [kaya@kalamunda.wa.gov.au](mailto:kaya@kalamunda.wa.gov.au)

Online [www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au](https://www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au)

## FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED

The purpose of this review is to evaluate the current arrangements and to consider alternative options to find the system of representation most appropriate and which best suits the characteristics of the City and its residents.

The review may result in any of the following proposals:

- Creating new wards.
- Changing ward boundaries.
- Abolishing any or all wards.
- Changing the name of a ward.
- Changing the number of elected members; and/or
- Specifying or changing the number of offices of elected member for a ward.

When considering changes to wards and representation, schedule 2.2 of the Local Government Act details the factors which must be considered and articulated by a local government as part of the review process.

These factors are:

1. Community of Interest.
2. Physical and topographic features
3. Demographic trends.
4. Economic factors; and
5. Ratio of elected members to electors across the district and in the various wards.

The Local Government Advisory Board interprets the factors to be taken into consideration as follows:

### **1. Community of interest**

The term community of interest has several elements. These include a sense of community identity and belonging, similarities in the characteristics of the residents of a community and similarities in the economic activities. It can also include dependence on the shared facilities in an area as reflected in catchment areas of local schools and sporting facilities and 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. Ideally, suburbs and towns would not be divided between wards.

**2. Physical and topographic 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 as may other man-made features such as railway lines and freeways.

**3. Demographic trends**

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

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

**5. Ratio of Elected Members to Electors in the district and various wards**

It is expected that each local government will have similar ratios of electors to elected members across the wards of its district.

In considering the above five (5) factors within the City, the following commentary is made to provide context.

**Community of interest**

Within the City of Kalamunda, it could be said the larger suburbs are individual communities of interests – Forrestfield, High Wycombe, Maida Vale, Wattle Grove, Gooseberry Hill, Kalamunda and Lesmurdie. Residents within each suburb share community facilities and would identify as being part of that community. The City's less populated suburbs to the east, such as Piesse brook, Paulls Valley, Hacketts Gully, Pickering Brook, Carmel Bickley and parts of Walliston could be grouped together as a separate community, characterised by low-density housing, agricultural activities, and a more 'rural' lifestyle.

Previous Ward Reviews in 2008 and 2016 resulted in these "community of interests" being recognised and boundaries drawn accordingly.



The one notable exception was Maida Vale being split almost in half with part in the North Ward and part in the North West Ward.

The existing ward boundaries were established in 2016 encompass the following suburbs –

*Table 1: Number of electors supplied by the WA Electoral Commission, as at 2016 Ward review*

<b>WARD</b>	<b>SUBURBS INCLUDED</b>	<b>NUMBER OF ELECTORS</b>	
<b>North West</b>	High Wycombe	7,637	
	Maida Vale (portion)	972	
	Forrestfield (portion)	1,230	
		<b>Total 9,839</b>	
<b>South West</b>	Forrestfield (portion)	6,877	
	Wattle Grove	2,660	
	Kewdale	0	
	<b>Total 9,537</b>		
<b>North</b>	Maida Vale (portion)	2,311	
	Kalamunda (portion)	4,355	
	Gooseberry Hill	2,612	
	<b>Total 9,278</b>		
<b>South East</b>	Kalamunda (portion)	858	
	Lesmurdie	5,676	
	Walliston	675	
	Bickley	500	
	Carmel	482	
	Pickering Brook	426	
	Piesse Brook	133	
	Pauls Valley	59	
	Hacketts Gully	35	
	Canning Mills	14	
	Reservoir	0	
	Wattle Grove (portion)	500	
		<b>Total 9,358</b>	
	Total as at 2016		<b>Grand Total 38,012</b>

**See Appendix 1 for a map showing suburb boundaries**

**Key Physical and Topographic Features of the City**

The major waterway of the Helena River forms the boundary between the City of Kalamunda and the Shire of Mundaring. There are several small creeks and waterways within the City, however these are not dominant features in terms of topography.

The dominant physical feature of the City of Kalamunda is the Darling Scarp, which separates the foothills and the hills areas.

The Darling Scarp effectively forms the boundary between the South East and North Wards and the South West and North West Wards. However, the North Ward transcends the natural boundary of the Darling Scarp and includes both foothills (Maida Vale) and hills (Gooseberry Hill and part of Kalamunda) areas. Similarly South East Ward which is largely in the hills region contains South East Wattle Grove.

Major roads are an obvious physical feature which create significant barriers to movement within individual communities. For example, development on either side of Kalamunda Road or Welshpool Road is very similar, so using the road as a boundary would tend to divide a community of interest.

Whilst some of the major roads in the City – Roe Highway, Tonkin Highway, Abernethy Road, Kalamunda Road and Welshpool Road East – form some of the existing City boundaries, they do not form significant parts of the Ward boundaries created in 2008 and re-established in 2016.

**Demographic trends**

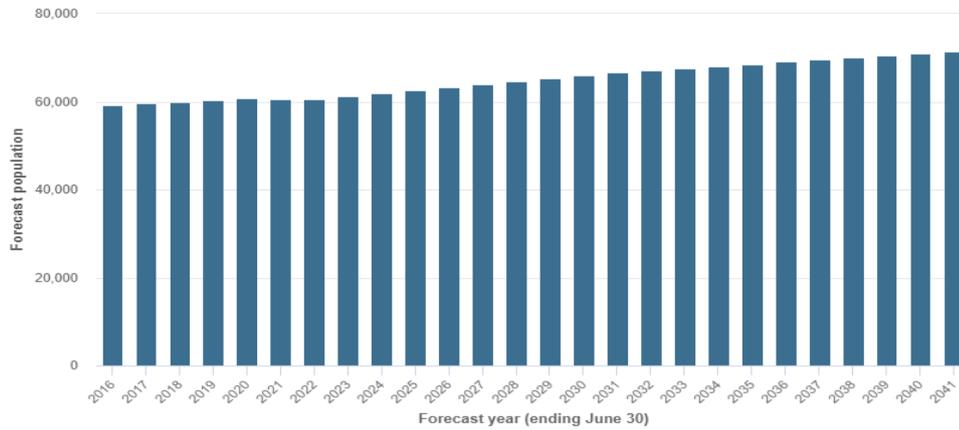
Although the City of Kalamunda will continue to experience significant population growth over the next 10 to 20 years, the variance between suburbs, and consequently wards, will be considerable. This is due to subdivision and development activity that is occurring under the City's Local Planning Strategy in areas such as Wattle Grove, High Wycombe, Forrestfield, and Maida Vale over the coming decade or so.

In considering changes to ward boundaries, current and projected population characteristics will be relevant, as well as similarities and differences between areas within the City.

This review must be carried out based on current elector numbers, rather than predictions, however the potential increase in population is a factor to be taken into consideration. The City of Kalamunda population forecast for 2022 is 60,633 and is forecast to grow to 71,407 by 2041 as shown in the following chart.

### Forecast population

City of Kalamunda



Source: Population and household forecasts, 2016 to 2041, prepared by [id](https://forecast.id.com.au/kalamunda) (informed decisions), February 2021.

(Source: <https://forecast.id.com.au/kalamunda>)

The change in the number of electors between the 2017 election, and the 2021 election for each ward is shown below.

**Table 1**

2017				
Ward	No. of Electors	No. of Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Deviation from Avg.
North West	10,385	3	3,462	-4.23%
South West	9,939	3	3,313	+0.27%
North	9,657	3	3,219	+3.10%
South East	9,881	3	3,294	+0.84%
	<b>39,862</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3,322 Ave.</b>	

**Table 2**

2021				
Ward	No. of Electors	No. of Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Deviation from Avg
North West	11,169	3	3,723	-7.91%
South West	10,386	3	3,462	-0.35%
North	9,822	3	3,274	+5.10%
South East	10,030	3	3,343	+3.10%
	<b>41,407</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3,450 Ave.</b>	

\* Note – a positive deviation indicates that the ward is over-represented – that is, there is less than the average number of electors per Councillor. A negative deviation indicates that the ward is under-represented, with more than the average number of electors per Councillor.

In both the above tables, the number of electors per Councillor in all wards is within the accepted deviation. However, with the number of electors generally increasing much faster in the North West and South West Wards, particularly in the development areas such as Forrestfield, Maida Vale, High Wycombe and Wattle Grove, the deviation from the average is likely to increase with population growth beyond the accepted 10% deviation.

Whilst the numbers of electors in the North and South-East Wards have remained reasonably constant since the last boundary adjustments in 2008 and in 2016, the numbers of electors in the North-West and South West wards have increased significantly. This is due to subdivision and development activity in areas such as Forrestfield, High Wycombe, and Wattle Grove.

The 2008 and 2016 reviews which established current ward boundaries provided a framework for harmonising demographic trends within the City at those times. In 2022 it may be viewed as that things are different and other structures may better serve the City of Kalamunda into the future.

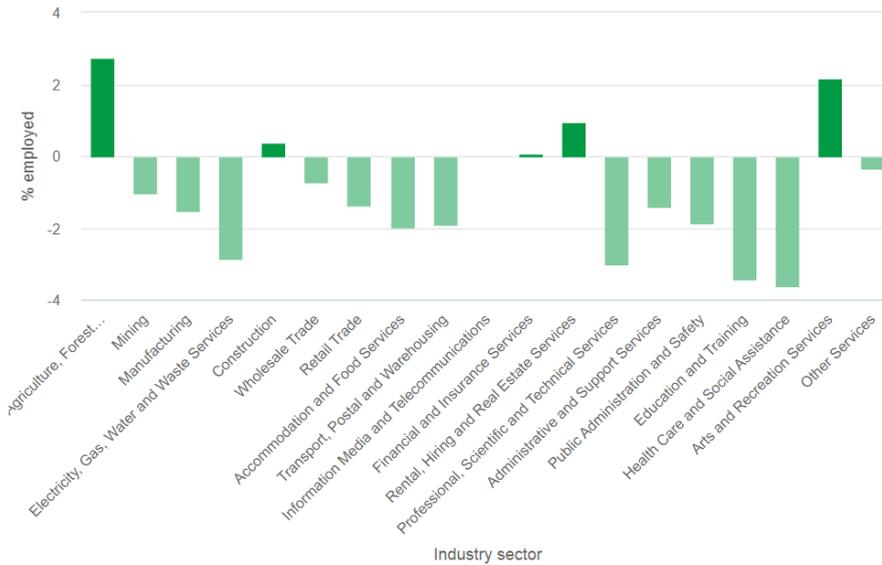
### **Economic factors**

Except for many of the eastern and south-eastern suburbs, the City of Kalamunda is largely defined as a “dormitory” suburb, that is, an area where most people reside but travel out of to their place of employment. Around 60% of workers from the City travel out each day. The eastern/south-eastern suburbs differ as it has been a rural and fruit growing of State-wide significance.

Of the 16,325 local workers in the City of Kalamunda, 6,638 or 40.7% also live in the area. In 2021, 23.0% of the City of Kalamunda’s resident workers were employed locally. Self-containment measures the proportion of resident workers who are employed within the boundaries of the Local Government Area or region.

The noteworthy change in the City’s employment profile is that more industry segments have reduced in self-containment with agriculture, arts and recreation services being the only sectors growing in numbers where people who live in the City are working in local jobs.

The following chart change in self-containment since 2016 to 2021.



More details about Journey to Work (workers) data can be found on the City's website at:- <https://economy.id.com.au/kalamunda/workers-place-of-residence-industry>  
 This data shows the degree to which the local economy draws on the wider region to supply labour for its industries. It is also useful in planning and advocacy for roads and public transport provision.

In the City of Kalamunda 54.6% of the local workers (All industries) are males and 45.4% are female.

The local workers are made up of all the people who are employed in the local area, regardless of where they live. This results in the self-sufficiency rate.

Local workers statistics reveal how the characteristics of the local workers in the City of Kalamunda vary between each industry sector and indicates specific industry sector local workers requirements and employment opportunities.

The City of Kalamunda's Gross Regional Product is estimated at \$2.73 billion, which represents 0.85% of the state's GSP (Gross State Product).

The Construction industry had the largest number of total registered businesses in City of Kalamunda, comprising 20.6% of all total registered businesses, compared to 17.2% in Western Australia.

An analysis of the jobs held by the local workers in the City of Kalamunda in 2020/21 shows the three largest industries were:

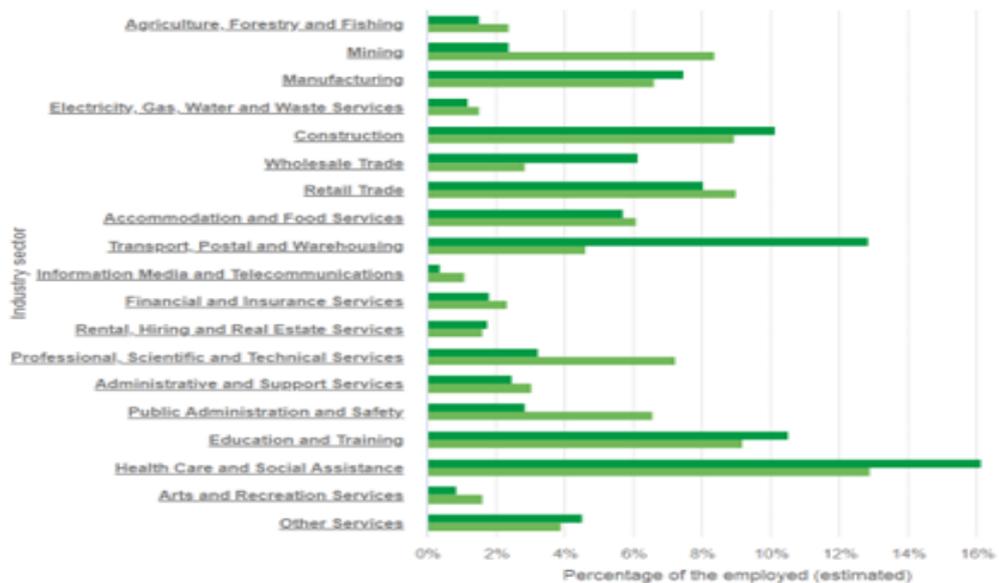
1. Health Care and Social Assistance (2,933 people or 16.1%)
2. Transport, Postal and Warehousing (2,334 people or 12.8%)
3. Education and Training (1,911 people or 10.5%)

In combination these three industries accounted for 7,179 people in total or 39.5% of the local workers.

In comparison, Western Australia employed 12.9% in Health Care and Social Assistance; 4.6% in Transport, Postal and Warehousing and 9.2% in Education and Training. The major differences between the jobs held by local workers of the City of Kalamunda and Western Australia were:

- A larger percentage of local workers employed in the field of Transport, Postal and Warehousing (12.8% compared to 4.6%)
- A smaller percentage of local workers employed in the field of Mining (2.4% compared to 8.4%)
- A smaller percentage of local workers employed in the field of Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (3.3% compared to 7.2%)
- A smaller percentage of local workers employed in the field of Public Administration and Safety (2.8% compared to 6.6%)

The following chart shows employment by industry in 2021 compared to greater Perth.

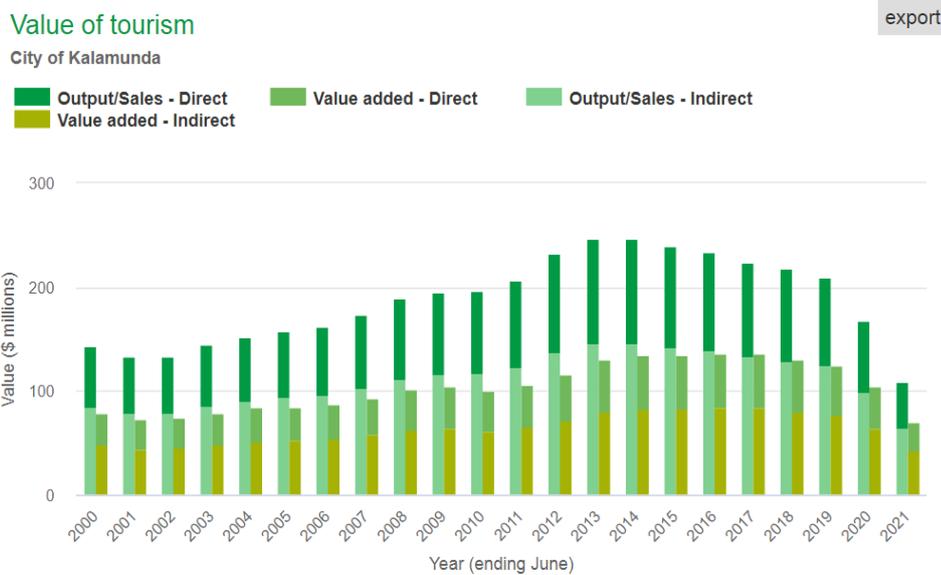


Kalamunda Perth

To see the more detailed information about businesses within the City of Kalamunda go to:- <https://economy.id.com.au/kalamunda/number-of-businesses-by-industry>.

**The Tourism Sector**

The tourism sector is largely concentrated within the Perth Hills and whilst it was growth sector in the past decade the past few years has seen a decline in output likely due to the impacts of COVID 19.



Across the City can be seen discreet pockets of industry and business operating. For example:

**North West Ward -High Wycombe and Maida vale**

High Wycombe has a substantial share of light industry in its east west pocket. Being adjacent an airport it is reasonable for such industry to operate. Within the residential areas are found commercial services operating to service the local communities.

**South West Ward - Forrestfield and Wattle Grove**

South West ward has a similar profile as to North West Ward. Central to Forrestfield is the Forrestfield Activity Centre. This centre is the one of two activity centres within the City. The other being the Kalamunda Townsite.

Although there is significant economic impact for the City generated by the industrial development areas of Access Park (South-West/North-West Wards) and the newly developed adjacent Forrestfield Light industrial area, there are very few electors within these areas and would therefore not justify being a stand- alone ward.

**North Ward - Kalamunda**

Kalamunda is one of two activity centres within the City. It is recognised as a tourist destination and has a long history in this regard. The Kalamunda Townsite has recently been expanded under the Kalamunda Activity Centre Plan and is undergoing re-development and revitalisation. The traditional, as well as emerging small businesses, in the area of arts, markets, local produce and designs supports the tourism industry and the flow on effects of visitation then support other local businesses.

**South East – the Rural Hinterlands**

It is understood from our fruit growers the industry is under immense pressure. To counteract the pressures many rural landowners have diversified. Restaurants, cellar doors, wineries, fresh market gardens, event destinations, short stay accommodation etc. are emerging and the Perth Hills is re-inventing itself to take on the challenges and opportunities of the tourism industry.

There has been a steady increase in agricultural related tourism in the rural suburbs, over the past decade particularly Bickley, Carmel and Pickering Brook, as established agricultural properties diversify into value-added products and accommodation. In 2020/21, the total tourism sales in the City of Kalamunda was \$109.7m, the total value added was \$69.7 million however there has been little change in the population for these individual suburbs.

Other small pockets of commercial/industrial development are found in the hills region notably the Walliston Industrial Park.

Community Assets Overview

Community assets are reasonably distributed throughout the City with larger facilities concentrated in the areas of highest population.

Community assets include sporting reserves, parks, community and cultural centres and recreation centres.

Ward	Major Community Assets
North Ward	Kalamunda Sporting Precinct Maida vale reserve Ledger Reserve Gooseberry Hill Kalamunda Community centre Stirk District park Kalamunda Performing Arts Centre Zig Zag Visitors centre Kalamunda library Kalamunda water park Kalamunda tennis reserve

Ward	Major Community Assets
North West Ward	Scott Reserve Sporting precinct High Wycombe Recreation centre Range View Tennis and Sporting Reserve High Wycombe Library Cyril Road Community centre Fleming District park' Elmore Dog park Jacaranda Springs park Gladys Newton Nature park
South West Ward	Hartfield Park sporting reserve Hartfield Park recreation centre Woodlupine Community centre Forrestfield Library Forrestfield Hall Forrestfield Skate park Wattle Grove nature playground Anderson Road Community centre
South East Ward	Ray Owen Sporting Reserve Pickering Brooke Sporting reserve Anderson Road Park Bill Shaw Park Lesmurdie hall Lesmurdie Library Lesmurdie Men's Shed Lesmurdie tennis reserve Williston Transfer station

The City also has around 50 community facilities that are leased by various community groups. The total asset base of the City is currently approaching \$541mil.

#### **Ratio of councillors to electors**

The Local Government Advisory Board judges this to be the most important factor to consider in formalising proposals for changes in representation.

The Board believes that as far as practicable the principle of 'one vote, one value' should be applied.

The Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries requires that the ratio of electors per Councillor is within plus or minus 10% of the average ratio for the City.

As of 30 September 2022, there were 41,675 electors in the City. With 12 Councillors, the average is 3,473 electors per Councillor. The individual ward statistics are shown in the following table:

*Table 2: Number of electors supplied by the WA Electoral Commission, as at 30 September 2022 residents electoral roll)*

Ward	Number of Electors	Number of Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Deviation from Average *
North West	11,369	3	3,790	-9.13%
South West	10,473	3	3,491	-0.52%
North	9,797	3	3,266	+5.96%
South East	10,036	3	3,345	+3.68%
	<b>41,675</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3,473 Ave.</b>	

\* Note – a positive deviation indicates that the ward is over-represented – that is, there is less than the average number of electors per Councillor. A negative deviation indicates that the ward is under-represented, with more than the average number of electors per Councillor.

A noteworthy point is the high negative deviation in the North West Ward. This means this ward is underrepresented compared to the others and will soon be over the 10% deviation requirement if wards remain the same.

***See Appendix 3 for a map showing current ward boundaries***

## SOME OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Whilst most previous ward boundary reviews have resulted in minor adjustments to the boundaries to 'balance' the number of electors per councillor, the 2008 ward boundary review was more significant and resulted in a reduction in the number of wards from five (5) to four (4).

Although the current ward statistics indicate that the number of electors per councillor in all wards is within the accepted deviation (+/- 10%) and therefore there is no need to make any changes to the current ward boundaries, this should not preclude the consideration of options for change.

Based on current and future growth within the City and particularly the "foothills" area, in view of the potential arising from the development of the train line to High Wycombe and the provision of appropriate councillor representation across the district.

For discussion purposes, all of the following Proposals and options have been prepared on the basis of eight (8) councillors, the maximum provided under the electoral reform currently being introduced by the State Government.

- Proposal 1 – No wards
- Proposal 2 – Two wards with two options
- Proposal 3 – Four wards with two options

The City however is very interested to know if members of the community have other views about wards and the number of councillors the City should have.

## PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF WARDS AND/OR COUNCILLORS

### Proposal 1 - Have no wards

Whether a local government has wards or not, Councillors are required to consider and vote on issues that affect the whole district, not just their own ward.

There are advantages and disadvantages to having no wards.

In a no ward system, a member of the community would have the whole Council representing them and could approach any Councillor if they had an issue or query. The system is simpler to understand, both for residents and for candidates in Council elections. There are cost savings in the running of Council elections, as only one set of ballot papers would need to be produced.

However, a member of the community may feel that their interests are not being represented, particularly if they are from an area with a small population, and if most of the councillors are from more populated areas. The residents of certain areas of the City may have specific concerns that are not relevant to residents of other areas and may feel that their issues are not understood or seen as being important.

As at the 2015 Local Government Elections five of the 30 local governments within the metropolitan region had no wards – Town of Bassendean and Cities of Gosnells, Kwinana, Perth and the Shire of Peppermint Grove.

### Proposal 2 - Reduce the existing number of wards to two only

Proposal 2 outlines two options for a two ward structure for the City by placing different areas into each option as outlined as follows.

#### **Option 1 – Abolish the current wards and create a Hills” and “Foothills” Ward**

This option groups the suburbs of Forrestfield, High Wycombe, Wattle Grove and the small portion of Kewdale within the City, into a proposed “Foothills Ward” with the remainder of the suburbs forming the proposed “Hills Ward”.

The option would continue the principles established in the 2008 Review and retained in the 2016 Review of grouping generally like areas of the City together. It also acknowledges the distinct differences between these areas of the City, particularly from a residential development perspective.

An advantage of this option is that it would provide for half the councillors of each ward to face an election every two years rather the current situation with 12 councillors of some wards having more councillors facing an election than other wards every two years.

Based on retaining full suburbs to form the wards, the Councillor to elector ratio would be: -

Ward	Suburbs Included	Number of Electors	Number of Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Deviation from Ave
<b>Foothills</b>	Forrestfield (part) <sup>(1)</sup> , High Wycombe, Wattle Grove (part) <sup>(1)</sup> , Kewdale	22,211	4	5,553	-6.50%
<b>Hills</b>	Forrestfield (part) <sup>(2)</sup> , Wattle Grove (part) <sup>(2)</sup> , Maida Vale, Gooseberry Hill, Kalamunda, Lesmurdie, Walliston, Bickley, Canning Mills, Carmel, Hacketts Gully, Pauls Valley, Pickering Brook, Piesse Brook, Helena Valley	19,464	4	4,866	+6.60%
		<b>41,675</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5,209</b>	

\* Note – a positive deviation indicates that the ward is over-represented – that is, there is less than the average number of electors per Councillor. A negative deviation indicates that the ward is under-represented, with more than the average number of electors per Councillor.

Note <sup>(1)</sup> This part of Forrestfield and Wattle Grove are both currently in the South West Ward.

Note <sup>(2)</sup> This part of Forrestfield and Wattle Grove are currently in the North West and South East Wards respectively.

See Appendix 4 for a map showing ward boundaries (number of electors supplied by the WA Electoral Commission, as of 30 September 2022 residents electoral roll).

### Option 2 – Abolish the current wards and Create an “Foothills” and “Hills” Ward

The difference between this option and option 1 is that the suburb of Maida Vale has been included in the proposed “Foothills Ward” rather than the proposed “Hills Ward”, and the whole of Wattle Grove has been included in the “Hills Ward”.

This option still acknowledges the principles established in the 2008 and 2016 Reviews of grouping generally like areas of the City together and the distinct differences between these areas of the City, particularly from a residential development perspective.

Based on retaining full suburbs to form the wards, the Councillor to elector ration would be:-

Ward	Suburbs Included	Number of Electors	Number of Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Deviation from Ave
<b>Foothills</b>	Forrestfield, Maida Vale, High Wycombe, Kewdale	21,102	4	5,275	-1.27%
<b>Hills</b>	Gooseberry Hill, Kalamunda, Lesmurdie, Wattle Grove, Walliston, Bickley, Canning Mills, Carmel, Hacketts Gully, Paulls Valley, Pickering Brook, Piesse Brook, Helena Valley	20,573	4	5,143	+1.27%
		<b>41,675</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5,209</b>	

\* Note – a positive deviation indicates that the ward is over-represented – that is, there is less than the average number of electors per Councillor. A negative deviation indicates that the ward is under-represented, with more than the average number of electors per Councillor.

See Appendix 5 for a map showing ward boundaries (number of electors supplied by the WA Electoral Commission, as of 30 September 2022 residents electoral roll).

## Option 1 and 2 - Two Wards Analysis

### Communities of interests

Option one has parts of some suburbs in the hills ward as shown on Appendix 3. Whereas option two no suburbs have been divided between wards, however the whole of Wattle Grove has been placed in the Hills ward and it could be viewed that the western section of Wattle Grove which is a high density residential area has a closer community of interest with Forrestfield.

Both options best reflect the use of community facilities, as there are major shopping facilities and recreation areas in each of the wards.

### Physical and topographical features

These options generally reflect the most dominant physical feature of the City – the Darling Scarp except option two where the whole of Wattle Grove being placed in the Hills Ward. A large portion of Wattle Grove north of Welshpool Road and west of Tonkin Highway is more reflective of the foothills than the hills.

### Demographic trends

Both options reflect the similarities between Kalamunda, Lesmurdie and Gooseberry Hill, and between High Wycombe, Forrestfield, Wattle Grove. The growth areas of the City would be in one ward, namely Forrestfield and High Wycombe and the area of least population growth in the other.

### Economic factors

The fruit-growing areas of the City continue to be included in one ward. Community facilities and assets are divided between the wards. The Hills is also a tourism destination with the Kalamunda town centre offering commercial services to tourists as well as the residential community.

The Foothills Ward is characterised by industrial areas on the western borders adjacent to the Perth Airport and commercial services through the foothills.

### Ratio of councillors to electors in the various wards

Both options result in compliant deviations in the Councillor to elector ratio. Option one however has a much larger deviation than does option two. Nevertheless, it would be expected that a deviation in the ratio will become evident as growth occurs in the “West” ward (the number of electors per Councillor is expected to increase in the West Ward at a greater rate than in the East Ward).

## Proposal 3 - Retain existing four (4) ward structure

Proposal three outlines two options for a four ward structure for the City by placing different areas into each option as outlined as follows.

### Option 1 – Retain the Existing Boundaries for all four wards

This option has been operating since the last review in 2016. It will meet the requirements of the review factors and will have no impact upon the community other than a reduction in councillor number.

Ward	No. of Electors	No. of Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Deviation from Ave
North West	11,169	2	5585	-7.89%
South West	10,386	2	5193	-0.33%
North	9,822	2	4911	+5.12%
South East	10,030	2	5015	+3.11%
	<b>41,407</b>	<b>8</b>	5176	

\* Note – a positive deviation indicates that the ward is over-represented – that is, there is less than the average number of electors per Councillor. A negative deviation indicates that the ward is under-represented, with more than the average number of electors per Councillor.

See Appendix 3 for a map showing ward boundaries (number of electors supplied by the WA Electoral Commission, as of 30 September 2022 residents electoral roll).

The current status shows the largest deviation in North West ward and is likely to grow above 10% as increasing development occurs in this ward.

### Option 2– Amend boundaries of North West and North Wards by including all of Maida Vale in North Ward

Based on the current elector to councillor numbers this would be the option involving the least changes to the current ward boundaries and electors per ward and generally maintain the principles established in the 2008 and 2016 Ward Boundary Reviews when these wards were established.

The current statistics indicate that to improve the ratio of electors to councillors would only involve moving approximately 910 electors in Maida Vale from the North West Ward to the North Ward. This would place the whole of the suburb of Maida Vale in one ward rather than as currently being split between two wards.

This would result in the following ward statistics: -

Ward	Suburbs Included	Number of Electors	Number of Councillors	Electors per Councillor	Deviation from Ave
North West	Forrestfield (part) High Wycombe	10,459	2	5,229	-0.76%
South West	Forrestfield, Kewdale (part), Wattle Grove, (part)	10,473	2	5,236	-0.52%
North	Gooseberry Hill, Maida Vale and Kalamunda (part),	10,707	2	5,353	-2.768%
South East	Lesmurdie, Walliston, Carmel, Canning Mills, Pickering Brook, Bickley, Hacketts Gully, Piesse Brook, Pauls Valley, Reservoir, Wattle Grove (part) and Kalamunda (part).	10,036	2	5,018	+3.67%
		<b>41,675</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5,209</b>	

\* Note – a positive deviation indicates that the ward is over-represented – that is, there is less than the average number of electors per Councillor. A negative deviation indicates that the ward is under-represented, with more than the average number of electors per Councillor.

***See Appendix 6 for a map showing ward boundaries (number of electors supplied by the WA Electoral Commission, as at 30 September 2022 residents electoral roll)***

## Option 1 and 2 Four Wards Factor Analysis

### COMMUNITIES OF INTERESTS

This option maintains the principles established in the 2008 Review and reinforced in 2016, of grouping like suburbs together, due to the differences in growth patterns across the City, more suburbs have been split between the various wards.

Nevertheless, each ward has its own schools, recreation areas, libraries and shopping centres and as such would have facilities and interests in common.

### PHYSICAL AND TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES

In general, roads have been used to define the ward boundaries.

Other features, such as the Darling Scarp, have minimal impact on the proposed boundaries.

### DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

The demographic data across the City's four wards show the people in the two North and South West Wards have higher than average aging population than those wards across the foothills.

In North Ward, 31.1% of households were made up of couples with children in 2021, compared with 33.5% across the City of Kalamunda. In 2021, North Ward had lower proportion of children (under 18) and a higher proportion of persons aged 60 or older than across the City of Kalamunda.

In South East Ward, 38.6% of households were made up of couples with children in 2021, compared with 33.5% in City of Kalamunda. In 2021, South East Ward had similar proportion of children (under 18) and a higher proportion of persons aged 60 or older than City of Kalamunda.

In North West Ward, 31.9% of households were made up of couples with children in 2021, compared with 33.5% across the City of Kalamunda. In 2021, North West Ward had higher proportion of children (under 18) and a lower proportion of persons aged 60 or older than across the City of Kalamunda.

In South West Ward, 33.1% of households were made up of couples with children in 2021, compared with 33.5% across the City of Kalamunda. In 2021, South West Ward had higher proportion of children (under 18) and a lower proportion of persons aged 60 or older than across the City of Kalamunda.

Source - <https://profile.id.com.au/kalamunda>

**ECONOMIC FACTORS**

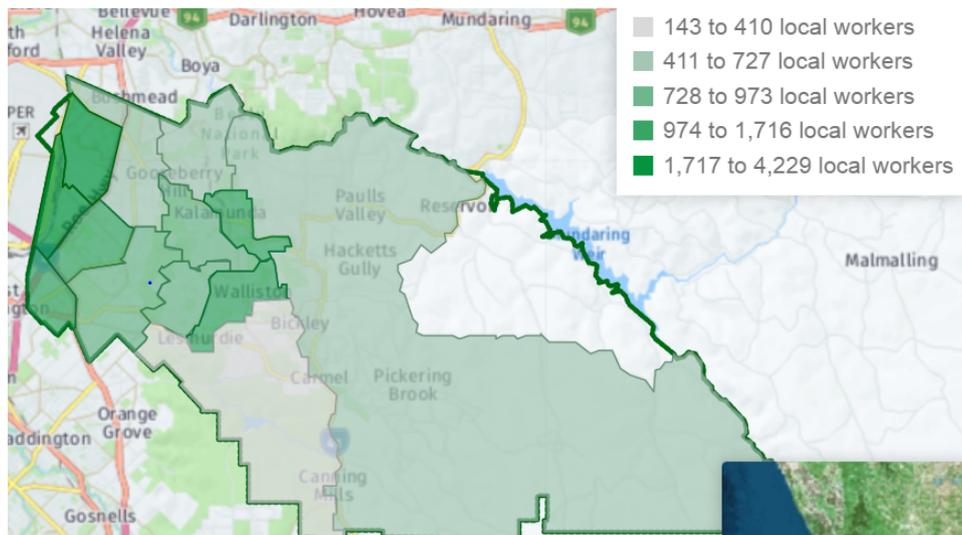
The City has its greatest concentration of local employment centres across the western border where the industrial areas are found. These areas are found in North West Ward and South West Ward.

In South West Ward is found the Forrestfield Activity Centre where commercial activities are abundant.

The Kalamunda Townsite and the Wallison Industrial area are the key employment generators within the North Ward and South East ward.

The hinterland’s rural area is based on agricultural pursuits and are experiencing an emergence of tourism related industries. Under a four ward structure the orchard area and the emerging tourism area of the City continue to be included in South East ward.

The following map highlights the spread of local workers within the City.



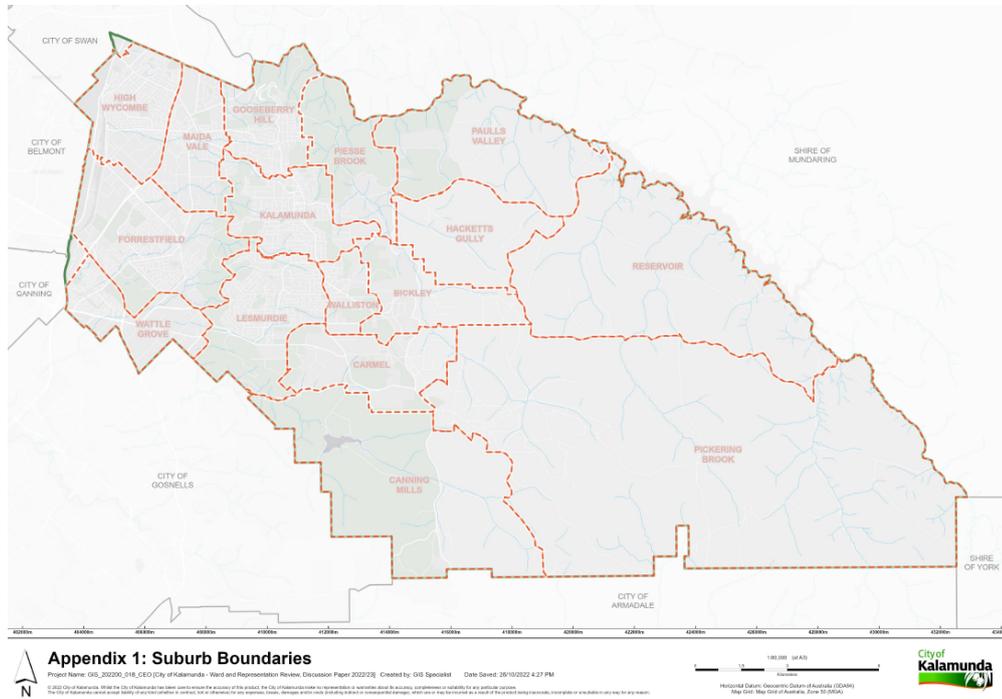
**RATIO OF COUNCILLORS TO ELECTORS IN THE VARIOUS WARDS**

Both options comply with the required deviations, however option one shows a higher deviation in North West Ward approaching 8%.

Option 2 proposes the inclusion of the whole of Maida Vale within North Ward which results in a better Councillor:Electors ratio than would be achieved by maintaining the boundaries exactly as they are currently.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1 Suburb boundaries

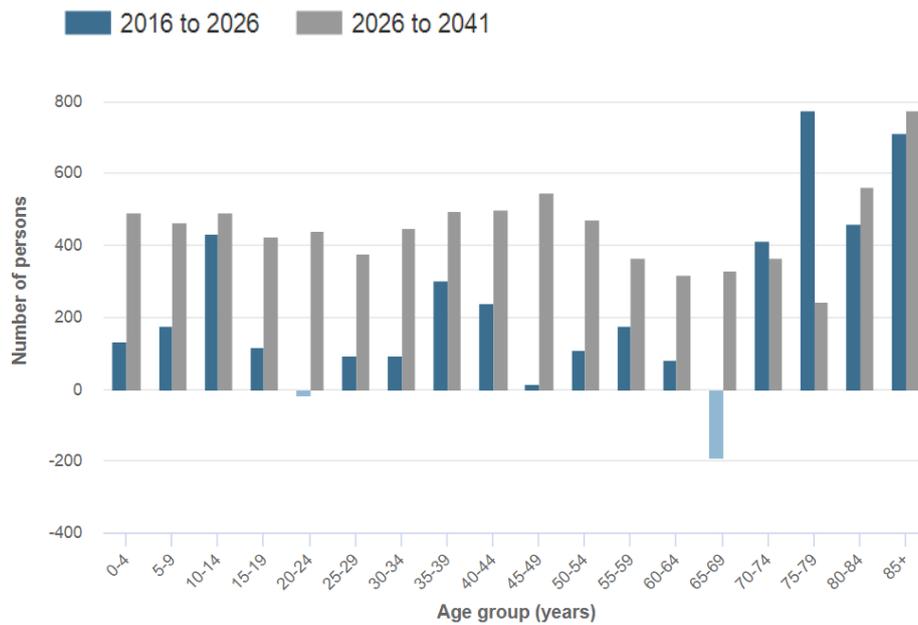


## Appendix 2 - Population Forecast

The population of the City for 2022 is 60,633 and is forecast to grow to 71,407 by 2041.

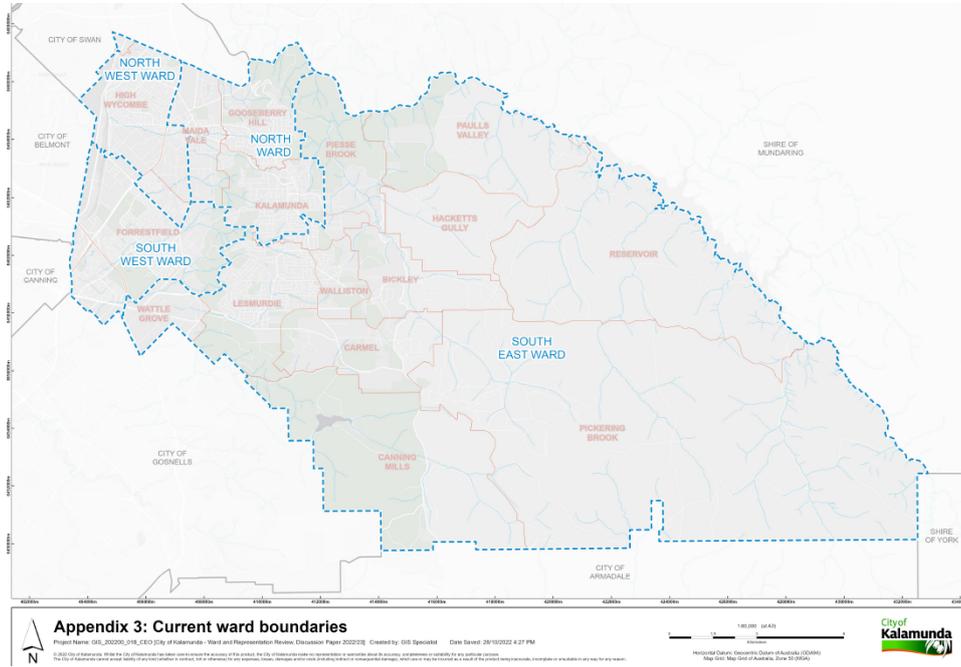
### Forecast change in age structure - 5 year age groups

City of Kalamunda - Total persons

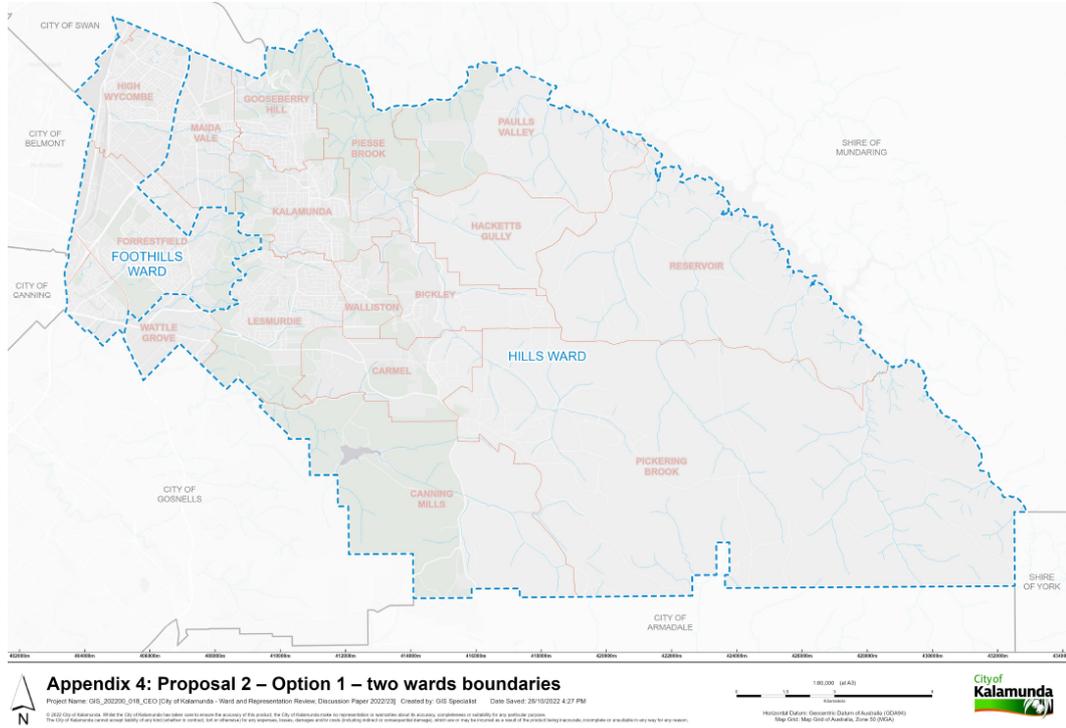


It is noteworthy that the 65-69 age group have reduced significantly since 2016 suggesting that upon retirement people have moved elsewhere. The population groups 75 years on are still showing large numbers of seniors across the City and this trend will continue for the next two decades.

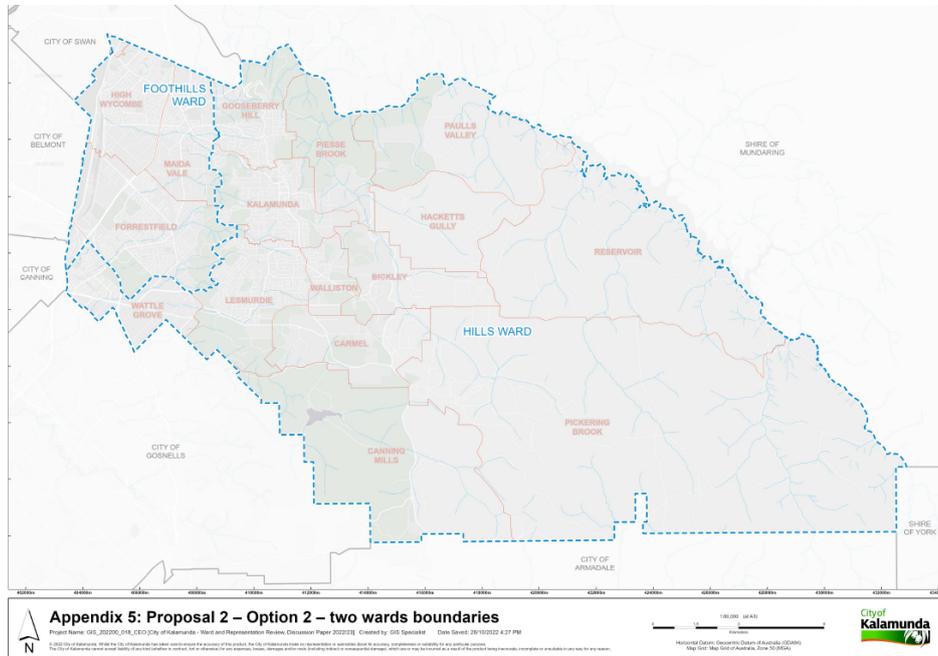
### Appendix 3 Current ward boundaries



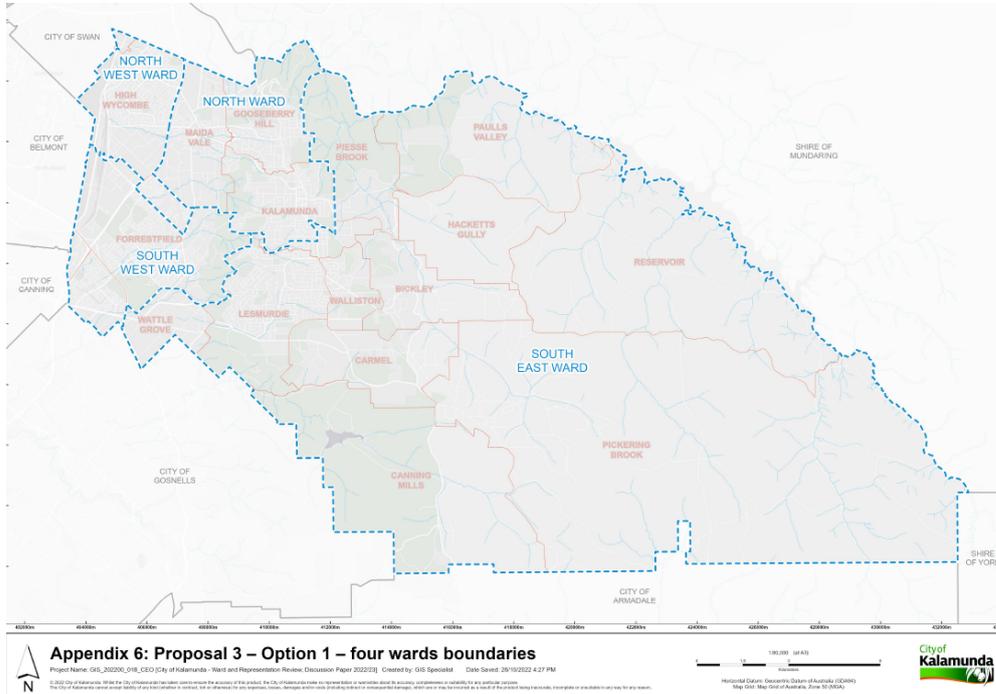
### Appendix 4 Proposal 2 – Option 1 – two wards boundaries



### Appendix 5 Proposal 2 – Option 2 – two wards boundaries



### Appendix 6 Proposal 3 – Option 1 – four wards boundaries



## Appendix 7      WAEC Number of Electors By Ward and Suburb

Source: WAEC Electorate Statistics 2022

<b>North</b>	<b>9,797</b>
Gooseberry Hill	2,634
Kalamunda	4,707
Maida Vale	2,456
<b>North West</b>	<b>11,369</b>
Forrestfield	1,915
High Wycombe	8,544
Maida Vale	910
<b>South East</b>	<b>10,036</b>
Bickley	562
Canning Mills	9
Carmel	522
Hacketts Gully	33
Kalamunda	892
Lesmurdie	6,050
Paulls Valley	61
Pickering Brook	437
Piesse Brook	148
Walliston	734
Wattle Grove	588
<b>South West</b>	<b>10,473</b>
Forrestfield	7,277
Kewdale	2
Wattle Grove	3,194
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>41,675</b>

Appendix 8 Public submission form



### 2022 Review of Ward Boundaries & Representation

The State Government, as part of a major review of the Local Government Act 1995, has recently announced significant changes with respect to councillor numbers and the method of election of the Mayor/President for some local governments.

The minimum/maximum number of councillors will now be determined by population and for local governments within the Band 1 or 2 classifications, will mean the Mayor/President must be elected by the electors of the district.

Councillor numbers permitted by population bands are:

- » Up to 5,000 – 5 councillors (including the President).
- » Between 5,000 and 75,000 – 5 to 9 councillors (including the Mayor/President)
- » Above 75,000 – 9 to 15 councillors (including the Mayor)

Consequently, the City of Kalamunda (City) which is classified as a band 2 local government and a current population of around 61,000, can now only have a maximum of 8 councillors plus a Mayor elected by the electors.

To ensure that there is not an imbalance in the number of electors per councillor between the wards and that

the number of councillors for the City and each ward meets the legislative requirements and is appropriate for providing proper governance and community representation across the district, the City is reviewing its wards and representative structure.

Currently the City is divided into four (4) electoral wards, each electing three (3) councillors. The Mayor is elected by the councillors.

Council last reviewed its wards and representation in November 2016.

The review is being carried out in accordance with clause 6 of Schedule 2.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 and will assess the appropriateness of:

- » The current ward boundaries.
- » The number of councillors representing each ward.

You can read the review at [engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au](https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au), at the City Administration and your local Library or call us on 9257 9999.

This form has been provided for your convenience.

Written public submissions do not have to be made on this form.

[engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au](https://engage.kalamunda.wa.gov.au)

Please return this survey to a City of Kalamunda Library or:  
 2 Railway Road KALAMUNDA WA 6076 **PO Box 42, KALAMUNDA WA 6926**  
**T** 9257 9999 **F** 9293 2715 **E** [kaya@kalamunda.wa.gov.au](mailto:kaya@kalamunda.wa.gov.au)

**I support the following proposal, as described in the discussion paper:**

- Proposal 1:** No Wards
- Proposal 2:** Option 1
- Proposal 2:** Option 2
- Proposal 3:** Option 1
- Proposal 3:** Option 2

Comments (for example: reasons for support, suggested ward names).

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Please attach additional pages if required.

**I believe the City of Kalamunda should have a ward system as follows:**

Number of wards:

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Number of Councillors (by law, must be between 5 and 8):

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Comments (for example: reasons for support, suggested ward names).

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Please attach additional pages if required.

**Your details**

*Note: Information will only be recorded for statistical purposes and unless you wish to be contacted further on this matter or other City matters, your personal details will remain confidential.*

Name

---

Email

Suburb

---

Gender  Male  Female  Prefer not to say

Age  16-25  26-35  36-45  46-55  56-65  65+

Please keep me informed about:

- Any developments regarding this ward review
- Information about services and activities in the City of Kalamunda