

## VEC seeks public submissions for Yarriambiack Shire Council representation review

Community members have the opportunity to contribute to the electoral representation review for Yarriambiack Shire Council when it begins next week on Wednesday 15 July.

The review, conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC), will examine the electoral structure of the municipality to ensure that it provides fair and equitable representation for all voters. The review will look at:

- the appropriate number of councillors
- whether the municipality should be unsubdivided, with councillors elected from the whole municipality, or subdivided into wards and
- if subdivided, the number of wards, ward boundaries, the number of councillors per ward and possible ward names.

Anyone interested in the future electoral structure of the council can have their say by making a submission online at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or by email, post or fax. 'Public submissions are a vital part of the review process, providing valuable local knowledge and perspectives,' said Electoral Commissioner Warwick Gately.

To find out more about the review, locals are encouraged to attend an upcoming public information session. The session will be held at will be held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 21 July in the Function Room, Yarriambiack Shire Council, 34 Lyle Street, Warracknabeal.

The VEC has also prepared a Guide for Submissions that outlines the review process and provides important background information and key dates.

The Yarriambiack Shire Council electoral representation review timeline is below.

- **Wednesday 15 July** Preliminary submissions open; Guide for Submissions released. Submissions can be made via:
  - the online submission form at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)
  - email to [yarriambiack.review@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:yarriambiack.review@vec.vic.gov.au)
  - post to VEC, Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
  - fax to (03) 9629 8632.
- **7.00 pm on Tuesday 21 July** Public information session.
- **5.00 pm on Wednesday 12 August** Deadline for preliminary submissions.
- **Wednesday 9 September** Preliminary report released, containing proposed options for the council's electoral structure.
- **5.00 pm on Wednesday 7 October** Deadline for response submissions addressing the proposed options in the preliminary report.
- **7.00 pm on Tuesday 13 October** Public hearing for those who have requested to speak in support of their response submission. If there are no requests to speak the hearing will not be held.

- **Wednesday 4 November** Final report released, containing the VEC's recommendation for the Minister for Local Government.

If the VEC's recommendation is accepted, it will take effect at the next general election in October 2016.

For more information, visit the VEC website at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au), email [yarriambiack.review@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:yarriambiack.review@vec.vic.gov.au) or call the VEC on 131 832.

### Map of current electoral structure of Yarriambiack Shire Council

The map below shows the current electoral structure of Yarriambiack Shire Council. This structure was established following the Council's previous electoral representation review in 2005.

