

## CITY OF GREATER GEELONG – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

- 4 year terms, but for the first Council, a 3 year term (to bring Geelong into line with other Victorian Councils)
- Voting method - Proportional Counting (also known as Proportional Representation), in multi-member electorates.

This is a system used when more than one person is to be elected, so that the required number of candidates are elected in proportion to their support in the electorate.

Benefits of this system:

1. a range (or diversity) of views can be elected – Bellarine will have 3 councillors
  2. This range should help Greater Geelong move away from the ‘my patch’ approach of previous councillors, towards a broader vision for the whole city
  3. Residents will have a range of councillors to work with, therefore better representing their views
- how does it work? (complicated!)

To be elected, a candidate must win a specific proportion, or quota of votes:

Total formal votes

\_\_\_\_\_ + 1 vote

Number of positions + 1

So, for Bellarine, with about 50,000 voters:

$$50,000 \div 4 (3+1) = 12,500 + 1 \quad \text{This would be the quota}$$

Surplus votes?

If a candidate who reaches a quota has ‘leftover’ or surplus votes, these are transferred to the voter’s next preference at a value less than one (divide the surplus total by the total number of votes = a fraction)

In the example above, let’s say the candidate, Alice Smith, won 13,000 votes – 499 votes are surplus.  
 $499 \div 13000 = .038$  per vote

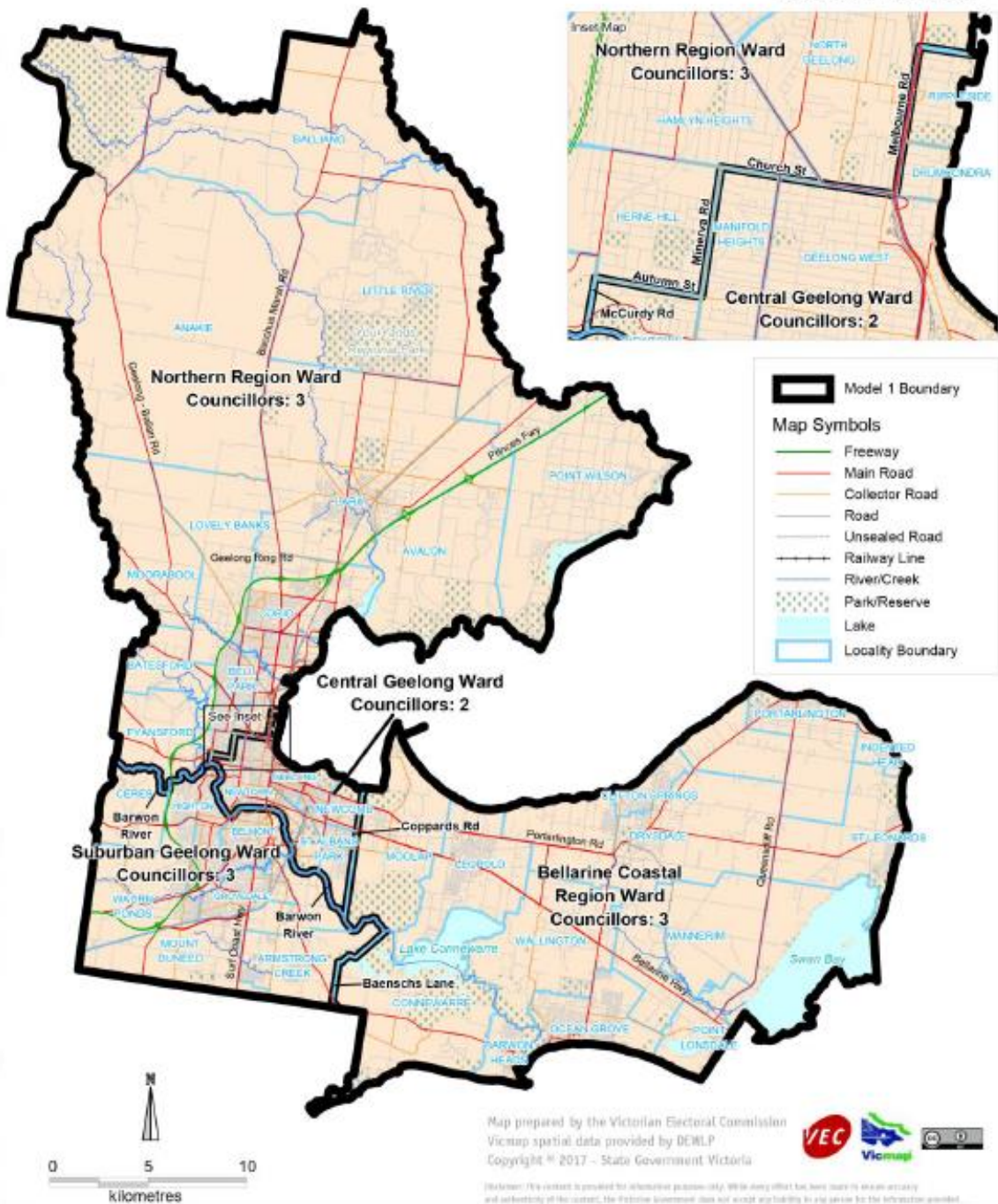
If at the end of all of that, the three positions haven’t been filled, then you follow the usual preferential voting system, and begin eliminating the lowest polling candidates one by one, and work by voters’ next preferences.

## MODEL MAPS

### Greater Geelong City Council Model 1

Ward	Councillors	Electors*	Deviation	Area (sq km)
Bellarine Coastal Region	3	54,602	+6.16%	402.55
Central Geelong	2	37,143	+8.33%	32.42
Northern Region	3	49,898	-2.98%	725.18
Suburban Geelong	3	46,942	-8.73%	119.76
Total	11	188,585	-8.73% - +8.33	1,279.91
Average		47,146		319.98

\* Electors as at 17 February 2017



Map prepared by the Victorian Electoral Commission  
Vicmap spatial data provided by DEWLP  
Copyright © 2017 - State Government Victoria



Disclaimer: This content is provided for informative purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy and reliability of the content, the Victorian Government does not accept any liability in any person for the information provided.

