



CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL

26 July 2024

Answering questions about Shire ward boundaries

Questions around ward boundaries were raised during community meetings with the Local Government Minister, Ron Hoenig, and Member for Barwon, Roy Butler, which were held to discuss the future of Central Darling Shire.

The Minister said that Central Darling Shire would become a 'Rural and Remote Council' made up of three locally elected councillors from the community and three councillors appointed by the NSW Government with relevant expertise to support the stable and effective operation of the Council.

The Minister said the three elected councillors would have an important role representing the people of their ward, and in making the best decisions for the shire as a whole. They will be elected by the community and will work alongside the three appointed councillors to make sure services, infrastructure and facilities are delivered.

At the October 2023 Central Darling Shire Council meeting a preferred option for the shire ward boundaries adjustment was adopted.

The Shire has three wards based around the main population Centres. The reason for the boundary adjustment was because at the time Council was working towards potentially coming out of administration. As part of the preparations for an election Council needed to meet requirements for the number of electors in each ward. The previous wards had a greater variance than what is allowed.

At the October meeting Council resolved to adopt the second option put forward in the Ward Boundaries Adjustment proposal, which was placed on public exhibition for public comment at the end of August last year. Two submissions were received.

The new boundary adjustment moved White Cliffs into B Ward but maintained all of Wilcannia Township in A Ward. It also resulted in outlying rural electors north and east of Menindee moving into A Ward. Sunset Strip electors moved into C Ward.

- A Ward - Wilcannia, outlying rural electors north and east of Menindee.
- B Ward – Ivanhoe, Tilpa, White Cliffs.
- C Ward – Menindee, Sunset Strip.

Taking onboard the public comments and further analysis, option two was the preferred option servicing and advocating for communities across the entire local government area.

Ends

Council Media Contact: Gabrielle Johnston 0472 787 022

Administration Centre – 21 Reid Street Wilcannia
Mailing Address – PO Box 165 Wilcannia 2836
Email council@centraldarling.nsw.gov.au
Phone 08 8083 8900