

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the *Local Government Act 1993* to provide that each council for an area that is divided into wards must have at least 3 councillors for each ward.

The Bill also provides that, at least six months before the next ordinary council elections, each council of an area divided into wards that has fewer than 3 councillors for each ward must alter its ward boundaries or change its number of councillors or both to ensure that it complies with this new requirement. A council will not need to obtain approval at a constitutional referendum for a change to the number of councillors made in accordance with the new requirements.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent to the proposed Act.

Clause 3 amends section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1993* to give effect to the Overview above.