FAQs

Who is the decision maker for local government boundaries?

The Minister for Local Government is the decision maker for local government boundaries.

The Minister will receive a recommendation report from the Local Government Boundaries Commission, which is an independent body established by the State Government to provide advice on Council boundaries.

Have any decisions already been made?

The Local Government Boundaries Commission decided in July 2022 to inquire into the proposal. This determination **does not** mean that the Commission has decided that the boundary change should proceed.

No decisions will be made about the boundary change proposal until the Inquiry has concluded and the Commission has made its recommendations to the Minister for Local Government.

Who are the investigators and what is their role?

The Local Government Boundaries Commission can appoint investigators with specialist skills and knowledge to conduct the Inquiry on their behalf. The investigators review information about the proposed boundary change and engage with the community, Council and stakeholders to assess the boundary change proposal.

The investigators will provide an Inquiry report to the Commission outlining their findings and make a recommendation about whether the proposed boundary change should or should not proceed.

The Commission has appointed BDO Australia as the investigators for this Inquiry.

What role does the Adelaide Hills Council have in the Inquiry?

Council does not have a decision-making role.

The Adelaide Hills Council has responded to a detailed information request from the investigators to inform their Inquiry report. Council has provided data and documents relevant to the subject areas on topics such as financial management, community services, land use planning, representation, employee matters and communities of interest.

Council has also made an evidence-based submission clearly outlining the reasons it is opposed to the proposed change. Council will continue to advocate for the Adelaide Hills community throughout the investigation including through further submissions and representations.

Council will also keep the community informed about the Inquiry by posting regular updates on its website. Members of the community are always welcome to attend meetings of the Council's Boundary Change Committee. Meeting schedules and Minutes from all meetings are available on the Council's website to help interested residents stay informed. There is also a dedicated page on Council's website on the boundary change proposal.

How can the community have a say?

BDO Australia will undertake community and stakeholder engagement as part of their investigations. The timeframe and approach to community engagement is not know at this stage.

Adelaide Hills Council will seek assurances from BDO Australia that the engagement will be extensive, meaningful, and genuine.

Members of the community are always welcome to attend meetings of the Council's Boundary Change Committee. Meeting schedules and Minutes from all meetings are available on the Council's website to help interested residents stay informed. There is also a dedicated page on Council's website on the boundary change proposal. Submissions or representations to Council are also welcome and need not be formal. Contact details are as follows:

- **Email:** engagement@ahc.sa.gov.au(External link)
- **Phone:** 8408 0400
- **Post:** Adelaide Hills Council, 63 Mount Barker Road, Stirling SA 5152

When will a decision be made?

There is no set timeframe for the Commission to complete the Inquiry or the Minister to make a decision.