# DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTRY REGIONS

### AGRICULTURAL REGION DISTRICTS

A reduction in the number of districts in the Agricultural Region was foreshadowed during the 2003 distribution, based on a decline in population growth in the region relative to the State as a whole. This decline has not abated and the 2005 legislative changes have required further significant adjustments to the number of districts to take account of the higher average district enrolment.

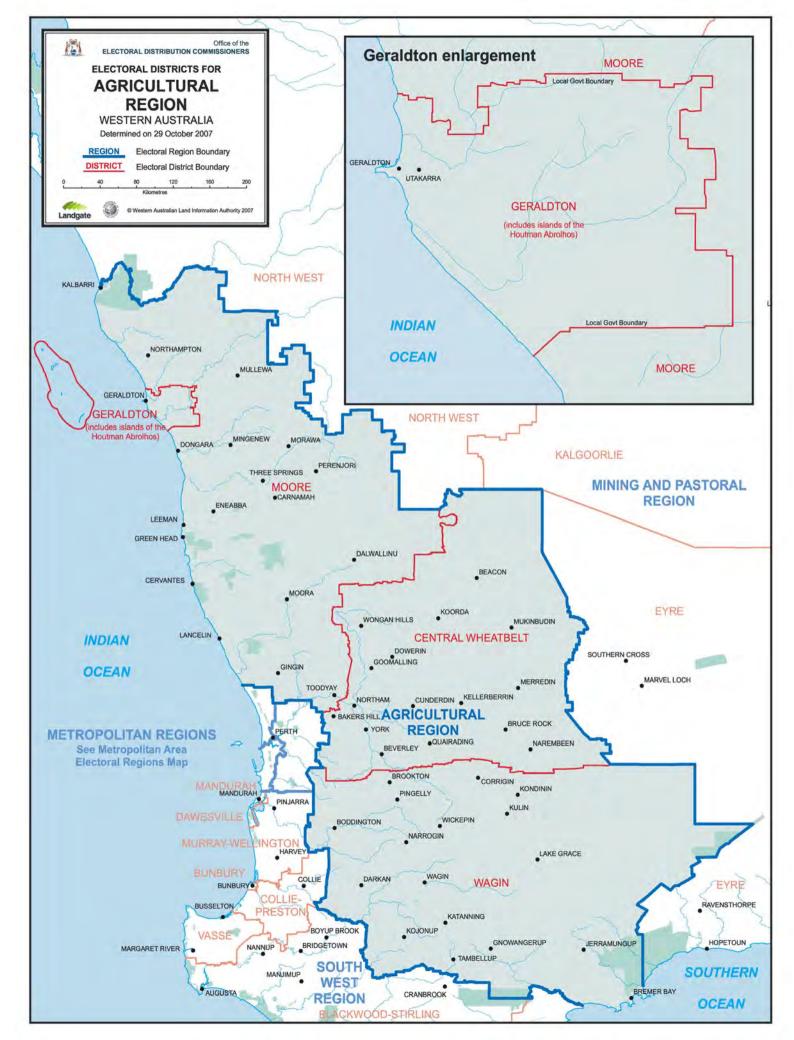
In the area determined by the Commissioners to be the Agricultural Region (where the land use is primarily for agricultural purposes), four districts have been established. The district of Geraldton follows the boundaries of the newly formed City of Geraldton-Greenough local government authority. The district of Moore, encircling the Geraldton district, extends south from the Murchison River to the metropolitan boundary and incorporates the shires of Dalwallinu, Perenjori, Morawa and Mullewa at its eastern side. The district of Central Wheatbelt includes the existing district of Merredin, expanded west to include the shires of Beverley, York and the newly amalgamated Shire of Northam. The name Central Wheatbelt, renamed from the proposed Merredin, has been chosen, in response to objections, to better reflect the new extent of the district.

The district of Wagin encompasses the existing district of the same name with an expansion both north and east to satisfy permitted variation limits. The eastern boundary of this district incorporates the shires of Jerramungup and Lake Grace to form part of the Mining and Pastoral Region boundary. Within these districts, local government boundaries have been used to establish district boundaries, taking into account communities of interest and elector numbers.

The shires of Esperance and Ravensthorpe have been included as part of a revised Mining and Pastoral Region. Further information about this change is included in the Mining and Pastoral Region summary.

### **Elector Statistics for the Agricultural Region Districts**

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District	Elector Enrolment 26/2/07	Deviation from 2007 Average District Enrolment (%)
Central Wheatbelt	20,299	-4.92
Geraldton	20,575	-3.63
Moore	21,453	0.48
Wagin	20,152	-5.61
Total	82,479	



# DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTRY REGIONS

## MINING AND PASTORAL REGION DISTRICTS

Five districts make up the Mining and Pastoral Region, each qualifying for the large district allowance (applied to districts with an area of 100,000 square kilometres or more). The allowance is calculated by multiplying the square kilometres of the area of the district by 1.5%. The final figure, calculated by adding the allowance to the number of electors in the district, is required to be within the range of 20% less to 10% greater than the average district enrolment (that is, between 17,080 and 23,485). The effect of the introduction of the large district allowance has been spread generally across all districts and not concentrated in one or two particular districts to bolster low elector numbers.

The Kimberley district comprises complete local government authorities and restores Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek to the Kimberley district. This brings all four shires in the Kimberley region into the one electoral district.

The Pilbara district, which generally reflects the previous Central Kimberley-Pilbara district, has undergone a minor change to that proposed on 29 June 2007, in that the eastern part of the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku will now be included in the Kalgoorlie district. This compromise recognises the important communication link between 'the Lands' and Kalgoorlie, while ensuring that the total land area does not result in the average district enrolment tolerances being exceeded.

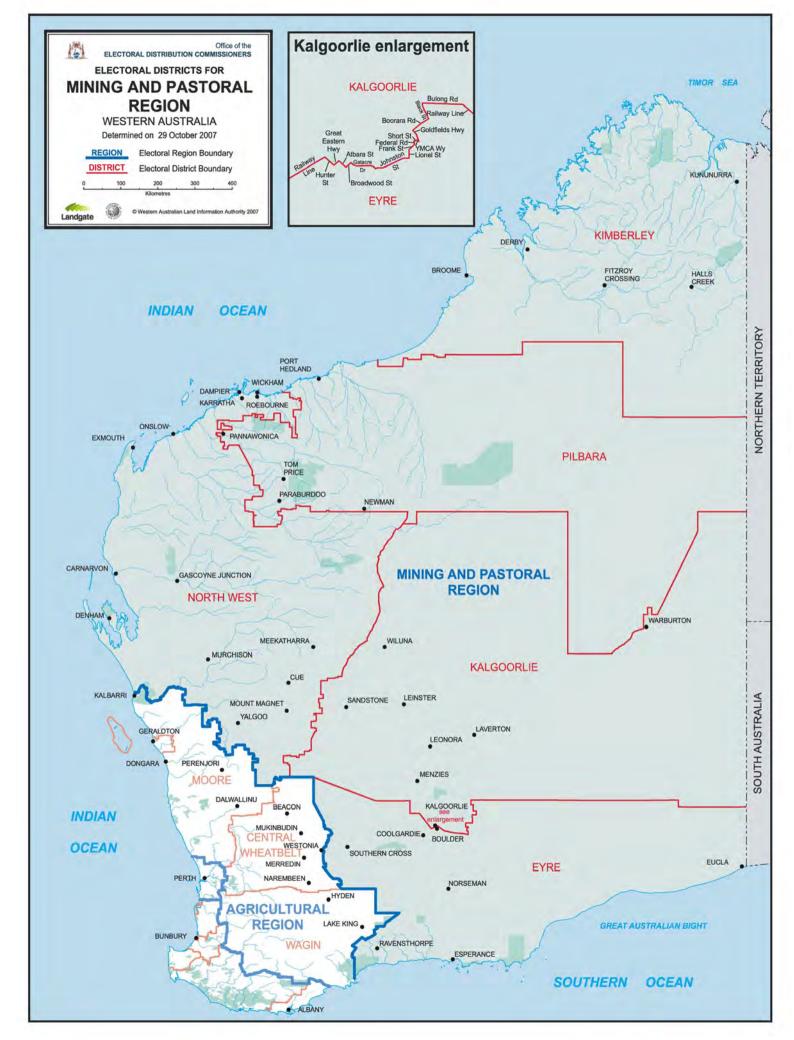
The district of Kalgoorlie is re-established, replacing the proposed district of Goldfields. The retention of the name 'Kalgoorlie' was considered by many to be more appropriate. The Kalgoorlie district boundary has been adjusted through the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku in recognition of the community of interest between the shire and Kalgoorlie and to facilitate representation for the majority of electors within this shire. The revised boundary commences on Great Central Road at the boundary with the Shire of Laverton. The boundary then proceeds north-east along Great Central Road to encompass the entire localities of Warburton and Ngaanyatjarra-Giles, including the communities of Warburton, Wingellina, Warakurna, Blackstone, Wannarn, Jameson and Tjukurla. The communities in the Gibson Desert South locality to the west (including Kanpa, Patjarr and Tjirrkarli) will remain in the Pilbara district and be connected for electoral purposes to the Gibson Desert North locality in the Shire of East Pilbara (including the communities of Kiwirrkurra and Kunawarriji).

The districts of Kalgoorlie and Eyre reflect the concentration of electors in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and the inclusion of two shires which were previously placed within the Agricultural Region. Having regard to the land use descriptors in section 16H of the *Electoral Act* and the other factors specified in section 16I, the Commissioners have included the shires of Esperance and Ravensthorpe in the Mining and Pastoral Region. The inclusion of these areas in the region received strong local support, with submissions expressing the importance of the links between those shires and the Goldfields. The decision also appropriately reflects the mining and pastoral activities that are carried out in those areas.

The district of North West has not been adjusted from that proposed on 29 June 2007. This comprises the existing district of North West Coastal with the addition eastward of the complete local government authorities of Upper Gascoyne, Murchison, Yalgoo, Meekatharra, Cue and Mount Magnet.

#### **Elector Statistics for the Mining and Pastoral Region Districts**

District	Elector Enrolment 26/2/07	Large District Allowance (LDA)	Total (including LDA)	Deviation from 2007 Average District Enrolment (%)
Eyre	17,036	4,383	21,419	0.32
Kalgoorlie	13,656	9,492	23,148	8.42
Kimberley	16,236	6,286	22,522	5.49
North Wes	t 15,558	6,136	21,694	1.61
Pilbara	11,290	7,912	19,202	-10.06
Total	73,776	34,209	107,985	



# DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTRY REGIONS

### **SOUTH WEST REGION DISTRICTS**

Continued population growth is anticipated for the coastal strip from Mandurah to Augusta, with more modest population growth anticipated for the remainder of the region. Taking into account this demographic trend, the land use descriptors in section 16H of the *Electoral Act* and the other factors specified in section 16I, the Commissioners have established eight districts in the South West Region.

The districts of Albany and Bunbury reflect local government boundaries and satisfy community of interest requirements. The Vasse district reflects the existing community of interest between the Busselton, Dunsborough and Margaret River townships. While the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River is split, Augusta remains in the same electorate as the shires to the east.

The district of Blackwood-Stirling reunites the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes and incorporates the Shire of Boyup Brook into the South West Region. This is the only adjustment to the existing South West Region boundary. It remains the Commissioners' view that the land use patterns of both these local government authorities render them appropriate for inclusion in the South West Region.

The districts of Dawesville and Mandurah generally reflect existing boundaries with adjustment for the purpose of balancing elector numbers. In response to a submission, the proposed district of Murray will now be called Murray-Wellington and adjoin the districts of Mandurah and Dawesville. A minor adjustment has been made to the boundary between Murray-Wellington and Mandurah, bringing North Yunderup and South Yunderup together in the same district.

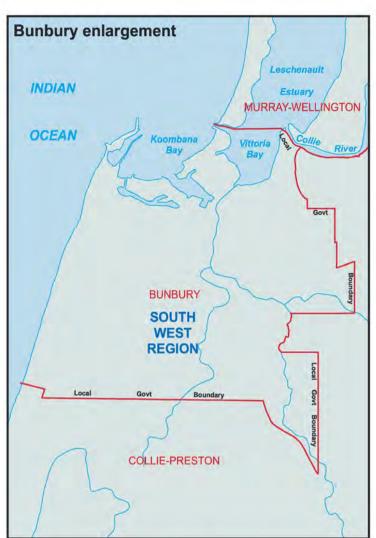
The proposed district name Collie-Preston was opposed in a number of submissions. However, the Commissioners believe the name appropriately reflects the geographic connection to the Collie and Preston Rivers and, for this reason, the name Collie-Preston is retained.

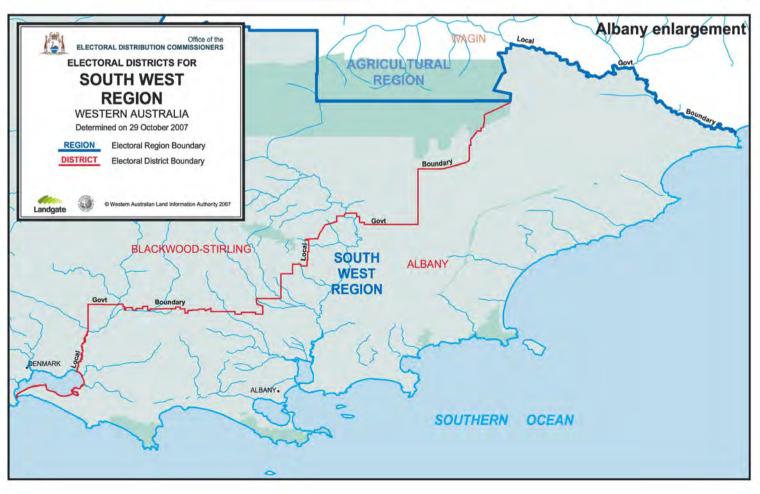
### **Elector Statistics for the South West Region Districts**

District	Elector Enrolment 26/2/07	Deviation from 2007 Average District Enrolment (%)
Albany	21,616	1.25
Blackwood-Stirling	20,009	-6.28
Bunbury	20,185	-5.46
Collie-Preston	22,195	3.96
Dawesville	20,041	-6.13
Mandurah	19,563	-8.37
Murray-Wellington	22,030	3.19
Vasse	22,232	4.13
Total	167,871	









# **CONCLUSION**

Acting under the provisions of the *Electoral Act* we, the undersigned Electoral Distribution Commissioners, publish our division of the State into electoral regions and districts.

The division of the State determined in this publication applies for the next State general election.

The changes to the boundaries of electoral regions and districts are substantial and it is important that electors study this material carefully. This publication is available for download on the boundaries website: www.boundarieswa.com.

The Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners was established as a temporary office to manage the 2007 Electoral Distribution process and will close after the process is completed. All enquiries relating to electoral matters, including electoral boundaries, should be directed to the Western Australian Electoral Commission on 13 63 06.

The Hon. Wayne Martin, CIT. WA Chief Justice of Western Australia Chairman

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Mr Warwick Gately AM Electoral Commissioner Mr Michael Tindall Government Statistician



