



A Co-operative venture of the municipalities of:
Cockburn, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Kwinana, Melville & Rockingham

June 21, 2011

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Our Reference: SWG Electoral Distribution 2011

Secretary
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
Level 2, 111 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

2011 ELECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OBJECTION SOUTH WEST GROUP

The South West Group Mayors believe that insufficient weight has been given to communities of interest, land use patterns, existing local government boundaries and existing boundaries of regions in the 2011 Distribution of Electoral Boundaries.

The South West Group Mayors are prepared to accept a variation in elector numbers within districts to have a better alignment with local government boundaries, regional boundaries and communities of interest.

Section 16H of the *Electoral Act 1907* requires that the three metropolitan regions be generally co-extensive with the metropolitan area. The proposal to have the District of Mandurah straddle the metropolitan area boundary and have 87.88% of the electors in a District beyond the metropolitan area boundary together with a deviation of 25 kilometres from the boundary are both at odds with the boundary being generally co-extensive. The addition of Mandurah to the South Metropolitan Region also unbalances the representation of the three metropolitan regions as required by 16H (1) a (i) when this can be avoided by the South West Group Mayors proposal.

Specific changes to the 2011 Distribution of Electoral Boundaries sought by the six mayors are:

- 1) Preservation of the southern boundary of the South Metropolitan Region from the 2007 Distribution. This boundary is consistent with the boundary of the City of Rockingham, the boundary of the South West Group, the boundary of the Peel Region under the *Regional Development Commissions Act 1993*, the new Australian Bureau of Statistics region boundary and the Federal Regional Development Australia boundary.

- 2) Include North Fremantle in the District of Fremantle. North Fremantle has been part of the City of Fremantle since the Town of North Fremantle was amalgamated with the City of Fremantle in 1961. Moving the boundary to include North Fremantle will align this boundary with the City of Fremantle boundary, the South West Group boundary and the new Australian Bureau of Statistics boundary. Whilst the *Electoral Act 1907* requires that the South Metropolitan Region be generally south of the Swan River it is considered that including these 1,973 electors who are part of the Fremantle community should be allowable within the discretion provided by "generally".
- 3) Leave the seat of Mandurah in the South West Region. The only circumstances under which Mandurah should be considered to be part of the South Metropolitan Region would be if it ceased to be part of a statutory regional development commission region and was part of an extended Metropolitan Regional Planning Scheme as provided for in Section 16 H (2) of the Act.

It is accepted that this will marginally increase the number of electors per District in the South Metropolitan Region but would better position the region to have additional representation in the 2015 Electoral Distribution.

It is suggested that the additional electors are accommodated as follows:

1,973 electors are added to Fremantle District from North Fremantle. This would lift Fremantle District to 26,965 electors which is beyond the 25,495 maximum number. Around 1,500 electors should be moved to Willagee District by moving the Stock Road Boundary towards Petra Street, a local government boundary.

The residual electors for Cottesloe District then becomes 24,320 less 1,973 equals 22,347 which is within tolerance without having to adjust any other boundaries in the North Metropolitan Region.

2,873 electors are added to Warnbro District by retaining Golden Bay and Singleton. Warnbro District is then 23,844 plus 2,873 equals 26,717 which is beyond tolerance.

If 1,250 electors are added to Kwinana District it brings Warnbro District to just within tolerance. The electors added to Kwinana District should be in the area south of Safety Bay Road and west of Lake Walyungup.

Add 500 electors to Mandurah District from Murray Wellington District by moving the boundary from Stock Road towards the Kwinana Freeway.

The South West Group Mayors supports the 2011 Distribution of Electoral Boundaries initiative to have the Bateman District east boundary moving to the Melville local government boundary and the Alfred Cove District west boundary moving to the East Fremantle local government boundary.

The recommendations of the South West Group Mayors would see the following revised 2011 Distribution of Electoral Boundaries.

District within South Metropolitan Region	Revised 2010 Elector Enrolment	Deviation from 2010 Average District Enrolment	Variation proposed by South West Group Mayors
Alfred Cove	23,618	1.90%	Unchanged
Bateman	23,037	-0.61%	Unchanged
Cannington	23,262	0.36%	Unchanged
Cockburn	23,965	3.40%	Unchanged
Fremantle	25,465	9.87%	Increased to include North Fremantle
Jandakot	24,125	4.09%	Unchanged
Kwinana	25,476	9.91%	Increased to allow southern boundary of region to remain
Riverton	24,493	5.67%	Unchanged
Rockingham	24,293	4.81%	Unchanged
South Perth	23,747	2.45%	Unchanged
Southern River	24,328	4.96%	Unchanged
Victoria Park	24,259	4.66%	Unchanged
Warnbro	25,467	9.88%	Increased to allow southern boundary of region to remain
Willagee	25,265	9.00%	Increased to allow North Fremantle to be included in the region
Total	340,800		
Average District	24,342	5.02%	

The South Metropolitan Region electors under the South West Group Mayors proposal are much closer to the number of electors in the other two metropolitan regions (East 339,907 electors and the revised North 340,796 electors).

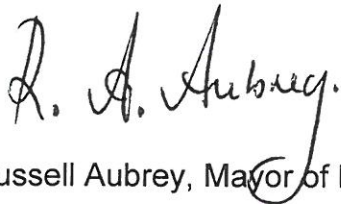
District outside South Metropolitan Region	Revised 2010 Elector Enrolment	Deviation from 2010 Average District Enrolment	Variation proposed by South West Group Mayors
Cottesloe	22,347	-3.59%	Reduced to allow northern boundary of region to align with LGA and region boundary
Mandurah	21,324	-8.00%	Reduced to allow southern boundary of region to remain

The South West Group Mayors strongly believe that their proposal will bring a closer alignment of District and Regional boundaries with communities of interest and better position the region for the 2015 Electoral Distribution to cope with the expected growth of the region.

Yours sincerely



Dr Brad Pettitt, Mayor of Fremantle and Chair of the South West Group



Russell Aubrey, Mayor of Melville and Deputy Chair of the South West Group



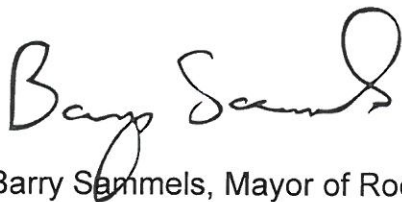
Logan Howlett, Mayor of Cockburn



Alan Ferris, Mayor of East Fremantle



Carol Adams, Mayor of Kwinana



Barry Sammels, Mayor of Rockingham