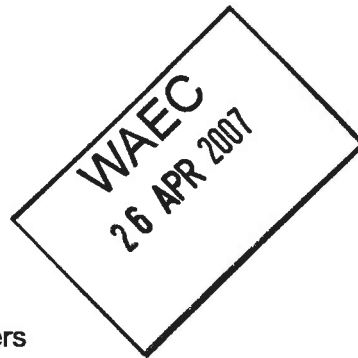


GO/19/008

Mr Warwick Gately AM
Electoral Commission
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6841



**Shire
of
Boyup
Brook**

Dear Mr Gately

NEW WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

The Council of the Shire of Boyup Brook considered this matter at its meeting on the 19th April 2007.

The Council noted that the Commissioners are required to consider a number of other matters in determining boundaries. The following comments are provided on each of these in relation to the Shire of Boyup Brook.

COMMUNITY OF INTEREST

The Shire of Boyup Brook is within the South West Region of the State and share many common interests with other communities within this region for the delivery of services, recreation, social and cultural i.e. health, education, police, road services, regional authority, sporting affiliations, shopping, art & cultural activities, port, industry etc.

LAND USE PATTERNS

The use of land within the Shire, whilst agricultural activities have been the traditional activities these are generally different to the agricultural region to the east and north east of the Shire. Over the past years there has been a significant increase in the use of freehold land for timber production and intensive horticulture. Grain production in the Shire has reduced significantly.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AND DISTANCE FROM THE CAPITAL

Boyup Brook is situated in the South West and its residents normally communicate through the systems provided in the south west area and by the road "network" in this region

PHYSICAL FEATURES

The shire is located at the southern end of the Darling Range and has similar topography to other districts within the south west region. The natural environment is in keeping with the many areas within the south west and we share similar concerns about the needs of this area when addressing issues concerning the environment.

*country
choice*

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EXISTING REGIONS AND DISTRICTS

The present position the Shire is in the Legislative Assembly seat of "Wagin" that includes the Shires of Boyup Brook, Williams, Narrogin, West Arthur, Wagin, Dumbleyung, Woodanilling, Katanning, Broomehill, Tambellup, Kojonup, part of Bridgetown/Greenbushes and the Town of Narrogin. The Shire of Boyup Brook is within the Legislative Council region "Agricultural Region" which includes the area from Kalbarri in the North to Esperance in the South; Gingin, Boddington, Boyup Brook, Kojonup, Tambellup, Gnowangerup to the West/South West and Mullewa, Mukinbudin, Hyden, Lake King in the East/North East.

Representation by Members of Parliament living in areas 1000kms from Boyup Brook is most unsatisfactory for people living in the most densely populated region outside the Perth Metropolitan Area.

EXISTING LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES

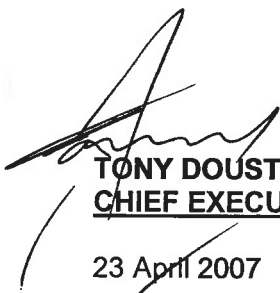
The Shire presently is included in one electoral district and it is important that this position be maintained. As a Local Government we work very closely with other Local Governments in the South West region and have very little contact with those of our Eastern and Southern boundaries.

THE TREND OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES.

The Shire's population is changing as more people decide to live in Boyup Brook for many reasons including lifestyle, environment, available facilities and services, proximity to Bunbury as the regional centre.

Council believe it is extremely important that the Shire is in an electoral area that will allow residents reasonable access to its parliamentary members and that has a focus on the region in which we are geographically situated and serviced by. The Council's position is that we should be included in an electoral area with strong links to the South West region.

Yours sincerely



TONY DOUST
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

23 April 2007