

Shire of Bridgetown- Greenbushes

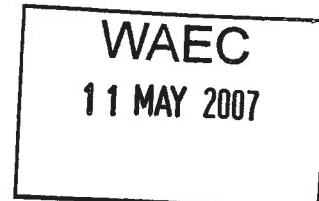
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210

Mr W Gately
Electoral Commissioner
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6841

Dear Sir

NEW WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

I refer to your correspondence dated 30th March 2007 encouraging submissions from individuals and organizations that have a view about where the new Western Australian electoral boundaries should be placed.

Council considered this issue at its meeting of 26th April 2007 where it resolved to lodge a submission with the Western Australian Electoral Distribution Commissioners seeking the retention of the existing electoral boundaries within the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes in its current review of electoral boundaries.

The last review of electoral boundaries occurred in 2003 at which time the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes was split along the lines of its existing East Ward boundary. The East Ward was transferred to the Wagin electorate of the Legislative Assembly and the Agricultural region of the Legislative Council. The balance of the Shire remained in the Warren-Blackwood electorate and South-West Region.

As at 11th February 2007 the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes has the following electoral distribution:

Warren-Blackwood District – 1886 electors
Wagin District – 923 electors
Total = 2809 electors

Despite concerns to the contrary the division of the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes into two districts has not affected the quality of the representation in the Shire. Council is keen to retain its representation in both the Warren-Blackwood and Wagin districts.

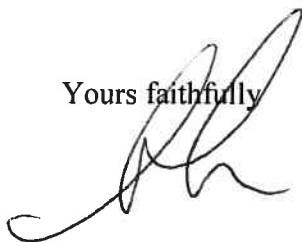
The Commissioners are required to consider a number of other matters in determining the boundaries, including:

- Community of interest
- Land use patterns
- Means of communication and distance from the capital
- Physical features
- Existing boundaries of regions and districts
- Existing local government boundaries
- The trend of demographic changes

Council believes that all of the above matters can be argued to demonstrate the links that the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes has with the balance of the Warren-Blackwood electorate. There is a lesser link with the Wagin electorate however Council is prepared to continue to have a portion of the Shire area separated into that electorate on the basis that the majority of the Shire remains in the Warren-Blackwood electorate.

I hope the views of the Council can be taken into account when determining the new electoral boundaries.

Yours faithfully



TIM CLYNCH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

7th May 2007