

## Media Statement

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### 2015 Electoral Boundary Review kicks off Monday

The 2015 review of Western Australia's State electoral boundaries begins on Monday, 30 March 2015.

Changes to the current State boundaries are to be expected. These changes will take effect at the 2017 State general election.

The three Electoral Distribution Commissioners appointed for the 2015 review are:

- Former Supreme Court judge, Hon. Neville Owen (Chair)
- Mr David Kerlake, Electoral Commissioner
- Mr Tom Joseph, WA Government Statistician.

WA's population has increased and many people have moved house over the last few years. This has altered the spread of people represented by their Members of Parliament across the State.

"To keep things fair, electoral boundaries may need to be adjusted. We value the community's ideas on how we go about doing that," Electoral Commissioner David Kerlake said.

"There are three opportunities for the community to get involved throughout the review, so if you would like to participate, read the fact sheets available on the Electoral Boundaries WA website, [www.boundaries.wa.gov.au](http://www.boundaries.wa.gov.au) – it will give you all the background and information you need to get started."

The first opportunity starts on March 30, when the Commissioners will be inviting the community to send in their written suggestions as part of the first stage of the electoral boundary review process.

**...ENDS/.**

Authorised by the Electoral Distribution Commissioners, 30 March 2015

Contact: [media.boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au](mailto:media.boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au)

## **Electoral Boundary Review Fast Facts:**

The electoral boundary review is outlined in Part IIA of the *Electoral Act 1907*.

The review commences on 30 March 2015 and the final boundaries will be published no later than 30 November 2015.

Changes to electoral boundaries are triggered by local population changes in the number of electors. Consistent with the principles of democracy, the review ensures that no electorate becomes too large or too small:

- for districts smaller than 100 000km<sup>2</sup>, the total number of electors must be between -10 and +10 % of the average district enrolment
- for districts larger than 100 000km<sup>2</sup>, the total number of electors must be between -20 and +10% (including the large district allowance) of the average district enrolment

In accordance with legislation, a snapshot of the State electoral roll was taken on 9 March 2015 being two years after the last State general election. At this date:

- there are 1,470,451 electors in Western Australia
- there has been an increase of 102,919 electors since 2011 when the electoral boundaries were last changed
- the number of electorates remains the same at 59
- the average district enrolment is 24,923
- 12 districts are outside the permissible variation.

The boundaries will be redrawn based on the average district enrolment and also taking into account:

- community of interest
- land use patterns
- communication, means of travel and distance from the capital
- physical features
- existing boundaries of regions and districts
- existing local government boundaries
- the trend of demographic changes.

This information and more will also be available in the Commissioners' fact sheets available from [www.boundaries.wa.gov.au](http://www.boundaries.wa.gov.au)

See the launch video at [www.boundaries.wa.gov.au/media/resources](http://www.boundaries.wa.gov.au/media/resources).