



Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a response to the proposed WA electoral boundaries. It is my view a balanced judgement has been made by abolishing Eyre and creating a metropolitan district. I have the following comments on the proposed boundaries:

#### **Abolishing Eyre and Creating Baldivis**

This redistribution has provided the metropolitan area with 43 districts with a VFADE of +2.94%. This means the metropolitan area will still have one district less than it is entitled to,  $43 \times 1.0294 = 44.3$  districts. This should address the potential argument that country electors have not been adequately considered in this redistribution. Furthermore, country electors are well supported in the Electoral Act by being entitled to a large district allowance and being provided with approximately triple representation in the Legislative Council, placing them in a better position than in other State parliaments.

#### **Naming of Districts**

The proposed policy change to name districts after WA people and events certainly has merit, however it is my view that there is insufficient guidelines at this stage to implement this policy. This is because it would be more beneficial to the public if they could provide input into the naming of districts during initial phases of the redistribution. Perhaps the Commissioners could recommend that the WAEC develop naming guidelines in time for the next redistribution.

The suggested names do not necessarily eliminate confusion. For example, parts of Morley are not in the district of Morley. The same can be said for Maylands, Baldivis and Joondalup. Also, at a state level, with smaller districts it may be more confusing for an electoral to understand a non-geographical name and how it applies to their enrolment.

#### **Agricultural Region**

My only objection is that the Shire of Jerramungup has been excised from its close agricultural neighbours by being placed in the Albany district where it shares less than 25% of its borders. Incidentally, to get from the east to the west of Roe and vice versa, the Shire of Jerramungup would have to be traversed in many cases.

#### **South West Region**

Collie-Preston has been changed from a district that has three whole councils to one that has two whole councils and pockets of three others including outskirts of the east of Busselton and the north and south of Bunbury. Is there is a way to avoid Collie-Preston becoming a bits and pieces district?

#### **North and East Metropolitan Regions**

The district of West Swan (Mann) stands out as one where it is difficult to achieve a strong community of interest. It is difficult to find a link between Banksia Grove, Wangara, Bullsbrook West and the Swan Valley. It would like to suggest an option that realigns the districts of West Swan (Mann), Swan Hills (Salvado), Mirrabooka, Girrawheen (Coombs) and Wanneroo; and perhaps return Girrawheen to the North Metropolitan Region and Mount Lawley to the East Metropolitan Region. This involves the following exchanges:

1. Transfer City of Wanneroo suburbs north of Ocean Reef Road from West Swan to Wanneroo.
2. Transfer Hocking and Pearsall from Wanneroo to Girrawheen; and Wangara from West Swan to Girrawheen.
3. Transfer Lansdale north from Girrawheen to West Swan and Lansdale South from Girrawheen to Mirrabooka.

4. Unite all of Ballajura in West Swan.
5. Return Ellenbrook to West Swan and retain Ballajura, Malaga, Cullacabardee, Lexia and Whiteman Park North in West Swan while moving the rest of the district to Swan Hills.

This creates the following districts:

1. Wanneroo – contains City of Wanneroo suburbs north of Ocean Reef Road and east of Wanneroo Road/Lake Joondalup excluding Hocking and Pearsall.
2. Girrawheen – realigned to become an electorate that extends to the east of Wanneroo Road, but no further than Mirrabooka Avenue, from Girrawheen to Hocking.
3. Mirrabooka – extends north of Alexander Heights to include Lansdale South and loses Ballajura.
4. West Swan (Mann) – contains Ballajura, Malaga, Ellenbrook, Lansdale north, Cullacabardee, Lexia and Whiteman Park north to become a more compact and contiguous district.
5. Swan Hills – unites the entire Swan Valley and some surrounding subdivisions.

This option may split Ellenbrook from Aveley and the Vines but should achieve stronger community of interests. This split should fall within the rules, even more so than the proposed splitting of other suburbs such as Dianella being within four districts. This option allows the suburb of Ballajura in one district.