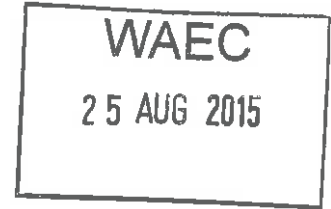

From: Lynley Rich <Lynley.Rich@busselton.wa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2015 11:59 AM
To: 2015 Electoral Boundaries Review
Subject: Submission
Attachments: electoral boundaries submission.doc



Please accept the attached submission relating to Electoral Boundaries WA 2015.

Kind regards

Lynley Rich
Manager, Governance Services
p: (08) 9781 0459 m: 0416 764 324
Lynley.Rich@busselton.wa.gov.au

City of Busselton
Locked Bag 1 - 2 Southern Drive, Busselton WA 6280
p: (08) 9781 0444 f: (08) 9752 4958
www.busselton.wa.gov.au

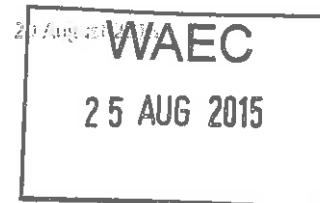
"Events Capital WA"

This email has been scanned by the WAEC Security System in accordance with WAEC Policies.

Attention:

This email and any attachments may contain confidential or legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not disclose or use the information contained in it. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately, and delete it from your system.

While every care is taken, it is recommended that you scan the attachments for viruses.



**Submission
Electoral Boundaries WA 2015**

INTRODUCTION

The City of Busselton makes a submission on the proposed Electoral Boundaries 2015 relating to the proposal to decrease the regional districts by one and increase the metropolitan districts by one. The submission also addresses the proposal to split the District of Vasse ceding areas to Collie-Capel, specifically as it relates to placing areas of the *City of Busselton* into Collie-Capel.

SUBMISSION

The City of Busselton is opposed to reducing the representation for regional areas of Western Australia. While acknowledging that the current requirement is for there to be 59 electoral districts and the need for additional metropolitan representation, it is the City's view that it would be preferable for a change to be made to the total number of districts (to 60) rather than removing a regional district in favour of an additional metropolitan district.

The City is also opposed to the proposal to cede the localities of Geographe, Reinscourt, Yalyalup, Yoongarillup, Sabina River, Hithergreen, Abba River, Ruabon, Wonnerup, Tutunup, Yoganup and Jarrahwood, effectively splitting the City of Busselton between Vasse and Collie-Capel.

In the first instance, the City is of the view that the break-up of Districts in the South West region should remain as it currently stands largely due to the variation from average District enrolment in all areas currently being within tolerance, and the current situation more accurately reflects communities of interest than the new boundaries proposed in Electoral Boundaries 2015.

One of the key reasons given for the changes to the South West region districts is to permit the township of Margaret River (although not the entire locality) to be reunited in the one district. Otherwise, the changes proposed for Vasse and Warren-Blackwood (Molloy) and for Vasse and Collie-Preston (Collie-Capel) are largely dictated by the desirability and (or) necessity of balancing elector numbers. The City contends that the current proposal splits the City of Busselton into two districts and is therefore not desirable for the same reasons. If this proposal does not proceed, there will not be any requirement to (re)balance elector numbers as the balance already exists.

In addition, should the proposal proceed, the City has concerns about the communities of interest, the distance between Busselton and the remainder of the Collie-Capel district, and therefore the accessibility of the local member, and the potential for an unnecessary change to create unnecessary confusion for the electors of the district.

CONCLUSION

The City requests earnest consideration of leaving the existing districts in the South West region as they currently stand as elector equity is already achieved and this configuration provides better communities of interest outcomes. However, should the proposed changes proceed, it is considered that Collie-Capel is not the most appropriate name for the new District. The City requests the inclusion of 'Geographe' in the new name of the new District to recognise the southern-most portion of the district utilising the name of the biggest urban area in the new district.