

389 OB

**From:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 August 2023 1:25 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** 389 OB  
**Attachments:** Letter to Electoral Commissioner - Proposed Boundaries 2025.pdf

**From:** Nic Warren <ceo@yilgarn.wa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 August 2023 2:58 PM  
**To:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Shire of Yilgarn Objection

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Afternoon

Please see submission attached.

Regards

**Nic Warren**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

Shire of Yilgarn  
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ACTION BY: _____	

*Acknowledgement of Country: The Western Australian Electoral Commission acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which our electoral activities take place. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.*

18-795



18 August 2023



Mr Robert Kennedy  
WA Electoral Commissioner  
GPO Box F316  
PERTH WA 6841

To Mr Kennedy

### **PROPOSED BOUNDARIES FOR THE 2025 STATE GENERAL ELECTION**

I am writing on behalf of the Shire of Yilgarn Council, to advise of the Shire's objection to the WA Electoral Commission's recently published proposed electoral boundaries to be used at the next State election in 2025.

The Shire's position is based on the following:

1. The proposal to reduce the number of non-metropolitan districts by one, will significantly reduce the political representation of regional communities. This reduction in representation is compounded by the 2021 change to the Legislative Council regions to create a whole of state electorate.

Without sufficient political representation, the Shire of Yilgarn along with many other regional communities will be "out of sight, out of mind", swamped by the sheer weight of voters in metropolitan Perth and large regional centres.

Regional communities need effective representation to ensure that the unique needs and challenges of people living outside the metropolitan area are adequately addressed at a State level.

2. As political representation of non-metropolitan communities at the State level is diminished, the political representation provided by Local Governments will become even more important.

The service provision expectations and requirements of Local Governments have increased considerably, rarely with commensurate increases in funding and resourcing.

This has led to Local Governments like the Shire of Yilgarn, providing services previously the responsibility of other spheres of government. Examples for the Shire of Yilgarn include the provision of primary health care, aged care and housing. Diminished political representation, requiring Local Government to fill another gap, will further stretch capacity and resources.

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3. In considering political representation it is important to acknowledge the economic contribution of non-metropolitan districts to the wealth and standard of living in Western Australia.

Regional WA is home to many of the state's key export industries, for example the Shire of Yilgarn houses both significant mining and agriculture endeavours. As the prevalence of fly-in-fly-out has increased, local communities are suffering, and Yilgarn is no different, as such it is crucial that the permanent residents of communities that host the bulk of WA's export industries remain politically represented.

The Shire of Yilgarn supports strong and effective political representation for the non-metropolitan districts to ensure that regional WA is supported in order to continue to generate export and employment opportunities that benefit all West Australians.

As such, the Shire of Yilgarn's objects to the proposed boundaries, on the basis that the reduction of non-metropolitan districts will:

1. Further diminish political representation for regional communities;
2. Increase pressure on regional Local Governments; and
3. Fail to recognise the contributions of non-metropolitan districts to the WA economy.

Should you have any queries please contact the undersigned on (08) 9049 1001

Yours sincerely,



Nic Warren  
**Chief Executive Officer**