

493 Ob

From: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Sent: Friday, 25 August 2023 2:43 PM
To:
Subject: 493 OB
Attachments: 20230821101905067.pdf

From: Rob Paull <ceo@carnamah.wa.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 21 August 2023 10:16 AM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>

Subject: Objection to 2023 WA Electoral Distribution Commission Proposed Boundaries

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Dear Sir/Madam.

Please find attached correspondence from Shire President Cr Mere Isbister on behalf of Council.

Cheers

Rob

Robert Paull
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Carnamah

33-37 Macpherson Street, Carnamah WA 6517

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The Shire of Carnamah acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community; and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

W.A.E.C. RECORDS	
FILE No.	<u>DST 0152</u>
DATE:	<u>21 AUG 2023</u>
ACTION BY:	_____





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Our Ref: ADM0072

18 August 2023

Robert Kennedy
Electoral Commissioner
Electoral Commission WA
Level 2, 111 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

By Email to: boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr Kennedy,

Objection to 2023 WA Electoral Distribution Commission Proposed Boundaries

On behalf of the Council of the Shire of Carnamah, I wish to lodge an objection to the 2023 Western Australian Distribution Commission's proposed boundaries. Specifically, the Council oppose the proposal from the Commission to amalgamate two non-metropolitan districts. A reduction in the number of non-metropolitan districts is opposed for the following reasons:

- Political representation of regional communities will be significantly diminished.
- The reduction in representation will compound the 2021 change to the Legislative Council regions that created a 'whole of state electorate' where the voice of regional, rural, and remote communities has been overwhelmed by the relative number of voters in metropolitan Perth and more populous towns.
- With political representation of non-metropolitan communities at the State level diminished, the political representation provided by local governments will become even more important which will challenge many non-metropolitan local governments (such as the Shire of Carnamah) who have already stretched capacity and resourcing.
- With the loss of representation, numerous rural/remote WA local governments will continue to be forced to provide services previously the responsibility of other spheres of government (such as primary health care, aged care and housing).

Council is aware of the submission of objection lodged on behalf of WA local governments by the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA). Council strongly support WALGA's advocacy on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Cr Merle Isbister
Shire President

Cc WALGA President Cr Karen Chappel