

528 Ob

**From:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 August 2023 3:08 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** 528 OB  
**Attachments:** Electoral redistribution.docx

**From:** Jenni York jenniyc@mp.com.au <jenniyc@mp.com.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 August 2023 4:29 PM  
**To:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Electoral redistribution objection - attached

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Jenni York

*In this season of Djilba, I acknowledge the Menang Bibbulmun people as the traditional owners of the land on which I live. I pay my respects to the Elders, past and present and to the wider Bibbulmun community.*

*If the landscape reveals one certainty,  
it is that the extravagant gesture is  
the very stuff of creation.*

Annie Dillard - quoted in 'Mother Earth Diary'.

<b>W.A.E.C. RECORDS</b>	
FILE No.	DST 0152
DATE:	21 AUG 2023
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.*



Objection to the Proposed Changes of the  
Electoral Distribution of Roe.

I wish to object to the redistribution of parts of the Shire of Plantagenet out of the District of Warren-Blackwood into the District of Roe. This redistribution significantly disadvantages myself as a Perillup resident and, in my opinion, all the residents of the reallocated districts of the Shire.

I take a keen interest in civic affairs and since moving to Perillup almost 4 years ago, have met with and called my local member, Jane Kelsbie and her office staff in her office in Denmark on a number of occasions. The journey is just over 100 km and takes about an hour.

With the inclusion of Perillup into Roe, the availability for me of any personal interactions with the local Member is severely constrained, one might almost say impossible. I note that the current Member for Roe has two electoral offices – one in Narrogin and the other in Esperance. Narrogin is 202 km – 2 ½ hours away and Esperance is 520km – 5 ¾ hours away.

I understand and appreciate the need for reviewing and redrawing electoral boundaries from time to time. I note that the reasoning for splitting the Shire of Plantagenet between the Districts of Roe and Albany – the presumed “like with like” interests of the residents of the electorates. I note also that the Electorate of Roe has been increased by 17.3% from 104,934 electors to 123,906 electors, which is a significant increase bringing the ADE to 0.5%. However, I submit that democratic representation and participation is not just a matter of numbers – it is also a matter of community connections with social, cultural and well-being factors. Accordingly, I submit that agricultural activity should not be the only consideration in determining the establishment/changes of an electorate – the distances and travel times to towns is another important consideration, especially in the matter of civic participation.

I live on the boundary between the Shire of Cranbrook and the Shire of Plantagenet. I travel 60 km to Mt Barker, an hour's journey. Albany and Denmark, my other two closest commercial and cultural centres are 100km/1 ¼ hours away (approx.). This is already a considerable constraint in terms of cost and time for my engagement in social, cultural and civic activities. Being allocated to the Electorate of Roe, where I have no connections currently and am not likely to establish any because of time, cost and distance, will effectively alienate me from my natural communities. To me, it constitutes a form of disenfranchisement.

I ask that the Commissioners take the points above into consideration in their final decision on the Electoral boundaries of Roe. I support the submission made by Mr Chris Pavlovich, the Plantagenet Shire President, that the whole of the Shire be transferred to Albany. While I understand the reasoning given for the proposed changes, I submit that the human needs for community and social interaction are just as important as numbers.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer M York

Perillup. 6324