LIBERAL PARTY SUBMISSION 2019 DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES



The Liberal Party considers that this distribution should be incremental rather than radical in its approach. There are sufficient electors to maintain an overall 16 districts outside the Metropolitan Area, and therefore there is no need to abolish a non-metropolitan district and create an entirely new metropolitan district as occurred in 2015.

It is however recognised that 11 districts fall outside the permitted deviation from Average District Enrolment (ADE) and that this will necessitate a degree of change in many other seats, although without any district being abolished. Some name changes may result when eponymous localities are removed from a district.

The Liberal Party notes that while the Distribution Commissioners have the authority to vary the boundary of the Metropolitan Area, they have not exercised this option in the last three distributions. It is therefore proposed to leave this boundary unaltered in 2019.

NON-METROPOLITAN REGIONS

With 400,083 enrolled electors and a total Large District Allowance (LDA) of 36,116, there are sufficient numbers in these three Regions to maintain all 16 districts. However with one district in the South West Region exceeding ADE, and another close to the upper limit, and with three districts in the Agricultural, and Mining and Pastoral Regions either falling below ADE or approaching the lower limit, it should be necessary to transfer some 6000 electors from the South West Region.

It is noted that the districts of Geraldton, Bunbury and Albany all fall within ADE and need not gain or surrender any electors to their adjacent districts. Accordingly we propose to leave their boundaries unchanged.

- Equally the districts of Vasse and Warren-Blackwood are both within ADE, with the option of a minor boundary change to bring their respective enrolments closer together.
- This can be achieved by retaining the localities of Gracetown and Cowaramup within the district of Vasse while transferring the remaining section of the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River to Warren-Blackwood.

The district of Dawesville exceeds ADE by 12.6% and occupies firm, natural geographic boundaries except for the locality of Dudley Park on the north/east side of the Peel Inlet. It is therefore proposed that the greater part of Dudley Park, east of Leslie Street/Darwin Terrace, be transferred to the district of Mandurah.

Excess numbers of electors will then be required to be transferred from the district of Mandurah to the district of Murray-Wellington.

• There are 1556 electors in the localities of Barragup and Furnissdale who fall within the Shire of Murray.

- In addition the 3501 electors in the north-eastern section of the City of Mandurah, in the localities of Parklands and Lakelands, are also proposed to be transferred to Murray-Wellington.
- This is not the first occasion when the City of Mandurah had more electors than could be contained within two electoral districts. When this last occurred in 2003 the entire northern part of the City of Mandurah, including Madora Bay and Meadow Springs, was included in the then district of Murray.

It will be consequentially necessary for in excess of 6000 electors to be transferred from the district of Murray-Wellington to the district of Collie-Preston. This would logically occur in the urban locality of Australiad that is already split between these two districts, uniting the great majority of these electors in one district.

To balance the gain of these electors, the district of Collie-Preston will be required to cede an equivalent number, and there are 6287 electors in the Shire of Collie. While it is often argued that Collie Shire is oriented towards Bunbury, the fact remains that unlike the Shires of Dardanup and Capel it cannot simply be considered as part of Greater Bunbury. From 1990 until 2001, and again since 2016, the Shire of Collie and the City of Bunbury have been in separate Commonwealth electoral divisions; Collie Shire is now included in the Division of O'Connor that extends to Esperance and Kalgoorlie.

The district of Collie-Preston, still retaining the great majority of its current electors, might then be redesignated as Preston, Dardanup or any other appropriate geographic name.

The addition of the Shire of Collie to the district of Roe would raise its numbers to 33,369. Accordingly it is proposed that the Shires of Cuballing, Narrogin, Wickepin and Williams with a total of 4436 electors, be ceded to the district of Central Wheatbelt.

Central Wheatbelt would then have an enrolment of 30,791 electors plus an LDA of 1500. However the transfer of the Shires of Dowerin, Goomalling, Koorda, Wongan-Ballidu and Wyalkatchem, all to the district of Moore, will remove 2654 electors. It is also proposed that the Shires of Westonia and Yilgarn with 825 electors be transferred back to the Mining and Pastoral Region and the district of Kalgoorlie.

- This gives the district of Central Wheatbelt an enrolment of 27,282 and brings the enrolment of the district of Moore up to 26,890.
- The removal of Yilgarn/Westonia will also remove the LDA from the district of Central Wheatbelt and the Agricultural Region.

The district of Kimberley with an enrolment of 15,275 and LDA of 6315 falls below the permitted lower limit of ADE. The Liberal Party considers that the current stagnation in enrolment does not constitute a long-term trend, and that a radical expansion of an historic boundary into towns with unrelated communities of interest would not be justified.

- It is proposed that Kimberley gain the easternmost section of the Shire of East Pilbara, lying south of the current boundary of Kimberley. This mainly involves a transfer of LDA with only a small number of electors being affected.
- The district of Pilbara will otherwise have its existing boundaries left undisturbed.

The district of North West Central is again in danger of falling below the lower limit of deviation from ADE. It is proposed to transfer the Shires of Leonora and Laverton, with a combined land area of 211,987 square kilometres, from the district of Kalgoorlie to North West Central.

 An additional 684 electors and LDA of 3180 will significantly boost the enrolment of North West Central. There would now be a combined 1385 electors in the Shires of Leonora, Laverton and Ngaanyatjarraku, a significant percentage of the 10,599 electors in North West Central, mitigating any sense of geographic isolation.

As noted, the district of Kalgoorlie loses 684 electors and gains 825 from the Shires of Yilgarn and Westonia. While the transfers of LDA reduces its total enrolment, it still remains well within the lower limit of ADE.

Altogether the overwhelming majority of electors in the Mining and Pastoral Region will remain within their current districts.

METROPOLITAN REGIONS

It is desirable to avoid drastic boundary changes to the 43 metropolitan districts, while redistributing excess enrolment from those falling outside ADE. For this reason no changes are proposed to the boundaries of the districts of Cottesloe, Scarborough, Mount Lawley, South Perth and Victoria Park. The changes affecting many other districts could be described as minimal, verging towards incremental.

The main areas of change are proposed for some districts bordering the three Legislative Council Regions. Currently it is less than ideal for localities in the City of Wanneroo or the City of Rockingham to be designated as part of the East Metropolitan Region. In addition the present east-west configuration of the districts of Thornlie and Southern River creates a convuluted boundary between the South and East Metropolitan Regions.

NORTH METROPOLITAN REGION

As the district of Perth exceeds ADE by 10.45% it is proposed to remove the southern part of the locality of West Perth, Kings Park, and a small section of Perth by aligning the boundary with Nedlands along the centre of the Mitchell Freeway.

- This restores the Perth-Nedlands boundary that previously existed from 1994 until 2007. This section of West Perth had also been included in the federal division of Curtin from 1990 until 2016.
- A significant part of the City of Perth with 1908 electors is already contained within the district of Nedlands.

In turn we suggest that two small sections within the current district of Nedlands be ceded to the district of Churchlands:

• The section of the locality of Floreat lying west of Brookdale Street.

• The section of West Leederville lying between Cambridge Street and the Perth-Fremantle railway line, thus uniting the entire locality of West Leederville within the district of Churchlands.

At the northern extremity of this Region, the district of Butler requires a reduction in enrolment and it is proposed that the locality of Quinns Rocks with 5546 electors be ceded to the district of Burns Beach.

With Burns Beach thus contracting northwards, it is proposed that the localities of Currambine (2593 electors) and Joondalup (3383 electors) be transferred to the district of Joondalup. These two major localities would no longer be split between two districts, and the coastal orientation of the district of Burns Beach would be reinforced.

Joondalup would cede the section of the locality of Mullaloo lying west of Dampier Avenue to the district of Hillarys. In turn the south-eastern section of the locality of Padbury, bounded by Gibson Avenue, would be transferred to the district of Carine.

The locality of Edgewater with 3208 electors would be transferred from the district of Joondalup to the district of Kingsley. We submit that this district will receive substantial infill growth in the near future.

- For this reason it is proposed to revert to the south-eastern boundary of Kingsley that existed in 2011-15, which ran southward along Ballantyne Road and Dorchester Avenue through the locality of Warwick.
- The eastern section of the locality of Warwick would be transferred to the district of Balcatta.

The localities of Banksia Grove and Mariginiup have a far greater community of interest with the remainder of the City of Wanneroo than with the City of Swan localities, which dominate the district of West Swan. This district currently extends very widely across the northern and eastern metropolitan area. It is therefore proposed that these localities be included within the district of Wanneroo.

In turn the district of Wanneroo will need to contact northward and cede the locality of Pearsall, and the major part of the locality of Hocking, to the district of Girrawheen. It is proposed to move this district substantially northward, also taking the localities of Wangara, Jandabup and Gnangara from the district of West Swan.

- To remain within ADE, Girrawheen would cede the locality of Girrawheen and the south-east section of Marangaroo, bounded by Highclere Boulevard and Rawlinson Drive.
- This would necessitate a change of name. We suggest that 'Wangara' would be appropriate.

EAST METROPOLITAN REGION

The district of Morley is substantially below ADE. It is proposed that it expand northwards by including the locality of Dianella currently within the district of Mirrabooka, together with that section of the locality of Westminster that lies east of Stroughton Road.

The district of Mirrabooka can then in turn move northward into the localities of Girrawheen and Marangaroo, as described. It would also cede the 2327 electors in the locality of Ballajura (and the City of Swan) to the district of West Swan; this district would no longer extend across three major local governments.

Rather than its current sprawl from Banksia Grove to Herne Hill, we propose more compact boundaries for the district of West Swan.

- It would cede all localities in the City of Wanneroo to the districts of Wanneroo and Girrawheen, as described.
- It would also cede Herne Hill, Millendon and other localities east of the Swan River to the district of Swan Hills.
- It would cede the locality of Bennett Springs to the district of Bassendean.
- It would gain the section of Ballajura currently within the district of Mirrabooka, uniting that entire major locality within the same district.
- As Ellenbrook and its related urban areas can no longer be sensibly contained in the one district, it is proposed to transfer the southern section of the locality of Ellenbrook from the district of Swan Hills to West Swan.

The gain of Bennet Springs by the district of Bassendean is proposed to be offset by realigning its south-western boundary with the district of Maylands. This would revert to the local government boundary as prevailed in 2011, transferring that section of the locality of Bayswater to Maylands.

The district of Swan Hills would retain the localities of Aveley and The Vines, together with the northern sections of the locality of Ellenbrook, and would regain from West Swan those localities lying east of the Swan River. This would restore a greater community of interest to semi-rural Swan Valley localities.

The district of Midland can be brought within ADE by ceding the locality of Guildford, together with the eastern section of the locality of Hazelmere, to the district of Belmont.

 The transfer of Guildford to the district of Belmont had been considered in an earlier distribution, and an obvious community of interest exists with South Guildford, already within the district of Belmont.

The district of Kalamunda, 2.48% below ADE, is proposed to gain an additional 2203 electors by incorporating the sections of the Shire of Mundaring and the City of Kalamunda, currently within the district of Darling Range.

- Furthermore Darling Range would cede 530 electors in the locality of Baldivis within the City of Rockingham to the district of Baldivis, and 1000 electors in the locality of Wellard in the City of Kwinana, to the district of Kwinana.
- The district of Darling Range would thus be confined to the City of Armadale and the entire Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale, rather than extending over five local governments.
- It is also proposed that the major part of the locality of Kelmscott currently within Darling Range be transferred to the district of Armadale.

We suggest that the district of Forrestfield gain additional electors by incorporating that section of the locality of Maddington, currently within the district of Thornlie, lying north and east of Alcock Street.

To offset the gain of electors from Darling Range, it is proposed that the district of Armadale cede the localities of Champion Lakes and Camillo to the district of Thornlie.

We are proposing that the district of Thornlie be realigned on a north-south axis, straightening the boundary with the South Metropolitan Region.

- It would cede the section of Maddington as described to the district of Forrestfield.
- It would cede that northern section of the locality of Thornlie lying north of Yale Road and Spring Road, to the district of Cannington.
- It would cede the western section of the locality of Thornlie to the district of Southern River.
- It would gain the remainder of the locality of Gosnells from the district of Southern River.
- As described, it would gain the localities of Champion Lakes and Camillo from the district of Armadale.

SOUTH METROPOLITAN REGION

A belt of five established suburban districts — Bicton, Bateman, Willagee, Riverton and Cannington — are notably below ADE whereas the districts of Jandakot and Baldivis are substantially above ADE.

To end the division of the localities of Alfred Cove and Myaree, we propose that 1699 electors in these localities be transferred from the district of Bateman to the district of Bicton. The boundary between these districts would run south along Norma Road to Leach Highway.

In turn it is proposed to incorporate the locality of Murdoch and the north-eastern section of the locality of Kardinya into the district of Bateman, bounded by North Lake Road and South Street.

The district of Willagee would extend westward to include the major part of the locality of Spearwood currently within the district of Fremantle, also bringing the enrolment of that district down closer to ADE.

• It would also include the localities of Spearwood (4558 electors) and South Lake (833 electors) currently within the district of Cockburn.

The district of Cockburn would incorporate the locality of Atwell (5457 electors) from the district of Kwinana. The locality of Banjup with 873 electors would transfer from Kwinana to the district of Jandakot.

To move back into the actual City of Kwinana, it is proposed that the district of Kwinana incorporate the following localities:

• The locality of Bertram currently within the district of Baldivis.

- The section of Wellard currently within the district of Darling Range.
- The section of Wellard north of the Perth-Mandurah railway line, and east of Wellard Road, currently within the district of Baldivis.
- The remaining section of the locality of Leda, currently within Baldivis.

The district of Baldivis would also cede the remainder of the locality of Cooloongup to the district of Rockingham, taking the enrolment of that district above ADE.

- It would gain that section of the locality of Baldivis lying east of the Kwinana Freeway from the district of Darling Range.
- It would gain the localities of Baldivis and Karnup from the district of Warnbro, with a boundary running north-south along Ennis Avenue/Mandurah Road.

As described, the district of Cannington is proposed to gain additional electors from the locality of Thornlie, taking its enrolment above ADE.

We suggest that the district of Riverton move south-east to incorporate the Canning Vale markets and that section of the locality of Canning Vale between Ranford and Nicholson Roads.

- In addition, the district of Jandakot would cede to the district of Southern River that section of Canning Vale lying east of Nicholson Road and falling within the City of Gosnells.
- As noted previously, the district of Jandakot would gain the locality of Banjup.

The district of Southern River would be centred squarely on its eponymous locality, having gained sections of the Canning Vale and Thornlie localities while ceding the locality of Gosnells.

NAMING OF DISTRICTS

The Liberal Party understands and appreciates that there are no proposals for the wholesale renaming of electoral districts. We are firmly of the belief that geographic names are entirely appropriate for Legislative Assembly electoral districts and for the Regions of the Legislative Council. We also consider that naming districts after individuals gives rise to controversies that distract from the essential task of an electoral distribution.

The only valid reason to change the names of districts are boundary changes that substantially remove an eponymous locality from a district. For this reason we have suggested new names for the current districts of Collie-Preston and Girrawheen. Consideration might also be given to reinstating the name 'Gosnells' for the current district of Thornlie.