

File GV.00



Shire of **Ngaanyatjarraku**  
ON A JOURNEY

4 May 2023

Electoral Distribution Commissioners  
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Tjulyuru Cultural and Civic Centre  
Warburton Community

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Dear Commissioners

## **RE: ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REVIEW**

The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku thanks the Commission for providing the opportunity to comment on the suggestions received.

The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku is a unique remote local government situated within the traditional lands of the Ngaanyatjarra people of the Central Desert in Western Australia. As the provider of mainstream local government and services to the ten communities and visitors within its boundaries, the Shire covers an expansive area of 159,948 square kilometres, showcasing natural beauty from the magnificent Rawlinson ranges to the red sandy plains of the Gibson Desert. The Shire's offices are situated in the Tjulyuru Cultural and Civic Centre in Warburton.

The Shire is currently in the North West Central and we do not have a lot of connection to the District. The elected member there has taken the time to try and represent us and has flown in and met with us as regularly as possible given the size of the District, as such we appreciate the effort.

Our main concern regarding this review is the potential for less regional representation in the Parliament after the 2025 State election for our very remote rural area. As a result of the changes the metropolitan boundary line that delineated city seats and regional Western Australia has been removed - there will likely be a significant change to peri-urban seats and possibly a further loss of regional seats. The result could reduce the ability for constituents to access their local Member and the services and advocacy they provide. Even with technology and connectivity improvements (which are lacking on the NG Lands), the role of a Local Member is greatly assisted and enhanced by being present and available in person for the people they represent in the Parliament

Given the above background the Shire would like to comment on the following submissions.

### Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku

Given the above comments regarding the potential for less regional representation, the Shires position was to support the retention of the current 16 regional seats.

### WA Labor

We would like to comment on only one aspect of this submission – Kalgoorlie District, that proposes the entirety of the Shires of Sandstone, Wiluna and Ngaanyatjarraku move to the Kalgoorlie District.

Our Shire would support being part of the Kalgoorlie District as it has more commonality of interest with Kalgoorlie than Carnarvon for the following example reasons:

- Warburton to Kalgoorlie is only 900kms (via Leonora) whereas Carnarvon is 1,870kms (via Leonora);

- All connecting transport corridors (road / air) to services are to Kalgoorlie;
- The Shire is part of the Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils with meetings revolving around Kalgoorlie;
- All State / Federal agencies (RDAGE, GEDC, DoC, DFES, DSR, DLGSC, etc) are based in Kalgoorlie.
- Regional Hospital and medical services are in Kalgoorlie;
- Etc.

The majority of community interactions from the NG Lands are either with Kalgoorlie or Alice Springs.

As such the Shire supports being moved to the Kalgoorlie District.

Yours faithfully



Damian McLean  
Shire President