

# **2023 Review of Western Australia's Electoral Boundaries**

**Final Report** 

December 2023



## Introduction

The *Electoral Act 1907* (the Act) requires that Western Australia's State electoral boundaries be reviewed once in the life of each Parliament.

The distribution process commenced in March 2023 and was undertaken by the three independent Electoral Distribution Commissioners:

- Hon. Eric Heenan KC, retired Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia (Chairperson)
- Mr Tom Joseph, Government Statistician
- Mr Robert Kennedy, Western Australian Electoral Commissioner

The Act required the Commissioners to determine a "relevant day" at an approximate mid-point between the previous and next State General Elections. For the 2023 Distribution the Commissioners selected 13 March 2023 as the relevant day. The Commissioners then undertook their review of the electoral boundaries based on Western Australia's elector enrolment figures as of this date.

In conducting the review, the Act required that the Commissioners:

- provide a 30-day period for written suggestions to be lodged in relation to the division of the State into electoral districts (which occurred between 1 April – 1 May 2023);
- provide a subsequent 14-day period for written comments to be lodged in response to the suggestions that were received (2 May – 15 May 2023);
- after the consideration of all written suggestions and comments, formulate and publish proposed electoral district boundaries, along with a statement outlining the reasoning behind the proposed boundaries;
- provide a 30-day period for written objections to be lodged in relation to the proposed electoral district boundaries (21 July 21 August 2023); and
- after the consideration of all written objections, divide the State into the electoral districts that will apply at the next State General Election.

In total, 678 submissions were lodged with the Commissioners (35 suggestions, 96 comments, and 547 objections). All suggestions, comments and objections received were carefully considered by the Commissioners and are publicly available on the Electoral Boundaries WA website (<u>www.boundaries.wa.gov.au</u>). The Commissioners greatly appreciate the efforts of all individuals and organisations who participated in the public consultations.

Throughout the distribution process the Commissioners were assisted by trained cartographers using Geographical Information System software in addition to a MapInfo application called Boundary Maker (developed and kindly made available by the Victorian Electoral Commission). The system was loaded with spatial data sourced from Western Australian State Government agencies and the Australian Bureau of Statistics, supplemented by Western Australian Electoral Commission enrolment data. The software also allowed the overlay of features such as existing State, Local and Federal Government electoral boundaries, rivers and roads, property boundaries, and aerial views that assisted the Commissioners in their decision making.

The electoral boundaries published in this report will apply at the next State General Election, which is due to be held in March 2025.

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## The Electoral Distribution Commissioners



Mr Tom Joseph Government Statistician The Hon. Eric Heenan KC, retired Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia (Chairperson) Mr Robert Kennedy Electoral Commissioner

## The distribution process

The Commissioners determined the final electoral boundaries in accordance with the provisions of Part IIA of the Act. The Act is explicit in its requirements and does not provide the Commissioners with any discretion to depart from the methodology described below.

## DIVISION OF THE STATE INTO ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

The Act requires that Western Australia be divided into 59 electoral districts, with each district electing one member to serve in the Legislative Assembly. The Commissioners do not have the power to change the number of electoral districts in the Legislative Assembly.

Due to the reforms enacted by the *Constitutional and Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Equality) Act 2021*, the entirety of Western Australia will be considered a single electorate for the purpose of electing 37 members to serve in the Legislative Council at the 2025 State General Election. This abolishes the role of the Commissioners in determining boundaries that apply to the election of members of the Legislative Council, along with the requirement that a certain number of Legislative Assembly districts be placed within each Legislative Council region.

The reforms also abolished the requirement to maintain a distinction between metropolitan regions and non-metropolitan regions when determining Legislative Assembly district boundaries.

## PRESCRIBED ENROLMENT IN EACH DISTRICT

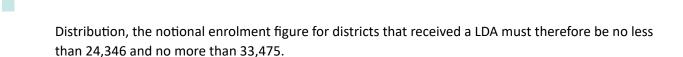
The Act required the Commissioners to calculate the Average District Enrolment (ADE) across all Legislative Assembly districts as at the "relevant day" by dividing the number of electors in Western Australia by the number of Legislative Assembly districts. The total number of electors on the State electoral roll as at 13 March 2023 was 1,795,461. Divided by the total number of electoral districts (59), this resulted in an ADE of 30,432 electors.

With the one exception set out below, the number of electors in each district must be within 10 per cent (plus or minus) of the ADE. For the 2023 Distribution this means that enrolment figures in each district must not exceed 33,475 electors or be lower than 27,389 electors (except for certain very large districts).

The exception referred to above applies to districts which exceed 100,000 square kilometres in geographical area. In accordance with section 16G(3) of the Act, these districts receive a Large District Allowance (LDA), which is calculated as 1.5% of the number of square kilometres in the district. The geographical area of proposed districts was calculated using publicly available data files sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.<sup>1</sup>

The LDA is added to the number of actual electors enrolled in the district to arrive at a notional enrolment figure. For districts with a LDA, the Commissioners must set boundaries so that the notional enrolment figure is within minus 20 per cent and plus 10 per cent of the ADE. For the 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics – SA1 Statistical Areas Level 1 – 2021 – Shapefile (GDA 2020), *Australian Statistical Geography Standard Edition 3*, reference period July 2021-June 2026, released 20 July 2021, available at <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/access-and-downloads/digital-boundary-files">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/access-and-downloads/digital-boundary-files</a>



As at 13 March 2023, the aggregate of the LDAs for the following six districts was 36,129 notional electors:

District	Electors	LDA	Total (electors plus LDA)
Central Wheatbelt	26,652	1,532	28,184
Kalgoorlie	20,268	8,332	28,600
Kimberley	16,514	8,032	24,546
North West Central	11,021	12,275	23,296
Pilbara	23,716	4,383	28,099
Roe	25,387	1,575	26,962

As a result of this distribution, the new aggregate of the LDAs is 35,378 notional electors (see page 37).

## FACTORS TO BE GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION

Section 16I of the Act requires the Commissioners to give due consideration to the following factors when determining district boundaries:

- community of interest;
- land use patterns;
- means of communication, means of travel and distance from the capital;
- physical features;
- existing boundaries of districts;
- existing local government boundaries; and
- the trend of demographic changes.

The Act does not stipulate weightings to be assigned to these factors, nor the ways in which they should inform decision making. In practice they can apply in various ways. For example, major transport routes can serve as a natural boundary in some cases, or a unifying factor in others. Land use patterns may be distinctive or mixed. Local government and locality boundaries, sometimes cited as an indicator of community of interest, may diminish in importance over time through the construction of adjoining housing corridors or transport networks. Even existing State electoral boundaries may become less influential where significant population growth has taken place since the previous distribution.

A factor the Commissioners do not, and cannot, take into consideration is the potential political impacts of the final electoral district boundaries. The boundaries have been formulated on an entirely independent basis. Furthermore, no information was available to or used by the Commissioners regarding past voting patterns in any electoral districts or area of the State. While political organisations and their members are entitled to provide submissions to the Commissioners for consideration, and have done so, the final boundaries have been developed on an entirely objective basis by applying only those considerations allowed for by the Act.

In the final analysis, the paramount consideration of the Commissioners is elector numbers. Regardless of any other factors, the total number of electors in any district (or in the case of districts with a LDA, the total number of electors plus LDA) must be within the permissible limits prescribed by the Act.

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

In accordance with the Act the Commissioners undertook three phases of public consultation during the distribution process. As noted previously, the Act stipulates that the consultation process must include:

- an initial 30-day period to lodge written suggestions relating to the division of the State into electoral districts;
- a subsequent 14-day period to submit written comments on the suggestions lodged with the Commissioners during the first consultation period; and
- a final 30-day period to lodge written objections regarding the electoral boundaries proposed by the Commissioners.

The Commissioners received 678 submissions in total across the three consultation periods from a variety of stakeholders including electors, local governments, community groups, political parties and psephologists. The first phase of public consultation was open from Saturday 1 April 2023 until Monday 1 May 2023 and resulted in the receipt of 35 suggestions. A further 96 comments were submitted in response to these suggestions during the second consultation phase, which ran from Tuesday 2 May 2023 to Monday 15 May 2023. The third and final consultation phase began with the release of the proposed electoral boundaries on 21 July 2023 and saw 547 objections lodged by the closing date of 21 August 2023. As per the Act, the Commissioners considered all suggestions, comments and objections received.

Several common themes underpinned the submissions of numerous authors. Chief amongst these was a broad apprehension about the impact the 2023 Distribution may have on the number and composition of non-metropolitan electoral districts. Other common themes included a preference not to split local government areas and localities across multiple electoral districts (particularly in regional areas), concerns about the way in which the various considerations under section 16I of the Act were taken into account, and dissatisfaction with the methodology used to divide WA into electoral districts. These themes are discussed in more detail throughout this report.

The Commissioners wish to express their appreciation to the individuals and organisations who participated in the public consultation process. The expertise and local insights contained in their submissions informed the deliberations and decisions of the Commissioners throughout the distribution process. The Commissioners were able to incorporate a number of the proposals they received into the final boundaries, however it was not possible to accommodate all suggestions and still meet the requirements of the Act.



## **Determining the final boundaries**

As of 13 March 2023 there were 10 electoral districts with enrolment levels outside of the legally permitted variation from the average district enrolment (VFADE). The Commissioners were therefore compelled by the Act to adjust the boundaries of the following districts:

District	No. of Electors	VFADE
Armadale	34,151	12.22%
Baldivis	35,906	17.99%
Butler	36,484	19.89%
Jandakot	34,756	14.21%
Mandurah	33,736	10.86%
Midland	33,629	10.51%
Moore	26,976	-11.36%
North West Central <sup>2</sup>	23,296	-23.45%
Perth	33,489	10.05%
West Swan	35,412	16.37%

In the view of the Commissioners, it is also important to maintain (as far as is practicable) close comparison between the number of electors within the various districts, both for the purposes of maintaining near parity of voting influence between each district, and to allow for changes in elector population in the period before the next State General Election. This entails keeping variations from the ADE to the lower end of the legally permitted range where possible. As at 13 March 2023 there were 17 districts with a VFADE close to the applicable margins and subject to exceeding them through continued population changes in the near future. For this reason, the Commissioners determined that the boundaries of the following electoral districts also required attention:

District	No. of Electors	VFADE
Albany	28,540	-6.22%
Cockburn	32,392	6.44%
Collie-Preston	32,331	6.24%
Cottesloe	32,248	5.97%
Darling Range	33,161	8.97%
Dawesville	33,362	9.63%
Forrestfield	28,857	-5.17%
Fremantle	32,955	8.29%
Geraldton	27,893	-8.34%
Kimberley <sup>3</sup>	24,546	-19.34%
Landsdale	32,725	7.54%
Murray-Wellington	32,237	5.93%
Scarborough	32,078	5.41%
Swan Hills	32,081	5.42%
Vasse	33,254	9.27%
Wanneroo	33,152	8.94%
Warnbro (now Secret Harbour)	32,891	8.08%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> North West Central figure is comprised of 11,021 electors and a Large District Allowance of 12,275.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Kimberley figure is comprised of 16,514 electors and a Large District Allowance of 8,032

The boundary adjustments made to 26 of the 27 districts identified above inevitably had a flow-on effect to the boundaries of surrounding districts. As a result, the 2023 Distribution has resulted in changes to the boundaries of 51 of the 59 Legislative Assembly districts.

## **DISTRIBUTION APPROACHES**

The Commissioners began the distribution process by considering various approaches that could be taken, including:

- retaining the existing 16 non-metropolitan districts;
- ceding a non-metropolitans district to the metropolitan area; and
- creating 'hybrid' districts (districts that included metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas).

After reviewing each approach in detail, the Commissioners concluded that, while there was no objection to pursuing a course of action that created hybrid districts, factors of community of interest, land use patterns, existing local government boundaries and the physical location of townships and communities weighed in favour of retaining a distinction between metropolitan and non-metropolitan electoral districts as a general practice<sup>4</sup>. The hybrid approach was consequently discounted from further consideration.

## **DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS**

The Commissioners' deliberations were informed by population reports sourced from the Western Australian Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage<sup>5</sup>, the Australian Bureau of Statistics<sup>6</sup> and the Australian Government Centre for Population<sup>7</sup>. The Commissioners were cognisant of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic may have had on the accuracy of population forecasts developed prior to 2020, however they were satisfied by the reports produced from 2020 onwards that the pandemic has had a minimal effect on the long-term population trends that were evident pre-pandemic.

It was the assessment of the Commissioners that maintaining the current number of metropolitan and non-metropolitan districts would result in a significant number of districts being too close to the permitted tolerance limits and therefore susceptible to distortion by elector population changes in the near term.

Furthermore, it was recognised that a decision to maintain the current number of metropolitan and non-metropolitan districts would not allow the Commissioners to develop boundaries that adequately reflected the following factors:

• the high rate of population growth occurring in the expanding northern, eastern and southern areas of the greater Perth region (for example, the overall number of electors in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The exception to this approach is the decision of the Commissioners to include the non-metropolitan localities of Lakelands and Madora Bay in the metropolitan district of Secret Harbour. The Commissioners are satisfied that the characteristics of these localities do not preclude such a decision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, *Western Australia Tomorrow Population Report No. 11*, available from <u>https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/western-australia-tomorrow-population-forecasts</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Population Projections, Australia*, available from <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-projections-australia/latest-release#western-australia">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-projections-australia/latest-release#western-australia</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Australian Government Centre for Population, *Population Statement (2020, 2021, 2022)*, available from <u>https://population.gov.au/publications</u>

the State has grown by 10.37 per cent between the 2019 Distribution and 2023 Distribution. By comparison, the elector population of the district of Butler grew by 26.68 per cent, West Swan by 23.29 per cent, Jandakot by 20.68 per cent and Baldivis by 23.13 per cent over the same period);

- the ongoing trend of the elector population located within the metropolitan area growing at a faster rate than the elector population located outside of the metropolitan area. This has been a continuing trend over the last eight years. Between the 2015 Distribution and 2023 Distribution the metropolitan elector population has grown at an average rate of 2.65 per cent per year, whilst the non-metropolitan elector population has grown at an average rate of 2.15 per cent per year;
- population reports forecasting the continuation of the above growth trends;
- the total number of electors in non-metropolitan Western Australia (inclusive of LDA figures) currently equalling approximately 26 per cent of the State's total elector population, which proportionately corresponds to 15 Legislative Assembly districts; and
- the LDA having the practical effect of supplementing the total number of electors across districts where it is applied by 36,129. This corresponds to slightly more than the ADE of 30,432.

## **PUBLIC FEEDBACK**

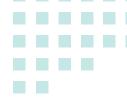
The majority of submissions received during the three stages of public consultation addressed the impacts of abolishing a non-metropolitan electoral district. Submissions on this topic were primarily lodged by concerned individuals, however it is notable that 47 submissions were also received from local councils voicing community concerns about the effect such a decision would have on regional electors.

Submissions received on this subject raised a number of important points that must be recognised, including that the loss of a non-metropolitan electoral district would further reduce the level of direct regional representation in the WA Parliament, and that geographically large electoral districts present practical challenges to both constituents and elected members. The Commissioners also noted that submissions on the subject of non-metropolitan districts almost without exception reflected a growing sense of dilution of the representation of regional communities, with alarm at the perceived likely reduction in government attention to the economic and other importance of regional areas.

The Commissioners acknowledge that electors residing in regional and remote WA face unique and tangible difficulties. They also recognise that the current feelings of disenfranchisement in these communities will likely be exacerbated by the inexorable trend of rapid metropolitan growth. However, the validity of these concerns does not alter the legislative obligations and practical realities that the distribution process must operate within.

#### CHANGE IN APPORTIONMENT OF METROPOLITAN AND NON-METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS

The decision to abolish a non-metropolitan district was not made lightly. As described above, thorough analysis of distribution approaches, demographic trends and public feedback was undertaken to determine whether the existing balance of metropolitan and non-metropolitan districts could be maintained in a manner that respected the statutory imperative to create electoral districts that are within the statutory limits as far as is practicable to accommodate growth patterns.



After extensive consideration of these matters, the Commissioners remained of the view that setting electoral district boundaries that achieved relative parity of elector numbers was paramount. The Commissioners have therefore determined that it is necessary to amalgamate two non-metropolitan districts, and to create a new metropolitan district in a high-growth area.

## NAMING CONVENTIONS

The Commissioners have sought to retain the current names of districts where possible. However, where changes in district boundaries have necessitated a change of name, the Commissioners have resolved to continue the past practice of naming districts after localities. Details of the new or changed names of districts can be found on page 13.

## **Overview - non-metropolitan districts**

The most significant change implemented by the Commissioners in relation to non-metropolitan districts is the abolition of the districts of North West Central and Moore, and the amalgamation of the majority of their geographic territory into a single district to be called Mid-West (see Figure 1). The decision as to the most appropriate non-metropolitan districts to be amalgamated was the result of a considered process of elimination to identify the least disruptive option affecting surrounding districts.

Since the 2019 Distribution, districts located along the south-western and south coastal area of the State (Mandurah, Dawesville, Murray-Wellington, Collie-Preston, Bunbury, Vasse, Warren-Blackwood, and Albany) have all experienced elector population growth approximately equal to, or in excess of, the average regional elector population growth over this period.<sup>8</sup> These districts also each contain significant population centres that make it impractical for neighbouring districts to absorb their elector population growth of 7.80 per cent since the 2019 Distribution and contains a significant population centre that could not be accommodated by the surrounding district of Moore.

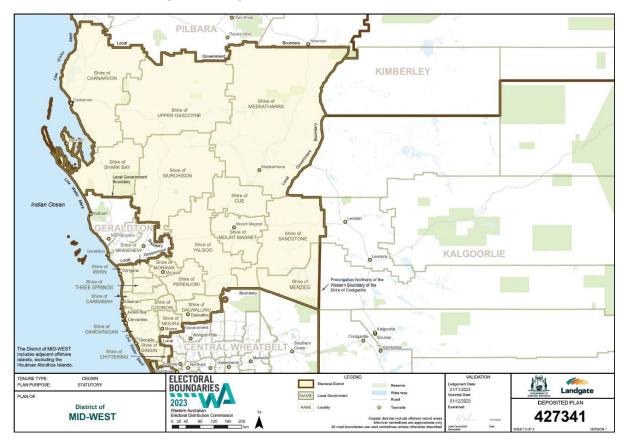
In the case of Roe and Central Wheatbelt, the Commissioners considered the option of one of these districts absorbing the bulk of the other. However, as with the districts discussed above, this was not possible due to the legislated limitations placed on the number of electors permitted within each district and the impracticality of distributing the significant number of excess electors to neighbouring districts.

Regarding the districts of Kalgoorlie, Kimberley and Pilbara, the unique character of each district and the compounding effect the LDA would have if significant parts were ceded to neighbouring districts meant that they were not suitable options for combination or elimination.

This left the districts of Moore and North West Central for consideration. Both districts had impermissibly low elector populations which the Commissioners were compelled by the Act to rectify. Both districts also bordered neighbouring regional districts with the capacity to absorb additional electors. Moreover, like many districts, North West Central and Moore contained distinct communities of interest, land use patterns and industries confined to identifiable geographic and local government areas which the Commissioners could delineate and group with like areas to the greatest extent possible. These factors, combined with the particularly small number of electors residing in North West Central (11,021 – the lowest of any district in the State), led the Commissioners to conclude that the best option available to them was to transfer the northern and eastern areas of North West Central and south-eastern area of Moore to adjoining districts, expand the district of Geraldton to incorporate surrounding communities, and amalgamate the remaining geographic area into a single electoral district.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The district of Albany was the lowest at 7.29 per cent and Mandurah the highest at 14.62 per cent.

The Commissioners acknowledge that this decision will disappoint many of the individuals and organisations that participated in the public consultation process. The decline in direct parliamentary representation is clearly an important and legitimate issue for electors in regional WA. Nevertheless, the Commissioners are required to take a whole-of-state approach that is driven by elector numbers and their geographic distribution across WA. Only the WA Parliament could modify the prescribed methodology.



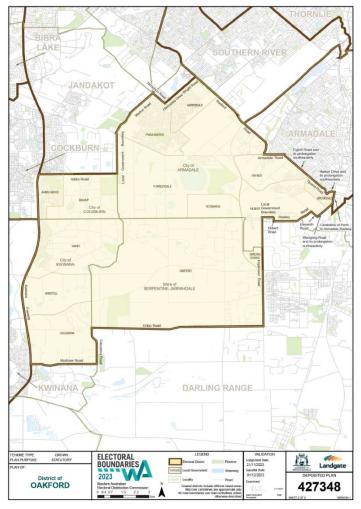


#### **Overview - metropolitan districts**

As outlined above, after consideration of the various approaches the Commissioners decided that a new electoral district was needed in the outer Perth metropolitan area to accommodate the significant growth in elector population that has occurred since the 2019 Distribution. This level of growth is not a new phenomenon. It is a long-standing feature of Western Australia's demography and is expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

As with the 2015 Distribution that saw the creation of the district of Baldivis, the Commissioners' attention was again drawn to the disproportionate number of districts in the southern metropolitan and Peel regions that were close to or had exceeded the permitted VFADE.

The Commissioners have therefore established a new metropolitan district, to be known as Oakford (Figure 2), that incorporates the localities of *Anketell*, *Aubin Grove, Casuarina, Forrestdale, Haynes, Hilbert, Oakford, Piara Waters, Wandi* and part of *Banjup* to alleviate the immediate elector number pressures in the surrounding electoral districts of Armadale, Baldivis, Darling Range and Jandakot. The placement of Oakford in this area also facilitated a consequent series of boundary adjustments that has enabled the Commissioners to bring the districts of Cockburn, Dawesville, Forrestfield, Fremantle, Landsdale, Mandurah, Midland, Secret Harbour (formerly Warnbro), Swan Hills, Wanneroo, and West Swan within the lower range of the prescribed tolerance limits.



#### Figure 2 – Map of new electoral district of Oakford



## **Overview - new district names**

The Commissioners have decided that the names of the following districts be changed to reflect their amended boundaries:

Current district name	New name	
Burns Beach	Mindarie	
Mirrabooka	Girrawheen	
North West Central	Mid-West	
Moore		
Warnbro	Secret Harbour	
Willagee	Bibra Lake	

The boundary changes that have prompted the need to change the names of these districts are outlined in the following section.

## **Final boundaries**

## **NON-METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS**

ALBANY		
Elector Population:	32,380	
VFADE:	+6.40%	
Gains:	Shire of Plantagenet	
Cedes:	Nil	

To bring the elector population of Albany closer to parity with other districts the Commissioners have transferred the *Shire of Plantagenet* from Warren-Blackwood to Albany. This reflects the communities of interest that are shared by the *Shire of Plantagenet* and the *City of Albany* in terms of government service delivery, common industries, and shared infrastructure. The inclusion of the entirety of the *Shire of Plantagenet* in Albany also addresses concerns raised during public consultations regarding the initial proposal to split the *Shire of Plantagenet* across two electoral districts.

BUNBURY		
Elector Population:	31,873	
VFADE:	+4.74%	
Gains:	Nil	
Cedes:	Nil	

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of Bunbury.

CENTRAL WHEATBELT		
Elector Population:	30,530	
VFADE:	+0.32%	
Gains:	Shire of Goomalling; Shire of Dowerin; Shire of Toodyay; Shire of	
	Wongan-Ballidu; Shire of Victoria Plains	
Cedes:	Shire of Cuballing; Shire of Kondinin; Shire of Kulin; Shire of Wickepin	

The creation of Mid-West required that a portion of the abolished district of Moore be transferred to a similar non-metropolitan district. To achieve this outcome Central Wheatbelt has been expanded westwards to include five local government areas that share a common agricultural industry with the district. In response to submissions received during the consultation period the entirety of the *Shire of Victoria Plains* has been incorporated into the district of Central Wheatbelt.

Accommodating this expansion required four regional shires on the southern border of Central Wheatbelt to be transferred to the neighbouring district of Roe. These local governments all share a predominant agricultural industry with those they join in Roe.

COLLIE-PRESTON		
Elector Population:	31,740	
VFADE:	+4.30%	
Gains:	Part of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup	
Cedes:	Part of the Shire of Capel; part of the Shire of Harvey	

In determining the boundaries of Collie-Preston and its surrounding districts, priority has been given to uniting the *Shire of Augusta Margaret River*, the *Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup* and the *Shire of Harvey* within single electoral districts. The transfer of the southern portion of *Donnybrook-Balingup* from the district of Warren-Blackwood to Collie-Preston has allowed the first two of these objectives to be achieved.

While the population of the locality of *Australind* means that it has not been possible to place the entirety of the *Shire of Harvey* in one district, the majority of the Shire's geographic area that previously sat within the district of Collie-Preston is now located within the district of Murray-Wellington.

In order to achieve the above outcomes a small coastal area from the *Shire of Capel* has been transferred from Collie-Preston to Vasse. With the majority of electors in Vasse being located along the same coastal stretch of the south-west land region, the *City of Busselton* being both the closest regional centre for the coastal electors of *Shire of Capel* and the major regional hub for Vasse more broadly, and the district of Vasse already containing part of the *Shire of Capel*, this was seen as an appropriate boundary adjustment.

DAWESVILLE	
Elector Population:	29,788
VFADE:	-2.11%
Gains:	Bouvard; Clifton; Herron
Cedes:	Dudley Park

The need to reduce the district of Dawesville's high VFADE, along with the broader boundary adjustments required to facilitate the creation of the district of Oakford, has necessitated the transfer of the locality of *Dudley Park* from Dawesville to the district of Mandurah. The resulting reduction in VFADE has in turn enable Dawesville to expand southwards to gain the localities of *Bouvard, Clifton* and *Herron* from the district of Murray-Wellington, thereby adopting the Mandurah Estuary and Peel Inlet as clear physical boundaries for the district and better reflecting the communities of interest that exists in the area.

GERALDTON		
Elector Population:	31,417	
VFADE:	+3.24%	
Gains:	Shire of Chapman Valley; Shire of Northampton; part of the City of	
	Greater Geraldton.	
Cedes:	Nil	

The boundaries of the district of Geraldton required modifications to both address the district's concerningly negative VFADE and accommodate the creation of the new district of Mid-West. The Commissioners therefore determined that the district of Geraldton gain the balance of the *City of Greater Geraldton*, along with the *Shire of Chapman Valley* and the *Shire of Northampton*, from the abolished district of Moore.

Objections received in response to the Commissioners' initial proposal to divide the *Shire of Northampton* between the districts of Geraldton and Mid-West made clear the community's preference that their local government area not be split between two electoral districts, and that *Northampton's* community of interest lay with Geraldton rather than Mid-West. The Commissioners have therefore decided it is more appropriate to place the entirety of the *Shire of Northampton* within the expanded district of Geraldton.

KALGOORLIE		
Elector Population:	32,382 (21,057 electors and 11,325 LDA)	
VFADE:	+6.41%	
Gains:	Part of the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku; part of the Shire of Wiluna	
Cedes:	Part of the Shire of Menzies	

The creation of the district of Mid-West required the most eastern portion of the current district of North West Central (comprised of the *Shire of Wiluna* and *Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku*) to be distributed to an adjacent electorate. The Commissioners accepted views expressed through the public consultation process that electors in both shires have a strong community of interest with the district of Kalgoorlie. However, transferring the entirety of these local government areas with their associated LDA would lead to Kalgoorlie exceeding the permitted variation from ADE.

The Shires of Wiluna and Ngaanyatjarraku have therefore been divided along lines of latitude to ensure the elector populations within both shires are transferred to the district of Kalgoorlie, and the remaining land area is assigned to the district of Kimberley. To accommodate this increase in electors and minimise Kalgoorlie's VFADE, the Commissioners have taken a similar approach in relation to the *Shire of Menzies*, choosing to divide the shire along a line of longitude that ensures enrolled electors in the east of the shire remain within their current district of Kalgoorlie. To the west of this line, a small portion of the *Shire of Menzies* containing no enrolled electors has been transferred to the new district of Mid-West so as to reduce the LDA allocated to Kalgoorlie.

KIMBERLEY		
Elector Population:	29,172 (16,583 electors and 12,589 LDA)	
VFADE:	-4.14%	
Gains:	Part of the Shire of East Pilbara; part of the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku;	
	part of the Shire of Wiluna	
Cedes:	Nil	

The series of boundary changes resulting from the creation of the new district of Mid-West enabled the Commissioners to improve significantly the district of Kimberley's VFADE of -19.34 per cent. The transfer of the southern parts of the *Shire of Wiluna* and the *Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku* to the district of Kalgoorlie allowed the Commissioners to allocate the northern sections of these two local government shires to the district of Kimberley. Additionally, the movement of the *Shire of Exmouth* and *Shire of Ashburton* into the district of Pilbara permitted the Commissioners to transfer a portion of the *Shire of East Pilbara* to Kimberley. As a result, the VFADE figures for both Pilbara and Kimberley are now comparable to those of other electoral districts.

During the final phase of public consultation, the Jamukurnu-Yapilkurna Aboriginal Corporation requested that the Commissioners re-examine their proposal to place the communities of *Kunawarritji, Punmu* and *Parnngurr* in the district of Kimberly. In their submission, the Corporation noted that the members of these communities have stronger social and economic links to the Pilbara district, and that the other Martu-majority communities falling within the boundaries of the Martu Native Title Determination are located within the district of Pilbara. The Commissioners re-examined their initial proposal in detail, however ultimately found they could not accommodate this request. While the boundary change required to bring *Kunawarritji, Punmu* and *Parnngurr* into the district of Pilbara would only see the district of Kimberley lose 113 electors, the LDA transferred (1,340) would have created an unjustifiable electoral distortion.

MANDURAH	
Elector Population:	31,561
VFADE:	+3.71%
Gains:	Dudley Park
Cedes:	Lakelands; Madora Bay

The Commissioners have transferred the localities of *Madora Bay* and *Lakelands* to the district of Secret Harbour to address Mandurah's impermissibly high elector population. Ceding these localities has also allowed the Commissioners to reallocate the locality of *Dudley Park* from the district of Dawesville to Mandurah. This places *Dudley Park* in a district with which it shares stronger community of interest ties and facilitates the boundary adjustments necessary to both address Dawesville's high VFADE and accommodate the new district of Oakford.

MID-WEST (NEW DISTRICT)	
Elector Population:	29,366 (23,013 electors and 6,353 LDA)
VFADE:	-3.50%
Gains:	Shire of Carnamah; Shire of Carnarvon; Shire of Chittering; Shire of
	Coorow; Shire of Cue; Shire of Dalwallinu; Shire of Dandaragan; Shire of
	Gingin; Shire of Irwin; Shire of Meekatharra; Shire of Mingenew; Shire of
	Moora, Shire of Morawa; Shire of Mount Magnet; Shire of Murchison;
	Shire of Perenjori; Shire of Sandstone; Shire of Shark Bay; Shire of Three
	Springs; Shire of Upper Gascoyne; Shire of Yalgoo; Part of the Shire of
	Menzies
Cedes:	New electoral district – not applicable.

According to the process described on pages 6-11 of this report, the Commissioners determined that the coastal and adjacent inland portions of the districts of Moore and North West Central predominantly involved in primary production be combined to form a single electoral district named Mid-West.

The resulting district of Mid-West is approximately half the size of the former district of North West Central. The Commissioners acknowledge that amalgamating substantial parts of North West Central and Moore has introduced communities of interest, land uses and industries of various different types. This is not an uncommon feature of WA electoral districts, particularly those that cover larger areas. In the configuration of Mid-West's boundaries, the Commissioners have sought to harmonise the diversity of interests and industries within the district to the greatest extent possible while maintaining relative electoral parity.

MURRAY-WELLINGTON	
Elector Population:	31,806
VFADE:	+4.52%
Gains:	Part of the Shire of Harvey
Cedes:	Bouvard; Clifton; Herron

The transfer of the localities of *Bouvard, Clifton* and *Herron* from the district of Murray-Wellington to the more urbanised district of Dawesville, along with the allocation of a significant portion of the rural *Shire of Harvey* to Murray-Wellington, place these four areas in electoral districts more closely aligned with their communities of interest and consistent with their respective local government boundaries. Adjusting the boundaries of Murray-Wellington in this way has also facilitated the boundary changes required to unite the entirety of the *Shire of Augusta Margaret River* within the district of Warren-Blackwood.

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PILBARA	
Elector Population:	31,487 (28,182 electors and 3,305 LDA)
VFADE:	+3.47%
Gains:	Shire of Ashburton; Shire of Exmouth
Cedes:	Part of the Shire of East Pilbara

The district of Pilbara's low elector population, combined with its isolated location and the need to reallocate part of the former neighbouring district of North West Central, has required the Commissioners to expand the district westwards to incorporate the *Shire of Ashburton* and the *Shire of Exmouth*. To minimise the impact of this expansion on electoral parity and improve the district of Kimberley's VFADE figure a significant geographic portion of the *Shire of East Pilbara* containing less than 1.5 per cent of the Shire's electors has been transferred to Kimberley.

As noted in relation to the district of Kimberly, the Commissioners were unable to accommodate the suggestion made by the Jamukurnu-Yapilkurna Aboriginal Corporation to retain the 113 electors residing in the communities of *Kunawarritji, Punmu* and *Parnngurr* within the district of Pilbara without creating an unjustifiable electoral distortion.

ROE	
Elector Population:	29,450 (27,644 electors and 1,806 LDA)
VFADE:	-3.23%
Gains:	Shire of Cuballing; Shire of Kondinin; Shire of Kulin; Shire of Wickepin
Cedes:	Nil.
To facilitate the boundary adjustments required to create the new district of Mid-West the	

Commissioners have transferred the *Shire of Wickepin, Shire of Kulin, Shire of Kondinin* and *Shire of Cuballing* from the district of Central Wheatbelt to the district of Roe. This boundary modification has also had the effect of significantly reducing the district of Roe's VFADE without diluting the overarching agricultural character of the district.

VASSE	
Elector Population:	31,255
VFADE:	+2.70%
Gains:	Part of the Shire of Capel
Cedes:	Part of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River

To consolidate the *Shire of Augusta Margaret River* into a single electoral district, as suggested by the Augusta Margaret River Shire Council, the localities of *Baudin, Bramley, Cowaramup, Gracetown, Osmington, Rosa Brook, Rosa Glen, Schroeder* and *Treeton* have been transferred from the district of Vasse to the district of Warren-Blackwood. To ensure Vasse retains an acceptable number of electors a coastal portion of the *Shire of Capel* has been transferred from the district of Collie-Preston.

WARREN-BLACKWOOD	
Elector Population:	29,892
VFADE:	-1.77%
Gains:	Part of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River
Cedes:	Shire of Plantagenet; part of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup

The Commissioners have supported the request made by the Augusta Margaret River Shire Council to unite the local government area within a single electoral district. This has seen the localities of *Baudin, Bramley, Cowaramup, Gracetown, Osmington, Rosa Brook, Rosa Glen, Schroeder* and *Treeton* transferred from the district of Vasse to the district of Warren-Blackwood.

To prevent elector numbers exceeding the legislated tolerance limit in Warren-Blackwood, and to accommodate expected elector population growth in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River, the *Shire of Plantagenet* and the southern portion of the *Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup* have been transferred to the districts of Albany and Collie-Preston respectively. These movements will also strengthen the communities of interest in all three electoral districts, with greater commonalities in land use patterns and regional service hubs and stronger links between communities and local governments evident in the reconfigured districts.

## **METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS**

ARMADALE	
Elector Population:	31,632
VFADE:	+3.94%
Gains:	Kelmscott
Cedes:	Hilbert; Haynes; part of Brookdale; part of Oakford; part of Wungong

The localities of *Hilbert* and *Haynes,* along with portions of the localities of *Brookdale, Oakford* and *Wungong,* have been ceded to the new district of Oakford to accommodate the high levels of population growth in the south metropolitan area.

The transfer of the locality of *Kelmscott* from the district of Darling Range to Armadale facilitates a series of boundary adjustments to the districts of West Swan, Swan Hills and Kalamunda that are necessary to accommodate the continuing population growth of the eastern metropolitan area, particularly within the *City of Swan*.

BALCATTA	
Elector Population:	30,155
VFADE:	-0.91%
Gains:	Nil
Cedes:	Nil

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of Balcatta.

BALDIVIS	
Elector Population:	29,537
VFADE:	-2.94%
Gains:	Warnbro; part of Karnup
Cedes:	Part of Baldivis; part of Leda; part of Wellard

Significant population growth since the 2019 Distribution had led to the district of Baldivis' VFADE growing to 17.99 per cent under its previous boundaries. The population growth in the locality of *Baldivis* has been such that the entire locality cannot be accommodated within one electoral district. To bring the voter population back within the allowed tolerance range the Commissioners have ceded much of the geographic area of the locality of *Baldivis*, along with parts of *Wellard* and *Leda* to the districts of Darling Range and Kwinana, retaining the predominant population centre of *Baldivis* within the eponymous district. These adjustments have also allowed the Commissioners to address the high VFADE present in the district of Warnbro (now renamed Secret Harbour) by transferring the locality of *Warnbro* to the district of Baldivis. This has in turn facilitated the boundary changes required to address high elector populations in the districts of Mandurah and Dawesville and create the new district of Oakford in the growing south metropolitan area.

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BASSENDEAN	
Elector Population:	31,769
VFADE:	+4.39%
Gains:	Part of Beechboro; part of Morley
Cedes:	Part of Bayswater; part of Caversham

Minor changes have been made to the boundaries of the district of Bassendean in order to consolidate the locality of *Caversham* and the locality of *Beechboro* into a single district (Midland and Bassendean respectively), and to adopt the Tonkin Highway as a clear physical boundary with the district of Morley and the majority of the district of Maylands.

BATEMAN	
Elector Population:	31,019
VFADE:	+1.93%
Gains:	Nil
Cedes:	Nil

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of Bateman.

BELMONT	
Elector Population:	30,344
VFADE:	-0.29%
Gains:	Nil
Cedes:	Burswood Peninsula
The Commissioners have transferred the Burswood Peninsula (the portion of the locality of	
Burswood north of Great Eastern Highway) from the district of Belmont to the district of Victoria	
Park to unite the entirety of the locality of <i>Burswood</i> , and electors of the <i>Town of Victoria Park</i>	

generally, within a single electorate district.

BIBRA LAKE (FORMERLY WILLAGEE)	
Elector Population:	31,243
VFADE:	+2.67%
Gains:	Hamilton Hill; part of Spearwood; part of South Lake
Cedes:	O'Connor; Willagee; part of Lake Coogee; part of Kardinya

The creation of the new district of Oakford has effected a cascading series of boundary adjustments in the south metropolitan area. This included the transfer of the localities of *O'Connor, Willagee* and part of the locality of *Kardinya* to the district of Bicton.

The loss of its namesake locality has necessitated a change of name for the district Willagee. In line with the convention of naming electoral districts after localities, the Commissioners have selected the name Bibra Lake after the prominent suburb and wetland area located in the centre of the district.

In addition to the changes to the district's boundary with Bicton, the creation of Oakford has also required the district of Fremantle to cede portions of the localities of *Hamilton Hill* and *Spearwood* to Bibra Lake, and the district of Cockburn to cede the remainder of the locality of *South Lake* to Bibra Lake while gaining the remainder of the locality of *Lake Coogee* from Bibra Lake.

BICTON	
Elector Population:	31,097
VFADE:	+2.19%
Gains:	O'Connor; Willagee; part of Kardinya; part of Palmyra
Cedes:	Part of East Fremantle

To facilitate the boundary adjustments required to create the new district of Oakford in the south metropolitan area, the Commissioners have extended the southern boundary of Bicton to include the localities of *O'Connor* and *Willagee*, part of the locality of *Kardinya* and the balance of the locality of *Palmyra* within the district. The Commissioners have also determined that a portion of the locality of *East Fremantle* be transferred to the district of Fremantle to enable Bicton to remain within the legislated VFADE tolerance and ensure Fremantle's elector population remains close to parity with other electoral districts.

BUTLER	
Elector Population:	31,143
VFADE:	+2.34%
Gains:	Nil
Cedes:	Merriwa; part of Ridgewood

High population growth in the northern metropolitan area since the 2019 Distribution has resulted in a VFADE of 19.89 per cent for the district of Butler – the highest of all metropolitan districts. The Commissioners have addressed this issue and allowed for further growth in the elector population of the district by ceding the locality of *Merriwa* and part of the similarly small locality of *Ridgewood* to the district of Mindarie (formerly Burns Beach).

CANNINGTON	
Elector Population:	30,891
VFADE:	+1.51%
Gains:	Kenwick; part of Thornlie
Cedes:	Parkwood

Minor adjustments have been made to the south-western, southern, and south-eastern boundaries of the district of Cannington to facilitate the creation of the new district of Oakford and allow the boundary changes necessary in the districts of Kalamunda, Swan Hills and West Swan to accommodate the growing elector population in the *City of Swan*.

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CARINE	
Elector Population:	31,994
VFADE:	+5.13%
Gains:	Part of Gwelup; part of North Beach; part of Padbury
Cedes:	Karrinyup

In response to submissions received during the final phase of public consultations the Commissioners have determined the district of Carine be retained predominantly in its current configuration. The locality of *Karrinyup* has been ceded to the district of Scarborough in recognition of the community of interest that exists between these electors and those residing in the surrounding localities. In turn, it has been necessary for Carine to gain the remainder of the locality of *North Beach*, the portion of *Gwelup* north of Erindale/North Beach Road, and a small portion of the locality of *Padbury* to maintain electoral parity across the neighbouring districts of Carine, Scarborough and Hillarys.

CHURCHLANDS	
Elector Population:	31,159
VFADE:	+2.39%
Gains:	Part of Innaloo; part of Osborne Park
Cedes:	Part of Doubleview; part of Scarborough

The transfer of the industrial area of the locality of *Osborne Park* and an adjacent section of the locality of *Innaloo* from the district of Scarborough to the district of Churchlands has centred both electoral districts on their dominant physical features (Scarborough Beach and Herdsman Lake respectively) and consolidated the communities of interest that have developed around them. A small portion of the localities of *Doubleview* and *Scarborough*, both of which predominantly sit in the district of Scarborough, have been ceded to Scarborough to further consolidate these communities of interest and maintain comparable elector numbers in the districts of Churchlands and Scarborough.

COCKBURN	
Elector Population:	30,775
VFADE:	+1.13%
Gains:	Hammond Park; Henderson; Wattleup; part of Lake Coogee; part of
	Spearwood
Cedes:	Atwell; part of North Coogee; part of South Lake

The northern and southern boundaries of the district of Cockburn have been modified to facilitate the boundary adjustments required to address the significant level of population growth in the locality of *Baldivis* and the creation of the new district of Oakford. The Commissioners have also transferred the locality of *Atwell* from the district of Cockburn to the district of Jandakot so as to adopt the Kwinana Freeway as a clear physical boundary between the two electoral districts.

COTTESLOE	
Elector Population:	32,248
VFADE:	+5.97%
Gains:	Nil
Cedes:	Nil

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of Cottesloe.

DARLING RANGE	
Elector Population:	29,772
VFADE:	-2.17%
Gains:	Part of Baldivis; Part of Casuarina
Cedes:	Kelmscott; part of Oakford

The district of Darling Range has ceded the locality of *Kelmscott* to the district of Armadale and part of the locality of *Oakford* to the new district of Oakford as part of the series of boundary adjustments required to address the significant level of population growth that has occurred across the southern and eastern metropolitan areas. These adjustments have consequently allowed the area of the locality of *Baldivis* east of the Kwinana Freeway to be transferred to Darling Range to assist in bringing the elector population of the district of Baldivis back within the permissible limit, while still leaving Darling Range with sufficient capacity to absorb expected elector growth in developing residential localities such as *Byford*.

FORRESTFIELD	
Elector Population:	31,196
VFADE:	+2.51%
Gains:	Bushmead; Gooseberry Hill; Helena Valley
Cedes:	Kenwick; part of Maddington; part of Orange Grove

To ensure the districts of Cannington and Thornlie maintained acceptable elector populations, and to consolidate the communities of interest that exist within them, the district of Forrestfield has ceded the locality of *Kenwick* to Cannington and the balance of the localities of *Maddington* and *Orange Grove* to the district of Thornlie. This has in turn allowed the Commissioners to address the district of Midland's impermissibly high elector population by transferring the growing localities of *Bushmead* and *Helena Valley* from Midland to Forrestfield, and facilitated the boundary adjustments necessary to accommodate the significant population growth in the eastern metropolitan area by enabling Forrestfield to gain the locality of *Gooseberry Hill* from the district of Kalamunda.

FREMANTLE	
Elector Population:	29,445
VFADE:	-3.24%
Gains:	Part of Coogee; part of East Fremantle
Cedes:	Part of Hamilton Hill; part of O'Connor; part of Palmyra; part of
	Spearwood

The Commissioners have consolidated the district of Fremantle into one primarily centred on the localities of Fremantle, South Fremantle and Coogee so as to both reduce the district of Fremantle's high VFADE and facilitate the boundary adjustments required to address the high elector population growth that has occurred in the southern metropolitan area since the 2019 Distribution. The Commissioners have set Fremantle's boundaries in such a way as to allow the district to absorb expected population growth in the future.

GIRRAWHEEN (FORMERLY MIRRABOOKA)	
Elector Population:	31,459
VFADE:	+3.38%
Gains:	Alexander Heights
Cedes:	Part of Dianella; part of Marangaroo; part of Mirrabooka

In order to address the district of Wanneroo's high elector population, it was necessary for the Commissioners to transfer the locality of *Alexander Heights* from the district of Landsdale to the neighbouring district of Girrawheen (formerly Mirrabooka). The resulting increase in elector population was in turn balanced by the transfer of the portion of *Marangaroo* east of the Marangaroo Conservation Reserve to the district of Landsdale and the balance of the locality of *Dianella* and part of the locality of *Mirrabooka* to the district of Morley.

The loss of part of *Mirrabooka* to Morley has prompted the Commissioners to return the district to its previous name of Girrawheen so as to avoid confusion amongst former Mirrabooka electors who are now enrolled in the district of Morley. The adjustment to Morley's northern boundary has also enabled the Commissioners to undertake a series of flow-on adjustments to the boundaries of Bassendean and Maylands to strengthen their respective communities of interest and adopt the Tonkin Highway as a clear physical boundary for the three districts.

HILLARYS	
Elector Population:	32,278
VFADE:	+6.07%
Gains:	Part of Ocean Reef
Cedes:	Part of Padbury

In response to submissions received during public consultations the Commissioners have determined that the boundaries of the district of Hillarys will remain mostly unchanged. However, to facilitate the boundary adjustments necessary to bring the district of Butler's elector population back within the permitted limit it has been necessary for the district of Joondalup to cede the southern part of the locality of *Ocean Reef* to the district of Hillarys. Due to the large population of this locality a small portion of the locality of *Padbury* has been ceded to the district of Carine to ensure the elector population of the district of Hillarys remains within an acceptable range.

JANDAKOT	
Elector Population: 29,366	
VFADE:	-3.50%
Gains:	Atwell, part of Banjup; part of Leeming
Cedes:	Forrestdale; Piara Waters; part of Harrisdale

Placing the new district of Oakford in the location where it would have greatest impact alleviating elector population pressures in the south metropolitan area required the Commissioners to transfer the localities of *Forrestdale, Piara Waters* and part of *Harrisdale* from Jandakot to Oakford. This in turn provided Jandakot with the capacity to consolidate its communities of interest by absorbing the entire locality of *Atwell,* the adjacent northern portion of *Banjup* and the balance of the locality of *Leeming,* while still retaining the ability to accommodate expected future population growth.

JOONDALUP	
Elector Population:	32,299
VFADE:	+6.14%
Gains:	Burns Beach; part of Currumbine
Cedes:	Part of Ocean Reef

To facilitate the boundary adjustments that must be made to the districts of Butler and Mindarie (formerly Burns Beach) to bring Butler's elector population within the permitted tolerance limit, the Commissioners have transferred the locality of *Burns Beach* and the remainder of the locality of *Currambine* to the district of Joondalup. As Joondalup cannot accommodate the addition of these localities without further boundary changes, the Commissioners have determined that Joondalup will cede the southern portion of the locality of *Ocean Reef* to the adjacent coastal district of Hillarys.

KALAMUNDA	
Elector Population:	31,873
VFADE:	+4.74%
Gains:	Part of the Shire of Mundaring
Cedes:	Gooseberry Hill; Martin

A significant portion of the *Shire of Mundaring* has been transferred from the district of Swan Hills to the district of Kalamunda to enable the Commissioners to adjust the boundaries of Swan Hills and West Swan in a manner that addresses West Swan's higher than permitted elector population.

The localities of *Gooseberry Hill* and *Martin* have been ceded to the districts of Forrestfield and Thornlie respectively to ensure Kalamunda's elector population remains comparable with other electoral districts.

KINGSLEY	
Elector Population:	30,826
VFADE:	+1.30%
Gains:	Nil
Cedes:	Nil

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of Kingsley.

KWINANA	
Elector Population:	30,554
VFADE:	+0.40%
Gains:	Part of Baldivis; Part of Leda; Part of Wellard
Cedes:	Anketell; Aubin Grove; Banjup; Casuarina; Hammond Park; Henderson;
	Wandi; Wattleup; part of Wellard

To bring the voter population of the district of Baldivis within the allowed tolerance range the Commissioners have ceded the portion of the locality of *Baldivis* bounded by Safety Bay Road, Mandurah Road and the Kwinana Freeway to the neighbouring district of Kwinana, along with the adjacent areas of *Wellard* and *Leda*.

All localities east of the Kwinana Freeway and north of the City of Kwinana local government boundary have been transferred to the neighbouring districts of Cockburn, Jandakot, Oakford and Darling Range so as to consolidate the communities of interest that have developed in response to the area's physical boundaries and local government boundaries. This has enabled the Commissioners to disperse the elector population more evenly across the southern metropolitan electoral districts.

LANDSDALE	
Elector Population:	31,179
VFADE:	+2.46%
Gains:	Gnangara; Jandabup; Marangaroo; part of Wanneroo
Cedes:	Alexander Heights
To reduce the district of Wanneroo's elector population to a more comparable level, the localities	

of *Gnangara, Jandabup,* and part of the locality of *Wanneroo* have been transferred to the district of Landsdale. The loss of electors caused by the incorporation of *Alexander Heights* into the district of Girrawheen has been offset by the district of Landsdale gaining the western portion of the locality of *Marangaroo* from Girrawheen (formerly Mirrabooka), with the Marangaroo Conservation Reserve providing a natural and recognisable physical boundary between the districts.

MAYLANDS	
Elector Population:	31,360
VFADE:	+3.05%
Gains:	Part of Bayswater
Cedes:	Nil

A small area of the locality of *Bayswater* east of the Tonkin Highway has been transferred from the district of Bassendean to the district of Maylands to bring the majority of the electors in this locality within the same electoral district, which has in turn brought the elector populations of both the districts of Bassendean and Maylands closer to parity with other electoral districts.

MIDLAND	
Elector Population:	31,432
VFADE:	+3.29%
Gains:	Part of Caversham
Cedes:	Bushmead; Helena Valley

The localities of *Bushmead* and *Helena Valley* have been ceded to the district of Forrestfield to both bring Midland's elector population within the legally permitted range and ensure that these expanding residential areas are located in an electoral district that can accommodate their expected levels of growth. This adjustment to the district of Midland's southern boundary has enabled its western boundary to be expanded slightly to allow the locality of *Caversham* to be united within a single electoral district.

MINDARIE (FORMERLY BURNS BEACH)	
Elector Population:	31,054
VFADE:	+2.05%
Gains:	Merriwa; part of Ridgewood
Cedes:	Burns Beach; part of Currambine

To facilitate the boundary adjustment required to address the significant population growth that has occurred in the district of Butler, the Commissioners have transferred the locality of *Merriwa* and part of the locality of *Ridgewood* to the district of Mindarie (formerly Burns Beach). To accommodate the increase in elector numbers without exceeding the permitted VFADE, the locality of *Burns Beach* and part of the locality of *Currambine* have in turn been ceded to the district of Joondalup. Reflecting the loss of *Burns Beach*, and in line with the convention of naming electoral districts after prominent localities, the district of Burns Beach has returned to the previously used name of Mindarie.

MORLEY	
Elector Population:	30,540
VFADE:	+0.36%
Gains:	Part of Dianella; part of Mirrabooka
Cedes:	Part of Beechboro; part of Morley

Minor adjustments have been made to the district of Morley's northern and eastern boundaries to facilitate the boundary changes required to bring the elector population of the district of Wanneroo within the permitted VFADE range. This has also enabled the Commissioners to consolidate the communities of interest in Morley, Girrawheen (formerly Mirrabooka) and Bassendean by adopting the Tonkin Highway and Roe Highway as distinct physical boundaries with the districts of Bassendean and Girrawheen respectively.

MOUNT LAWLEY	
Elector Population:	31,427
VFADE:	+3.27%
Gains:	Part of North Perth
Cedes:	Nil
A small wanting of the least the of Manth Danth has been treasformed to the district of Manuat Levelage	

A small portion of the locality of *North Perth* has been transferred to the district of Mount Lawley to assist in returning the district of Perth's elector population to within the permitted limit.

NEDLANDS	
Elector Population:	32,038
VFADE:	+5.28%
Gains:	Part of West Perth
Cedes:	Nil

A small portion of the locality of *West Perth* has been transferred to the district of Nedlands to assist in returning the district of Perth's elector population to within the permitted limit.

OAKFORD (NEW DISTRICT)	
Elector Population:	30,400
VFADE:	-0.10%
Gains:	Anketell; Aubin Grove; Casuarina; Forrestdale; Haynes; Hilbert; Oakford;
	Piara Waters; Wandi; part of Banjup; part of Harrisdale
Cedes:	New electoral district – not applicable.

Due to the high population growth experienced in the southern metropolitan and Peel regions since the 2019 Distribution, the resulting growth of elector populations beyond the permitted tolerance limits in the districts of Armadale, Baldivis, Mandurah and Jandakot, and the high VFADE figures in the districts of Cockburn, Dawesville, Darling Range, Forrestfield, Fremantle and Warnbro, the Commissioners have determined that a new electoral district in the southern metropolitan area is a key component of achieving electoral parity at this Distribution.

The Commissioners have therefore established the new district of Oakford. Oakford incorporates the localities of *Anketell, Aubin Grove, Casuarina, Forrestdale, Haynes, Hilbert, Oakford, Piara Waters, Wandi* and part of *Banjup* from the districts of Armadale, Baldivis, Darling Range and Jandakot. The district of Oakford possesses a distinct community of interest and has sufficient capacity to accommodate forecast elector population growth resulting from the pipeline of urban development that will be realised in the coming years, alleviating the immediate population pressures on neighbouring districts.

The placement of Oakford in this area has also facilitated boundary adjustments to the districts of Cockburn, Dawesville, Forrestfield, Fremantle, Landsdale, Mandurah, Midland, Secret Harbour (formerly Warnbro), Swan Hills, Wanneroo, and West Swan that bring the elector population of these districts within the lower range of the prescribed tolerance limits.

PERTH	
Elector Population:	31,844
VFADE:	+4.64%
Gains:	Nil
Cedes:	Part of North Perth; part of West Perth

To bring the district of Perth within the prescribed elector population range small portions of the localities of *North Perth* and *West Perth* have been ceded to the districts of Mount Lawley and Nedlands respectively.

RIVERTON	
Elector Population:	31,295
VFADE:	+2.84%
Gains:	Parkwood
Cedes:	Part of Leeming
Minor adjustments to the eastern and south-western boundaries of the district of Riverton were	

Minor adjustments to the eastern and south-western boundaries of the district of Riverton were required to facilitate the creation of Oakford. The need for these adjustments enabled the Commissioners to strengthen the community of interest within the district of Jandakot by reuniting the entirety of the locality of *Leeming* within its boundaries.

ROCKINGHAM		
Elector Population:	30,299	
VFADE:	-0.44%	
Gains:	Nil	
Cedes:	Nil	

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of Rockingham.

SCARBOROUGH	
Elector Population:	31,244
VFADE:	+2.67%
Gains:	Karrinyup; part of Doubleview; part of Scarborough
Cedes:	Part of Gwelup; part of Innaloo; part of Osborne Park; part of North
	Beach

The Commissioners have modified the boundaries of Scarborough to reduce the geographic spread of the electorate beyond its traditional community of interest. These boundary changes see the district of Scarborough gain the locality of *Karrinyup* from Carine and transfer parts of *Innaloo* and *Osborne Park* to the neighbouring district of Churchlands. Minor adjustments have also been made to transfer a small portion of the localities of *Doubleview* and *Scarborough* to the district of Scarborough and to cede the area of *Gwelup* north of Erindale/North Beach Road to the district of Carine so to maintain a relatively comparable elector population within the district without disrupting significant communities of interest.

SECRET HARBOUR (FORMERLY WARNBRO)	
Elector Population:	31,689
VFADE:	+4.13%
Gains:	Lakelands; Madora Bay
Cedes:	Part of Baldivis; part of Warnbro

In order to address the high elector population in the neighbouring district of Mandurah, and facilitate the boundary adjustments required to the districts of Dawesville and Baldivis, the Commissioners have transferred the localities of *Lakelands* and *Madora Bay* to the district of Secret Harbour (formerly Warnbro). As a consequence of the movement of additional electors into an electoral district that was already at the upper end of the legislated tolerance, parts of the localities of *Baldivis* and *Warnbro* have been ceded to the district of Baldivis.

Due to the loss of the locality of *Warnbro* to Baldivis, and the extension of the electoral district south to incorporate the localities of *Lakelands* and *Madora*, the Commissioners have renamed the district Secret Harbour to reflect the central position of the coastal locality in the new district.

SOUTH PERTH		
Elector Population:	30,035	
VFADE:	-1.30%	
Gains:	Nil	
Cedes:	Nil	
No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of South Barth		

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of South Perth.

SOUTHERN RIVER		
Elector Population:	31,387	
VFADE:	+3.14%	
Gains:	Nil	
Cedes:	Nil	

No changes have been made to the electoral boundaries of the district of Southern River.

SWAN HILLS	
Elector Population:	30,713
VFADE:	+0.92%
Gains:	Belhus; part of Aveley
Cedes:	Part of Ellenbrook; part of the Shire of Mundaring

To accommodate the high level of population growth that has occurred in the district of West Swan since the 2019 Distribution, the Commissioners have transferred part of the locality of *Ellenbrook* from Swan Hills to West Swan, and then subsequently ceded the more highly populated localities of *Aveley* and *Belhus* to Swan Hills. To facilitate these boundary changes and maintain an elector population in Swan Hills that is at the lower end of the permitted range, the Commissioners have transferred a significant area of the *Shire of Mundaring* from the district of Swan Hills to the district of Kalamunda.

THORNLIE	
Elector Population:	31,084
VFADE:	+2.14%
Gains:	Orange Grove; part of Maddington; part of Martin
Cedes:	Part of Kenwick; part of Thornlie

The Commissioners have expanded the eastern and northern boundary of the district of Thornlie to facilitate the adjustments required to the districts of West Swan, Swan Hills and Kalamunda to accommodate high population growth in the eastern metropolitan area. A small area of the locality of *Thornlie* that is separated from the rest of the district of Thornlie by reserved land containing significant passenger and freight railway lines has been ceded to the district of Cannington to reflect the existing community of interest and maintain relative elector parity across both districts.

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VICTORIA PARK					
Elector Population:	30,732				
VFADE:	+0.99%				
Gains:	Part of Burswood				
Cedes:	Nil				

The Commissioners have transferred the Burswood Peninsula (the portion of the locality of *Burswood* north of Great Eastern Highway) from the district of Belmont to the district of Victoria Park to unite the entirety of the locality of *Burswood*, and electors of the *Town of Victoria Park* generally, within a single electorate district.

WANNEROO					
Elector Population:	31,341				
VFADE:	+2.99%				
Gains:	Nil				
Cedes:	Gnangara; Jandabup; part of Wanneroo				

To reduce the district of Wanneroo's elector population to a more comparable level, the localities of *Gnangara* and *Jandabup* along with part of the locality of *Wanneroo*, have been transferred to the district of Landsdale.

WEST SWAN					
Elector Population:	31,573				
VFADE:	+3.75%				
Gains:	Part of Ellenbrook				
Cedes:	Belhus; part of Aveley				

West Swan has experienced significant growth in its elector population since the 2019 Distribution. To reduce West Swan's elector population to an acceptable level the Commissioners have transferred part of the locality of *Ellenbrook* from Swan Hills to West Swan, and then subsequently ceded the more highly populated localities of *Aveley* and *Belhus* to Swan Hills. The overall outcome of these changes is a reduction in West Swan's elector population to one within the legally permitted range without an impermissible increase of the elector population of Swan Hills.

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Table 1 - Changes to Electoral Districts Without a Large District Allowance									
Current Name	Current Electors	Current Variation from ADE	Current Area (sq km)	Final Name	Final Electors	Final Variation from ADE	Final Area <sup>9</sup> (sq km)		
Albany	28,540	-6.22%	4,324	Albany	32,380	6.40%	9,814		
Armadale	34,151	12.22%	47	Armadale	31,632	3.94%	40		
Balcatta	30,155	-0.91%	20	Balcatta	30,155	-0.91%	20		
Baldivis	35,906	17.99%	103	Baldivis	29,537	-2.94%	59		
Bassendean	30,340	-0.30%	26	Bassendean	31,769	4.39%	26		
Bateman	31,019	1.93%	21	Bateman	31,019	1.93%	21		
Belmont	31,397	3.17%	70	Belmont	30,344	-0.29%	66		
Bicton	29,041	-4.57%	20	Bicton	31,097	2.19%	20		
Bunbury	31,873	4.74%	110	Bunbury	31,873	4.74%	110		
Burns Beach	31,343	3.00%	40	Mindarie	31,054	2.05%	38		
Butler	36,484	19.89%	160	Butler	31,143	2.34%	156		
Cannington	30,409	-0.07%	31	Cannington	30,891	1.51%	40		
Carine	31,241	2.66%	24	Carine	31,994	5.13%	24		
				Central Wheatbelt	30,530	0.32%	97,953		
Churchlands	29,646	-2.58%	24	Churchlands	31,159	2.39%	28		
Cockburn	32,392	6.44%	45	Cockburn	30,775	1.13%	65		
Collie-Preston	32,331	6.24%	4,001	Collie-Preston	31,740	4.30%	4,164		
Cottesloe	32,248	5.97%	33	Cottesloe	32,248	5.97%	33		
Darling Range	33,161	8.97%	1,395	Darling Range	29,772	-2.17%	1,385		
Dawesville	33,362	9.63%	66	Dawesville	29,788	-2.11%	122		
Forrestfield	28,857	-5.17%	58	Forrestfield	31,196	2.51%	59		
Fremantle	32,955	8.29%	46	Fremantle	29,445	-3.24%	41		
Geraldton	27,893	-8.34%	4,229	Geraldton	31,417	3.24%	26,417		
Hillarys	30,655	0.73%	25	Hillarys	32,278	6.07%	25		
Jandakot	34,756	14.21%	91	Jandakot	29,366	-3.50%	62		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Area calculations based on Albers Australia 2020 using Australian Bureau of Statistics – SA1 Statistical Areas Level 1 – 2021 – Shapefile (GDA 2020), *Australian Statistical Geography Standard Edition 3*, reference period July 2021-June 2026, released 20 July 2021, available at <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/access-and-downloads/digital-boundary-files.">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical Geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/access-and-downloads/digital-boundary-files.</a> Excludes area seaward of the low water mark.

Joondalup	29,724	-2.33%	32	Joondalup	32,299	6.14%	34
Kalamunda	30,059	-1.22%	448	Kalamunda	31,873	4.74%	893
Kingsley	30,826	1.30%	27	Kingsley	30,826	1.30%	27
Kwinana	31,420	3.25%	150	Kwinana	30,554	0.40%	104
Landsdale	32,725	7.54%	26	Landsdale	31,179	2.46%	65
Mandurah	33,736	10.86%	50	Mandurah	31,561	3.71%	42
Maylands	30,711	0.92%	21	Maylands	31,360	3.05%	21
Midland	33,629	10.51%	65	Midland	31,432	3.29%	57
Mirrabooka	31,027	1.96%	24	Girrawheen	31,459	3.38%	23
Moore	26,976	-11.36%	77,632				
Morley	30,921	1.61%	20	Morley	30,540	0.36%	20
Mount Lawley	30,263	-0.55%	18	Mount Lawley	31,427	3.27%	18
Murray-Wellington	32,237	5.93%	4,352	Murray-Wellington	31,806	4.52%	4,250
Nedlands	31,557	3.70%	31	Nedlands	32,038	5.28%	24
				Oakford	30,400	-0.10%	143
Perth	33,489	10.05%	24	Perth	31,844	4.64%	20
Riverton	29,596	-2.75%	24	Riverton	31,295	2.84%	23
Rockingham	30,299	-0.44%	49	Rockingham	30,299	-0.44%	49
Scarborough	32,078	5.41%	21	Scarborough	31,244	2.67%	19
South Perth	30,035	-1.30%	19	South Perth	30,035	-1.30%	19
Southern River	31,387	3.14%	35	Southern River	31,387	3.14%	35
Swan Hills	32,081	5.42%	1,334	Swan Hills	30,713	0.92%	849
Thornlie	31,197	2.52%	28	Thornlie	31,084	2.14%	69
Vasse	33,254	9.27%	2,643	Vasse	31,255	2.70%	1,611
Victoria Park	29,679	-2.47%	22	Victoria Park	30,732	0.99%	25
Wanneroo	33,152	8.94%	454	Wanneroo	31,341	2.99%	413
Warnbro	32,891	8.08%	93	Secret Harbour	31,689	4.13%	77
Warren-Blackwood	31,822	4.57%	23,045	Warren-Blackwood	29,892	-1.77%	18,230
West Swan	35,412	16.37%	126	West Swan	31,573	3.75%	120
Willagee	29,565	-2.85%	35	Bibra Lake	31,243	2.67%	37
	1,671,903				1,678,982		
						•	

	Table 2 - Changes to Electoral Districts with a Large District Allowance										
Current Name	Current Electors	Current LDA	Current Electors + LDA	Current Variation from ADE	Current Area (sq km)	Final Name	Final Electors	Final LDA	Final Electors + LDA	Final Variation from ADE	Final Area <sup>10</sup> (sq km)
Central Wheatbelt	26,652	1,532	28,184	-7.39%	102,133						
Kalgoorlie	20,268	8,332	28,600	-6.02%	555,467	Kalgoorlie	21,057	11,325	32,382	6.41%	754,990
Kimberley	16,514	8,032	24,546	-19.34%	535,467	Kimberley	16,583	12,589	29,172	-4.14%	839,289
North West Central	11,021	12,275	23,296	-23.45%	818,333						
						Mid-West	23,013	6,353	29,366	-3.50%	423,508
Pilbara	23,716	4,383	28,099	-7.66%	292,200	Pilbara	28,182	3,305	31,487	3.47%	220,327
Roe	25,387	1,575	26,962	-11.39%	105,000	Roe	27,644	1,806	29,450	-3.23%	120,414
	123,558	36,129	159,687				116,479	35,378	151,857		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Area calculations based on Albers Australia 2020 using Australian Bureau of Statistics – SA1 Statistical Areas Level 1 – 2021 – Shapefile (GDA 2020), *Australian Statistical Geography Standard Edition 3*, reference period July 2021-June 2026, released 20 July 2021, available at <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/access-and-downloads/digital-boundary-files.">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/access-and-downloads/digital-boundary-files.</a> Excludes area seaward of the low water mark.

## Conclusion

The 2023 Electoral Boundary Review has resulted in extensive changes being made to the configuration of Western Australia's electoral districts. The creation of two new districts in Oakford and Mid-West, the boundary adjustments required to address excessive variations from ADE in 26 electoral districts, and the cascading impact of these changes on surrounding districts will see 51 of the State's 59 electoral districts with new boundaries at the next State General Election.

Where possible the Commissioners have sought to maintain clear communities of interest and land use patterns within districts, and to ensure districts have boundaries that are clearly recognisable to electors. However, in some instances these considerations have had to be subordinated to the prevailing statutory requirement to keep elector numbers within the prescribed tolerance limits. Overall, the Commissioners judge these boundaries have struck an appropriate balance between the factors they are required to consider in their decision making and the elector population requirements to which they must adhere.

The Commissioners wish to acknowledge the efforts of the individuals and organisations who have made contributions to the 2023 Distribution. In particular, the Commissioners are appreciative of the insights provided by those who have taken the time to submit suggestions, comments and/or objections during the public consultation process.

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The Hon. Eric Heenan KC, retired Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia (Chairperson)

Mr Tom Joseph Government Statistician

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Mr Robert Kennedy Electoral Commissioner

Dated 1 December 2023

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