

MEDIA RELEASE

Major changes to electoral boundaries proposed

The Western Australian Electoral Distribution Commission today announced proposed boundary changes to 53 electoral districts in Western Australia.

The independent Commission released the proposed boundary changes following consideration of 125 public submissions.

“The proposed changes reflect trends in population growth across Western Australia since the last distribution in 2019,” said Commission Chair, the Hon. Eric Heenan KC.

“Changes are proposed to 53 of the 59 electorates in WA. The proposed changes were developed after careful consideration of population and demographic patterns and public feedback.

“Significantly, it proposes creating a new metropolitan electorate (Oakford) and amalgamating the former districts of Moore and North West Central into a single electorate (Mid West).

“The boundaries of six other districts have changed sufficiently that new names are proposed including ‘Walyunga’ to replace Swan Hills and ‘Secret Harbour’ to replace Warnbro.”

View the proposed boundaries at www.boundaries.wa.gov.au.

Members of the public have until 5 pm Monday 21 August 2023 to [lodge objections](#) to the proposed boundaries.

Ends

Authorised by Western Australian Electoral Distribution Commission 21 July 2023. All enquiries to the Executive Officer at boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au

Att.

Fast facts: Proposed boundaries changes

1. **Every four years (two years after a state election) the boundaries of electoral districts must be redesigned** to make sure the number of electors in each district does not go outside limits set by legislation.
2. **A district is the legal term for a seat or electorate.** In the Legislative Assembly each district returns one member to parliament after a State general election.
3. **The redesign of electoral boundaries is undertaken by three independent commissioners.** Their final decision (to be published by 1 December 2023) is not subject to government approval and is not able to be appealed.
4. **The proposed boundaries were determined using the average number of electors in Western Australia for 59 Legislative Assembly districts.** The average as at 13 March 2023 is 30,432. This is calculated by: 1,795,461 electors divided by 59 districts.
5. **All proposed districts must include between 27,389 and 33,475 electors, with the exception of five districts.**
6. **Due to their large geographic size, five proposed districts are permitted to go lower than 27,389.** These five can go as low as 24,346. The five districts are: Central Wheatbelt, Kalgoorlie, Kimberley, Mid West, Pilbara and Roe.
7. **Ten districts were outside the limits when the Commissioners started and a further 17 were so close to the limits the Commissioners decided they needed to be reduced.** Once the Commissioners started changing boundaries to amend these 27 districts they ended up changing the boundaries of 53 districts. The six districts that didn't change were: Bateman, Bunbury, Kingsley, Rockingham, South Perth and Southern River
8. **Two new districts are proposed.** *Mid West* is the amalgamation of the existing districts of Moore and North West Central. Both had very low elector numbers and were outside the limits. *Oakford* is a new district in the south eastern metropolitan area including the localities of Anketell, Aubin Grove, Casuarina, Forrestdale, Haynes, Hilbert, Oakford, Piara Waters , Wandi and part of Banjup.
9. **Six districts are proposed to have their names changed. Two districts merge and require renaming.** These districts are:

Current district name	Proposed new name
Burns Beach	Mindarie
Carine	Padbury
Mirrabooka	Girrawheen
North West Central	Mid West
Moore	
Swan Hills	Walyunga
Warnbro	Secret Harbour
Willagee	Bibra Lake

Anyone can object to the proposed boundaries by 21 August 2023. An objection can be lodged to the proposed boundaries or the proposed names but must be received by 5pm on 21 August 2023. The independent Commission will then consider those objections and must produce final boundaries by 1 December 2023. Find more at www.boundaries.wa.gov.au