

Electoral Boundaries

Having studied the Commissioner's recommendations, I am pleased to add my comments regarding the South West and Wheatbelt areas.

South West:

I am at a total loss to see why it would be necessary to make wholesale changes to the South West. "If it ain't broke, there's no need to fix it!"

Major changes to **Collie/Preston** cause a flow-on effect right across the board.

The proposal splits Dalyellup from the rest of the Capel Shire and adds portions of outer Busselton which have nothing in common with the general Collie/Preston focus to the north. It seems a bit two handed to call it "Collie-Capel" when you have just bypassed and excluded Dalyellup, an integral part of the Capel Shire.

Also to be considered is that the rural residents of the northern part of the Busselton Shire have been shoved away from their natural business and social centre -Busselton town.

It would be straighter forward to add more of Australind to **Bunbury** to boost numbers there and leave the South West as is, it being generally a growth area.

Wheatbelt:

It is apparent with declining numbers that one seat involving this area and parts of the Mining and Pastoral area needs to be removed in the interests of voter equality.

While generally your proposals are acceptable given your constraints; I believe the old seats of Central Wheatbelt, Wagin and Eyre could be more suitably arranged into two seats.

For sake of brevity, I will call these Great Southern and Wheatbelt. (The arguments proposed are obviously contingent on no major changes to the South West boundaries in these areas.)

Great Southern: This seat would be centred on the Great Southern Railway and run from Northam to Plantagenet taking in all the Shires down that line. It would also contain all the rural shires to the west of the line-Wandering, Boddington, Williams, West Arthur and Kojonup.

It would also take in the adjacent Shires on the East- Wickepin, Dumbleyung, Broomehill and Gnowangerup. The exact boundary to the east would depend on the necessary voter numbers.

This seat therefore is one of-

- a) Mixed agriculture- Cereal and export hay growing, wool, fat lamb, beef cattle.
- b) Relatively secure rainfall.
- c) Service industries- it contains the larger towns-Northam, York, Narrogin, Wagin, and Katanning which service the adjoining region.
- d) Adequate facilities and transport.

Wheatbelt: In contrast, this is the wheat growing area with uncertain rainfall; difficulties with transport, facilities and services due to its isolation. The only major centres would be Merredin and Esperance.

This would contain most of the remainder of the old Central Wheatbelt seat (with changes to enlarge Moore) and majority of Eyre (with exclusions of Dundas and Kalgoorlie-Boulder as per your proposal).