

SHIRE OF LAVERTON

Start of the Outback Way through the Northern Territory to Queensland

MacPherson Place, Laverton Western Australia

Email: reception@laverton.wa.gov.au

PO Box 42, LAVERTON WA 6440 Telephone: (08) 9031 1202 Facsimile: (08) 9031 1340

Our Ref: 673

24 August 2015

Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioner Electoral Commission of Western Australia GPO Box F316 PERTH WA 6841

Be email to: boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au

WAEC 2 4 AUG 2015

Dear Commissioner,

RE: ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARY CHANGES

On behalf of the Shire of Laverton, I would like to make the following submission:

Option 1 - No Change

The Shire of Laverton contends that there is no compelling reason to change the number of electoral districts outside of the Metropolitan area. That is, the current total of seventeen (17) districts should be retained in order for country residents to have the same level of representation as has been in the past.

Option 2 - Change Based on 'One Vote One Value' Principle

Should the Electoral Commission wish to pursue reform of District Boundaries, based on the 'one vote one value' principle, the Shire of Laverton strongly urges the Commission to reconsider the proposal in respect to the area covered by the Shire.

The proposed changes for the Shire of Laverton in no way consider any of the prescribed factors, ignoring specifically community of interest and means of travel.

Based on the district statistics on the Commission's website, the Shire of Laverton currently has a total of 355 electors. This is broken down into the following areas:

Laverton	263	
Cosmo Newberry	63 >	To move from Kalgoorlie to North-West Coast
Bandya	27 ⁾	
Beadell	2	To stay in Kalgoorlie
	355	



The Shire of Laverton has had long historical links with Kalgoorlie and the Goldfields region and can see no legitimate reasons for them to change. Also, we fail to comprehend the reasoning behind the plan to split the Shire and move 353 electors from Kalgoorlie to Northwest Coastal and leave 2 electors in Kalgoorlie.

The Shire recommends that the whole of the Shire of Laverton be included in the Kalgoorlie District. This would mean 353 electors moving from the proposed North-West Coastal District to Kalgoorlie. This results in the following change:

	As Proposed	After moving all of Shire of Laverton to Kalgoorlie
North West Coastal electors	25,080	24,727
Kalgoorlie electors	25,123	25,476

These changes result in elector numbers per district, still falling well within the Commission's parameters.

The Shire of Laverton also has the view that the foregoing rationale could also be applied to the Shire of Leonora which has a total of 567 electors spread primarily between Leonora (350 electors) and Leinster (208 electors).

In respect to travel, the Shires of Laverton and Leonora have been well represented by the Member for Kalgoorlie, Wendy Duncan, and have seen her many times in Laverton since her election. With all due respect, it is very likely that Laverton will not see a member based in Carnarvon visit Laverton during their term.

Based on the foregoing, the Shire of Laverton respectfully requests the Electoral Commissioners amend the proposed boundaries by including all of the Shire of Laverton in the Kalgoorlie District, as shown on the attached plan.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any clarification.

Yours sincerely

Steven J Deckert

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachment: Electoral District Plan

