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01 May 2015

Mr David Kerslake
Electoral Commissioner
Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners
Level 2
111 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

Dear Mr Kerslake

CITY OF WANNEROO SUBMISSION FOR REVIEW OF 2017 ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

The City of Wanneroo (City) is the fastest growing local government district in Western Australia with significant growth expected to occur in the next 10 years. In this submission I outline the City's current position in respect of Electors, the result of the City's recent Ward Boundary and Representation Review and the projected future growth figures up to 2012. The information set out in this submission provides the Electoral Distribution Commissioners with sufficient information to consider in respect of ensuring fair representation for the City of Wanneroo district for the next State general election in March 2017.

Current Elected Members and Electors Comparison

The City currently has 15 Elected Members (14 Councillors and a Mayor elected at large) across 4 Wards as follows:

| Ward | Number of Councillors | Number of Electors | Ratio of Councillors to Electors |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| North | 2 | 12,721 | 1:6361 |
| Coastal | 4 | 27,205 | 1:6801 |
| Central | 3 | 23,056 | 1:7685 |
| South | 5 | 32,993 | 1:6399 |
| Totals | 14 | 95,975 | |

The City's current Ward Boundaries and Representation has been in place since 2006 and is set out in **Attachment 1**.

Ward Boundary and Representation Review 2015

The City completed a review of its Ward Boundaries and Representation (**Review**) with the Council of the City of Wanneroo (**Council**) adopting a proposal on 3 March 2015 to establish 3 Wards and redistribute the Councillors across the new Wards.

The Review considered certain factors which are also relevant for the Commissioners to consider:

- a) Community of interest;
- b) Physical and topographical features; and
- c) Demographic trends.

These factors were considered as follows:

Community of Interest

- Most of the City's residents live in the southern half of the City.
- The City's district also includes the communities of Yanchep and Two Rocks and the 'old' town sites of Wanneroo and Quinns Rocks which are now effectively part of the greater suburban area of Perth but were distinct and separate town sites for many years.
- The City has rural areas in its northern and central areas such as Nowergup, Mariginiup and Carabooda.
- Lifestyle semi-rural communities are notable in the areas east of Wanneroo and include a focus on equine activities as well as market gardens.

Physical and topographical features

- The City's natural features include coastal zones, lakes and their surrounding catchments such as Gnangara, Jandabup, Mariginiup, Neerabup, Nowergup and Pinjar, with Lakes Joondalup and Goollelal forming part of the boundary with the City of Joondalup.
- Other features include the Gnangara Pine Plantation, the Yanchep National Park, and the Neerabup National Park.
- Man-made features include the northern passenger rail line and Mitchell Freeway (both built in reserved areas).

Demographic trends

- The population of the City is forecast for significant growth in the future.
- Urban development along the coastal areas, particularly in a northerly direction is expected to have a significant impact on population growth. In addition, increased urban densities in established suburbs such as Girrawheen and Koondoola in the south of the City will also serve to increase population growth.

In undertaking the Review it became clear that the most significant issue for the City is the expected future growth, especially in respect of the areas in the northern coastal areas due to new developments and in the southern areas due to increasing urban densities.

Ward Boundary and Representation Proposal

The Council considered the findings of the Review and adopted a proposal (forwarded to the Local Government Advisory Board) to:

- a) reduce the number of Wards from four to three;
- b) maintaining the existing number of Councillors; and
- c) adjust the Ward Boundaries to ensure a more even distribution of Electors to Councillors.

The number of Councillors in each Ward is proposed as follows:

- a) five Councillors in the proposed new **North Coastal Ward** (the former Coastal and the northern half of the former North ward);
- b) four Councillors in new **Central Ward** (most of the former Central ward and the southern part of the former North ward); and
- c) five Councillors in new **South Ward** (most of the former South ward, with the localities of Wangara and Gngara transferred to it),

and is set out in **Attachment 2**.

Projected Growth for the City of Wanneroo

The projection for future growth in the number of Electors for the City of Wanneroo district is significant and set out in the table below for the years 2015 to 2021 (Period):

| | 2015 | 2017 | 2019 | 2021 |
|---------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ward | Estimated Number of Electors | Estimated Number of Electors | Estimated Number of Electors | Estimated Number of Electors |
| North Coastal | 34405 | 38816 | 43445 | 48176 |
| Central | 29914 | 31850 | 33676 | 35583 |
| South | 34296 | 35951 | 37415 | 38966 |
| Totals | 98615 | 106617 | 114536 | 122725 |

Notwithstanding the variances across the three Wards, the growth projections during the Period clearly demonstrate the significant growth projected for the City of Wanneroo and specially for the North Coastal Ward.

Summary

It is our submission that the Electoral Distribution Commissioners consider the projected significant future growth for the City of Wanneroo district in particular the:

- a) urban development along the north coastal areas; and
- b) increased urban densities in established south suburbs such as Girrawheen and Koondoola,

and in doing so ensure fair representation for the Electors in the City of Wanneroo for the next State general election in March 2017.

Yours sincerely



Daniel Simms
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Enclosures:

Attachment 1 – City of Wanneroo Ward Boundaries and Representation Map Current

Attachment 2 – City of Wanneroo Ward Boundaries and Representation Map Proposed

Proposed

