

# **REDISTRIBUTION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA 2011**

## **INTRODUCTION AND OVERALL STRATEGY**

I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the Western Australian state redistribution. Although I am not a resident of WA, I have a strong interest in the redistribution process, and have made Submissions to redistributions for several states in the past few years. I am not affiliated with any political party, and I hope that a Submission that is free of partisan politics will be of benefit to the Committee.

Having read the Committee's "Preliminary Considerations", I note that my Submission basically follows their "Fundamental Change" model.

Taking into account the Large District Allowance, the enrolment figures provide for almost exactly 43.00 quotas in Perth, and 16.00 quotas in rural WA. It is logical, therefore, to create an extra seat in Perth, and abolish a seat in rural WA. This has the advantage of allowing the current strong boundary between Metropolitan Perth and Rural WA to remain unchanged, and also allows for greater flexibility in the enrolment for every seat.

Under the "Minimal Change" and "Incremental Change" models, the Districts in Perth would all need to be set toward to top of quota, and those of rural WA towards the bottom. This could result in the Committee having to accept undesirable boundaries purely to keep the Districts from going outside tolerance, and this obviously should be avoided.

In their Preliminary Considerations, the Committee expresses concerns about the difficulty of maintaining community of interest under the Fundamental Change model, but I believe my proposals appropriately reflect, and even improve, communities of interest throughout WA. Basically, my proposal is to create a new seat in the Wanneroo area, and to abolish the District of Eyre in Mining/Pastoral Region. Under these proposals Kalgoorlie and Boulder are united in one District, Esperance and Ravensthorpe are returned to Agricultural Region, and those parts of the former Avon and Merredin currently in Wagin can be united with similar areas in Central Wheatbelt. There are no flow-on effects to South-West Region, whose Districts can remain relatively untouched. In Perth, the general south-east movement of most Districts improves communities of interest throughout the Swan Valley and Darling Range area in Eastern Metropolitan, as well in those Districts immediately south of the Swan River in Southern Metropolitan.

As a general rule, I have been guided mostly by municipal boundaries in rural areas, and very few LGAs are split under my proposal. In Perth, I have utilised major natural and man-made features (Mitchell Freeway, Swan River, municipal and suburb boundaries) wherever possible. As I am not a resident of WA, I have also been guided to some extent by the various Suggestions, Objections, and Determinations of previous redistributions.

## **METROPOLITAN PERTH**

### **GENERAL STRATEGY:**

Enrolment figures suggest both Northern and Southern Metropolitan are close to 14.5 quotas, with Eastern Metropolitan only slightly above 14 quotas. This leaves two possibilities for drawing boundaries in metropolitan Perth:

A) Create a new seat in Northern Metropolitan, with Eastern Metropolitan transferring sufficient electors to bring Northern up to 15 quotas. Southern Metropolitan's quota excess would then compensate Eastern for these losses. Districts in Eastern Metropolitan would move generally east and south under this arrangement.

B) Create a new seat in Southern Metropolitan, with Eastern providing sufficient electors to bring Southern up to 15 quotas, with Northern's excess in turn compensating Eastern. Districts in Eastern Metropolitan would move generally west and north under this arrangement.

I strongly favour option (A), for the following reasons.

\* Northern Metropolitan is slightly closer to 15 quotas compared to Southern, requiring the transfer of fewer electors.

\* The excess in Northern Metropolitan is almost entirely contained in two rapidly-growing Districts (Wanneroo and Mindarie). This allows a new District to be created in a specific area, leaving the rest of Northern relatively untouched.

\* There is a very neat way for Eastern Metropolitan to donate sufficient electors to Northern Metropolitan: by transferring all of Wanneroo Council currently in West Swan and Nollamara.

\* Similarly, there is an easy way to transfer sufficient electors from Southern Metropolitan to Eastern Metropolitan: Southern River is well over quota and donate electors without causing any flow-on effects to neighbouring Districts.

\* It seems more logical for West Swan, Swan Hills, Kalamunda, and Darling Range to move east and south instead of north and west. In particular, the 'bits and pieces' District of West Swan would achieve greater coherence moving eastwards into the Swan Valley instead of being dragged further west into Wanneroo.

\* Under these proposals Swan Hills, Kalamunda, and Darling Range can adopt basically the same conformation as the former Swan Hills, Darling Range, and Serpentine-Jarrahdale.

## **NORTHERN METROPOLITAN:**

Northern Metropolitan currently stands at approximately 14.5 quotas, and the transfer of all those parts of Wanneroo council currently in West Swan and Nollamara provides sufficient electors for a new District to be created in this area.

The very strong growth in Wanneroo and Mindarie make it obvious that a new District will be created somewhere in Wanneroo council. I suggest the most logical approach is for Mindarie to contract right up to the group of suburbs surrounding Mindarie itself, with the less populated areas beyond being transferred to Wanneroo. A new District can then be created from the southern parts of the existing Wanneroo, with smaller contributions from West Swan and Kingsley.

With the transfer from Nollamara, the Districts of Girrawheen and Kingsley are required to undergo some fairly significant changes; however, these largely return the two Districts to their previous orientations prior to the last redistribution. The remaining Districts in Northern Metropolitan are all well within tolerance and require no changes, but I have proposed a number of minor modifications to tidy up the boundaries of several Districts.

### **Girrawheen:**

The transfer of Alexander Heights and Koondola from Nollamara allows Girrawheen to shed everything west of Wanneroo Road (Warwick and Hamersley) to Kingsley. Warwick has previously been in Kingsley, and Wanneroo Road is a strong and obvious boundary in the area.

### **Kingsley:**

Kingsley makes the above gain from Girrawheen, and also gains the balance of Hamersley from Balcatta. It then needs to shed electors, and the obvious thing to do is shed the suburb of Woodvale in the north to a new District.

I acknowledge the Woodvale has a long history of being placed in Kingsley; however, the explosive growth in Wanneroo and Mindarie makes it seemingly inevitable that Kingsley will be forced southwards by the creation of a new District somewhere in Wanneroo. Any attempt to keep Woodvale in Kingsley would in turn force a coastal District across the Mitchell Freeway to take in Girrawheen's excess, which is clearly undesirable.

My proposed Kingsley would have strong and clear boundaries, and apart from Woodvale, would largely return to its previous orientation before the 2007 redistribution.

### **“Wanneroo South”:**

I propose a new division named “Wanneroo South”, encompassing the southern parts of Wanneroo Council plus Woodvale. The District would take in all of Woodvale, Hocking, Pearsall, Wangara, Madeley, Darch, Landsdale, Gngangara, and the southern parts of the suburb of Wanneroo. I suggest the northern boundary run along San Rosa Road, Elliot Road, Lenore Road, Trichet Road, and the Gngangara suburb boundary.

### **“Wanneroo North” (Wanneroo):**

The existing District of Wanneroo is currently well over quota, but with the loss of over 13,000 electors to Wanneroo South, it needs to gain electors. I suggest the northern and eastern parts of Mindarie be transferred, including everything east of Wanneroo Road plus the entire suburbs of Alkimos, Eglinton, Yanchep, and Two Rocks. These areas have previously been in the District of Wanneroo.

The District is still based in Wanneroo Council, but with parts of the suburb of Wanneroo being removed, I suggest a name change to “Wanneroo North”.

### **Mindarie:**

Loss of Mindarie’s northern and eastern parts brings this District back within tolerance, consolidating the District on the suburbs immediately surrounding Mindarie. Given its strong southern boundary, I suggest no further changes.

### **Ocean Reef:**

This District requires no change, but I suggest the eastern boundary with Joondalup be straightened along the Mitchell Freeway and Shenton Avenue, uniting the suburb of Currambine in Ocean Reef. Around 900 electors are transferred.

### **Joondalup:**

The loss to Ocean Reef leaves Joondalup within tolerance, and no further changes are necessary.

### **Hillarys:**

I suggest a minor change, straightening the southern boundary with Carine along Warwick Road, which is a stronger boundary than the minor streets through Duncraig. Around 600 electors in Duncraig are transferred from Carine.

### **Carine:**

In addition to the small loss to Hillarys, I suggest that part of Trigg west of West Coast Highway be transferred from Scarborough. This area appears cut off from the rest of Scarborough and seems to be a better fit in Carine. Only a few hundred electors are involved.

### **Scarborough:**

Apart from the minor loss to Carine, there is no change to Scarborough.

### **Churchlands:**

I suggest Churchlands gain the balance of Floreat from Nedlands, straightening the boundary along Underwood Avenue and Selby Street. Around 1100 electors are transferred.

**Cottesloe:**

No changes to Cottesloe are necessary.

**Nedlands:**

The loss of Floreat leaves Nedlands within tolerance. However, since Perth is at the high end of tolerance, I suggest Nedlands move east to the Mitchell Freeway, regaining parts of West Perth and the Kings Park area. The freeway is used as a District boundary for the bulk of its length, and this transfer would extend use of the freeway even further. The Mitchell Freeway in this area is also used as part of the boundary between the federal divisions of Perth and Curtin.

**Perth:**

In addition to the loss of territory west of the freeway, I suggest a minor change with Mount Lawley to incorporate all of the Town of Vincent within Perth. Around 700 electors are involved.

**Balcatta:**

Shedding the bulk of Hamersley to Kingsley leaves Balcatta within tolerance, and given the strong western, eastern, and southern boundaries of the District, no further changes are needed.

**EASTERN METROPOLITAN**

The existing 14 Districts within Eastern Metropolitan are collectively almost exactly on quota; however, the loss to Northern Metropolitan requires the gain of several thousand electors from Southern Metropolitan.

I strongly suggest the transfer of Southern Metropolitan's excess to Eastern Metropolitan take place through the District of Southern River. The existing Southern River is well over quota and can easily accommodate the loss of excess electors without causing any flow-on effects. Further, the presence of the Swan River, Perth Airport, and the Darling Range make it difficult to make transfers elsewhere.

I propose the transfer of the suburb of Southern River to the existing Darling Range, and the remainder of Gosnells to the District of that name. A small transfer is also made from Cannington to Gosnells, that being Cannington's share of the suburb of Thornlie. This transfers around 4500 electors from Southern to Eastern Metropolitan. In theory, both regions could accommodate a greater transfer to bring them closer to 14 quotas each, but this would require a split of Thornlie or Huntingdale, as Gosnells cannot accept either suburb in its entirety without going over quota.

With the losses to Northern and gains from Southern, the Districts in this area move generally south and east. The southward movement of Swan Hills and Kalamunda deprives Darling Range of much of its “Hills” component, and I recommend the name “Serpentine-Jarrahdale” be revived for this District.

**Nollamara:**

Loss of Alexander Heights to Girrawheen leaves Nollamara under quota, but it can very neatly be brought within tolerance by extending the eastern boundary along Alexander Drive and the Daniella/Yokine suburb boundary. Around 4800 electors are transferred from the suburb of Daniella, from the Districts of Morley and Mount Lawley.

**Morley:**

With the loss to Nollamara, Morley now needs to gain electors. I suggest all of the suburb of Morley currently within Maylands be transferred, using Coode Street and Broun Avenue as the new boundaries.

I also recommend those parts of Morley lying within the District of Bassendean be transferred to Morley. The Morley suburb boundary also serves as the Bayswater/Bassendean municipal boundary, and I believe these are appropriate and identifiable boundaries in this area.

**Mount Lawley:**

The losses to Nollamara and Perth leave Mount Lawley under quota, and I suggest adjusting the eastern boundary with Maylands to run along Wood Street and Beaufort Street. Nearly 2000 electors in Inglewood are transferred.

**Maylands:**

With the loss to Mount Lawley and Morley, I suggest Maylands also move its eastern boundary with Bassendean to the Bayswater/Bassendean municipal boundary. Around 1500 electors in Bayswater are transferred, uniting the suburb within Maylands.

Note that both major political parties recommended using the Bayswater/Bassendean municipal boundary as the western boundary for Bassendean at the previous redistribution.

**Bassendean:**

With loss of all the City of Bayswater, Bassendean can move east and north to take in West Swan’s share of Beechboro. I also suggest Caversham be transferred to Bassendean, as the area immediately east of Lord Street seems a much better fit with the rest of Bassendean than with the remainder of West Swan.

**West Swan:**

The losses to Wanneroo and Bassendean allow West Swan to extend further along the western bank of the Swan River to take in all the Ellenbrook area (including The Vines and

the balance of Henley Brook) from Swan Hills. Around 9500 electors in this rapidly growing area are transferred.

In its current form, West Swan is something of a “bits and pieces” District, and these changes go a long way towards making it a more logical and coherent District. Although it still straddles two distinct areas (Ballajura and Ellenbrook), it would be clearly based on the outer northern parts of the City of Swan, west of the Swan River.

I also note that at the previous redistribution, there were several Submissions proposing uniting Ballajura and the Ellenbrook area along similar lines.

### **Swan Hills:**

Swan Hills is well over quota and has strong growth, but with the loss of around 9500 electors to West Swan, it needs to make gains. I suggest Swan Hills gain all of Mundaring Shire currently within the Districts of Kalamunda and Darling Range, uniting all the Great Eastern Highway communities east of Greenmount in one District. These areas have previously been in Swan Hills and fit well with the rest of the District.

This reduces by two the number of Districts into which Mundaring is split. I note that at the last redistribution, there was some objection to parts of Mundaring being removed from Swan Hills and being placed in Kalamunda and Darling Range.

### **Belmont:**

Belmont is at the lower end of tolerance, and I suggest the District gain the suburb of Hazelmere from Midland, extending the north-eastern boundary further along the Helena River. No further changes are necessary.

### **Midland:**

The only change I propose to Midland is the above loss of Hazelmere to Belmont, bringing both Districts closer to quota.

### **Kalamunda:**

In addition to the loss of Darlington to Swan Hills, I suggest Kalamunda lose a small number of electors to Forrestfield. That part of Gooseberry Hill north of Darling Range Park (around Ridge Hill Road) is somewhat isolated from the remainder of Kalamunda, and I suggest it be transferred to Forrestfield.

In exchange, I recommend Darling Range shed its share of Kalamunda Shire to Kalamunda, reducing the number of Districts into which the Shire is split, and restoring to a large extent the arrangement that existed before the 2007 redistribution.

In the south, I propose Kalamunda gain the balance of the suburb of Maddington from Forrestfield, uniting the suburb in one District.

### **Forrestfield:**

After the adjustments with Kalamunda, Forrestfield requires no further change. While highly desirable, it is unfortunately not possible for Forrestfield to shed Kenwick to Gosnells (or Kalamunda) without falling outside tolerance.

### **Gosnells:**

I suggest Gosnells gain the remainder of the suburb of Gosnells from Southern River, utilising the strong and obvious boundary of the river. I also recommend Gosnells gain Cannington's share of Thornlie, moving the boundary back to the Roe Highway. These are both logical gains, and also help compensate Eastern Metropolitan region for its losses to Northern Metropolitan.

As mentioned above, while there is a case for transferring Kenwick to Gosnells (as it fits better there than in Forrestfield), the quota does not permit it.

### **“Serpentine-Jarrahdale” (Darling Range):**

As mentioned, this is another area where Southern Metropolitan can transfer some of its excess electors to Eastern Metropolitan. I therefore recommend transferring the suburb of Southern River from the District of that name to Darling Range. Southern River fits quite well with the increasingly suburban western part of Armadale currently in Darling Range, and has been linked with these areas previously.

This gain plus the losses to Swan Hills and Kalamunda still leave Darling Range over quota, but it can easily shed the remainder of Mount Richon and Wungong to Armadale, uniting those suburbs in this District. Both suburbs fit well with the remainder of Armadale.

As the District has lost large sections of its hills component, and reverted to boundaries very similar to the old Serpentine-Jarrahdale, I suggest this District be renamed accordingly.

### **Armadale:**

The small gains from Darling Range leave Armadale within tolerance, and no further changes are necessary. Armadale remains a District focussed on the built-up areas of Armadale, with its less urbanised parts forming the basis of Serpentine-Jarrahdale.

## **SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN**

Currently, Southern Metropolitan is around 0.35 over quota for 14 seats. The transfer of Southern River, Gosnells, and parts of Thornlie to Eastern Metropolitan Region brings this area closer to 14 quotas.

Due to the strong growth in Warnbro, Kwinana, and Cockburn, it is seemingly inevitable that the built-up area of Kwinana will be split. I am unable to find a way to leave Kwinana intact that does not involve drawing boundaries along random minor back-streets through



Rockingham, or dragging an Armadale-based District across into Baldivis. Neither of these are practical options.

Accepting that Kwinana does need to be split, I have tried to do so in the neatest way possible; transferring the suburb of Bertram plus the less populated parts of Kwinana municipality to Cockburn. Cockburn has previously contained parts of Kwinana.

These changes impact on the Districts to the north, but fortunately the Districts of Willagee, Alfred Cove, Bateman, and Riverton can all expand fairly naturally to the south and west to take in the excess from Cockburn and Kwinana (and Jandakot).

The three north-eastern Districts (Cannington, Victoria Park, and South Perth) can adjust among themselves without flow on effects.

### **“Canning Vale” (Southern River):**

The loss of 3600 electors to neighbouring Districts leaves Southern River well within tolerance, and no further changes are necessary.

To maintain commonality with my proposed Cannington/Gosnells boundary, the Committee could consider moving the northern boundary of Southern River to Roe Highway, transferring the Canning Vale Industrial Area from Riverton. The enrolment figures provided do not seem to include the CCD for this area, and I assume it contains no electors. The change is not necessary, but could be made to reduce possible voter confusion.

The loss of the suburb of Southern River necessitates a name change, and I suggest “Canning Vale” as an obvious name for the new District.

### **Jandakot:**

Jandakot is over quota and needs to lose electors, and the obvious way to do this is to shed part of its territory west of Kwinana Freeway, allowing greater use of the freeway as a clear western boundary.

I submit that the most logical thing to do is for Jandakot to return its share of Murdoch, North Lake, and Kardinya to Bateman. North Lake Road, Hope Road, and Kwinana Freeway are all clear boundaries in the area.

### **Cannington:**

Cannington transfers its share of Thornlie to Gosnells, leaving it well within tolerance. I suggest an additional minor change in the Welshpool area, adopting the Leach Highway as a stronger boundary with Victoria Park instead of Mills and Burton Streets. This would involve a gain of a few hundred electors.

### **Victoria Park:**

In addition to the loss to Cannington, I also suggest a minor adjustment in the north to allow all of South Perth to be united in the District of South Perth. Canning Highway and Ellam

Street are stronger and more obvious boundaries than the existing boundary along Hurlingham Road. This change would only involve around 700 electors.

### **South Perth:**

Apart from the small gain from Victoria Park, I recommend no changes to South Perth.

### **Warnbro:**

Warnbro is over quota and needs to lose electors. The obvious transfer is the remainder of Baldivis, currently split between Warnbro and Kwinana. Around 4250 electors are transferred to Kwinana, bringing Warnbro back within tolerance.

I also propose an additional very minor change, aligning the boundary with Rockingham to the Waikiki/Warnbro suburb boundary along Hokin Street. This would transfer a couple of hundred Waikiki electors into Rockingham.

### **Kwinana:**

Kwinana is at the top end of tolerance, and the gain from Warnbro pushes it well over quota.

As mentioned, it is not possible to avoid splitting the built-up area of Kwinana, so I submit the neatest thing to do is transfer the entire suburb of Bertram, plus all the less-populated territory to the north and east of Kwinana (Hope Valley, Naval Base, Wandi, Spectacles, Anketell, Postans, and Casaurina) to the District of Cockburn. Most of this territory has previously been in Cockburn.

I suggest the boundary run from the existing eastern boundary of Kwinana along Mortimer Road, Bertram Road, the Bertram suburb boundary, and Thomas Road. Around 3500 electors are transferred.

This still leaves Kwinana over quota, but it is a simple matter to shed of the suburb of Hillman to Rockingham. The suburban area immediately east of Rockingham is currently split between Rockingham and Kwinana, so transferring Hillman does not reduce community of interest in this area.

### **Rockingham:**

The gain of Hillman and small adjustment with Warnbro leaves Rockingham within tolerance, and I recommend no further changes.

### **Cockburn:**

Cockburn is already over quota, and the gains from Kwinana leave it needing to shed 4500 electors. The neatest way to do this is for Cockburn to shed to Willagee part of the suburb of Spearwood. I suggest using the railway line as a clear and obvious boundary through Spearwood, transferring around 4600 electors plus a tiny number from the unpopulated part of Bibra Lake. Hamilton Road, the railway line, and North Lake Road would be strong and clear boundaries in this area.

Note that these areas were previously part of Willagee before the 2007 redistribution.

**Willagee:**

Willagee is well within tolerance, but the gain from Cockburn requires it to lose electors. I suggest the opportunity be taken to straighten the northern boundary of Willagee along Leach Highway, to produce a much stronger and more obvious boundary in the area. Around 3400 electors in Alfred Cove, Melville and Myaree are transferred to Alfred Cove, while I recommend those parts of Palmyra north of Leach Highway be transferred into Fremantle (see details below).

**Fremantle:**

Fremantle requires no changes, so could be left as is without impacting on neighbouring Districts.

However, I recommend the opportunity be taken to alter the eastern boundary with Alfred Cove. Currently, the boundary runs along fairly minor streets and splits both Bicton and Palmyra (Palmyra is in fact split three ways).

I suggest all of Bicton be incorporated in Alfred Cove, and all of Palmyra be accommodated in Fremantle. This would allow the use of the LGA boundary, Canning Highway, and Stock Road as much stronger and more obvious boundaries between Fremantle and Alfred Cove. Under this proposal, Fremantle would also logically gain most of Willagee's share of Palmyra, extending the boundary along Leach Highway to Cannington Street.

The numbers transferred between Fremantle and Alfred Cove would almost balance, so these changes have no impact on either District's ability to remain within tolerance.

**Alfred Cove:**

Gaining around 3500 electors from Willagee pushes Alfred Cove over quota, and the only District it can shed electors to is Bateman.

A neat way to achieve tolerance is for Alfred Cove to lose the remainder of the suburb of Booragoon plus a further part of Mount Pleasant. The existing boundary splits the northern part of Booragoon (including the major Garden City Centre) off from the remainder of the suburb currently in Bateman, and it is logical to unite this area one division.

I suggest the new boundary run along the Booragoon suburb boundary to Bedford Road, then following Bedford Road and Queens Road through Mount Pleasant. Note that Mount Pleasant is already split between Alfred Cove and Bateman, so these boundaries do not reduce community of interest in this area.

**Bateman:**

With the gains from Alfred Cove and Jandakot, Bateman can very neatly be brought back within tolerance by shedding the suburb of Rossmoyne to Riverton. Rossmoyne is somewhat

cut-off from the rest of Bateman by Bull Creek, and the creek would be a far more logical and obvious boundary in the area than Fifth Avenue.

As Bateman has regained Murdoch University and the suburb of that name, the Committee may wish to revert to the District's former name "Murdoch".

**Riverton:**

Riverton is at the low end of tolerance, and can gain Rossmoyne with no flow-on effects to neighbouring Districts. Rossmoyne fits well with Shelley and other areas within Riverton, and as mentioned Bull Creek makes a strong western boundary for the District.

## **RURAL WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

### **GENERAL STRATEGY:**

Rural WA contains sufficient electors for 16 seats, requiring a seat to be abolished in this area.

Enrolment figures clearly indicate that the abolished seat will need to come from either Agricultural or Mining/Pastoral Region. The 8 seats in South West Region are collectively very close to 8 full quotas, so the boundary of this Region does not need to be altered. In contrast, the 9 seats across Agricultural and Mining/Pastoral only contain sufficient electors for 8 Districts, with each Region being in deficit by around 0.5 of a quota.

I suggest the most logical approach is to abolish a seat in Mining/Pastoral Region, and transferring the resulting 0.5 quota excess to Agricultural Region, bringing Agricultural up to 4 full quotas. There is currently no part of Agricultural Region that would fit well in the Mining/Pastoral Region, so the alternative approach of abolishing a District in Agricultural Region is not really practical. Abolishing an Agricultural District would also further exacerbate the inequality of the rural Regions; with only three Districts in Agricultural compared to South-West's eight.

I submit that the Shires of Esperance and Ravensthorpe would be an appropriate transfer from Mining/Pastoral to Agricultural Region. These two shires have previously in Agricultural Region, have a significant agricultural component, and provide the right number of electors to balance both regions. Placing these two shires in the District of Wagin then allows Wagin to shed to Central Wheatbelt all the shires it gained from Avon and Merredin. This arrangement allows the under-quota Districts of Wagin and Central Wheatbelt to be brought up to tolerance with minimal flow-on effects to other Districts in Agricultural and South-West Regions.

In Mining/Pastoral, I am effectively recommending the abolition of Eyre, with the remaining parts of this District being added to Kalgoorlie, uniting the town of Kalgoorlie-Boulder in a single District. North-West and Pilbara can then move generally south and east to both take in the excess from Kalgoorlie and bring their own numbers closer to quota.

This approach does have the drawback of placing some Goldfields-based shires in Gascoyne or Pilbara based Districts. I acknowledge that these Shires relate closely to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, and would prefer to be placed in a Kalgoorlie-based District. However, the abolition of a District in this Region, combined with the area's sparse population and LDA allowance, does mean that some altering of community of interest will occur. I do note that the Shires of Sandstone, Wiluna, and Ngaanyatjarraku have previously been in Gascoyne or Pilbara based Districts, and it is not too much of a stretch to include Laverton and Leonara in such Districts as well. I also note that the Committee itself in its Preliminary Considerations identified the Shires of Sandstone, Leonara, and Wiluna as those that may need to change District at this redistribution.

Although beyond the scope of this redistribution, one continuing problem is the inequality between the three regional Regions, with Mining/Pastoral and Agricultural each having only four Districts compared to South-West's eight. This is not sustainable long-term, and the WAEC will need to address this problem in the future, perhaps by amalgamating Mining/Pastoral and Agricultural into a single Region.

## **SOUTH WEST**

South-West Region currently contains sufficient electors for 8 seats, and I recommend no changes to the boundaries of this Region.

The existing 8 seats require fairly minor changes; two seats are currently over quota, but fortunately they adjoin the two seats with the lowest enrolment, allowing them to neatly self-adjust. I have proposed no change for two Districts (Albany and Dawesville), and a small adjustment between Murray-Wellington and Mandurah.

### **Mandurah:**

Mandurah requires no changes; however, given Mandurah is at the low end of tolerance and Murray-Wellington at the high end, I recommend a small adjustment to bring both Districts closer to tolerance. The south-eastern boundary of Mandurah is extended slightly to the Murray River to bring North Yunderup into Mandurah, transferring around 600 electors from Murray-Wellington.

It would be possible (and highly desirable) for Mandurah to accept Dudley Park from Dawesville, returning to the very strong boundary of the Estuary. However, this would cause Dawesville to fall outside tolerance, and there is no obvious place from which the District can gain new electors. Dawesville is cut off from areas further inland by the Harvey Estuary, while extending it into Waroona Shire would either split the Shire or cut Murray-Wellington completely in half.

### **Dawesville:**

As mentioned above, I recommend no changes to this District.

**Murray-Wellington:**

The loss to Mandurah leaves this District well within tolerance. As mentioned, I would strongly recommend no alteration to the boundary with Dawesville.

**Bunbury:**

Bunbury is at the very bottom of tolerance, and given neighbouring Collie-Preston is over quota, it is logical to make an exchange between the two.

One option would be to transfer Eaton and Millbridge into Bunbury, allowing the use of the Collie River as a clear boundary in this area. However, this gain would put Bunbury over quota, forcing it to transfer electors in the City of Bunbury back to Collie-Preston. It does not seem logical or desirable to split the City of Bunbury in this way.

Therefore, I suggest Bunbury gain Dalyellup in the south, transferring around 3150 electors from Collie-Preston. I note that at the last redistribution, several Submissions recommended this gain, noting Dalyellup's strong links to the City of Bunbury.

**Collie-Preston:**

Loss of Dalyellup brings Collie-Preston back within tolerance, and no further changes are needed.

**Vasse:**

Vasse is over quota and has strong growth; conveniently, it can shed electors to Blackwood-Stirling, which lies at the bottom of tolerance.

The obvious transfer is a further part of Augusta-Margaret River, which is already split between the two Districts. Unfortunately, it is not possible for all of the Shire to be united in Blackwood-Stirling, so there will be some splitting of community of interest in the area.

I suggest the boundary follow the Margaret River itself until the eastern boundary of the locality of Margaret River, then following the locality boundaries of Margaret River and Witchcliffe to the existing boundary. This transfers around 4000 electors in Margaret River township, plus Prevelley, Gnarabup, and the balance of Witchcliffe, Redgate, and Forest Grove, into Blackwood-Stirling.

It would be possible to bring Vasse within quota by making a more "minimalist" change, simply by transferring some small communities south and west of Margaret River itself. This has the drawback of keeping the high-growth Vasse at the very top of tolerance, but the Committee could consider this approach if they wanted to keep the town of Margaret River within Vasse.

### **Blackwood-Stirling:**

The above gain puts Blackwood-Stirling at the high end of tolerance, and no further changes are necessary. Given Vasse's strong growth relative to Blackwood-Stirling, it is logical to place Vasse toward the low end of tolerance, and Blackwood-Stirling toward the high side.

### **Albany:**

The District of Albany is almost exactly on quota and its boundaries coincide with the City of Albany, so I recommend no changes.

## **AGRICULTURAL REGION**

The return of Esperance and Ravensthorpe to this Region provides sufficient electors to fill 4 full quotas.

Both Wagin and Central Wheatbelt are pulled southwards by the gains from Eyre, with Wagin shedding its northern parts (including all those shires previously in Avon and Merredin) to bring Central Wheatbelt up to quota. As mentioned, the flow-on effects to Moore and Geraldton are minimal, and there is no change to the boundary with South-West Region.

### **Wagin:**

Wagin is well below quota, but the gain of around 10,000 electors from Esperance and Ravensthorpe requires it to shed electors to Central Wheatbelt.

The obvious starting point should be the eight Shires added to Wagin at the last redistribution: Boddington, Brookton, Corrigin, Cuballing, Kondinin, Pingelly, Wandering, and Wickepin. These Shires were previously part of the Wheatbelt-based Districts of Avon and Merredin, and all would fit well within Central Wheatbelt. I also suggest the Shire of Kulin and the Shire of Williams be transferred; Kulin has links to both Kondinin and Wickepin, while Williams links with Boddington and Wandering along the Albany Highway.

By my calculations, these transfers would leave Wagin about 16 km<sup>2</sup> above the threshold for a LDA. I am not sure how much flexibility the Committee has in implementing the LDA, and whether it can be waived if Districts are only fractionally over the 100,000 km<sup>2</sup> limit.

Even if the LDA were applied in this case, my proposed Wagin would still be well within tolerance with the addition of 1500 "surplus" electors.

### **Central Wheatbelt:**

The gains from Wagin push Central Wheatbelt over quota, and it can only shed electors to Moore.

I recommend transferring the Shires of Wongan-Ballidu, Goomalling, and Dowerin to Moore. All of these Shires have links with areas to the north currently within Moore, and the north-south Northam-Pithara Road would form a significant communication link throughout this area.

I note that at the last redistribution several Submissions, including those from both major parties, proposed adding these Shires to the District of Moore.

It is not clear from the maps I have why 3 electors in Northam Shire are currently placed in Moore. Unless they would be physically cut off from the remainder of Central Wheatbelt, it seems logical to unite them with the remainder of Northam.

**Moore:**

This gain puts Moore toward the top of tolerance, and both it and Geraldton could be left without any further change. However, I suggest the Committee give thought to transferring Northampton and Chapman Valley Shires to Geraldton. These Shires relate to Geraldton, and losing this area would mean Moore would no longer need to extend north of Geraldton. The loss of the combined 3100 electors would still leave Moore well within tolerance.

In keeping with the principle of uniting Shires, the Committee may also wish to give thought to transferring the remaining 5 electors in Northampton Shire from North West.

**Geraldton:**

Geraldton is within tolerance and could be left unchanged; however, as mentioned Geraldton could gain the Shires of Northampton and Chapman Valley from Moore without going outside tolerance.

**MINING AND PASTORAL REGION**

Loss of electors to Agricultural Region requires all Districts in this Region to move generally southwards. Kalgoorlie takes in the remainder of Eyre, uniting Kalgoorlie-Boulder in one District, and sheds large amounts of outback territory to under-quota North West and Pilbara.

The geographic size and sparse population in this Region does mean that Districts will need to incorporate a number of different communities of interest. North-West bears the brunt of the redrawing in this area, although much of the territory it gains has previously been part of a Gascoyne-based District. The remaining three Districts are all clearly identifiable with the geographic part of the state after which they are named; Kalgoorlie-Eyre, Pilbara, and Kimberley.

**“Kalgoorlie-Eyre”:**

The transfer of Esperance and Ravensthorpe to Wagin allows the remainder of Eyre to join with the bulk of Kalgoorlie to form a new District which I propose be named “Kalgoorlie-



Eyre". It would consist of all of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, plus the Shires of Menzies, Dundas, Coolgardie, and Yilgarn. All of these Shires relate strongly to Kalgoorlie-Boulder, and have been associated with Kalgoorlie or Boulder based Districts.

It is necessary to transfer the Shires of Laverton, Leonara, Wiluna, and Sandstone to the District of North-West, and the balance of Ngaanyatjarraku to Pilbara. As mentioned, the latter three shires have previously been in Gascoyne or Pilbara based Districts, so there is some precedent for this area to be linked with territory further north.

I acknowledge that Laverton and Leonara would have a stronger community of interest with Kalgoorlie than with the North-West region, but the numbers do not allow these shires to be accommodated in Kalgoorlie-Eyre. I note the Goldfields Highway would provide a link between these Shires and areas such as Meekatharra that are currently in the District of North West.

#### **“Mid North” (North West):**

The gain of these large, sparsely-populated Shires requires North-West to shed electors. I suggest the obvious thing to do is transfer all of Roebourne to Pilbara. Roebourne is part of the Pilbara region, so it is logical to unite it with Port Headland and East Pilbara in the District of that name. In exchange, I suggest North West gain the balance of the Shire of Ashburton, currently split between North West and Pilbara.

Again, I note that at previous redistributions, there have been several Submissions recommending Roebourne be placed in Pilbara, and Ashburton placed in a Gascoyne-based District.

As this District now extends inland as far as the South Australian border, the name “North West” is perhaps not appropriate. I suggest “Mid North” as a more suitable name to reflect the location of the District.

#### **Pilbara:**

Pilbara is well under quota; even with the benefit of the LDA and the more generous 20% margin, it is still barely within tolerance. Given Pilbara’s significant deficit, I believe it is appropriate to add large numbers of “real” electors, as opposed to taking in a large area of unpopulated territory to boost the LDA. The exchange with North West would result in a net gain of around 6000 “real” electors, in addition to uniting Roebourne with Port Headland and East Pilbara.

I also suggest Pilbara gain the balance of Ngaanyatjarraku, currently split between Pilbara and Kalgoorlie. While Ngaanyatjarraku probably has a greater affinity with Wiluna than with East Pilbara, the numbers do not allow both Shires to be placed in the same District at this time.

These changes put Pilbara slightly over quota, so I suggest it shed a part of East Pilbara to Kimberley. I recommend the small section of coastline and the area around Marble Bar be transferred. This would reduce the area of Pilbara sufficiently to bring it within tolerance.

### **Kimberley:**

Kimberley is within tolerance, but given its population decline it can gain a part of East Pilbara, both to boost its own numbers and ensure Pilbara remains within tolerance. The coastal part of East Pilbara plus Marble Bar and surrounds are transferred. Kimberley remains well within tolerance after this gain.

## **POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS**

As always, the political implications of the redistribution will dominate discussion, even though officially they're not supposed to be discussed. I note my proposals don't appear to favour either side of politics greatly. The Liberals would clearly benefit from my suggestions for Southern Metropolitan, while Labor would do better out of Eastern Metropolitan. The changes to Northern Metropolitan generally involve rapidly-growing outer suburban areas where historical 2PP figures probably don't mean very much.

In rural WA, Labor would benefit from my proposals to unite Kalgoorlie-Boulder, but would be disadvantaged in Mid North compared to the old North West. Other changes in rural WA are either minor or involve safe conservative seats.

## **STATISTICS**

Enrolment statistics for my proposed Districts are also attached. Note that the numbers for Pilbara and Kimberley are approximate, as I do not have such detailed figures for the exact area and population proposed to be transferred from Pilbara to Kimberley.

<b>GIRRAWHEEN</b>		<b>NOLLAMARA</b>	
Existing	22790	Existing	24093
+ Alexander H	5255	- Alexander H	5255
+Koondola	2327	- Koondola	2327
-Warwick	2872	+ Daniella (part) (Morley)	3031
-Hammersley	2355	+ Daniella (part) (Mt Law)	1739
	<b>25145</b>		<b>21281</b>
<b>KINGSLEY</b>		<b>MOUNT LAWLEY</b>	
Existing	23516	Existing	22527
+ Warwick	2872	- Daniella (part)	1739
+ Hammersley (Girrawheen)	2355	- Vincent(T)	720
+ Hammersley (Balcatta)	1266	+ Inglewood (part)	1938
- Woodvale	6732		<b>22006</b>
	<b>23277</b>		
<b>WANNEROO SOUTH</b>		<b>MORLEY</b>	
Woodvale	6732	Existing	23107
Landsdale	4178	- Daniella (part)	3031
Madley	3002	+ Morley (Maylands)	1311
Darch	3211	+ Morley (Bassendean)	3204
Wangara	55		<b>24591</b>
Hocking	3073	<b>MAYLANDS</b>	
Pearsall	1385	Existing	23419
Gnagarra	893	- Inglewood (part)	1938
Wanneroo (part)		- Morley	1311
	<b>22529</b>	+ Bayswater	1498
			<b>21294</b>
<b>WANNEROO NORTH</b>		<b>BASSENDEAN</b>	
Existing Wanneroo	31283	Existing	23059
- (to Wanneroo South)	10726	- Bayswater	1498
+ (from Mindarie)	3905	- Morley	3204
	<b>24462</b>	+ Beechboro	2560
		+ Caversham	1619
			<b>22536</b>
<b>MINDARIE</b>		<b>WEST SWAN</b>	
Existing	27119	Existing	23150
- (to Wanneroo North)	3905	- Lansdale	4178
	<b>23214</b>	- Beechboro	2560
<b>OCEAN REEF</b>		- Caversham	1619
Existing	24215	+ Ellenbrook	7591
+ Currambine	878	+ Vines	1770
	<b>25093</b>	+ Henley Brook	5
			<b>24159</b>
<b>JOONDALUP</b>		<b>SWAN HILLS</b>	
Existing	23041	Existing	27889
- Currambine	878	- (to West Swan)	9366
	<b>22163</b>	+ Mundaring (D.R.)	4079
<b>HILLARYS</b>		+ Mundaring (Kal)	2570
Existing	24081		<b>25172</b>
+ Duncraig (part)	576	<b>BELMONT</b>	
	<b>24657</b>	Existing	22024
<b>CARINE</b>		+ Hazelmere	638
Existing	23545		<b>22662</b>
-Duncraig (part)	576	<b>MIDLANDS</b>	
+ Trigg (part)	266		

	<b>23235</b>	Existing	23954
		- Hazelmere	638
<b>SCARBOROUGH</b>			<b>23316</b>
Existing	23739		
- Trigg	266	<b>KALAMUNDA</b>	
	<b>23473</b>	Existing	23661
		- Mundaring	2570
<b>CHURCHLANDS</b>		- Gooseberry (part)	
Existing	23716	+ Kalamunda Shire	677
+ Floreat	1098	+ Maddington	1070
	<b>24814</b>		<b>22838</b>
		<b>FORRESTFIELD</b>	
<b>COTTESLOE</b>		Existing	24820
Existing	24320	-Maddington	1070
		+ Gooseberry (part)	
<b>NEDLANDS</b>			
Existing	23651		23750
- Floreat	1098	<b>GOSNELLS</b>	
+ West Perth	1302	Existing	22452
	<b>23855</b>	+ Gosnells	770
		+ Thornlie	967
<b>PERTH</b>			<b>24189</b>
Existing	25007	<b>SERPENTINE-JARRAHDAL</b>	
- West Perth	1302	Existing Darling Range	27526
+ Vincent (T)	720	- Mundaring	4079
	<b>24425</b>	- Kalamunda	677
		- Mt Richon	210
<b>BALCATT</b>		- Wungong	162
Existing	23845	+ Southern River	2882
- Hammersley	1266		<b>25280</b>
	<b>22579</b>		
		<b>ARMADALE</b>	
		Existing	24381
		+ Mt Richon	210
		+ Wungong	162
			<b>24753</b>

CANNING VALE		MANDURAH	
Existing Southern River	27074	Existing	22352
- Southern River	2882	+ North Yunderup	632
- Gosnells	770		<b>22984</b>
	<b>23422</b>	MURRAY	
JANDAKOT		Existing	25113
Existing	25555	- North Yunderup	632
- (to Bateman)	2316		<b>24481</b>
	<b>23239</b>	DAWESVILLE	
CANNINGTON		Existing	<b>23258</b>
Existing	23262	BUNBURY	
-Thornlie	967	Existing	21096
+ Welshpool (part)	762	+ Dalleyup	3154
	<b>23057</b>		<b>24250</b>
VICTORIA PARK		COLLIE-PRESTON	
Existing	24259	Existing	25665
- Welshpool (part)	762	- Dalleyip	3154
- South Perth	687		<b>22511</b>
	<b>22810</b>	VASSE	
SOUTH PERTH		Existing	25571
Existing	23747	- Margaret River	4275
+ South Perth	687		<b>21296</b>
	<b>24434</b>	BLACKWOOD-STIRLING	
WARNBRO	26717	Existing	21071
Existing	4266	+ Margaret River	4275
- Baldivis	195		<b>25346</b>
- Waikiki	<b>22256</b>	ALBANY	
ROCKINGHAM	23054	Existing	<b>23095</b>
Existing	1239	WAGIN	
+ Hillman	195	Existing	20207
+ Waikiki	<b>24488</b>	+ Esperance	8653
KWINANA	25465	+ Ravensthorpe	1055
Existing	4266	- Boddington	945
+ Baldivis	1239	- Brookton	648
- Hillman	3589	- Corrigin	866
- (to Cockburn)	<b>24903</b>	- Cuballing	571
COCKBURN	26228	- Kondinin	633
Existing	3589	- Kulin	621
+ (from Kwinana)	4630	- Pingelly	804
- Spearwood (part)	<b>25187</b>	- Wandering	289
		- Wickipen	538
		- Williams	696
			<b>23304</b>
		Area (sq km)	100016.7
		LDA electors	1500
		TOTAL ELECTORS	<b>24804</b>
WILLAGEE	23065	CENTRAL WHEATBELT	
Existing	4630	Existing	20679
+ Spearwood	761	+ (from Wagin)	6611
- Palmyra (Fremantle)	3404	+ Northam	3
- (to Alfred Cove)	<b>23530</b>		

FREMANTLE	23994	- Wongan-Ballidu	977
Existing	761	- Goomalling	698
+ Palmyra (Willagee)	2263	- Dowerin	522
+ Palmyra (Alfred Cove)	2026		<b>25096</b>
- Bicton	<b>24992</b>		
		MOORE	
		Existing	22874
		+ (from C-W)	2197
ALFRED COVE		- Chapman Valley	716
Existing	23855	- Northampton	2399
+ Bicton	2026		<b>21956</b>
+ (from Willagee)	3404		
- Palmyra	2263	GERALDTON	
- (to Bateman)	2262	Existing	22006
	<b>24760</b>	+ Chapman Valley	716
		+ Northampton	2399
			<b>25121</b>
BATEMAN			
Existing	22964		
+ (from Jandakot)	2316		
+ (from Alfred Cove)	2262		
- Rossmoyne	2159		
	<b>25383</b>		
RIVERTON			
Existing	22334		
+ Rossmoyne	2159		
	<b>24493</b>		

KALGOORLIE-EYRE	
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	15595
Coolgardie	1617
Dundas	522
Menzies	226
Yilgarn	824
	<b>18784</b>
Area (sq km)	374509
LDA Electors	5618
TOTAL ELECTORS	<b>24402</b>

MID NORTH	
Ashburton	2964
Exmouth	1399
Carnavon	3218
Shark Bay	551
Leonara	650
Laverton	375
Wiluna	310
Sandstone	67
Meekaratha	497
Murchison	94
Upper gascoyne	210
Cue	177
Yalgoo	119
Mount Magnet	323
	<b>10954</b>
Area (sq km)	862288
LDA Electors	12934
TOTAL ELECTORS	<b>23888</b>

PILBARA	
Roebourne	8334
Port Headland	5498
East Pilbara (approx)	2589
Ngaanyatjarraku	952
	<b>17373</b>
Area (sq km) (approx)	525700
LDA Electors (approx)	7886
TOTAL ELECTORS (approx)	<b>25259</b>

KIMBERLEY	
Existing Kimberley	15657
+ East Pilbara (part) (app)	400
	<b>16057</b>
Area (approx)	470000
LDA Electors (approx)	7050
TOTAL ELECTORS	<b>23107</b>