

Agricultural Region

There is a very strong argument for the reevaluation of the districts within the Agricultural and Mining and Pastoral Regions. Such an evaluation would necessitate the removal of at least one district from these Country Regions and the creation of a new district within one of the Metropolitan Regions. To avoid making this change during this redistribution and to be satisfied with adjustments within the existing structure is to administer a temporary solution; this submission argues that this reevaluation is an inevitability. The reduction of the number of districts within these Country Regions and the addition of a district within the Metropolitan regions will be required at some stage in the future under current legislation and is absolutely necessary to ensure the equal value of Western Australia's enrolled voters, an essential principle of our democracy.

Furthermore, in order to maintain the districts within these regions an acceptable VFADE, and given the downward trend in populations throughout these regions, it is necessary at each redistribution to shift communities and local governments on district borders from district to another. This denies these communities the continuity and certainty of representation in political process as their representative might change from election to election, not out of reasons of interest or locality or voter sentiment but out of a need to act on a process of redistribution.

This submission does not address the specifics of how this reevaluation may be achieved; rather, it presents the argument that it is necessary for the Office of Electoral Distribution Commissioners to examine this need and take action to address it, a task recognised as being of significant magnitude but no less significant importance.

In lieu of this, submissions in regard to the two problematic districts are outlined below.

Central Wheatbelt

The District of Central Wheatbelt currently has a VFADE of -10.87% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 653 voters to the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 2,499 to bring it back to the state mean. The surrounding districts in the Country Regions currently have a negative VFADE and cannot contribute a substantial redistribution of enrolled voters to bring this district up to the state mean.

There is a strong argument for the removal of one of a district from the two smallest Country Regions, Agricultural and Mining and Pastoral, to allow a more equitable distribution of voters.

In the event that this argument is not successful, it is submitted that only enough voters as is necessary to keep this district within a tolerable range be redistributed. Since the District of Wagin to the south has a more problematic VFADE, it will be necessary to pass on some of the enrolled voters from this district first (this is outlined in the submission on Wagin below).

This should begin with redistribution of the 3 voters from the Shire of Northam who are currently held within the District of Moore to respect the existing local government boundaries.

In keeping with the principle of redistributing along local government boundaries, the only acceptable move would be to redistribute the Shire of Dalwallina (856 voters) from the District of Moore to the District of Central Wheatbelt. This would reduce the District of Moore to 22,018 enrolled voters, still comfortably within a tolerable VFADE and increase the number of enrolled voters in the Shire of Central Wheatbelt to an acceptable 21,538.

There is a difficulty in selecting a local government that can be entirely redistributed from the District of Central Wheatbelt to the District of Wagin (see the submission below). If one needed to be selected to bring the District of Wagin up to a tolerable VFADE, it could only be the Shire of Narembeen (containing 616 enrolled voters). This would result in the District of Central Wheatbelt being reduced to 20,922, still within a tolerable VFADE but quite close to the acceptable limit.

Wagin

The District of Wagin currently has a VFADE of -12.82% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 856 voters to the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 2,971 to bring it back to the state mean. Many of the surrounding districts in the Country Regions currently have a negative VFADE and cannot contribute a substantial redistribution to bring this district up to the state mean.

It has been outlined in the submission on Central Wheatbelt (see above) that the Shire of Narembeen could be redistributed to the District of Wagin. This would add 856 enrolled voters to this district, still short of the number required for a tolerable VFADE. A further 727 enrolled voters from the Shire of Cranbrook (see the submission on Blackwood-Stirling below). The Shire of Cranbrook is a community with a common interest in the farming industry and its redistribution to the Agricultural region, which already contains similar communities like the adjacent Shire of Gnowangerup, would not result in the interests of this community going unrepresented.

This redistribution would see the District of Wagin increase to 21,550 voters, within the tolerable limits of the required VFADE.

East Metropolitan Region

The East Metropolitan Region has only two problematic districts in the east, the District of Darling Range and the District of Swan Hills, but they both have a significantly high VFADE. To complicate matters, the adjacent districts have a high VFADE themselves, though not yet problematically so.

Redistributions to and from these districts must recognise that these are areas of growth and that they will continue to present problems in the future. Any redistribution will only be a temporary solution to the distribution of population.

While there is the possibility of shifting portions of these two districts into the Agricultural Region to counter the low number of enrolled voters in the Districts of Central Wheatbelt and Wagin, there is a significant argument against this. Both of these East Metropolitan Districts are located at their extremities in the central to western side of the Darling Ranges and thus clearly not Agricultural. The level of growth that they are experiencing indicates that they are experiencing similar demographic change as one would expect in the Metropolitan area as well and they should therefore be considered a part of it.

There is little scope to redistribute the problematic District of Swan Hills into the North Metropolitan Region, as the adjacent district in that region currently has an extremely high VFADE. Without the creation of a new district, at the expense of one of the Country Regions' districts, it will be difficult to redistribute the high proportion of enrolled voters in these north and eastern districts.

In this submission, it is argued that part of the suburb of Huntingdale in the District of Southern River in the South Metropolitan be redistributed into the East Metropolitan District of Gosnells (see below). This can be accommodated within the District of Gosnells as it currently has a negative VFADE

Darling Range

The District of Darling Range currently has a VFADE of 18.76% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 2,394 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 4,711 to bring it back to the state mean. Redistribution of these voters cannot be achieved by redistributing a portion of enrolled voters to a single district as adjacent districts have a high VFADE themselves.

Without the creation of a new district within the metropolitan area, any attempt to bring this district within a tolerable VFADE is going to require widespread redistributions across several districts in the East Metropolitan Region and merely be a

temporary solution, with strong population growth in these districts expected to continue.

Some abatement can occur by adjusting the boundary between the District of Darling Range and the District of Kalamunda, the District of Kalamunda and the District of Forrestfield, and between the District of Forrestfield and the District of Belmont, with a careful redistribution of the number of enrolled voters. This would be enough to bring the District of Darling Range back within a tolerable, though difficult, VFADE.

There is a strong argument that a similar redistribution will, in all likelihood, be unachievable in the future. The creation of a new district will be necessary somewhere within the North or East Metropolitan Regions in such a situation.

Swan Hills

The District of Swan Hills currently has a VFADE of 20.33% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 1,479 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 3,896 to bring it back to the state mean.

Redistribution of these voters cannot be achieved by redistributing a portion of enrolled voters to a single district as adjacent districts have a high VFADE themselves.

Without the creation of a new district within the metropolitan area, any attempt to bring this district within a tolerable VFADE is going to require widespread redistributions across several districts in the East Metropolitan Region and merely be a temporary solution, with strong population growth in these districts expected to continue.

Some abatement can occur by adjusting the boundary between the District of Swan Hills and the District of West Swan and from the District of West Swan to the Districts of Morley and Bassendean, with a careful redistribution of the number of enrolled voters. This would be enough to bring the District of Swan Hills back within a tolerable, though difficult, VFADE.

It is submitted that there is no scope for redistribution across the boundary between North and East Metropolitan regions as the adjacent districts within the North Metropolitan Region are currently experiencing high VFADE. For this reason, there is a strong argument that a similar redistribution will, in all likelihood, be unachievable in the future. The creation of a new district will be necessary somewhere within the North or East Metropolitan Regions in such a situation.

Mining and Pastoral Region

As stated in the submission on the Agricultural Region (see above), there is a very strong argument for the reevaluation of the districts within the Agricultural and Mining and Pastoral Country Regions. Such an evaluation would necessitate the removal of at least one district from the country area and the creation of a new district within one of the Metropolitan Regions. To avoid making this change during this redistribution and be satisfied with adjustments within the existing structure is to apply a stop-gap solution. The reduction of the number of districts within these Country Regions and the addition of a district within the Metropolitan regions is an inevitability and is absolutely necessary to ensure the equal value of Western Australia's enrolled voters, an essential cornerstone of our democracy.

This submission does not address the specifics of how this may be achieved; rather, it presents the argument that it is necessary for the Office of Electoral Distribution Commissioners to examine this need and take action to address it.

In lieu of this, a submission in regard to the difficult district of Pilbara is outlined below.

Pilbara

The District of Pilbara is reaching the lowest tolerable threshold allowable before boundary adjustment, currently having a VFADE of -17.89%. Although it does not require redistribution at this time, it is likely that this will continue to increase and, failing a large scale reevaluation of the make up of the Mining and Pastoral districts, result in a need for adjustment in the future. The Pilbara would need a redistribution of 4,142 enrolled voters to the district at this time to bring it back to the state mean.

There is a strong argument for redistributing the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku (containing 869 enrolled voters), including the township of Warburton, from the District of Kalgoorlie to the District of Pilbara. This will create a community of interest as there is a much greater synergy of language and the Martu people to the north of the township of Warburton. This would change the enrolled voters, including the large district allowance, in the District of Pilbara up to 19,905 and the District of Kalgoorlie down to 22,315.

While this would make the District of Pilbara less problematic at the present time, the reality is that the current balance between the districts is unsustainable and a reevaluation of Agricultural and the Mining and Pastoral Regions is required.

North Metropolitan

The North Metropolitan Region continues to experience high levels of growth. Attempts to be proactive in addressing this growth at the last redistribution have not been as successful as hoped and there are two districts, the District of Mindarie and the District of Wanneroo, that both have a problematic VFADE, the latter being extremely problematic.

Redistributing the districts in the north of this region to accommodate population growth is significantly challenging. The goal stated for the previous redistribution, of setting the growing northern suburbs of this region “lower than those in more demographically stable areas closer to the Swan River”, will not be able to be achieved with this redistribution. There are only two districts within this region, the District of Joondalup and the District of Girrawheen, that have a negative VFADE, and even then this is only by a small amount. It is impossible to offset the problematic districts by using these two districts alone. If there were to be a new district created within the Metropolitan area, replacing one removed from the Country Regions, then there would be a good argument for it to be created within this region, potentially accommodating some of the enrolled voters from the District of Swan Hills in the East Metropolitan region to reduce that district’s VFADE.

Mindarie

The District of Mindarie currently has a VFADE of 17.00% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 1,624 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 3,941 to bring it back to the state mean.

The most obvious redistribution is to redistribute parts of the District of Mindarie to the District of Joondalup which currently has a negative VFADE. Enough enrolled voters would be able to be redistributed to leave both districts with a tolerable VFADE.

There is a strong argument that a similar redistribution will, in all likelihood, be unachievable in the future. The creation of a new district will be necessary somewhere within the North or East Metropolitan Regions in such a situation.

Wanneroo

The District of Wanneroo currently has a VFADE of 34.97% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 5,788 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 8,105 to bring it back to the state mean. Redistribution of these voters cannot be achieved by redistributing a portion of enrolled voters to a single district. Without the creation of a new district within the metropolitan area, any

attempt to bring this district within a tolerable VFADE is going to require widespread redistributions across several districts in the North Metropolitan Region and merely be a temporary resolution, with strong population growth in these districts expected to continue.

In any redistribution, there is a strong argument to retain, as a natural boundary, the Mitchell Freeway. This argument has been used in previous redistributions and is still valid.

The most obvious redistribution of enrolled voters from the District of Wanneroo therefore would be to the District of Girrawheen which currently has a negative VFADE. Additionally, minor redistributions to the District of Kingsley could also be made. This will not, however, be able to accommodate enough voters to bring the District of Wanneroo within a tolerable VFADE. The boundary between the District of Girrawheen and the District of Balcatta and between the District of Balcatta and the District of Perth will also need to be adjusted to redistribute the number of voters required to bring the District of Wanneroo back within a tolerable VFADE.

This redistribution will, as previously mentioned, only be a temporary solution. Further population growth in this district is expected and a further distribution like this will not be possible. The only way to address this is to adjust the boundary between the East and North Metropolitan Regions, preferably with an additional district established within the Metropolitan area.

South Metropolitan Region

The South Metropolitan Region is currently facing population pressures in its southern and eastern districts, complicated by the fact that these districts share borders. It is not a simple matter of redistributing enrolled voters from one underpopulated district to an underpopulated one. In some cases, there is a need to redistribute voters across several districts to achieve tolerable levels of enrolment.

Several of the regions currently exceeding the tolerable level of VFADE are also expected to continue to increase in population above average levels in the short to mid-term. As such it would be prudent to keep these districts below the state mean so that the need for redistribution after the next election is minimised. Districts that are less likely to experience above average growth in the short to mid-term are inflated in size in this submission.

In one instance, the redistribution of enrolled voters from the District of Southern River, the submission calls for the redistribution of enrolled voters across the regional border, shifting a suburb into a district within the East Metropolitan Region.

In redistributing enrolled voters in this region, maintaining district boundaries that replicate local government boundaries is often not possible, particularly on the area around the Districts of Rockingham, Kwinana and Warnbro, and the guiding principle of maintaining communities of interest is a more cogent argument for redistribution. Where possible though, some local government boundaries have been used as an argument for drawing boundaries.

Cockburn

The District of Cockburn currently has a VFADE of 13.16% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 793 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 3,050 to bring it back to the state mean. Like many Metropolitan Region districts, it cannot be easily defined by its local government due to the size of the City's population and this presents a challenge. Currently, the City of Cockburn overflows into the Districts of Fremantle, Willagee, Jandakot and Kwinana. A community of interest is therefore a better criteria for determining the District of Cockburn than local council. The City of Cockburn is also likely to see further increase in enrolled voters as the Port Coogee and Coogee Lakes estates become more populated, necessitating further changes to its boundaries in future redistributions. It is important that these changes reflect this likelihood.

Two adjacent districts complicate the matter of redistribution further: the District of Jandakot currently requires boundary redistribution; and the District of Kwinana is

very close to requiring it. Without making significant and complex adjustments to these divisions, it would be difficult to redistribute current Cockburn enrolments to these areas. It is best, in the first instance, to seek to redistribute enrolments to the Divisions of Fremantle and Willagee which do not and are unlikely, because of the undeveloped land available in these districts and the established nature of the existing communities, to experience the same level of growth in the near future as the Districts further south.

There is a strong argument to redistribute sections of the District of Cockburn's north and north east to the District of Willagee on the principal of retaining communities of interest. Parts of the district's north have a much greater shared community interest with the suburbs in the District of Willagee's south than they do with the southern suburbs of Cockburn. Certainly, sections of the suburb of Spearwood and the older parts of Cockburn north of the train line, have more in common with the suburbs of Hamilton Hill and Coolbellup. For this reason, the freight train line can be used as a landmark and land-use boundary between the two districts.

To accommodate the redistribution of these areas to the District of Willagee, there is a strong argument to redistribute those part of the District of Willagee that are part of the City of Fremantle (currently containing 4,000 enrolled voters) to the District of Fremantle, on the grounds of aligning district borders with local governments and maintaining a community of interest - the suburb of Hilton and its residents, for instance, is increasingly seen as being part of the Fremantle community.

To accommodate this redistribution, the areas in the District of Fremantle that are a part of the City of Cockburn (currently containing 3,000 enrolled voters) would be redistributed back into the District of Cockburn. This would result in a division between the Districts of Fremantle and Cockburn and the Districts of Fremantle and Willagee being drawn along local government boundaries. The Districts of Cockburn, Fremantle and Willagee would each have, respectively, 22,889, 24,994 and 25,404 enrolled voters, all within the tolerated levels of VFADE (although Fremantle and Willagee are at their limits. The low number of enrolled voters for the District of Cockburn is deliberate to accommodate future growth in this district.

The submission on the redistribution of the District of Kwinana (see below) suggests the expansion of the District of Cockburn to the south to take in the suburbs of Mandogalup (36), Hope Valley (79), Naval Base (21), Kwinana Beach (7), Postans (2) and The Spectacles (6), resulting in the redistribution of 143 enrolled voters taking the total in this district to 23,040. This will also have the benefit of placing the entirety of the Latitude 32 Industrial zone within the same district.

An additional redistribution which could also assist in the reduction of enrolled voters in the District of Jandakot would be to redistribute a portion of the enrolled voters in the suburb of South Lake (roughly half the voters, possibly those south of a boundary created along Elderberry Drive) from Jandakot to the District of Cockburn. This would increase the number of enrolled voters in the District of Cockburn by about 1,500, taking the district to approximately 24,540 which is above the state mean but not problematically so.

It is also submitted that, with the removal of the council buildings from the district, a name change for this district may be desirable and, if this were the case, the name Beeliar would be appropriate given the centrality of the suburb in this division, the significant landmarks of the Beeliar wetlands and the main road Beeliar Drive running east-west through this area.

Jandakot

The electoral Division of Jandakot currently exceeds the VFADE by 10.26% and as a result, it requires redistribution of 60 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 2,377 to bring it back to the state mean. It also faces population pressures from Divisions to the east, in Southern River, to the west, in Cockburn, and to the south, in Kwinana. The two former require redistribution at this stage, the latter is very close to requiring it so it would be prudent and proactive to take the opportunity to make some adjustments at this stage (see outline below). It is therefore necessary to redistribute significant portions of the District of Jandakot to the districts immediately to the north to accommodate redistributions from the southern districts of Kwinana and, indirectly, Warnbro.

At least part of the suburb Leeming should be removed from the Division of Jandakot and added to Divisions of Bateman (which could accommodate around 2,000 voters) and Riverton (which could accommodate around 2,500 voters). The suburb of Leeming has much more in common with suburbs in these districts than it does with the newer southern suburbs like Atwell. Ideally, the boundary would be redrawn for the Division of Bateman south along the freeway to Roe Highway and then east to Karel Avenue; and redrawn for the Division of Riverton along either Karel Ave, extending south to the intersection at Roe Highway. There are too many enrolled voters in Leeming at this time to achieve a redistribution with this obvious boundary at this stage. It is submitted that this be an objective for future distributions.

This distribution would reduce the number of enrolled voters in the District of Jandakot to approximately 21,055 (or 19,555 if the additional redistribution of portions of the suburb of South Lake, outlined in the submission on the District of

Cockburn above, is pursued). This allows for considerable redistribution of enrolled voters from the southern districts of Kwinana and Warnbro.

It is submitted that Jandakot expand to the south, still bounded by the logical boundary of the Kwinana Freeway to the east, to take in the semi-rural areas of Wandi (614), Anketell (186) and Casuarina (522), resulting in the redistribution of 1,322 enrolled voters. These areas form a common of interest with the semi-rural areas of the District of Jandakot, such as Banjup or Jandakot, as well as the similar interest in the suburbanisation of this district and the associated issues that the community will face. This redistribution will take the number of enrolled voters in Jandakot to 22,377 (or 20,877 if the additional redistribution of portions of the suburb of South Lake, outlined in the submission on the District of Cockburn above, is pursued). At the same time as alleviating population pressures within the district of Kwinana, this allows scope for continued growth within this district as land is released for housing along the western side of the Kwinana Freeway.

Kwinana

The District of Kwinana is reaching the highest tolerable threshold allowable before boundary adjustment, currently having a VFADE of +9.87%. Although it does not require redistribution at this time, it is likely that this will result in an adjustment in the future and necessary adjustments in adjoining districts make it desirable to make a change at this stage. It would need a redistribution of 2,287 enrolled voters to the district at this time to bring it back to the state mean.

As the Town of Kwinana expands, and it is scheduled to be achieve city status in the near future, it is going to be difficult to contain the local government within the bounds of the district that bears its name. It is unrealistic to try to achieve this when the population pressures to the south, from the District of Warnbro, and north, from the districts of Jandakot and Cockburn, require redistribution across local government boundaries.

It is submitted that the District of Cockburn (see above) be allowed to expand south to Office Road and Thomas Road, into the District of Kwinana, resulting in the redistribution of 151 enrolled voters from Mandogalup (36), Hope Valley (79), Naval Base (21), Kwinana Beach (7), Postans (2), The Spectacles (6).

It is also submitted that the District of Jandakot (see above) be allowed to expand south to Duckpond Road, into the District of Kwinana, resulting in the redistribution of 1,322 enrolled voters from Wandi (614), Anketell (186) and Casuarina (522).

It is also submitted that the suburb of Coolongup be entirely redistributed to the District of Rockingham, which currently contains a portion of this suburb. This would

have the benefit of reducing the District of Kwinana significantly and allow redistribution from the District of Warnbro.

It is finally submitted that, to accommodate a necessary redistribution of enrolled voters from the District of Warnbro, that the suburb of Baldivis, currently partly located within the District of Kwinana, be consolidated within the one district. This would see the addition of 4,266 enrolled voters) currently contained within the District of Warnbro and push the district above the tolerated VFADE limit. To compensate, the suburb of Coolongup, already partly located within the District of Rockingham

Southern River

The District of Southern River currently has a VFADE of 16.81% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 1,479 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 3,896 to bring it back to the state mean. The electoral District of Southern River continues to experience heavy growth, particularly in the newer suburbs in the west. This has contributed to a significant increase in the number of enrolled voters. It is a trend that is likely to continue as land in this area is opened up for more housing. Changes to this division should recognise this fact and be proactive in minimising the extent of future changes.

Much of the area in the east of the division is older housing stock and it has much more in common with the community in the District of Gosnells. As such it is suggested that the easternmost parts of Southern River, such as the suburb of Huntingdale (containing 2,966 enrolled voters) be shifted into the East Metropolitan Region and into the District of Gosnells. Such a redistribution would involve moving the eastern border of Southern River, so that it runs south west along Warton Road to Holmes Street, south east along Holmes Street to Passmore Street and then north-east along Passmore Street until it reaches Verna Street where the border currently begins.

The District of Gosnells in the East Metropolitan Region, currently with a -3.13% VFADE and capable of accommodating significant redistribution from another district, would be increased to its limit by this suggestion with 25,418 enrolled voters. It is suggested, therefore that only a small portion of the enrolled voters in Huntingdale (perhaps 2,200) be redistributed across the border. Instead of along Holmes Street, such a border could be redrawn along Gay Street.

This would leave the total number of enrolled voters for the District of Southern River at between 24,108 and 24,908 depending upon the determination, both within a tolerable VFADE.

Warnbro

The District of Warnbro currently has a VFADE of 15.27% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 1,222 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 3,539 to bring it back to the state mean.

It is submitted that the entire portion of the suburb of Baldivis (containing 4,266 enrolled voters) currently contained within the District if Warnbro be redistributed into Kwinana (see above).

It is also submitted that a portion of Waikiki (roughly half of the enrolled voters, approximately 1,600), currently within the District of Rockingham, be redistributed to the District of Warnbro, which already contains a portion of this suburb. This is to assist population pressures in the District of Rockingham created by the redistribution of Baldivis and Coolongup to and from the District of Kwinana respectively (see above). It would be preferable that all of the voters enrolled in Waikiki be redistributed to the District of Warnbro, but this is not possible at this time.

This would result in the District of Warnbro having approximately 23,691 enrolled voters, only a slight VFADE and leaving the District of Rockingham at 23,839 enrolled voters.

South West Region

The South West Region is the most populated of the Country Regions and the only region with districts that are experiencing growth above the state mean.

While the submission for this region includes suggestions for adjustments to all districts, it addresses its five problematic or near-problematic districts in detail: Blackwood-Stirling, Bunbury, Collie-Preston, Murray-Wellington and Vasse.

Blackwood-Stirling

The District of Blackwood-Stirling is reaching the lowest tolerable threshold allowable before boundary adjustment, currently having a VFADE of -9.09% . Although it does not require redistribution at this time, it is likely that this will result in an adjustment in the future and necessary adjustments in adjoining districts make it desirable to make a change at this stage. It would need a redistribution of 2,106 enrolled voters to the district at this time to bring it back to the state mean.

Blackwood-Stirling has two adjacent districts, Collie-Preston and Vasse, that require urgent redistribution and this district's proximity to the acceptable limit of VFADE presents a strong case for redistribution at this stage.

There is a strong argument to redistribute the portion of the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River that is currently within the District of Vasse to the District of Blackwood-Stirling (this is outlined in the submission on Vasse below) to bring this district closer to VFADE. Another possibility is for the redistribution of the Shire of Balingup-Donnybrook from the District of Collie-Preston to the District of Blackwood-Stirling, as this would fulfil the criteria for trying to retain local government within the bounds of state electoral divisions, but this is the same reason for pursuing the redistribution of the Margaret River townships to remarry the currently partitioned Shire of Augusta-Margaret River. The Shire of Balingup-Donnybrook is not growing at the same rate as the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River and there is a need to have a more stable level of growth within this district so that its number of enrolled voters do not drop to the point where it becomes problematic. Adding the remainder of the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River to this district would take the total number of enrolled voters to 26,862. To accommodate this, voters from elsewhere in the district would have to be redistributed elsewhere.

Suggestions on how this could be achieved would be to redistribute both the Shire of Boyup Brook (1,168 enrolled voters) or the Shire of Cranbrook (727 enrolled voters). Both shires could be redistributed to the District of Wagin in the Agricultural Region where they would not be out of keeping with the region and they would assist

with increasing the problematically low number of enrolled voters in that district. Alternatively, the Shire of Boyup Brook could be redistributed to the District of Collie-Preston (as outlined in the submission for this district below) and the Shire of Cranbrook redistributed to the District of Wagin. Either situation would result in there being 24,967 voters in Blackwood-Stirling.

While this increases the number of enrolled voters within the District of Blackwood-Stirling considerably, and repopulates it with a high, positive VFADE, this has been suggested in recognition of the fact that this district is the slowest growing one in the South West Region its VFADE is likely to drop in the future. The suggested changes are to accommodate this.

Bunbury

The District of Bunbury is reaching the lowest tolerable threshold allowable before boundary adjustment, currently having a VFADE of -8.98% . Although it does not require redistribution at this time, it is likely that this will result in an adjustment in the future and necessary adjustments in adjoining districts make it desirable to make a change at this stage. It would need a redistribution of 2,082 enrolled voters to the district at this time to bring it back to the state mean.

Bunbury has two adjacent districts, both within the South West region, with enrolments above the state mean: Murray-Wellington and Collie-Preston. The latter, the District of Collie-Preston requires adjustment at this redistribution and the submission on this is outlined below. The former, the District of Murray-Wellington may need adjustment in the future, although a submission on making adjustments during this redistribution is outlined below.

To increase the number of enrolled voters in the District of Bunbury, and thereby return it to a figure closer to the mean, it is submitted that parts of and Collie-Preston electoral divisions be incorporated into the division of Bunbury. Such a redistribution should take into account the fact that the City of Bunbury is constrained by the its existing density and, as such, is not experiencing the same levels of growth that the surrounding townships currently are. Its VFADE will therefore continue to expand on the negative side unless some area of growth is added to it.

There is a strong argument to redistribute part of the Suburb of Eaton in the Shire of Dardanup from the District of Collie-Preston to the District of Bunbury. Although an alternative suggestion could be made to move portions of the Shire of Capel from the District of Collie-Preston into the District of Bunbury, Capel is more than twice as far away from Bunbury as the suburb of Eaton, which is essentially part of an unbroken expanse of suburbs spanning out from the Bunbury Central Business District. Eaton is therefore a community with a shared interest in Bunbury and, with a view to future

redistributions necessitated by further growth within the District of Collie-Preston region, it would show good foresight to begin the process of incorporating this suburb within Bunbury at this redistribution.

It is submitted that approximately 2,800 enrolled voters be redistributed from the suburb of Eaton into the District of Bunbury, roughly half of the voters in this suburb. This would result in a total number of enrolled voters of 23,896, a marginally positive VFADE. It is suggested that the redistribution of enrolled voters from the suburb of Eaton is merely part of a process to include the entirety of the suburb at some stage in the future.

Collie-Preston

The District of Collie-Preston currently has a VFADE of 10.73% and, as a result, it requires redistribution of 166 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 2,487 to bring it back to the state mean. With an expansion of growth outside the City of Bunbury, into newer suburban estates, such as Dalyellup and Eaton, and the less dense areas currently covered by Collie-Preston, this district has experienced significant growth and this is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. It is prudent to take this opportunity to reduce Collie-Preston by a significant margin, putting it in a negative VFADE to accommodate future growth.

There is a strong argument to redistribute part of the Suburb of Eaton in the Shire of Dardanup from the District of Collie-Preston to the District of Bunbury, which has a significant, but not yet problematic, VFADE of -8.98% (specific details of this outlined in the submission on Bunbury above). Although an alternative suggestion could be made to move portions of the Shire of Capel from the District of Collie-Preston into the District of Bunbury, and this would have the practical advantage of redistributing along local government boundaries, it is more than twice as far away from Bunbury as the suburb of Eaton, which is essentially part of an unbroken expanse of suburbs spanning out from the Bunbury Central Business District. Eaton's suburban is not in keeping with the character of the communities in the District of Collie-Preston. With a view to future redistributions necessitated by further growth within the Collie-Preston region, it would show good foresight to begin the process of incorporating this suburb within the District of Bunbury at this redistribution.

A redistribution of approximately 2,800 enrolled voters, a little over half the population of Eaton, could be accommodated by the District of Bunbury without a significant VFADE for that district (see below) and would reduce the District of Collie-Preston reduced to 22,865 voters, a marginally negative VFADE.

The submission for the redistribution of the District of Vasse (outlined below) suggests moving part of the Shire of Capel to the District of Vasse. This would see the

removal of 1,598 enrolled voters (from the Capel township, Peppermint Grove Beach, Forest Beach and Ludlow) from the District of Collie-Preston, reducing the number of enrolled voters in the district to 21,267.

The submission for the redistribution of the District of Blackwood-Stirling (outlined below) suggests the possibility of moving the Shire of Boyup Brook (1,168 enrolled voters) to the District of Collie-Preston. This would increase the size of this district to 22,435, a decrease overall creating negative VFADE that accommodates for future growth in this District.

By reducing the District of Collie-Preston to a negative VFADE, there is also scope for a redistribution of enrolled voters from the southern end of the highly populated District of Murray-Wellington (outlined in the submission on Murray-Stirling below) into the District of Collie-Preston, either at this redistribution or at some point in the future.

Murray-Wellington

The District of Murray-WellingtonBunbury is reaching the highest tolerable threshold allowable before boundary adjustment, currently having a VFADE of 8.43%. Although it does not require redistribution at this time, it is likely that this will result in an adjustment in the future. It would need a redistribution of 1,955 enrolled voters to the district at this time to bring it back to the state mean.

There is scope for the redistribution of 632 enrolled voters from North Yunderup to District of Mandurah which currently has a negative VFADE. North Yunderup is part of the Shire of Murray, parts of which are already contained within the District of Mandurah, and is within close proximity to the City of Mandurah. Therefore there is no separation of communities of interest as a result of the change.

This would decrease the District of Murray Wellington to 24,501 which is a much more tolerable VFADE margin.

Vasse

The District of Vasse currently has a VFADE of 11.19% and, as a result, it required redistribution of at least 276 voters from the district at this time to bring it within a tolerable range, or by 2,593 to bring it back to the state mean. As the District of Vasse currently covers many townships that are experiencing significant and ongoing growth, it would be prudent to aim to reduce this district by a significant margin and take this opportunity to redistribute large areas that are growing at a slower rate to the southern District of Blackwood-Stirling to counter a slow decline in VFADE.

There is a strong argument to shift more enrolled voters from the Shire of Augusta-Margaret river to the District of Blackwood-Stirling with the long-term aim of placing the entire Shire of Augusta-Margaret River within the same division. This area is experiencing more stable growth than the area around the township of Busselton. It would also realign two communities of shared interest, as Margaret River has more in common with the southern township of Augusta than it does with the northern township of Busselton, which is increasingly suburban. The commonality between Augusta and Margaret River is evident from local news publications such as the *Augusta Margaret River Times* and the *Augusta Margaret River Mail*.

It is submitted that at least 3,000 enrolled voters within the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River, currently within the District of Vasse, be redistributed to District of Blackwood-Stirling with the objective of bringing the former, a district likely to experience short-to-mid-term growth, marginally below the VFADE and the latter, a district likely to experience less growth, marginally above the VFADE.

Alternatively, a stronger proposal is to redistribute the entire Shire of Augusta-Margaret River (5,790 enrolled voters) to the District of Blackwood-Stirling (outlined in the submission above). This would reduce the District of Vasse to a problematic 19,981 enrolled voters.

To reduce the VFADE created for the District of Vasse by this redistribution (though still with the principle objective of keeping it marginally below the VFADE), it is submitted that parts of the Shire of Capel (including 1,598 enrolled voters from the townships of Capel, Peppermint Grove Beach, Forest Beach and Ludlow) could be redistributed from the Division of Collie-Preston. These townships share the coastal character and proximity to State Forests of much of the District of Vasse. They are far enough away from Bunbury and sizeable townships within the District of Collie-Preston to share a similar character to the town of Busselton and thus form a community of interest with the largest of the District of Vasse townships. This would increase the size of this district to 21,579, a decrease overall creating negative VFADE that accommodates for significant future growth in this District or even further redistribution from townships within the Shire of Capel.

Dependent on future population growth and redistributions, it would be desirable to include the the entirety of the Shire of Capel could be included within the District of Vasse.