

Robert Kennedy  
Commissioner  
Western Australian Electoral Commission

By email: [boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au](mailto:boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au)

10 August 2023

Dear Commissioner

**PROPOSED ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES: KIMBERLEY AND PILBARA**

On behalf of the Board of Jamukurnu-Yapalikurnu Aboriginal Corporation (JYAC), the trustee for Martu native title holders, I write to object to the proposed electoral district boundaries for the abovementioned districts.

The communities of Kunawarritji, Punmu and Parnngurr are Martu communities situated within the boundaries of the Martu Determination (map **attached**). The proposed boundaries would see these communities fall within the district of Kimberley rather than Pilbara.

While the Martu diaspora live in communities and towns across the Pilbara, Kimberley and other regions and Perth, the three on-country communities are an essential Martu community of interest and have direct and strong social and economic links to Newman, Nullagine, Marble Bar and Port Hedland.

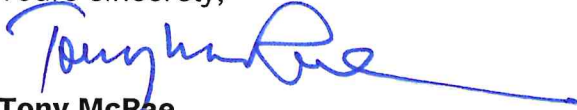
It would appear that all of these major towns are proposed to remain within the boundary of the Pilbara district.

This broader regional community of interest incorporates the Martu-majority communities of Jigalong, Irrungadji, Warralong and Strelley and extends to Yandearra and others. These communities are all proposed to remain within the boundary of the Pilbara district.

The major transport, supply and services links for the Martu on-country communities are via Newman and Marble Bar.

The three communities are all served by the same Local Government Authority, the Shire of East Pilbara. On the basis of these economic, social, cultural and transportation connections, JYAC submits that this community of interest is best served by retaining these communities within the boundary of the district of Pilbara. JYAC also notes that the community of Kiwirrkurra, though outside the Martu Determinations area, shares most of these same characteristics and forms part of the same community of interest.

Yours sincerely,



**Tony McRae**

Chief Executive Officer