

C89

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Monday, 15 May 2023 10:30 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Comments on Suggestions - Electoral Boundary Review
Attachments: electoral boundary review.docx

Comment 89 (C89)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 15 May 2023 9:17 AM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>
Subject: Comments on Suggestions - Electoral Boundary Review

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Good Morning

Please find attached my comments on submissions for the electoral boundary review.

Yours sincerely

Beverley-Anne Mulvihill
[REDACTED]
Mount Barker WA 6324

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Acknowledgement of Country: The Western Australian Electoral Commission acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which our electoral activities take place. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

To the Electoral Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on suggestions for the Electoral Boundary Review.

I submit my comments as a lifelong resident of regional WA, deeply concerned by WA Labor's suggestion that the regional electorate of North West Central should be abolished in favour of a new seat in Perth's eastern suburbs.

The voice of regional West Australians will diminish significantly after the next election with the impending loss of 18 dedicated regional representatives due to changes in the Legislative Council. For this imminent loss of representation in the Legislative Council to be further compounded by the loss of a legislative Assembly electorate would be another devastating blow to those who live and work in Regional WA.

Many of the electoral boundary suggestions highlight the need for the existing 16 regional seats to be maintained. I fully support that majority view, given any further diminution of regional seats will pose a serious threat to the capacity for regional voters to have any meaningful future say in the policies that impact their lives.

My second comment pertains to a lone suggestion that the Shire of Plantagenet should be absorbed into the electorate of Albany. This would be disadvantageous to Plantagenet and there is no statistical evidence to support any significant change to the existing Albany electoral boundary.

Prior to the 2019 distribution the Shire of Plantagenet had been transferred from one electorate to another over successive elections. Such continual flux hinders the ability for Shire residents, representatives and organisations to cement relationships with their elected member and it is clear that Plantagenet would benefit from the stability and continuity of remaining within the Warren-Blackwood electorate.

Based on the current population distribution it seems entirely appropriate and justifiable to achieve only a minimal impact on existing boundaries and to maintain the 16 regional seats that are so vital to the democratic rights of regional Western Australians.

Beverley-Anne Mulvihill

15th May, 2023