

WAEC
12 MAY 2023

C72

From: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Sent: Friday, 12 May 2023 6:52 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: EF23286193 - GO.BOU.2 - Electoral Boundary Review
Attachments: Electoral Boundary Review LT23286142.pdf

Comment C72

From: CEO <CEO@albany.wa.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 12 May 2023 4:33 PM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>
Subject: EF23286193 - GO.BOU.2 - Electoral Boundary Review

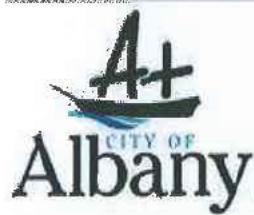
[External Email] This email was sent from outside the organisation. Be cautious, particularly with links and attachments.
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Good afternoon

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of Albany in response to the submissions raised during the period 1 April to 1 May 2023 in relation to the Electoral Boundary Review 2023.

Regards

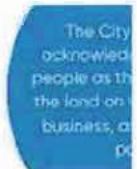
Andrew Sharpe



Andrew Sharpe / Chief Executive Officer

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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.

W.A.E.C. RECORDS

FILE No. _____

DATE: 12 MAY 2023

ACTION BY: _____



Our Ref: GO.BOU.2 / LT23286142
Cross Ref: EF23491897
Enquiries: Andrew Sharpe

12 May 2023

Electoral Boundary Review
Western Australian Electoral Distribution Commission
GPO Box F316
PERTH WA 6841

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of Albany in response to the submissions raised during the period 1 April to 1 May in relation to the Electoral Boundary Review 2023.

The City of Albany support the recommendations and comments from other local government representatives that advocate to retain the existing number of regional seats within the State's electoral boundaries.

Throughout many of these submissions, several key themes arose that the City of Albany consider imperative to the future stability and representation of regional communities.

These include;

- The merging of Electoral boundaries due to the one vote and value system introduced a number of years ago has seen a reduction in regional seats and electorates becoming larger in area to the detriment of regional voters.
- Reducing regional representation by the removal of any number of districts covering key rural, mining, pastoral and remote communities will reduce the equitable and fair distribution of electoral power into the future.
- Regional areas play a significant role in Western Australia's economy, contributing significantly to the State's mining, agriculture and tourism industries. Reducing the level of representation that these industries hold reduces their ability to have a strong voice in the State's decision-making processes and potential impact on our wider economy.
- Albany was the fastest growing region with 4,000 new electors. The representation of Albany is arguably more important than ever before with rapid population growth and key tourism expected with Albany's Bicentenary in 2026.
- Connecting community with their local member is already a challenge in many regional areas. Reducing the number of regional seats will result in fewer representatives with an understanding of the challenges faced by regional communities, leading to a lack of effective advocacy and representation.
- Regional Western Australia cannot afford to lose more regional representation.

Having regional representation within State Parliament is imperative to the future, success, and overall economy of Western Australia. Reducing regional representation will only reduce the voice of communities who sustain and grow our regional communities.

Retention of the current 16 regional seats is imperative for good governance of the State and for a balanced and fair representation of our regions in the Western Australian Parliament.

The City of Albany supports the submissions by other regional local governments that advocate for the retention of parliament representation from regional areas.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Andrew Sharpe.

Andrew Sharpe
Chief Executive Officer