
From: Cr Gary Dring <crdring@coorow.wa.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 19 April 2023 2:19 PM
To: Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox
Subject: Reduction of the regional voice.

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To Whom It May Concern,

The plan to continue to reduce the regional centres capacity for representation in our government will continue the process of disenfranchising the people who look after our land and resources.

It is a process that has over the years has diminished the capacity of the rural areas to maintain the very important regional centres.

Population is not the only consideration in this process. It is logical to maintain the regional centres population through supporting the resources that fund these centres. In order to achieve this we need regional representation, issues of the rural towns cannot be fully appreciated by representatives that have not lived and worked in these towns.

Reducing the capacity will lead to less and less people living in our regional areas and this will further the lack of economic viability of maintaining services. Some services such as schools must be supported as they are essential services regardless. If population becomes unsustainable in each town and the population must travel further for services this puts families and children at risk, excessive bus run distances, no doctors, no extra support services put everyone at risk. This process is creating an underclass in the part of the state that produces the bulk of the states income.

It is a consideration that people in the regions have a right to be represented regardless. It is impossible for all issues to be presented if one individual is trying to cover a hundred small towns.

I would urge the electoral commission to re-evaluate the process of diminishing the representation of regional areas.

Yours Faithfully

Cr Gary Dring

Shire of Coorow



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