

SUGGESTIONS FOR 2023 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATE REDISTRIBUTION

Dear Committee Members,

Please find my Suggestions for the 2023 Western Australian state redistribution.

I hope these Suggestions will help you in your deliberations.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dr Mark Mulcair

INTRODUCTION

I am grateful for the opportunity to offer my Suggestions to the 2023 Western Australian state redistribution.

I am a completely independent person, with no affiliation to any political party or organization, but I have always had a strong interest in redistributions and electoral boundaries. In recent years, a small group of us have emerged to offer our opinions and suggestions, to complement and provide alternatives to the usual political party submissions.

I hope that my Suggestions will be of benefit to the Committee in their deliberations

GENERAL THOUGHTS

POPULATION TRENDS

In general, the Perth based Districts are towards the higher end of tolerance on average. Several high-growth clusters exist in Perth's outer north (northern Wanneroo and Ellenbrook) and outer south (around Baldvis and Armadale), as well as around Mandurah and some parts of the southwestern coast.

In contrast, the inland and more remote rural Districts tend to be at the low end of tolerance, with several being considerably under quota. Even with the Large District Allowance and the increased 20% tolerance, several of these seats are still under quota.

As a rough estimate, the Perth Districts combined are around 0.5 a seat over quota, whereas the rural Districts are 0.5 below.

Clearly, there will need to be some significant adjustment to both absorb the existing excess in and around Perth, and provide room for the under-quota rural seats to expand.

ABOLISHING THE REGIONS

The big change for this redistribution is the abolition of the Regions. In my opinion, these placed a very strong artificial constraint on the boundaries of several Districts, especially in rural areas. In general, rural Districts were forced to be left at the very bottom of tolerance, as they were unable to expand 'outside' their Region. This in turn left Districts in Perth and the faster-growing rural areas (such as Mandurah or Bunbury) at the top of tolerance.

The Regional boundaries caused particular problems for the Mining and Pastoral seats, with Large District Allowance electors outnumbering real people in Districts such as North West Central. The relative population decline of these areas compared to Perth meant that this problem could never be truly resolved under the old system.

While I don't support change purely for change's sake, it's clear that the removal of these artificial constraints will provide much greater scope for the Agricultural and Mining/Pastoral seats to

expand. In particular, North West Central can finally expand to gain real electors, and at least provide the possibility of a stronger long-term growth base.

MY OVERALL STRATEGY

With the need for many rural seats to expand, and most seats in the Perth area at the higher end of tolerance, I am proposing the following:

Creating a new District based on Ellenbrook and surrounding suburbs.

Ellenbrook is a growth area, and forms a fairly self-contained area with its surrounding suburbs. There are now enough electors in these suburbs to form the basis of a District in itself, so I think this approach makes enormous sense.

This creation of this new seat forces the District of West Swan to push westwards, allowing it to soak up the existing excess in the north-west, as well as becoming more clearly focused on the Ballajura area.

Abolishing a rural District.

Combined, the 9 inland Districts (the old Mining/Pastoral and Agricultural seats, plus Albany) have only enough electors for 8 seats even with the LDA, so a District can be abolished here with almost no flow-on effects to the rest of the state.

I am proposing the amalgamation of North West Central and Moore, with the name 'Moore' being abolished. The removal of the Regional restriction allows North West Central to expand southwards into Moore, and to take in a large number of real electors as opposed to LDAs. With Roe and Central Wheatbelt also needing to expand, the District of Moore is essentially absorbed by its neighbours.

Obviously, the Committee has the option of keeping the name 'Moore' and abolishing a different name. However, since there is already a federal Division of 'Moore', I think it makes the most sense to avoid any confusion or misunderstanding due to the duplication of names.

Expanding one Perth seat outwards into regional territory, creating a hybrid urban/rural seat.

The above two changes leave around half a quota each of 'urban' and 'rural' territory remaining, so one seat will need to straddle outer Perth and some surrounding regional territory.

I have explored a few different options, and I think the best approach is to create a District that straddles Serpentine-Jarrahdale LGA and the northern part of Murray Shire. This would unite the mostly semi-rural and urban fringe communities on the outskirts of both Perth and Mandurah,

forming a clear community of interest with a strong north-south spine. This arrangement also has the advantage of not encroaching on Mandurah itself or pushing too far into the built-up parts of suburban Perth.

BOUNDARIES

In rural areas, I have tried to use LGA boundaries wherever possible. As far as I can see, I have split only one existing rural LGA that is currently unsplit (Murray), while I have been able to unite several LGAs that are currently split (East Pilbara, Northampton, Greater Geraldton, Augusta – Margaret River, and Donnybrook – Balingup). I have also reduced by one the number of Districts into which Capel Shire is split.

In metropolitan areas, I have tried to use major roads and freeways, as well as natural features such as rivers, mountains, or open space. Suburb or LGA boundaries can sometimes also make good boundaries where they coincide with major roads or rivers, but I have tried to avoid using suburb boundaries that run along back streets or cut through self-contained urban areas.

In some cases, I have gone further than strictly necessary, in order to obtain a stronger or clearer boundary. There may be seats which do not require change in terms of pure numbers, where I have still made an adjustment to correct a kink in the boundary or unite a suburb or LGA.

SUGGESTIONS: NORTHERN PERTH

The inner North is relatively stable, so I am proposing mostly minor changes for many of the Districts closer to Perth.

In contrast, the outer North has strong growth, and many Districts in this area need to contract. I have proposed a general north and west movement for most seats north of the Reid Highway, which eventually allows for the existing West Swan to be pulled westward and become more of a clearly 'Ballajura' District.

COTTESLOE

Cottesloe is towards the higher end of tolerance, and I think the opportunity should be taken to adjust the northern boundary to make use of Bold Park.

Around 2800 electors in City Beach are transferred to the District of Churchlands.

COTTESLOE	
Existing	32248
- City Beach (to Churchlands)	2802
Total	29446

NEDLANDS

I suggest Nedlands remain unchanged. It is reasonably close to quota and has clear boundaries on all sides.

NEDLANDS	
Existing	31557

CHURCHLANDS

With the gain of City Beach, I think it is logical for Churchlands to shed the remainder of the suburb of Scarborough to the District of that name. This involves less than 1000 electors.

Otherwise, the remaining boundaries are strong and clear, and can remain unchanged.

CHURCHLANDS	
Existing	29464
- Scarborough (to Scarborough)	956
+ City Beach (from Cottesloe)	2802
Total	31310

SCARBOROUGH

Uniting all of the suburb of Scarborough here makes enormous sense, and leaves this District within quota although towards the higher end.

The Committee may wish to look at exchanging North Beach/Trigg for Karrinyup, to make use of Trigg Bushland as a clearer divide with Carine, and to reduce the existing dog-legs in the current boundary.

I personally think that the boundary could remain as it is, as it would allow both Carine and Hillarys to remain unchanged. However the option is there for the Committee.

SCARBOROUGH	
Existing	32078
+ Scarborough (from Churchlands)	956
Total	33034

CARINE

Assuming no adjustment to the southern boundary, Carine can remain unchanged. Its northern and eastern boundaries are very strong and clear.

CARINE	
Existing	31241

HILLARYS

This District too can remain unchanged. While many seats to the north and east require some significant re-arrangement, I do not see any need to involve Hillarys in the transfers. All of its boundaries are very strong and unite whole suburbs, and the seat is very close to quota.

HILLARYS	
Existing	30665

PERTH

Currently over quota, Perth needs to lose electors. Given its very strong western and northern boundaries, I think the best approach is to shed territory in the east.

I propose adopting Bulwer Street and William Street as the new boundary, shedding Highgate to the District of Mount Lawley. Bulwer Street is a more significant road than the existing boundary along Harold Street, and Hyde Park would also provide a fairly clear divide in the area.

I think this approach is better than splitting North Perth or making some other adjustment to the northern boundary. Mount Lawley and Highgate have good links, and the new boundaries would unite the Beaufort Street town centre in Mount Lawley.

PERTH	
Existing	33489
- Highgate (to Mount Lawley)	1680
Total	31809

MOUNT LAWLEY

The remaining boundaries of Mount Lawley are clear, so after the gain from Perth, I propose no other changes.

MOUNT LAWLEY	
Existing	30263
+ Highgate (from Perth)	1680
Total	31943

BALCATT

One issue with the existing boundaries of Balcatta is the inclusion of Westminster. At the last redistribution, there was some objection to this arrangement, and to the breaching of the very strong eastern boundary of Wanneroo Road.

In the context of my changes further north, I am proposing to add Hamersley to this District. This would allow the use of the LGA boundary along Beach Road as the new northern boundary for this seat.

Hamersley has previously been in Balcatta and is part of Stirling LGA, so would fit well with the existing Stirling-based suburbs in this District.

If this gain is made, then Balcatta can shed Westminster to the District of Mirrabooka, re-aligning the boundary along Wanneroo Road. Balcatta would return to its previous configuration of being focused clearly on those suburbs between Wanneroo Road and the Mitchell Freeway.

BALCATT	
Existing	30155
- Westminster (to Mirrabooka)	4144
+ Hamersley and Warwick (from Kingsley)	3806
Total	29817

BUTLER

The most over-quota District in the state, Butler needs to lose around 8000 electors. I think the best approach is to shed electors in the south to the existing District of Burns Beach, to unite as many of the suburbs around Mindarie in the same District as possible.

I suggest that all of Ridgewood and Merriwa be transferred, bringing the southern boundary back up to Lukin Drive. These are the southernmost suburbs in Butler and would fit very well with similar areas to the west and south currently in Burns Beach

Butler would left at the lower end of tolerance to allow for further growth.

BUTLER	
Existing	36483
- Ridgewood (to Burns Beach)	3087
- Merriwa (to Burns Beach)	3759
Total	29637

“MINDARIE” (Burns Beach)

The gains from Butler take this District well over quota, but it can very logically shed all of Burns Beach plus the balance of the suburb of Currambine, to the District of Joondalup. I think Burns Beach and Currambine fit much better with a Joondalup-based District than with Mindarie; both suburbs are part of Joondalup LGA and look towards Joondalup as their major centre.

In an ideal world, Kinross would be transferred as well, to make full use of the LGA boundary along open space. However, removing Kinross would leave this District at the very bottom of tolerance, and would cause large flow-on effects further south to Hillarys and/or Kingsley, possibly with Joondalup itself needing to switch seats.

I think this is a much better arrangement for now; population growth in the outer north should allow this District to shed Kinross at the next redistribution, at which time a more significant redrawing of the Joondalup-based seats could take place.

With the loss of the suburb of Burns Beach, I suggest ‘Mindarie’ as an obvious new name for this District. It would be firmly focused on the fairly self-contained group of suburbs that surround the Mindarie town centre.

MINDARIE	
Existing Burns Beach	31343
- Burns Beach and Currambine (to Joondalup)	5650
+ Ridgewood (from Butler)	3087
+ Merriwa (from Butler)	3759
Total	32539

JOONDALUP

The gains in the north unite more of Joondalup LGA in this seat, but also puts this District over quota. The eastern and southern boundaries are currently quite strong, but unfortunately one of these will need to be breached to bring this District back within tolerance.

I am proposing no change to Hillarys, as it is right on quota and has strong boundaries. Therefore, the only option is to shed electors in the south-east. I propose that Edgewater should be removed from this seat and placed in the District of Kingsley. While the suburb boundary is not as strong as the existing boundary along Ocean Reef Road, it is still fairly clear.

OCEAN REEF	
Existing Joondalup	29724
- Edgewater (to Kingsley)	3280
+ Burns Beach and Currambine (from Burns Beach)	5650
Total	32094

KINGSLEY

With the loss of Hamersley, Kingsley becomes an entirely Joondalup LGA based District, so the addition of Edgewater is a logical extension.

This arrangement also leaves this District between Mitchell Freeway in the west and Wanneroo Road in the east, both very strong boundaries in the area.

KINGSLEY	
Existing	29724
- Hamersley (to Balcatta)	3806
+ Edgewater (from Joondalup)	3280
Total	30300

WANNEROO

Wanneroo is at the very top of tolerance, and I propose it lose some electors in the south.

I suggest adopting Trichet Road, Ross Street, and Warbrook Road as the new boundary. This would transfer around 1570 electors in Gnangara to the District of Landsdale, and allow the use of the semi-rural areas immediately south of Wanneroo as a clear boundary.

Wanneroo remains a District based on the north-eastern part of Wanneroo LGA, covering a mixture of growth areas and semi-rural communities.

WANNEROO	
Existing	32891
- Gnangara (to Landsdale)	1573
Total	31318

LANDSDALE

With the gains from Wanneroo, I suggest the opportunity be taken to remove Alexander Heights from this District. I feel this area fits better with suburbs to the south and east, such as Ballajura, than with areas to its north.

This allows the southern boundary to be straightened to run along Hepburn Avenue in its entirety.

LANDSDALE	
Existing	32725
- Alexander Heights (to West Swan)	5504
+ Gnangara (from Wanneroo)	1573
Total	28794

“BALLAJURA” (West Swan)

I am proposing to create a new District based on the growing Ellenbrook area. This would absorb around 13,000 electors from the existing West Swan, and leave that District well under quota.

I suggest that this loss is balanced by two gains:

- The balance of Bennett Springs, from the District of Bassendean
- The suburb of Alexander Heights, from the District of Landsdale.

Both of these areas fit well with the existing communities in the southern part of West Swan. Adding Bennett Springs allows for the use of Reid Highway as the southern boundary, as well as opening up a stronger connection between the two halves of the District.

BALLAJURA	
Existing West Swan	35412
- Ellenbrook, Aveley, Vines, Henley Brook (to Ellenbrook)	12752
+ Alexander Heights (from Landsdale)	5504
+ Bennett Springs (from Bassendean)	3769
Total	32613

BASSENDEAN

Losing Bennett Springs takes this District under quota, but it can easily expand westwards to the Tonkin Highway. I think this is a much stronger western boundary for Bassendean than Beechboro Road, and this change would unite the suburb of Beechboro in the seat.

Around 3200 electors in Beechboro and Morley are transferred, leaving this District very close to quota.

BASSENDEAN	
Existing	30340
- Bennett Springs (to Ballajura)	3769
+ west of Tonkin Highway (from Morley)	3306
Total	29877

“NORANDA” (Morley)

Morley can be compensated for the losses to Bassendean by gaining Mirrabooka’s share of the suburb of Dianella. This transfers around 2300 electors and brings Morley back within tolerance.

Currently, Dianella is split between three different seats, and I think it makes sense to at least consolidate this into two. I also feel that Dianella fits much better with Morley and Noranda than it does with Balga or Girrawheen.

A significant proportion of the suburb of Morley is located outside of the boundaries of this seat – especially if the above transfer to Bassendean takes place – so I feel that ‘Noranda’ is a more suitable name for this District.

NORANDA	
Existing Morley	30921
- west of Tonkin Highway (from Morley)	3306
+ Dianella (from Mirrabooka)	2334
Total	29949

MIRRABOOKA

Swapping Westminster for Dianella leaves this District well within tolerance. It remains clearly focused on Mirrabooka, Balga, and Girrawheen, forming a very strong community of interest.

MIRRABOOKA	
Existing	31027
- Dianella (from Mirrabooka)	2334
+ Westminster (from Balcatta)	4144
Total	32837

MAYLANDS

I am proposing this District remain unchanged. It has strong boundaries and a clear focus on Maylands, Bayswater, and surrounds.

MAYLANDS	
Existing	30771

SUGGESTIONS: EASTERN AND SOUTH-EASTERN PERTH

The existing excess plus the eastern parts of West Swan provide enough electors for a new District in this area. An Ellenbrook based seat would unite suburbs with a strong community of interest, while also improving the boundaries of surrounding seats.

With around half of the District of Swan Hills being used to make up the new seat, the Districts in this area move generally southwards under my proposals, eventually resulting in the existing Darling Range being reconstituted into the new District of Serpentine-Jarrahdale.

The other major change I propose in this area is for the rearrangement of the existing Southern River into a more clearly defined ‘Gosnells’ based District.

“ELLENBROOK” (new seat)

I am proposing a new District based clearly on Ellenbrook and the immediately surrounding suburbs. This is a fairly self-contained area, and it makes sense to unite it in a single seat since the numbers now allow it.

I suggest this seat consist of all of the suburbs of Ellenbrook, Aveley, The Vines, and Henley Brook. These four suburbs are all closely linked, and this arrangement would form a clear divide between these populated growth areas and the more semi-rural communities surrounding them.

ELLENBROOK	
+ Ellenbrook, Aveley, Vines, Henley Brook (from West Swan)	12752
+ Ellenbrook, Aveley, The Vines (from Swan Hills)	17051
Total	29803

SWAN HILLS

I feel that the existing District of Swan Hills is quite confusing and problematic. It contains parts of both the Ellenbrook urban growth area and the semi-rural townships along the Great Eastern Highway, without uniting either of these areas.

With the creation of a brand new seat based entirely on Ellenbrook, this District can now push southwards to become a more clearly “Hills” based seat, with a clearer focus on the communities immediately north and east of Midland.

I suggest that all of Kalamunda's share of Mundaring Shire, including Darlington, Glen Forrest, as well as Mundaring itself. This unites all of the Great Eastern Highway hills townships in a single seat, instead of splitting them as is currently the case. Around 12,500 electors are transferred from Kalamunda.

Since the District of Midland is currently over quota, I also suggest the suburbs of Helena Valley, Bushmead, and Boya be transferred to this seat. This would make use of the Helena River, Frederick Street, and the Greenmount National Park as fairly clear boundaries in the area. All of these suburbs are part of either Mundaring or Swan LGA, and I think they fit reasonably well with a Hills-based District.

SWAN HILLS	
Existing	32081
- Ellenbrook, Aveley, The Vines (to Ellenbrook)	17051
+ Mundaring Shire (from Kalamunda)	12418
+ Helena Valley, Bushmead, Boya (from Midland)	4,278
Total	31726

MIDLAND

The loss of Helena Valley and surrounding communities at its southern end leaves Midland within tolerance. All of its other boundaries are strong and clear, so I suggest no further changes.

Midland remains a seat very clearly based on Midland itself and the immediately surrounding suburbs.

MIDLAND	
Existing	33631
- Helena Valley, Bushmead, Boya (to Swan Hills)	4,278
Total	29353

BELMONT

Belmont is within tolerance, however I think for community of interest reasons it makes sense to transfer the balance of Burswood into the District of Victoria Park. This includes Optus Stadium and the surrounding precinct.

This change makes greater use of Graham Farmer Freeway and Belmont Park as a very strong new western boundary.

BELMONT	
Existing	31397
- Burswood (to Victoria Park)	1055
Total	30342

VICTORIA PARK

The gain of Burswood leaves Victoria Park within tolerance, but I think it should also gain the balance of Wilson from the District of Cannington. This makes greater use of the Canning River as a south-western boundary.

In the north, I suggest a small adjustment to straighten the boundary with South Perth along Kent Street and Berwick Street. This unites Kensington, as well as the remaining parts of South Perth LGA, in the District of South Perth

VICTORIA PARK	
Existing	29679
- Kensington (to South Perth)	327
+ Burswood (to Victoria Park)	1055
+ Wilson (from Cannington)	2421
Total	32828

SOUTH PERTH

Apart from the small gains from Victoria Park mentioned above, I suggest no changes to this District.

SOUTH PERTH	
Existing	30035
+ Kensington (from Victoria Park)	327
Total	30362

CANNINGTON

As part of my suggestions for this part of Perth, I am proposing to transfer Kenwick and most of Wattle Grove to this District.

I suggest using Tonkin Highway and the Kenwick/Maddington suburb boundary as the new eastern boundary for Cannington. All of Kenwick (from the Districts of Forrestfield and Thornlie) and the part of Wattle Grove west of Tonkin Highway (from Forrestfield) is added. Tonkin Highway is a strong boundary in the area, and the eastern boundary of Kenwick runs through industrial/commercial areas that form a clear divide from Maddington.

This gain takes Cannington over quota, so I suggest Parkwood be transferred to the District of Riverton. Parkwood has previously been in Riverton and fits well with the rest of the seat.

CANNINGTON	
Existing	30409
- Parkwood (to Riverton)	4110
+ Kenwick (from Forrestfield)	3339
+ Kenwick (from Thornlie)	171
+ Wattle Grove west of Tonkin Highway (from Forrestfield)	3324
Total	33133

FORRESTFIELD

Having established a new boundary with Cannington in the south-west, Forrestfield now needs to gain electors. I think the most practical option is to expand in the south-east.

I suggest that the south-eastern boundary move to the Canning River and Gosnells LGA boundary, taking in all of Thornlie's share of Maddington and Martin, and all of Kalamunda's share of Martin and Orange Grove. Currently this areas is split multiple ways, and it makes sense to unite it with similar communities in the existing southern parts of Forrestfield. The boundary would be very strong and clear, making greater use of the river and open space in this area.

FORRESTFIELD	
Existing	28857
- Wattle Grove west of Tonkin Highway (to Cannington)	3324
- Kenwick (to Cannington)	3339
+ Maddington and Martin (from Thornlie)	8341
+ Orange Grove and Martin (from Kalamunda)	726
Total	31261

KALAMUNDA

With the loss of its share of Mundaring Shire and Gosnells City, Kalamunda can now move decisively southwards to take in all of Darling Range's share of Armadale LGA. This includes Roleystone, Bedfordale, and the eastern part of Kelmscott. Most of this area consists of semi-rural hills or foothills communities, and fit well with the existing hills-based areas currently within Kalamunda.

For quota purposes, I also suggest Kalamunda gain the suburbs of Mount Nasura and Mount Richon from the District of Armadale. This makes use of the Albany and South Western Highways as the boundary in this area, and helps relieve the pressure on Armadale.

While this District still contains Kalamunda, it now incorporates a much larger part of the general Darling Range area. The Committee might wish to consider renaming this District as 'Darling Range'.

KALAMUNDA	
Existing	30059
- Mundaring Shire (to Swan Hills)	12418
- Orange Grove and Martin (to Forrestfield)	726
+ Armadale City (from Darling Range)	11590
+ Mount Nasura and Mount Richon (from Armadale)	3397
Total	31902

RIVERTON

The current boundaries split the suburb of Leeming between two seats. If Riverton gains Parkwood from Cannington as described, then all of Leeming can be transferred to the District of Jandakot. This unites the suburb and makes greater use of South Road as a strong southern boundary for Riverton.

RIVERTON	
Existing	29596
- Leeming (to Jandakot)	2411
+ Parkwood (from Cannington)	4110
Total	31295

THORNLIE

I have a number of issues with the existing Districts of Thornlie and Southern River

- Thornlie straddles the Canning River, taking in suburbs on the northern bank.
- Thornlie and Gosnells have somewhat awkward shapes.
- The major centre of Gosnells is split in two.

With the northern parts of Thornlie now transferred to other seats, I propose reconstructing these two Districts as more regular-shaped Districts.

I propose a District of Thornlie consisting of:

- The entire suburb of Thornlie
- The part of Canning Vale north of Campbell Road, Ranford Road, and Nicholson Road.

I think this arrangement makes for a clearer and more focussed District. Thornlie no longer intrudes into central Gosnells, and significant parts of Canning Vale can now be united in the seat. Warton Road and Campbell Road are clear boundaries in the local area.

THORNLIE	
Existing	31197
- Maddington and Martin (to Forrestfield)	8341
- Gosnells (to Southern River)	7157
- Kenwick (to Cannington)	171
+ Canning Vale north of The Ridgeway and Campbell Road (from Southern River)	8415
+ Canning Vale north of Nicholson Road (from Jandakot)	6601
Total	30544

“GOSNELLS” (Southern River)

I propose re-arranging the existing District of Southern River into a more clearly ‘Gosnells’ based seat. This would include:

- All of Gosnells
- All of Huntingdale
- All of Southern River
- The balance of Canning Vale not included in Thornlie.

This would give the seat far more regular boundaries than the current arrangement, and have a strong community of interest based on central Gosnells and the suburbs immediately to the west.

GOSNELLS	
Existing Southern River	31387
- Canning Vale north of The Ridgeway and Campbell Road (to Thornlie)	8415
+ Canning Vale south of Nicholson Road (from Jandakot)	2456
+ Gosnells (from Thornlie)	7157
Total	32585

JANDAKOT

Jandakot exchanges Canning Vale for Leeming, which leaves it within tolerance although at the lower end.

I suggest one additional minor adjustment, bringing Banjup into this District. While this is in Cockburn LGA, it is more semi-rural than most of the rest of Cockburn, and I think it would fit well with the existing semi-rural communities in the south-west of Jandakot.

This District does remain something of a 'bits and pieces' seat, but I think I have been able to make it more focused on the areas between the Kwinana Freeway and Armadale.

JANDAKOT	
Existing	34759
- Canning Vale north of Nicholson Road (to Thornlie)	6601
- Canning Vale south of Nicholson Road (to Gosnells)	2456
+ Leeming (from Riverton)	2411
+ Banjup (from Kwinana)	903
Total	29016

ARMADALE

The loss of Mount Nasura and Mount Richon, this District is now brought back within tolerance. Since the other boundaries are strong and clear, I suggest no further changes.

ARMADALE	
Existing	34151
- Mount Nasura and Mount Richon (to Kalamunda)	3397
Total	30754

“SERPENTINE – JARRAHDALÉ” (Darling Range)

Serpentine – Jarrahdale LGA can then merge with the northern part of Murray Shire to form the basis of a new District. I suggest that Murray Shire be divided north of Pinjarra. This would transfer areas including North Dandalup, Ravenswood, North and South Yunderup, and the surrounding communities immediately east of Mandurah.

Since the population trends make it almost impossible to avoid having one District straddle outer Perth and regional areas, I think this is the best arrangement. This District would be logical and coherent, linking the mostly semi-rural and urban fringe type communities just beyond the outskirts of Perth and Mandurah. Constructing a District like this means there is no need to encroach on central Mandurah, and the South Western Highway and railway would provide some strong north-south links in the area.

I think ‘Serpentine – Jarrahdale’ is a sensible name for the new District.

SEPRENTINE - JARRAHDALÉ	
Serpentine – Jarrahdale LGA (from Darling Range)	21571
Murray LGA north of Pinjarra (from Murray – Wellington)	8520
Total	30091

SUGGESTIONS: SOUTHERN PERTH

This part of Perth is fairly self-contained, with open space to the east and the coastline to the west. I have used the existing excess in Districts such as Baldivis and Warnbro to help top up some of the more stagnant Districts further north.

One thing I have tried to do here is to tidy up the boundaries of Baldivis, Kwinana, and Cockburn to make greater use of the open space between these areas as clear new boundaries.

WARNBRO

Warnbro is towards the high end of tolerance, and I suggest it shed everything east of Mandurah Road. This transfers around 1800 electors to the District of Baldivis.

Mandurah Road is a clear boundary, and it makes sense to unite all of the suburb of Baldivis in the district of that name.

WARNBRO	
Existing	32892
- Baldivis and Karnup (to Baldivis)	1813
Total	31079

BALDIVIS

This District is one of the most over-quota in the state, and requires a significant number of electors to be lost.

Fortunately, there is a very logical way to achieve this:

- Transfer all of its share of Kwinana LGA to the District of that name.
- Transfer all of Cooloongup to the District of Rockingham.

I think these two changes make enormous sense. The existing boundary splits the self-contained Kwinana area, so it is very logical to try to unite all of these in a single seat if possible. Transferring Cooloongup allows the use of Lake Cooloongup as a very strong and clear boundary in the area.

Unfortunately, for quota purposes part of Waikiki needs to remain in the seat. Apart from that, this District is now firmly focused on Baldivis itself and the immediately surrounding areas east of Lake Cooloongup.

BALDIVIS	
Existing	35906
- Wellard (to Kwinana)	7724
- Coo loongup (to Rockingham)	1574
+ Baldivis and Karnup (from Warnbro)	1813
Total	28421

ROCKINGHAM

Absorbing the suburb of Coo loongup leaves Rockingham within tolerance, and gives it a clearer boundary in the area.

I suggest no further changes

ROCKINGHAM	
Existing	30229
+ Coo loongup (from Baldivis)	1574
Total	31803

KWINANA

I feel the existing boundaries of Kwinana are very unsatisfactory. The seat extends right up into Cockburn LGA, while excluding some parts of Kwinana itself.

With the changes I have proposed for Baldivis, it is now possible to unite all of Kwinana within this seat. This then allows the District to shed of all its Cockburn LGA component to other seats, and make use of the significant unpopulated areas north of Kwinana as a clear new boundary.

I have previously proposed that the suburb of Banjup be placed in the District of Jandakot, where it fits well with the surrounding semi-rural communities. Apart from that, I suggest transferring all of Kwinana's remaining share of Cockburn LGA to the District of that name. Cockburn already contains suburbs such as Atwell and Success, so Hammond Park and Aubin Grove are very logical additions.

KWINANA	
Existing	31420
- Cockburn LGA except Banjup (to Cockburn)	8608
- Banjup (to Jandakot)	903
+ Wellard (from Baldivis)	7724
Total	29633

COCKBURN

Cockburn is taken well over quota with the gains from Kwinana, and I think opportunity should be taken to redraw its northern boundary.

I suggest that the suburbs of Coogee and Yangebup be transferred to the District of Willagee. This helps straighten the northern boundary along Belair Drive, and also makes use of open space such as the Yangebup Lake.

This arrangement would leave Cockburn Central and its immediate surrounds still in the District, so it can retain the name 'Cockburn' for now.

COCKBURN	
Existing	32392
- Yangebup and Coogee (to Willagee)	9249
+ Cockburn LGA except Banjup (from Kwinana)	8608
Total	31751

“BIBRA LAKE” (Willagee)

In addition to the gains from Cockburn, I also suggest the small remaining part of Coogee be gained from the District of Fremantle.

With these additions, South Street in its entirety can then be adopted as a very strong and straight northern boundary. This transfers just under 6000 electors in Willagee and O'Connor, plus part of Kardinya, into the District of Bicton. This seat would be left towards the higher end of tolerance, but would have much stronger and clearer boundaries than it does currently.

With the loss of the suburb of Willagee, this District will need to be renamed. 'Bibra Lake' would seem a very suitable name, it would be a central suburb as well as a significant physical feature of this redrawn seat.

BIBRA LAKE	
Existing Willagee	29565
- North of South Street (to Bicton)	5924
+ Yangebup and Coogee (from Cockburn)	9249
+ Coogee (from Fremantle)	261
Total	33151

FREMANTLE

I am not proposing major changes to Fremantle. I suggest it lose two small areas: the balance of Coogee to the District of Willagee, and the balance of Palmyra and O'Connor to the District of Bicton.

FREMANTLE	
Existing	32955
- Palmyra and O'Connor (to Bicton)	116
- Coogee (to Bibra Lake)	261
Total	32578

BICTON

Bicton adopts South Street and Cannington Street as its new south-western boundary, and now needs to lose electors.

I suggest the balance of Myaree and Alfred Cove be transferred to the District of Bateman, moving the boundary to run along Rome Road. Since the numbers allow, I think it makes sense to unite these suburbs in a single seat.

BICTON	
Existing	29041
- Alfred Cove and Myaree (to Bateman)	1663
+ Palmyra and O'Connor (from Fremantle)	116
+ North of South Street (from Willagee)	5924
Total	33418

BATEMAN

The small gains from Bicton still leave this District within tolerance, and no further changes are needed.

BATEMAN	
Existing	31019
+ Alfred Cove and Myaree (from Bicton)	1663
Total	32682

SUGGESTIONS: REGIONAL WA

Most of the inland Districts need to expand significantly, which results in the abolition of Moore. Due to the deficit, there is almost no impact on the coastal Districts even with the removal of an inland seat.

The existing excess from Vasse north to Mandurah can be absorbed by the southern part of the proposed Serpentine-Jarrahdale. This arrangement allows all coastal seats to retain their existing identity with relatively small losses, and no need for any District to undergo radical change.

KIMBERLEY

Even with the benefit of the Large District Allowance and the greater 20% tolerance, Kimberley is still well under quota going into this redistribution cycle. Realistically, the only possible place to gain electors is from the Shire of East Pilbara.

I am recommending that all of East Pilbara, including Newman, be transferred to this District. Part of this LGA is already in Kimberley, so it makes sense to simply unite it in a single seat.

This would transfer around 2700 ‘real’ electors plus a further 5500 LDA electors, leaving Kimberley slightly above quota.

With addition of such a large area of East Pilbara, the Committee may wish to consider updating the name to “Kimberley-East Pilbara” or something similar, as a more accurate reflection of its location.

KIMBERLEY	
Existing	16514
+ East Pilbara (from Pilbara)	2705
Total Electors	19219
Total Area (sq km)	792990.6
Large District Allowance	11895
Total	31114

PILBARA

The loss of East Pilbara LGA sees this District shrink dramatically, both in area and in terms of electors. Combined, the LGAs of Karratha and Port Headland would not trigger the LDA, leaving this District now well under quota. There needs to be a significant injection of electors, and ideally some increase in size to re-trigger the LDA.

Fortunately, the Shire of Ashburton fulfils both of these requirements, providing nearly 3000 real electors and over 100,000 sq km increase in area. Ashburton is very much part of the Pilbara region, and would fit extremely well with Karratha and Port Headland in a 'Pilbara' based District.

This gain would leave Pilbara within the expanded 20% tolerance although at the lower end. With a very high proportion of real electors over LDAs, I feel there is much more capacity for growth in this District compared to some others, so I think leaving it at the lower enrolment is reasonable. However, if the Committee was concerned about the disparity between Pilbara and Kimberley, they could leave part of East Pilbara (e.g. the town of Newman) in this District to balance the numbers more closely.

PILBARA	
Existing	23716
- Balance East Pilbara	2705
+ Ashburton	2881
Total Electors	23892
Total Area (sq km)	131469.8
Large District Allowance	1972
Total	25864

KALGOORLIE

Before considering how to adjust the existing North West Central District, I decided to first look at Kalgoorlie.

This District is within tolerance and easily be left unchanged. However, for community of interest reasons, I think that Ngannytjarriku LGA should be added to this District. Warburton and surrounds have good links with communities in the Kalgoorlie District, and there has been some objection to the boundaries at previous redistributions. Since the numbers permit, I suggest the opportunity be taken to include this area in Kalgoorlie.

This gain would take Kalgoorlie to the higher end of tolerance, but would unite most of the communities that look to Kalgoorlie as their major centre.

KALGOORLIE	
Existing	20268
Nganyatjarriku	647
Total Electors	20915
Total Area (sq km)	716148.2
Large District Allowance	10742
Total	31657

GERALDTON

Geraldton is within tolerance, but I suggest it is logical to include the remaining small part of Greater Geraldton LGA into this District. Around 320 electors are transferred from Moore.

GERALDTON	
Existing	27893
+ Greater Geraldton (from Moore)	324
Total	28217

NORTH WEST CENTRAL

Two persistent issues with the Gascoyne based District have been:

- 1) The relative lack of population in the area. Unlike surrounding seats such as Pilbara and Kalgoorlie, there is no major population centre to provide a solid basis of electors in this District.
- 2) The old Regional boundary, which was deemed unmoveable by previous redistributions. This made it impossible for the District to push southwards into more populated and coastal communities that could have provided it with a more stable elector base.

The combination of these two factors has resulted in this District being pushed further and further inland, gaining large sparsely populated areas to artificially boost the enrolment via LDA. Most version of this District have seen the LDA outweigh actual electors, meaning there was little scope for real growth and leaving the area chronically under-quota.

However, with the removal of the previous Region boundaries, there is now far more scope to expand this seat beyond the former 'Mining and Pastoral' region, and to inject a significant number of real electors.

Previously described changes have seen the District lose Ashburton and Ngannytjarriku LGAs, leaving it with only around 7500 actual electors as well as a significantly reduced LDA. Therefore, I suggest that this seat be essentially merged with the District of Moore.

I propose transferring all LGAs in Moore apart from the balance of Greater Geraldton and the six LGAs immediately adjacent to Perth (Tooday, Gingin, Chittering, Victoria Plains, Dowerin and Goomalling).

I also suggest the three northern-most LGAs from Central Wheatbelt (Koorda, Mount Marshall, and Mukinbudin) be transferred. While these areas have good links to the south, they also have links to the west, and fit quite well with the Wheatbelt communities transferred from Moore.

These changes would add ~14,000 real and ~1,000 LDA electors, leaving the District slightly at the higher end of tolerance.

With the incorporation of large amounts of Mid-West and Wheatbelt territory, the Committee may wish to change the name of this District.

NORTH WEST CENTRAL	
Existing	11021
- Ngannytjarriku (to Kalgoorlie)	637
- Ashburton (to Pilbara)	2881
+ Moore District (except Tooday, Gingin, Chittering, Victoria Plains, Dowerin, Goomalling, and Greater Geraldton)	13826
+ Koorda, Mt Marshall, Mukinbudin LGAs (from Central Wheatbelt)	940
Total Electors	22269
Total Area (sq km)	638505.8
Large District Allowance	9578
Total	31847

CENTRAL WHEATBELT

Despite great changes further north, this District can remain relatively intact. The remaining six LGAs from Moore are added to this District, while three LGAs are moved into North West Central, which leaves the seat slightly above tolerance.

I suggest the eight southernmost LGAs (Wandering, Brookton, Pingelly, Cuballin, Corrigan, Wickiepin, Kulin and Kondinin) be removed and placed into the District of Roe. These areas would all fit well with the western part of the existing Roe, and in the past have been linked with areas to the south in the former District of Wagin.

Central Wheatbelt would retain its strong spine along the Great Eastern Highway, joining Avon, Merredin, and most of the areas that look to them as their major centres.

CENTRAL WHEATBELT	
Existing	26652
- Wandering, Brookton, Pingelly, Cuballin, Corrigan, Wickepin, Kulin and Kondinin (to Roe)	6114
- Koorda, Mt Marshall, Mukinbudin LGAs (to North West Central)	940
+ Tooday, Gingin, Chittering, Victoria Plains, Dowerin, Goomalling LGAs (from Moore)	13366
Total	32964

ROE

Roe is at the very low end of tolerance, so can easily accommodate the gains from Central Wheatbelt without changing its character.

I suggest shedding the Shire of Jerranungup to Albany to boost the numbers in that District, but no other changes are necessary.

ROE	
Existing	25387
- Jerranungup (to Albany)	816
+ Wandering, Brookton, Pingelly, Cuballin, Corrigan, Wickepin, Kulin and Kondinin (from Central Wheatbelt)	6114
Total Electors	30685
Total Area (sq km)	123546
Large District Allowance	1853
Total	32538

ALBANY

Albany remains well within tolerance after the gain of Jerranungup, and could be left unchanged.

Given its relatively slow growth in the District, I also recommend that the Shire of Plantagenet be added to this District. This Shire has good links with Albany and fits well with the communities in the existing District.

This takes Albany to the very top of tolerance, but I think this is justifiable given the relatively slow growth in the area.

ALBANY	
Existing	28540
+ Jerranungup (from Roe)	816
+ Plantagenet (from Warren – Blackwood)	3,838
Total	33194

VASSE

Before considering Warren-Blackwood, I first decided the boundaries for Vasse. This District is at the very top of tolerance, and somewhat limited in how it can move around to accommodate other seats.

I think the most logical approach is to consolidate Vasse on Busselton LGA, and shed the balance of Augusta-Margaret River to Warren-Blackwood. Busselton contains almost exactly the right number of electors for quota, and this change also allows Augusta-Margaret River LGA (which has often been split between Districts) to be united.

The 100 or so electors are Capel Shire are also shed to the existing Collie-Preston District.

VASSE	
Existing	33254
- Augusta-Margaret River (to Warren - Blackwood)	2516
- Capel (to Collie – Preston)	98
Total	30640

WARREN-BLACKWOOD

Gaining the Augusta area balances the loss of Plantagenet, so no other major changes are necessary for this District.

I suggest a minor additional change to remove the remainder of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup. This involves only ~600 electors, and allows for the Shire to be united in Collie-Preston.

WARREN – BLACKWOOD	
Existing	31822
- Plantagenet (to Albany)	3838
- Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup (to Collie – Preston)	607
+ Augusta Margaret River (from Vasse)	2156
Total	29533

BUNBURY

Bunbury is slightly towards the higher end of tolerance, but given it has clear boundaries and a strong community of interest based around Bunbury itself plus Dalyellup. I suggest no changes to this District.

BUNBURY	
Existing	31873

COLLIE-PRESTON

I am proposing only minor adjustments to this District.

- Gaining the balance of Donnybrook-Balingup (~600) electors, from Warren-Blackwood
- Gaining the balance of Capel (~100 electors) from Vasse
- Shedding Roelands to the existing District of Murray-Wellington.

Transferring Roelands allows greater use of the Collie River and LGA boundary in this area.

I have explored the possibility of more significant changes, such as attempting to unite Australind/Leschenault in a single seat, or even transferring Collie to an inland District. However, I was not able to make any of these arrangements work very well at this time. Perhaps at a future redistribution, these types of changes could be looked at.

COLLIE – PRESTON	
Existing	32331
- Roelands (to Murray – Wellington)	681
+ Capel (from Vasse)	98
+ Donnybrook-Balingup (from Warren – Blackwood)	607
Total	32355

“WELLINGTON” (Murray-Wellington)

In the context of my proposals for the Serpentine-Jarrahdale District, the northern part of Murray Shire is removed from this seat. This leaves it needing to gain electors, which it can easily do from the over-quota Mandurah-based Districts.

I suggest this seat expand north-west to the Dawesville Channel, gaining the suburb of Dawesville. The existing boundary already takes in some communities on the southern bank, and runs close to Dawesville itself, so this is a logical extension.

With the loss of part of Murray Shire, I suggest this can logically be renamed ‘Wellington’. The Committee might wish to re-use the name ‘Dawesville’, but I’m not sure how appropriate that would be for a seat extending almost as far south as Bunbury.

WELLINGTON	
Existing Murray – Wellington	32237
- Murray Shire north of Pinjarra (to Serpentine – Jarrahdale)	8520
+ Dawesville (from Dawesville)	5221
+ Roelands (from Collie – Preston)	681
Total	29619

“HALLS HEAD” (Dawesville)

The existing Dawesville District can then push northwards to gain the suburb of Coodanup, helping to relieve the population pressure on Mandurah. This seat already extends onto the northern bank to take in parts of Dudley Park, so I think expanding this to Coodanup is a straightforward adjustment.

The Committee could also look at including the balance of Dudley Park as well, but I feel this would start to push this District too close to the top of tolerance. I have left the suburb split to better balance the numbers; however, the option is there for the Committee.

With the loss of Dawesville itself, I suggest ‘Halls Head’ as the new name for this District. This is the largest suburb, and would be in a fairly central location in the seat.

HALLS HEAD	
Existing Dawesville	33362
- Dawesville (to Wellington)	5221
+ Coodanup (from Mandurah)	3289
Total	31430

MANDURAH

Loss of Coodanup brings this District back within tolerance. Given the strong northern and eastern boundaries, no further changes are needed here.

MANDURAH	
Existing	33736
- Coodanup (to Halls Head)	3289
Total	30447