

12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Electoral Commissioners

Electoral Distribution Commission

Level 1, 111 St Georges Terrace

Perth WA 6000

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

Dear Sirs,

**Submission WA Electoral Boundaries – Collie- Preston**

I wish to lodge my personal submission relating to the Electorate of Collie Preston which I understand will be considered in time for the next State election due in 2025.

I strongly support the retention of Collie within the Collie-Preston district and for the naming of the district to remain unchanged.

The Collie region faces significant economic and social adjustment pressures arising from a continued decline for coal fired electricity generation. With the support of State Government funding and support, the town has commenced its process to diversify and transition its economy and workforce to ensure its future. This is being attracting new industries to Collie that align to the existing skills of the current workforce. The industry attraction efforts are targeted at green manufacturing or minerals processing; energy intensive industries; and future clean energy industries. These are industries that closely align with the Bunbury Port and associated infrastructure and there is benefit to be gained from maintaining these strong links.

Further, the Collie workforce both crosses over and aligns with the broader South-West Region and any move with the boundaries to the East, would be counterproductive as the highly skilled trade and industry-based workforce are not aligned to the agricultural focus that is more dominant to the east.

Particularly with the mounting pressures on the Collie-Preston workforce and communities as they seek to transform their economic base and secure their town's future, I believe there is no social or economic benefit to be gained from the shift in boundaries but there is potential risk from adding further structural change to a community already dealing with a significant transition. For these reasons I submit that the Electorate boundary for Collie-Preston should remain unchanged.

Yours Sincerely



John Kearney