

W A E C  
- 9 MAY 2023

C55

**From:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 10 May 2023 11:14 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Electoral Boundary Changes in Regional Western Australia  
**Attachments:** Electoral Boundary Changes in WA.docx

Comment 55 (C55)

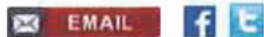
**From:** Paul Sheedy <ceo@narembeen.wa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 May 2023 6:15 PM  
**To:** Electoral Boundaries Review Mailbox <boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Electoral Boundary Changes in Regional Western Australia

**[External Email]** This email was sent from outside the organisation. Be cautious, particularly with links and attachments.  
SPAM emails must be reported to the Helpdesk.

Please find attached a submission on the above matter

Regards,

**Paul Sheedy**  
**Acting Chief Executive Officer**  
**Shire of Narembeen**  
T: (08) 9064 7308 F: (08) 9064 7037  
1 Longhurst Street, Narembeen WA 6369



*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.	DST 0151
DATE:	- 9 MAY 2023
ACTION BY:	





OUR REF: ADM036

Electoral Boundaries Review  
GPO Box F316  
PERTH WA 6841

(via: [boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au](mailto:boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au) )

To Whom It May Concern

### **ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES REVIEW**

Thank you for advice that suggestions received have been published to Electoral Boundaries WA website and inviting comments against those various suggestions being invited until 5.00 pm 15 May 2023.

The Shire of Narembreen firmly believes that it is crucial to retain the current 16 regional seats in the Western Australian Parliament. Any reduction of regional seats would only exacerbate the existing challenges faced by regional communities, making it harder for their voices to be heard and their issues addressed.

Regional areas require strong and effective representation to ensure that their unique needs and challenges are adequately addressed. A reduction in regional seats would result in fewer representatives with a thorough understanding of the issues and challenges faced by regional communities, leading to a lack of effective advocacy and representation.

Access to education, health care, aged care, safe and affordable transport, infrastructure and service in regional Western Australia is more difficult and, in many cases, inequitable when compared to those living in the city. Having less people in parliament that understand, live and work in these communities will only make it more difficult to get better outcomes for these challenges.

Furthermore, the merging of seats will result in larger electorates, making it more difficult for constituents to access their local Member and for Members to engage effectively with their communities. The larger the electorate, the more difficult it becomes for Members to provide the necessary support and advocacy that their constituents require.

Retaining the current number of regional seats is critical for ensuring that regional communities have adequate representation and support in the Western Australian Parliament. By doing so,

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we can ensure that our regional communities receive the attention and resources they need to thrive, and that their voices are heard at the highest levels of government.

The proposed boundary redistribution takes a snapshot of the average enrolment for all 59 seats in the State Parliament at the midpoint between elections, so this year, and the snapshot showed the average to be 30,432 voters per seat and all seats are allowed to be within 10 percent above or below the average enrolment.

The average number of voters in country Western Australia outside of the Perth metropolitan Boundary is just (-3.12%) or 29,520 voters. This is well within the allowable 10% above or below the average, so a reduction in country seats is not justified based on these figures.

In conclusion, the average number of voters within county WA falls well within the allowable limit so no redistribution is needed or justified and the retention of the current 16 regional seats is essential for ensuring that regional communities have effective representation and support in the Western Australian Parliament. It is critical that we continue to prioritise the needs and challenges of our regional communities, and the best way to do so is by retaining the current number of regional seats.

Should you require further information or clarification on the above, please contact me at [ceo@narembreen.wa.gov.au](mailto:ceo@narembreen.wa.gov.au) or telephone 9064 7308.

Yours faithfully

**Paul Sheedy**  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
9 May 2023

