This suggestion was submitted before the deadline but was received late due to a technical issue, and has been accepted by the Electoral Distribution Commissioners.

YOUR REF:

OUR REF: OCR2314023 - 14.1.1

ENQUIRIES: Dale Stewart

27 April 2023

Electoral Boundaries Review GPO Box F316 PERTH WA 6841

(via: boundaries@waec.wa.gov.au)

To Whom It May Concern

## **ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES REVIEW**

The Shire of Narrogin, on behalf of its regional constituents, 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.

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, 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.

In conclusion, 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 via email, <a href="mailto:enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au">enquiries@narrogin.wa.gov.au</a> or telephone 9890 0900.

Yours sincerely

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