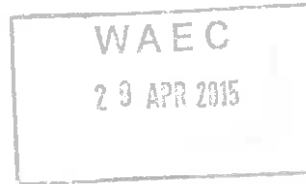


Our Ref: ADM 4



24 April 2015

The Executive Officer  
Electoral Boundaries WA  
GPO Box F316  
PERTH WA 6841

Dear Sir

### **SUBMISSION - 2015 ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES REVIEW**

I write on behalf of Council to provide the following submission to the 2015 Electoral Boundaries Review currently being undertaken by the WAEC.

Council at its Ordinary meeting held on Thursday, 23 April resolved the following:-

***“That Council provides a submission to the Western Australian Electoral Commission relating to the Review of the Electoral Boundaries, indicating that in respect to the Legislative Council’s South West Electoral Region, Mandurah be excluded as it has no commonality with the South West Region and would be more suitably aligned with the South Metropolitan Region”.***

In passing the above resolution, Council submits the following information in support of submission:-

- In the information provided by the WAEC it states:  
*“The South West Region includes coastal and forest areas in the South West”*

Whilst it is acknowledged that Section 16H of the *Act* and the *Planning and Development Act* generally describe the areas for the 3 Upper House Regions in the metropolitan area, it can be argued that Mandurah and its immediate surrounds, does not fit into South West Region as described in the above statement.

- In respect to Section 16I of the *Act* specifying that the Commissioners must give due consideration in dividing the State into regions and districts, Council provides the following comments in respect to these issues:-



*(a) community of interest*

It is considered that Mandurah has no community of interest with the South West Region. It is a city bordering the metropolitan area and the majority of its residents would travel north rather than south for recreation and work commitments. It is obvious that Mandurah is not aligned or readily able to be identified as being part of the South West Region.

*(b) land use patterns*

Mandurah is predominately urbanised being on the immediate fringe of the metropolitan area and its land use patterns are predominately based on growing subdivisional development which are a complete opposite to the majority of the South West Region.

*(c) means of communication, means of travel and distance from the capital*

Mandurah is linked to Perth by the Transperth Electric Rail System and residents from Mandurah and its immediate surrounds are able to commute daily to Perth for work and recreational activities via a fast and efficient service and this type of commute is not available to the rest of the South West Region's residents.

*(d) physical features*

The only physical feature that Mandurah has with the South West Region is its coastline, but the metropolitan regions also have this same feature. If the WAEC surveyed metropolitan and Mandurah residents as to where they identified the "South West Region" to be, it is considered that they would invariably describe it as being much further south of Mandurah.

*(e) existing boundaries of regions and districts*

The State Government for many years has established Development Commissions and the South West Development Commission based in Bunbury services the South West Region. Whilst the Peel Development Commission services areas south of Mandurah it is particularly Mandurah focused due to the rapid growth of this locality.

*(f) existing local government boundaries*

The Western Australian Local Government Association operates via a Zone System, similar to the Development Commission's structure. As stated in the previous consideration, Mandurah does not fall into the South West Zone of either the Development Commissions or WALGA Zone structure. WALGA South West Zone Local Governments have minimal or no contact with Mandurah as their issues are more metropolitan based.

*(g) the trend of demographic changes.*

Mandurah's rapid growth and close proximity to Perth via transportation modes arguably includes it as part of the South Metropolitan Region. The majority of Mandurah's population through employment and recreational pursuits would more than likely be closer linked to Perth. As this growth continues Mandurah's affinity with the South West Region is further alienated.

I trust that Council's submission will be given due consideration as part of the 2015 Electoral Boundaries Review.

Yours faithfully



*Peter Clarke*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**