

The Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils (Inc)

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29th April 2015

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

Re: Submission - 2015 Electoral Boundary Review

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find our Submission below for consideration.

The Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils represents the Shires of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Manjimup and Nannup. Its purpose is to highlight and progress issues that have regional impact and to be a voice for the Warren Blackwood. The following information is provided in support of our Submission.

It is noted there is significant pressure in the Metropolitan area, with 10 of the 42 Districts outside of the 10% tolerance, the highest being 33.58%.

The Northern Metropolitan Region, which encompasses 14 Districts is within allowable limits of +6.00% but has three Districts outside of the allowable tolerances.

The Eastern Metropolitan Region, which encompasses 14 Districts is within allowable limits of +4.89%, with 3 Districts outside the allowable tolerances.

The Southern Metropolitan Region, which encompasses 14 Districts is within allowable limits of +5.37 with 4 Districts outside the allowable tolerances.

It is therefore suggested that consideration be made to include either Mandurah, or Mandurah and Dawesville into the Southern Metropolitan area, bringing the number of Districts to 43 or 44 in the Metropolitan area and 15 or 16 Country Districts. Based on the criteria provided, these areas are more suited to the Metropolitan area and are not contained in the South West Local Government Zone, or the South West Development Commission.

In turn Boundary adjustments in line with Local Government Authorities in each of the remaining Districts in the Southwest Regions and then the Agricultural Region will need to be considered. Although, the Agricultural Region currently falls within allowable limits, the District of Wagin is outside of the allowable limits. Based on current trends, this is likely to continue. The Agricultural Region abuts the Murray Wellington, Collie Preston, Warren Blackwood and Albany Districts in the South West Region.

To achieve a reduction in Districts in the South West Region and to address the issues in the Agricultural Region, a re-distribution of outer Local Government Authorities in the Southwest Region is suggested.

There are a number of localities in each of the Collie (Collie Preston District), Boyup Brook (Warren Blackwood District) and Mt Barker (Wagin District) areas that could be included in the

Agricultural Region, such as McAlinden, Mumballup, Noggerup, Boyup Brook, Chowerup, Dinninup, Kulikup, Mayanup, Scotts Brook, Tonebridge and South Stirling, which are predominantly Agricultural. Collie and Boyup Brook also currently have once locality in the Wagin District each, so all the localities within Collie and Boyup Brook could be considered for the Agricultural Region. This would then mean some adjustments to the current Boundaries of the current Collie-Preston, Murray Wellington, Vasse and Warren Blackwood Districts. It is noted also that the Districts of Murray Wellington, Vasse and the Warren Blackwood currently have higher than the ADE, giving room for adjustment. Based on this, our recommendation is the above changes to the Warren Blackwood District be investigated, with the preservation of the entirety of Bridgetown Greenbushes, Manjimup and Nannup in the Warren Blackwood District. This can be supported by the common interests shared by the three LGA's currently members of the Alliance.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Dean', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tony Dean
President