

The Commissioners

Dear Commissioners,

Comments on Proposals

I wish to comment on the proposals made to the commission.

I have often found that some quite useful submissions have been made by contributors, whilst varied are both constructive and thoughtful.

Jeff Waddell has made some name submissions. Whilst it has been the practice of the West Australian redistribution processes to use locational names to name districts he has proposed to use notable persons. In other jurisdictions prominent people often have electorates named after them, this offers the added advantage that districts may change without name changes due to the loss of a key suburb. Several prominent citizens have not been honoured with divisions or districts named after them such Mary Holman. Whilst there is a preference for geographical naming, some prominent West Australians remain uncommemorated.

The ALP has proposed some changes to both the Northern and Eastern Metropolitan Regions by the addition of Yanchep and Two Rocks to Moore in the Agricultural Region. These areas clearly do not conform to the agricultural nature of the region. Similarly, the inclusion of portions of the Serpentine-Jarrahdale Shire in Murray-Wellington also do not conform to the rural nature of the region of the South West Region.

Having said that I note the ALP agreement with the inclusion of coastal local government areas been proposed to be entirely contained within South Metropolitan. This is an area of agreement with the Liberal Party which should be noted.

Similarly, the inclusion of West Perth in Nedlands is a reasonable proposition, and not inconsistent with my proposals, except that numbers may be spread with Cottlesloe and Churchlands.

The eastern displacement of West Swan is agreed with my proposals.

Due to the comparatively small imbalances created under a 4-year redistribution regime the adjustments required are quite small. The Liberal Party submission is a series of modest changes, that neither involve massive shifts of boundaries or the abolition or creation of districts.

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Conclusion

The current Metropolitan area is relatively well defined, and boundaries do not need to be crossed. Some outward movement of inner-city districts and outward movement of outer districts and adjustments can be easily accommodated.

I wish the commissioners well and on the basis of the distribution of electors consider that changes overall will be comparatively modest.

Regards

Martin Gordon

7 May 2019