



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Suggestion 30

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3 pages

Enhance inclusion, sustainability, and equality if we are included in Berowra and not Robertson. My understanding is that the boundaries identify your local area and the council that is in your remit.

We have had our property for 9 years and it is on that basis that I put forward our family's recommendation to be re-zoned into the Berowra zoning.

Enhancing Efficiency and Equity Through Federal Redistribution

Introduction: My proposal is aimed at federal redistribution from (Robertson) Central Coast Council to (Berowra) Hornsby Shire Council.

Section 1: Background and Rationale:

1.1 Current Challenges:

- I would like to put forward my existing challenges and issues faced by being in the Robertson Area and therefore represented by Central Coast Council. I have owned my property since April 2015 and while our Council has been plunged into financial chaos. I see all of our services except for electricity being accessed through Berowra (Brooklyn - Apart of Hornsby Shire Council). Brooklyn is how we access our water only access properties at Little Wobby. Our boat and car parking are based in Brooklyn. Brooklyn to Little Wobby would be under 3kms via water. Brooklyn to Gosford City Council is 33 km's. Brooklyn to Hornsby Shire Council is 20km. It is only 51.3km drive from Brooklyn to the Sydney CBD. When I needed to attend the nearest Police station. Again, it was Hornsby which was the closest. We recently had a huge bush fire, and it was Brooklyn and Dangar (Berowra) that ran to our rescue. They are our immediate Neighbours and a huge part of our community.

As a suburb, Central Coast Council currently provides our community with NO water, NO septic, NO rubbish removal, NO kerbside collection or any area maintenance or footpath. We do, however, get rate bills and when I contacted the council once to ask them what services they provided, they said that I could use their local library.

- I have contacted my current council multiple times regarding how they can assist us as a community conform to best practices when making decisions on behalf of our community. For example, septic, rubbish removal, boat, and car parking. Which would make our community thrive and allow us to come and go with ease and providing a quality and safe service for us all to access our property. All our public transport is to / through Brooklyn. I feel like we are constantly lagging in efficiencies, and I have been told by the Council that it's very hard to get to us for a site audit and hence there are always delays placed on any application we submit.

Once, I put in a complaint to the council with no follow-up. I called the council and was advised that their letters kept getting a return to sender on them. I reminded them that we also don't have any mail services. However, they certainly know where to send their rates for myself to pay. I personally feel like I'm hindering the council every time I contact them to try and see if they could deliver a quality of service.

I was advised by a Neighbour once that they were collected by an ambulance, and as they were classed as Central Coast Council, they had to go to Gosford Hospital when they wanted to go to Hornsby. Again, Hornsby is closer by over 10kms plus and

has better public transport links for us.

1.2 Hornsby Shire Council's Success:

In contrast I've seen how Hornsby Shire Council have had multiple community engagement sessions with their communities to discuss changes in parking, which has been an ongoing issue for decades. With the latest changes that they are proposing will limit myself in a time bounded period in accessing my property. I believe this will have a huge effect on my family. Not once did I see anyone from Central Coast Council working or representing us at any of these meetings that affected not only our boat parking, but also our car parking. They were notified multiple times that this was a key issue for us as a community.

I also see Hornsby Shire council sending out surveys to their communities and looking at a Master Plan for the area. We have been promised multiple times by our Council that they would send out surveys to poll the community, especially around rubbish, and it has never eventuated. They have a cafe, a bowling club and community hall. They were connected to water back in 1971.

Hornsby is improving the quality of life for their boat only access properties which also reflects in the latest census while ours's the opposite direction by a huge number.

- **Section 2: Advantages of Redistribution:**

2.1 Enhanced Service Delivery:

- I believe that if we were part of Hornsby Shire council, I would feel more included and as a result would be included in the decisions of the infrastructure for our community. As they could extend the rubbish removal services and potentially include us in any forward planning in this area. This would also be better from a sustainability point of view.

We seem to always be put in the too hard basket due to being water only access by Central Coast Council. Hornsby already has a River Resident Community next door to us at Dangar Island and therefore understands our needs. We also still need to have public infrastructure, education, healthcare and other services provided to our community all provided through Brooklyn. Our electricity is provided through the back of Patonga which is a part of Central Coast Council however, it is via Ausgrid. Our Telstra line is through Brooklyn and our local exchange is their too. Even when voting at Brooklyn I am lodged as out of area. Tho at one point in time my son when to Brooklyn primary school. I don't feel like I should be classed as out of area when I'm under 3km's away and this is my closest voting booth.

2.4 Equity and Fairness:

- This redistribution can address regional disparities and promote equity within our community. Recently I was classed as an Offshore resident in a report from Hornsby Shire Council. The location and access certainly should include us and not put us outside of their planning. For the first time I felt another non connection for my country. That really hurt.

Section 3: Supporting Data and Evidence:

3.1 Statistics and Demographics:

- Central Coast Council is the sixth largest urban area in Australia, 346,596 in population and covers 1,681.4 square kilometres. Little Wobby has seen a significant decline from 218 people in 2011 to now 47 people in the 2016 census.

Now in 2021 they are reporting only 23 people and only 20 private dwellings. We are only 3.5 square kilometres in size. To have this % of drop effects communities.

Hornsby Council has 151,811 in population and covers 462.1 square kilometres. Dangar Island our neighbour has a population of 179 in the census in 2021 and this was a 38.8% increase from 2000. You can see that this community is thriving with multiple services and infrastructure for ease of living.

Section 4: Public Support:

4.1 Community Feedback:

- Over 8 years ago I surveyed Little Wobby and it was an even split on moving to Berowra (Hornsby). However, with new ownership now I believe that would be higher.

4.2 Local Representatives:

- There are many local politicians that have advised that we need local representation that understands our remoteness, location and needs.

5.1 Summarize Key Points:

- The key advantages of supporting this move would ensure the mental health of locals that feel connected within a community. That encourages families to move to this area with infrastructure and communities that care about their environment. Building families and the growth of our area. That we start to be included in building an efficient, health and connected community.

5.2 Call to Action:

- Please I urge federal authorities to consider the proposal seriously. This is a small community on the outskirts of Sydney with less amenities than many third world countries I have visited.