



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Comment on Objections 159

Pamela Fairburn

1 page

Opposing the AEC's proposal to abolish the seat of North Sydney

I write to object to the proposal to abolish our current seat of North Sydney.

I have lived with my husband and family in the Division for 40+ years and believe the Commission needs to consider how our community functions today with contemporary patterns of work, commerce and recreation which have formed around deep and strong civic, cultural, sporting, educational and commercial communities of interest that are connected with the North Sydney and Willoughby LGAs in which our suburb of Lane Cove/Longueville is located.

As a practicing professional Artist I am very much aware that there are hundreds of cultural, community, sporting, environmental and civic organisations which exist within the current North Sydney electoral boundary. The proposed boundary changes would result in many of these trying to operate across additional Federal divisions, diluting their ability to engage effectively with the relevant MP.

The historical significance of the federal division of North Sydney is part of our community's identity. North Sydney is one of the 75 original Federation divisions contested in Australia's first Federal election 123 years ago. Many families have lived in the area for several generations and are proud to have been represented by a Prime Minister, a Treasurer and independent trailblazer Ted Mack.

The election of Independent MP Kylie Tink at the 2022 General Election marked the second time in 25 years the electors of North Sydney returned a representative from outside the major parties - The Hon. Ted Mack being the first independent member for North Sydney. It is a unique and specific characteristic of North Sydney that it has within its fabric a connected and activated civic constituency that is networked from Chatswood to Cremorne, from Lane Cove to Lavender Bay and Castlecrag to Crows Nest. This community has worked together to create their own unique community of interest that exists within the current boundaries of North Sydney and that will, by definition, disappear if the North Sydney Division is abolished.

Please reconsider the abolition of the seat of North Sydney.

Your faithfully,
Pamela Fairburn

 Longueville NSW 2066

26 July 2024