



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 690

Joanna Mawson-Lee

2 pages

Redistribution Committee
The Australian Electoral Commission
Level 13/59-61 Goulburn St
Haymarket NSW 2000

Joanna Mawson-Lee
[REDACTED]
Dee Why NSW 2099

11th July 2024

Dear Redistribution Committee,

I write to object to the proposal to take northern areas from the division of Warringah, in particular North Curl Curl and parts of Dee Why, under the proposal to abolish the seat of North Sydney in the NSW federal redistribution.

Instead, I support:

- Keeping the divisions of Warringah and North Sydney;
- Moving the boundaries of the division of North Sydney in a northerly direction and allowing the electorates surrounding to assume the required number of voters from Bradfield.
- Move the boundaries of the division of Mackellar westward into St Ives and Berowra to move east to include the area around Hornsby. This division is a 'northern' suburbs area and it makes no sense to extend its reach further south when it has more in common with other northern suburbs such as St Ives.
- This approach allows the areas around Killarney Heights and Forestville, Dee Why and North Curl Curl to continue the strong links they share with communities within Warringah and remain in the division. We are a strong community and politically active. We engage in issues that matter to our electorate, which currently
- On the Lower North Shore, Warringah expand into the North Sydney LGA up to the eastern side of the Warringah Freeway, including the whole of Kirribilli, areas of Neutral Bay not already part of the division, North Cremorne and Cammeray.

I write in support of option A as set out in Suggestion 42 by Zali Steggall MP to maintain the northern boundaries of the Warringah electorate and minimise the impact on North Sydney by pushing the south/western boundaries of the division of Warringah to the Warringah Freeway only.

As a community member residing in Balgowlah and previously in Brookvale and Freshwater (as someone who rents my address changes), I am concerned about recent proposals to move key suburbs in Warringah into the electorate of Mackellar. I am also concerned about the addition of suburbs which seem to have little to do with our electorate, more akin to inner city type suburbs with a very different lifestyle.

The Northern Beaches is unofficially divided into 'upper' and 'lower' beaches. As a result, there are two very distinct communities. The Warringah electorate currently captures the higher density populations characteristic of the lower northern beaches and the 'lower' beaches, for example Manly, Freshwater and Curl Curl Beach. Curl Curl is one beach and not particularly long when compared to Dee Why for example. It has two surf clubs at either end that are closely connected

and it makes no sense to say that Curl Curl Creek is a natural 'boundary' as it enters the beach at the top of the beach and involves basically chopping off the top of the beach.

It would make more sense to push back the boundary of Warringah to include all of Dee Why (rather than current boundaries which split it in half) and can lead to many confused voters on election day about which electorate they fall under. A more logical natural boundary would be to include all of Dee Why in Warringah, and push back to Long Reef Creek and the Golf Course.

Warringah has a deeply engaged and politically active community that has helped to shape the political landscape in the 2019 and 2022 Federal Elections. These engaged communities are critical and will help grow the interest and debate and improve representation of existing communities of interest.

In respect to North Sydney - I consider an improved solution would be for boundary of the electorate of North Sydney to move in a north westerly direction to Chatswood as set out in the Suggestion 22 from Kylea Tink MP and an outer metropolitan division be abolished instead, and its electors shared amongst surrounding electorates.

I respectfully submit that this proposal delivers a better boundary redistribution, accommodates the differing rates of growth, and decline across New South Wales, keeps together, and improves representation of existing communities of interest and uses strong and readily identifiable features as electoral boundaries to the extent possible.

Kind regards