



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 705

The Greens NSW

2 pages

# The Greens NSW Comments on the proposed boundaries for the 2023 NSW Redistribution



The Greens NSW believe that the redistribution panel have done a reasonable job in producing the draft boundaries. Nonetheless, The Greens NSW propose some amendments to improve the draft boundaries. Our suggestions address concerns regarding communities of interest and the capacity for effective representation.

The Greens NSW propose amendments to the boundaries of the Divisions of Lyne and Cowper, Sydney, Grayndler, Kingsford Smith and Barton and Mitchell and Greenway. The Greens NSW also object to the naming of the Division of Cook.

We note our earlier submission regarding an expansion of parliament that would assist with resolving many issues present in this redistribution. This includes the abolition of a Federation seat namely the Division of North Sydney. The Greens NSW believe that the federal parliament is overdue for an expansion when the average quota of divisions is projected to be around 130,000 voters.

## Sydney, Grayndler, Kingsford Smith, Barton:

The Greens NSW propose several amendments to the proposed boundaries of these divisions. The Greens NSW believe that Kingsford Smith should not be pushed south and west of the airport as is proposed. While The Greens NSW acknowledges that a local government area joins these two areas, there is no community of interest directly between Rockdale and Coogee or Maroubra areas.

The shortfall of Kingsford Smith voters can be addressed in a way that is more reflective of community of interest by the addition of Rosebery and Beaconsfield from the proposed division of Sydney. This would restore Barton's original division boundary with Kingsford Smith moving the Rockdale area back into Barton.

The second concern that The Greens NSW have about the draft boundaries is the addition of the Balmain Peninsula into Sydney from Grayndler. The Greens NSW note that there is currently no public land apart from the ANZAC Bridge that joins the two parts of the proposed Sydney together. Our proposed adjustment to the Kingsford Smith boundaries provides the opportunity to address this concern and expand the Sydney boundaries to replace the southern parts of the proposed Division.

The Greens NSW proposal is to move parts of Annandale and Lilyfield from Grayndler into the proposed division of Sydney. This would join up these communities of interest and resolve the connection to Balmain. The Greens NSW further suggest the adjustment of the boundary between Sydney and Grayndler in the Newtown area to place the suburb of Newtown into one division. Although the proposed boundary follows the existing local government boundary, the separation of Newtown is artificial, with strong connections across King Street, as is already recognised by the inclusion of an area west of Church St in the division.

To address the resultant shortfall in Grayndler, the Greens NSW note that our proposed addition of the old Rockdale council area to Barton would allow the expansion southward and west for Grayndler to balance the enrolment numbers as necessary.

## Mitchell, Greenway, Chifley, McMahon & Parramatta:

The Greens NSW object to the shifting of Box Hill, Gables and Rouse Hill areas out of Mitchell and into Greenway. These areas belong to the Hills Shire council and have a stronger community of interest with

the rest of the division of Mitchell than Greenway. To address this we recommend that Greenway retain its original northeastern boundaries and expand to include some of the Winston Hills area from Mitchell.

We further propose that Parramatta could take part of the suburb of Northmead to balance out the voter shifts with modest adjustments made to the boundary with the division of McMahon to make the adjustments sensible.

The Greens NSW are also concerned about the northward redefinition of Chifley as well as Greenway, particularly the northeastward extension of Greenway through the addition of the suburbs of Gables, Nelson, Box Hill and eastern Rouse Hill, and the transfer to other electorates - mainly McMahon - of the whole area south of the Western railway line from the Girraween Creek to WestLink.

Our concern relates to the strong community of interest within the Blacktown local government area, and the dissimilarity of the northernmost belt of Chifley suburbs with the west-Blacktown community.

We propose instead a modest southward shift, with the suburb of Minchinbury moving into Chifley and some of the most outlying northern suburbs of the existing Chifley and Greenway shaved off to compensate for population growth further south.

A further possibility for addressing the surplus quotas in Chifley and Greenway while respecting community of interest could include:

- Moving Ropes Crossing into Lindsay, where it would have much in common with Jordan Springs;
- Moving Angus and Richards into Greenway, where they would have much in common with Riverstone and Tallawong
- Leaving Gables, Nelson, Box Hill and eastern Rouse Hill in Mitchell, or redistributing them between Mitchell and Berowra
- Retaining the Great Western Highway as the southern boundary of both Chifley and Greenway.

#### Cowper, Lyne:

The Greens NSW note the problematic situation around the town of Port Macquarie with the most northern tip of the Port Macquarie-Hastings council in Cowper and the rest of the LGA in the division of Lyne. The Greens NSW note that the areas of Wauchope and Camden Haven have much more connection to Port Macquarie than to the Coffs Harbour/Bellingen areas. The Greens NSW acknowledge the difficulty faced by the Committee to resolve these concerns in this redistribution but it would be something the panel should consider at the next redistribution.

#### Division of Cook:

The Greens NSW are concerned that the Division of Cook is proposed to remain as named after Captain James Cook. The naming of places after British 'explorers' is increasingly divisive. The continent of Australia was not discovered by the British and was long inhabited by First Nations people. We know that Captain Cook is seen as both the person who found this land on behalf of the British and also for the damage that was caused to the indigenous population. The Greens NSW believe that it would be better to just name the seat after former Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Sir Joseph Cook GCMG PC.