



# Comment on objections 92

UniMelb Greens Club

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Mailbox 156  
Level 4, Building 168  
University of Melbourne VIC 3010

To the Redistribution Committee,

We write to you on behalf of the Unimelb Greens Club, which organises campaigns, actions and social events for Melbourne University students passionate about progressive politics.

Our club strongly opposes the submission made by the ALP to the Redistribution Committee, proposing that the suburb of North Melbourne as well as parts of Parkville be moved from the Division of Melbourne to the Division of Maribyrnong.

As a club deeply connected to the student cohort of the University of Melbourne, we have a strong understanding of university student life.

While students who attend our university and are members of our club live and commute from a wide range of areas, there is no doubt that there are key suburbs of Melbourne which are home to the largest populations of university students.

North Melbourne is one of these key suburbs. According to the last ABS Census, almost 3,000 people within North Melbourne were enrolled in tertiary education, representing 49% of the population.

North Melbourne has the characteristics of a suburb home to a significant student population, with a high renters percentage (47%), high-density housing, cheap food, a high frequency of pubs and bars and is well serviced by public transport. The 401 Melbourne University bus loop directly transports students and staff between North Melbourne station and the University of Melbourne, via Royal Melbourne Hospital and is considered the fifth most productive bus route in Melbourne, according to myki data usage.

North Melbourne shares these characteristics with suburbs within the Division of Melbourne, with high percentages of tertiary enrolment in Parkville (76.8%), Carlton (72.7%) and Melbourne's CBD (CBD - North 71.5%, CBD - East 57.7%, CBD - West 64.2%).

Given this clear communities of interest argument, we strongly encourage the AEC not to accept the ALP's proposal to move North Melbourne to the Division of Maribyrnong. As a student-heavy, young, renting suburb, it belongs and should remain as part of the Division of Melbourne.

We thank the committee for considering our comments.

Kind regards

Odi Evans (Convenor) and Ivy Pierlot (Secretary)  
UniMelb Greens Club