



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

# Objection 6

Wendy Trow

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Australian Electoral Commission  
(Attn: WA Redistribution Secretariat),  
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## REDISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORATES - SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK-BALINGUP

I wish to object to the Australian Electoral Commission proposal to move the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup from Forrest into O'Connor electorate:

- Currently, I only need to travel 60km to Bunbury to see my MP. In the O'Connor electorate, I will have to travel either 744km to Kalgoorlie, 264km to Albany or 200km to Perth. This is neither fair nor equitable – especially with the cost of fuel. Contacting MPs via email or phone is extremely difficult and is not a viable option. Balingup is one of the oldest communities in the South West and many residents prefer face-to-face interaction. If the proposal goes ahead, I believe that an electorate office should be established in Bridgetown to offer better access to the residents of Manjimup, Nannup, Donnybrook, Balingup and Boyup Brook.
- Balingup relies on agriculture, hobby farms and tourism and has nothing in common with the inland areas. I am very concerned that we will not be well represented.
- Our regional hospital, higher education facilities, manufacturing, shops and other services are in Bunbury and provide a lot of employment in the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup. We have historically been economically connected to the coast, not to the inland areas.

I note that Table F of the report says that no change is required for Forrest or O'Connor electorates (paras 175 and 205) therefore the change is purely to keep the number of votes within the AEC formula of between 117,357 and 125,871 electors in each electorate. This may be a good way to ensure each MP represents (approximately) the same number of electors but certainly does not offer all electors equal access/representation.

As my Nannup friend said when she heard about the proposal "Rick Wilson" (current member for O'Connor) "we've never seen him."

[REDACTED]

Your faithfully  
Wendy Trow

[REDACTED]

7 June 2024