



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

# Objection 32

Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division)

3 pages



27 June 2024

Redistribution Committee for Western Australia  
C/- Australian Electoral Commission  
Level 1, 15-17 William St  
PERTH WA 6000

via email: [FedRedistribution-WA@aec.gov.au](mailto:FedRedistribution-WA@aec.gov.au)

Dear Committee Members,

**Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division) – Objections to the proposed Western Australian Federal Redistribution**

The Liberal Party of Australia (W.A. Division) appreciates the opportunity to lodge objections to the Redistribution Committee for Western Australia's proposed redistribution.

Please find attached our comments, which we submit for the Committee's consideration.

Yours sincerely,



**Simon Morgan**  
State Director

## **LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA (WA DIVISION)**

### **OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED WESTERN AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL REDISTRIBUTION**

The Liberal Party commends the work of the Redistribution Committee in formulating the proposed boundaries of 16 Western Australian divisions. We appreciate the difficulties that arose from altered enrolment projections.

The Liberal Party endorses this proposed redistribution with one minor objection.

The Redistribution Committee has met the requirements of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* in a logical and incremental manner.

- The fact that 85.0% of Western Australian electors will remain in the same division is commendable and shows that unnecessary changes have been avoided.
- All proposed divisions maintain communities of interest and logical communication links.
- The use of LGA boundaries and major arterial roads to demarcate altered divisional boundaries is generally supported.

Although the Liberal Party advocated that the new 16<sup>th</sup> WA division be named after Sir Charles Court, we respect the decision of the Redistribution Committee to select the name of Bullwinkel.

The late Vivian Bullwinkel (Statham) AO MBE was a heroic and dedicated Australian, residing in Western Australia for many years in retirement. She is remembered with great respect and affection by the WA Veteran community and its supporters.

It should be recognised that she is being honoured not only for her wartime bravery but also her subsequent career, including pursuing justice for victims of war crimes, for service as a President of the Australian College of Nursing and as leader of the nursing team assisting the 1975 airlift of Vietnamese orphans.

The boundaries of this new division follow strong precedents of former divisions that combined outer suburban and inner rural communities. The configuration of Bullwinkel is broadly similar to that of the division of Pearce during the 1990s. From 1990 until 2022 the division of Pearce successfully combined such Shires as Toodyay, Northam, York and Beverley with major outer suburban communities.

#### **FREMANTLE-TANGNEY BOUNDARY**

The only objection that the Liberal Party raises relate to two sections of the proposed boundary between the divisions of Fremantle and Tangney.

We consider that the existing boundary of Roe Highway, maintaining the entire locality of Leeming within the division of Tangney, is more appropriate than the proposal to follow the Melville/Cockburn LGA boundary, transferring 1474 proposed electors of this locality to the division of Fremantle.

This LGA boundary, presumably drawn well before the development of the suburb of Leeming, cuts not only along minor roads but also across suburban blocks and along fence lines.

- To provide just two examples, the Melville/Cockburn LGA boundary runs between Numbers 17 and 19 Casserly Drive, and between Numbers 37 and 39 McKivett Crescent. There is a strong possibility that electors will be confused by this proposed boundary.

We note that in relation to other divisions, the proposed boundaries prioritise major roads in preference to LGA boundaries. A notable example is the use of Tonkin Highway as the boundary between the divisions of Perth and Hasluck instead of following the Bayswater/Bassendean LGA boundary (and SA2 boundary) – which also runs along some minor roads.

It is proposed that in order to balance the return of 1474 projected electors to the division of Tangney, 1369 projected electors in that part of the locality of Kardinya, bounded by South Street, North Lake Road, Winterfold Road and the Melville/Fremantle LGA boundary, now remain within the division of Fremantle.

- This particular LGA boundary also follows very minor roads and strips of parkland.
- We submit that South Street and North Lake Road would form a more definitive and recognisable divisional boundary.

The projected enrolment of the division of Fremantle would be 124,781 and that of the proposed division of Tangney 125,264. Both fall below the maximum permissible upper limit of 125,871 projected electors.

In summary we would suggest community of interest would be enhanced by maintaining the locality of Leeming entirely within one division, in preference following the exact LGA boundaries. The locality of Kardinya however, intersected by two major highways, has long been divided between both State and Federal electorates.

The WA Liberal Party submits this objection for the Redistribution Committee's consideration, while affirming our support for this proposed redistribution.