

# Statement from the Chairperson of the Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel

## Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel: Chairperson's Statement No. 1 Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the redistribution process

The electoral district boundaries in New South Wales must be reviewed before the next State general election in 2023.

Legislation requires that after every second New South Wales State general election the electoral districts are reviewed and the boundaries redrawn if necessary. This process is called redistribution and ensures an equal as possible number of voters in each of the State's 93 electoral districts.

The new electoral district boundaries, if any, are determined by an independent Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel.\*

A redistribution can only be undertaken after a public consultation process set out in the *Electoral Act 2017*. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Panel believes it is not practicable to commence public consultation at this time. Suggestions on the distribution of New South Wales into electoral districts will instead be invited by the Panel, as required by legislation, when it becomes practicable to do so.

Until that time, any person who may wish to participate in the redistribution process is encouraged to begin reading about it and to view the electoral district maps and enrolment data current as at 23 March 2020 on the NSW Electoral Commission website, available at [elections.nsw.gov.au/redistribution](https://elections.nsw.gov.au/redistribution)

The Hon. Justice Arthur Emmett AO QC  
Chairperson  
Monday, 20 April 2020

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**Media contact:** Cameron Whalan 02 9290 5936 or email [nswecmedia@elections.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nswecmedia@elections.nsw.gov.au)  
Further information [elections.nsw.gov.au/redistribution](https://elections.nsw.gov.au/redistribution)

*\*About the Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel: A redistribution of electoral districts is a statutory process conducted by an independent Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel in a transparent public environment. The Constitution Act 1902 Part 3 Division 3 Sections 25–28A sets out the conditions under which a redistribution should take place. The Electoral Act 2017 Part 3 Division 1 Sections 17–29 provides the framework, process and timetable for the redistribution. The Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel comprises the NSW Electoral Commissioner (Mr John Schmidt), the NSW Surveyor-General (Mrs Narelle Underwood) and the Chairperson (the Hon. Arthur Emmett AO QC).*