



1 July 2020

The Secretariat of the Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel
c/o NSW Electoral Commission
GPO Box 832
Sydney NSW 2001

Suggestion to NSW Electoral Redistribution

The Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party (SFF) thank the Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel for the opportunity to provide suggestions to changes to the electoral boundaries of NSW.

As a relatively minor party, the SFF have focused our suggestions on the electoral districts which are currently represented by the party; Barwon, Murray and Orange. Whilst only holding 3 electoral districts out of a possible 93 in the Legislative Assembly in the current term of Parliament, these 3 electoral districts encompass almost half a million square kilometers of land. To this end, the SFF have made the following suggestions with regard to the guiding principles and factors the Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel consider wherever possible:

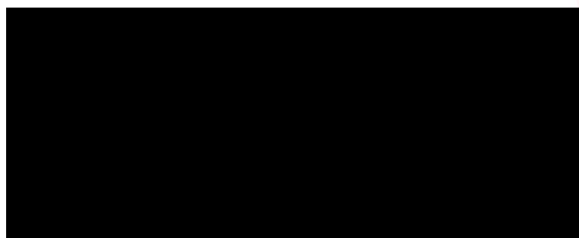
- economic, social and regional communities of interest
- means of communication and travel
- physical features and area of the electoral district
- natural boundaries (such as mountains or rivers)
- the boundaries of existing electoral districts.

Conscious of the fact this is the first submission of its kind for the SFF, the party has attempted to present tenable suggestions with respect to the redistribution of electoral districts, a critical endeavor in the furtherance of democracy in our State. The party is confident these suggestions can be accommodated comfortably within the whole of state process the Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel is tasked with executing.

The SFF relies upon the factors above, as well as its extensive consultation with local communities and the lived experience of its Elected Representatives in making these suggestions. Further, the current and projected quota deviations are headlined for convenience.

As a political party likely to contest more electoral districts than it did in the 2019 NSW State Election (25), the SFF intends to make comments on suggestions that will be made public during the next phase of this process; irrespective that the party is not a party of Government or likely to form Government anytime in the near future. The SFFs constituency, having two Members of the Legislative Council, necessitates a whole of state process being considered and taken into account given the SFF represents all of NSW, and particularly regional communities.

Kind regards,



SHOOTERS FISHERS and FARMERS



Orange

Year	2019	2023
Population (quota deviation)	56,894 (-0.5)	58,952 (-0.5)
Suggestion:		
No change		
Total	56,894 (-0.5)	58,952 (-0.5)

Given that Orange is projected to remain less than 1 percentage point from quota, the SFF recommends no change as this would have an untoward effect on surrounding districts which are likely to have their boundaries redistributed. It is difficult, in the fullness of circumstances, to argue against a change to the current boundaries of Orange.



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Barwon

Year	2019	2023
Population (quota deviation)	54,093 (-5.4)	54,830 (-7.5)
Suggestions:		
Add SA2 Gunnedah Ex Tamworth	+6,726	+7,040
Add its share of SA2 Gunnedah Region Ex Tamworth	+2,308	+2,359
Total	63,127 (10.4)	64,229 (8.41)

Barwon is the largest electoral district in the State and is likely to remain this way in the future. Hard borders to the North and East of the electoral, impede any changes being made in these directions to its boundaries. Barwon is unsurprisingly under quota, given population growth to more developed metropolitan areas and a lack of infrastructure and parity with said areas. In order to inoculate Barwon against this trend, the SFF suggests that Barwon take in the Gunnedah region in its entirety, effectively ensuring the district is well represented (from a population viewpoint) into the future. Barwon is unique, and should be treated as such. Gunnedah shares communities of interest, travel corridors and physical features as the rest of the district.



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Murray

Year	2019	2023
Population (quota deviation)	55 642(-2.7)	55 921(-5.6)
Suggestions:		
Add SA2 Narrandera (Shire of Narrandera)	+4 250	+4 239
Total	59,948 (4.8)	60,213 (1.6)

Narrandera is a Murray Irrigation Area community, which it shares in common with Griffith, Leeton and surrounding communities. The SFF argue it makes sense on this basis to include Narrandera into the electoral district of Murray. This would also bring Murray closer into line with the projected quota.

