

Dear Commissioners,

The Liberal Party of Australia, New South Wales Division submission to the Electoral Districts Redistribution Panel (**NSWR200701/34**) suggests a substantial change to the boundaries of the districts of **Coogee, Heffron, Maroubra and Vacluse**. All of the proposed changes in this suggestion **should not** form part of the final electoral boundaries for the 2023 state election.

Summary

- The proposal suggests significant change to the boundaries of the districts of **Coogee, Heffron, Maroubra and Vacluse** which are **opposed** by this comment
- The proposal creates unnecessary and arbitrary splits between communities of interest in the Eastern Suburbs
- Instead, minor changes to the borders of **Coogee and Heffron** and no change to the borders of **Maroubra and Vacluse** are sufficient to ensure each seat falls within the allowed variance of a quota.

In Detail

This proposal creates seats that are unsatisfactory at keeping communities of interest in the Eastern Suburbs aligned within individual seats and ensuring that the primary social, cultural and economic centres that serve an area fall within the same electorate. Further, it unnecessarily complicates the well-established electoral boundaries that exist within the Eastern Suburbs and creates arbitrary and confusing borders.

The proposed borders under this suggestion spilt the current state electorate of **Coogee** in half, naming the northern half **Waverley** and the southern half **Coogee**. The most serious concern in this proposal is the arbitrary division of the suburb of Coogee between the seats of **Waverley and Coogee**. This means that those living in the suburbs Coogee to the north of Alison Road (the proposed border) will be located in a different electorate to their local schools, hospitals, shops, major public transport options and other amenities that facilitate a community of interest. The suburb of Coogee has nothing in common with the suburbs in the northern part of the seat of **Waverley**, surrounding the suburbs of Dover Heights and Vacluse, instead identifying more with the rest of the suburb of Coogee and the major commercial, health and education precinct in Randwick, which would remain within the seat of **Coogee**. The Alison Road boundary will also create great confusion, as people who live in the suburb of Coogee will presume that they also live in the seat of **Coogee**, as has been the case in the 1926 redistribution.

A similarly arbitrary spilt is proposed for the seat of Maroubra. The suburbs of Maroubra will be spilt between the seats of **Coogee and Botany Bay** by this proposal. Once again, this spilt will divide a major community of interest, to the extent that the proposed border between the seat of **Coogee and Botany Bay** cuts through the middle of the major commercial and social hub in the suburb of Maroubra. Maroubra Road is entirely unsatisfactory as an electoral border, as it is a road that unites rather than divides a community.

This comment is in support of the majority of other suggestions, with leave intact the current borders of the seats of **Maroubra** and **Vaucluse**. Moving the border between the seats of **Coogee** and **Heffron** to ANZAC Parade would create a clearly defined western/eastern border for these two seats and appropriately deal with the enrolment in these two seats. These existing borders will small changes create clear seats based on common communities of interest.

This comment sincerely hopes that the commissioners reject submission **NSWR200701/34**.