



Office of the  
**ELECTORAL DISTRIBUTION COMMISSIONERS**

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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARIES PUBLISHED**

The Western Australian Electoral Distribution Commissioners have today (Friday 29 June 2007) published their proposals for revisions to electoral boundaries in WA, with the final boundaries to be used for the next State general election, due in 2009.

The process is now open for objections by interested groups and individuals, with a booklet on the proposed boundaries being circulated throughout the State this weekend.

Spokesman for the Electoral Distribution Commissioners, Mr Warwick Gately, said the proposed boundary changes were extensive because of the need to consider 'one vote, one value' principles.

Distributions are now carried out after every State general election to ensure that districts and regions accommodate population changes and maintain a similar number of electors. In this process the average district enrolment for both metropolitan and country seats was 21,350.

"The 2007 distribution has resulted in eight new districts in the metropolitan area, four each in the East Metropolitan Region and South Metropolitan Region. This is because of the need to reduce present districts by about 6,000 electors," Mr Gately said.

"Also there will be six fewer seats in the country area, three each in the Agricultural Region and South West Region due to the need to increase elector numbers in each country district from about 13,000 to the current figure of 21,350."

Mr Gately said these changes in the country area have allowed the Commissioners to include Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek in a revised Kimberley district. The Commissioners have also proposed to expand the Mining and Pastoral Region to include the Shires of Esperance and Ravensthorpe, a proposal which had received strong local community support in the submissions.

In proposing the boundaries the Commissioners took into account a number of factors including community of interest, land use patterns, means of communication and distance from the capital, physical features, existing boundaries of regions and districts, existing local government boundaries and the trend of demographic changes.

Mr Gately said the Commissioners were encouraged by the level of community support for the process with 59 submissions received in the early stages of the consultation from political parties, interested groups and individuals.

“This consultative approach enabled the Commissioners to propose what I believe to be fair and equitable district boundaries reflecting community interest and incorporating aspects from the many well-considered submissions.

“We now welcome comments on the proposed boundaries that meet the requirements of the legislation and will take them into consideration at this final review stage. Where possible, submissions should offer an acceptable alternative solution.”

Mr Gately said written objections to the proposals are to be made to the Office of the Electoral Distribution Commissioners by 5 pm on Monday 30 July 2007.

Further information is available from the boundaries web site at [www.boundarieswa.com](http://www.boundarieswa.com)

ENDS

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