

The Greens NSW Redistribution Submission

Executive Summary

We have primarily focused on ensuring that all 93 districts meet the quota and aim to keep them within the 5% margin at 2023. We have attempted to make the fewest boundary adjustments to achieve enrolment parity. Whilst the legislation permits a variance of 10% we would note that the NSW Constitution provides the triggering of a redistribution if more than a 1/3rd of the districts are over the 5% margin for more than 2 months. It is our position that the 5% divergence should be adhered to in order to avoid any subsequent redistribution due to malapportionment.

We acknowledge that any political party making a submission to this boundary has an inherent conflict of interest when it comes to the outcomes of this process, while at the same time holding in-depth knowledge about the electoral boundaries and the communities within them.

Acknowledging this, we make our submission based on the following principles:

- Preserving communities of interest
- Minimizing changes as much as possible to ensure continuity for communities
- Ensuring the area of a district is manageable and the number of electors is within a 5% margin
- Using natural boundaries as much as possible

<u>Region</u>	<u>Districts</u>	<u>Quotas 2020</u>	<u>Quotas 2023</u>
Central Sydney	16	15.72	15.58
Far North Coast	10	10.01	10.02
Hunter & Central Coast	13	13.14	13.20
Illawarra	7	7.15	7.11
Northern Sydney	11	10.76	10.56
South and Western NSW	12	11.86	11.81
Western Sydney	24	24.36	24.72

As the table above shows, there is no real need for the abolition of any districts outside of Sydney. We recommend consideration be given to the creation of new districts in both South Western and North Western Sydney and the abolition of one district between Parramatta and Summer Hill and one district on the North Shore of Sydney.

District Names

The Greens would strongly urge the Commissioners to consult with local Aboriginal land councils and other recognised Aboriginal-led organisations to determine names for districts.

The Greens NSW Redistribution Submission

We submit that the commission could also give consideration to a broad review of district names to reflect Aboriginal place names as well as to reduce confusion for electors who identify with their own suburb or town but live in a district named after another suburb or town.

Consideration could also be given to using natural geographical place names over suburb or town names.

In this submission, we have proposed the commission consider the creation of two districts and the shifting of a number of others that could cause them to be considered for renaming. One example is the proposed changes to the district of Wollongong, which would see the locality of Wollongong split between two districts under our proposed boundaries.

A more representative Parliament

The Greens have a long-standing commitment to proportional representation and multi-member districts in the Legislative Assembly. However, the current size of the Legislative Assembly has resulted in single-member districts being unwieldy in both the size of the population and geographic area. The current number of districts makes it difficult to preserve communities of interest, particularly those bounded by natural borders. We note that previously the NSW Legislative Assembly has had up to 99 members.

Details of proposed boundaries

North Shore Sydney

In the north shore of Sydney, we propose the commission consider that the district of North Shore could expand north and take parts of Crows Nest and Cremorne from the district of Willoughby. The district of Manly could move north and take in parts of Brookvale and Allambie Heights.

Willoughby as a consequence could move north taking back Castle Cove and parts of Roseville Chase. Wakehurst could then move west taking in Forestville and other parts of Frenchs Forest from Davidson. Pittwater could move south taking in parts of Belrose and Oxford Falls.

The parts of Davidson that are left could then be merged in with Ku-ring-gai. The district of Ryde could take more of Ryde and Putney as needed from Lane Cove to balance out.

Hornsby district could expand and take in parts of Waitara and Normanhurst. Epping could move to South Turramurra. Consequently, Ryde could move east and take in parts of West Pymble.

Central / Eastern Sydney

We submit that there are enough voters contained in around the areas currently covered by the districts of Coogee, Balmain, Sydney, Heffron, Newtown, Vaucluse, Maroubra to ensure that all districts will remain after the redistribution with some adjustments to their boundaries as is appropriate to best maintain or enhance communities of interest.

The growth of population in Heffron as compared to Districts to the east and north suggests that the most practical solution is to transfer the suburb of Centennial Park into Sydney and to transfer some or all of the area east of South Dowling St into Coogee so as to achieve balance in Heffron.

The addition of the approximately 1,600 electors in Centennial Park to Sydney would bring it to a deficit of around 2% of quota. If the Commissioners wished to address this shortfall, a minor adjustment of boundaries with Newtown or Balmain could be made.

The transfer of between 6,000 and 7,000 electors in Kensington/Kingsford from Heffron to Coogee would then enable adjustments to its northern boundary with Vaucluse, which would move south from Bondi Rd to either Birrell St or a little further south to balance Vaucluse. Minor changes to the southern boundary with Maroubra would complete the balance of Coogee and Maroubra.

The shortfall of electors in Newtown would be addressed by moving its boundary with Summer Hill to take in a bit more of Marrickville.

Southern / Inner West Sydney

With the necessity of the changes made in Eastern Sydney causing some districts to move west, this will necessitate some adjustments made to the districts in the South and Inner West areas. Our submission will discuss what could happen in South West of Sydney separately but broadly speaking this will cause some western Sydney districts to expand to the east to compensate for a new district around Camden.

The Greens NSW Redistribution Submission

Within the districts of Kingsgrove, Oatley, East Hills, Auburn, Strathfield, Drummoyne, Canterbury, Bankstown, there are only enough voters to make up for 7 districts. The Commission could consider that Oatley expands to the west to take in parts of Picnic Point, Revesby Heights and Padstow Heights.

As a consequence, our submission is that Kogarah takes in the areas of Peakhurst, Mortdale and Penshurst with the border being Roberts Road between Kogarah and Oatley. Rockdale would take in other parts of Carlton and Allawah using the railway line as a border.

Our submission is that East Hills could move north so that the border between it and Bankstown becomes Macauley Avenue on the eastern side. Canterbury could then move north and take up the territory to Liverpool Road. The border between Lakemba and Rockdale could now be the M5 Motorway.

Lakemba could move northward so that the boundary between it and Auburn is Joseph Street and the north border becomes the rail line at Lidcombe. Bankstown would also move north and take in the parts of Regents Park and Berala.

Granville could move north and take in Harris Park and parts of Parramatta to the south of the rail line. This would then allow Auburn to expand east to take in Homebush from Strathfield and Liberty Cove and parts of Concord West from Drummoyne.

This would leave about enough voters for a single district formed by combining Drummoyne and Strathfield. We submit that Seven Hills could either move east and take in parts of North Parramatta or move north into Baulkham hills as appropriate.

North West Sydney

We submit that the district of Blue Mountains could move east and take up parts of Glenbrook and Lapstone from Penrith. Penrith could then move east as well taking in parts of Orchard Hills and Cambridge Park and Jordan Springs.

Mulgoa could move and take in areas to the north up towards the Great Western Highway to allow for a new district to be created around Badgerys Creek. Liverpool could move north to take in the areas of Bonnyrigg moving towards Cabramatta Road as a boundary. Consequently, Cabramatta could move up north to take in Canley Heights and maybe parts of Wakeley so that the border follows Orphan School Creek.

Fairfield as a consequence could take in the areas around Smithfield and Prairiewood. Prospect could then move north and take in more of Toongabbie and Pendle Hill.

Seven Hills could move west and take in parts of Lalor Park generally move west into Blacktown district. Blacktown as a consequence could move west to take in the parts of Mount Druitt towards the M7.

Baulkham Hills could give up the suburb of Kellyville but instead take in an area around Parklea. There could be a new district created focusing on The Ponds, Kellyville and North Kellyville. Castle Hill could expand eastwards and take in parts of Oakhill moving towards Cherrybrook.

Mount Druitt district could move west into Whalan and the district of Riverstone could take up parts of Marsden Park and Shanes Park as needed to create space for the new district to be created around Kellyville.

South Western Sydney

Our submission is that the district of Camden could shrink and be contained around the suburb of Camden and the immediate suburbs around Camden. This would mean that a new district could be created to the north and west centred around Leppington and Badgerys Creek.

The district of Campbelltown could take in the suburbs of Minto and Raby. Holsworthy could take in the suburbs of Hoxton Park and Horningsea Park. This would then allow Liverpool to move up and take Bonnyrigg.

Illawarra

In the Illawarra, Our submission is that the district of Kiama could pick up the suburb of Nowra. This would then allow Shellharbour to take the suburb of Minnamurra. This would then allow the district of Wollongong to take in Kembla Grange, Horsley and some parts of Dapto. This would then permit the district of Keira to take in the suburbs of North Wollongong, Fairy Meadow, Mount Saint Thomas with a possible boundary of Crown Street.

We would also suggest that Wollongong takes in Mount Kembla and Kembla heights as well. This would consequently cause the district of Heathcote to take the suburbs of Bulli, Thirroul and Coledale and become much more of a north Illawarra seat. Consequentially this would mean that Miranda could pick up the suburb of Bangor and Holsworthy could pick up the suburb of Menai.

We note that this would mean that the district of Holsworthy would span across a national park but recognise that this is necessary to avoid worse community of interest issues. We submit that districts could in general use natural borders where applicable.

South/West NSW

We submit that the district of Bega could contract south, losing the suburbs of Nelligen and Batemans Bay to South Coast district. The district of Albury could take in the suburb of Jindabyne and take in the areas around Cooma. Consequently, Wagga Wagga could take the suburb of Tumbarumba.

Cootamundra could move east and take in the township of Yass. This would then allow Goluburn to consolidate and take in parts of Bowral and Mittagong.

Hunter Valley

Our submission is that the district of Charlestown could move north taking in the suburbs of New Lambton and Cardiff Heights and Rankin Park. Wallsend then could pick up Mayfield West and Warabrook. We would suggest using Industrial Drive as a useful border.

Wallsend could take the suburbs of Woodberry and Thorton from Maitland. Cessnock could consequently pick up suburbs of Fletcher, Minimi Lenaghan from Wallsend.

The Greens NSW Redistribution Submission

Upper Hunter could take the area around Gosforth and Hillsborough from Maitland. Port Stephens could pick up Fullerton Cove from Newcastle.

North Coast

We submit that Upper Hunter could take Bulahdelah from Myall Lakes. This would then allow for Tamworth to move south a bit taking in the parts of Wallabadah, Quirindi and surrounding areas. This would then allow for Northern Tablelands to take in parts of Walcha from Tamworth.

We would also submit that Northern Tablelands makes more sense to join up with parts of Tamworth rather than taking Tenterfield from Lismore because Tenterfield has much more of a community of interest with the Lismore district than Northern Tablelands. Also, this would prevent unnecessary boundary movements in the northeast of New South Wales.

Coffs Harbour district could expand south to take in Urunga and parts of Dorrigo. This would then allow Oxley to move south to take in the parts around Port Macquarie.

We submit that it is not necessary to make changes made to Ballina, Tweed and Lismore. However, if there is a desire to make changes to achieve quota balance, our preference would be to move Wardell from Ballina to Lismore.

Western NSW

Our submission is that the district of Bathurst could move generally North and East and take suburbs of Millfield, Paxton and Ellalong and move towards Bellbird from Cessnock. Orange could then move east and take up the area around Blayney. Cootamundra could then extend to the north and take in Forbes, Eugowra and Canowindra.

The district of Barwon could take the towns of Gunnedah and Carroll from the district of Tamworth.

The changes suggested for Western NSW would likely result in a handful of seats covering half the land area of the state. The difficulty to maintain communities of interest in these huge areas and the difficulty in serving these communities is another reason why The Greens NSW support multi-member districts.