

Details of your submission

Please provide additional information and supporting documentation as attachments.

Dear Panel Members,

My submission relates to the Heathcote district.

In my view the panel has not given the required due consideration in applying Electoral Act 2017 No 66 "Division 2 Redistribution of electoral districts" and more specific "21 Criteria for distributions" paragraph (b) (i) to (iv) .

If the panel would have given the required due consideration in relation to the proposed changes to the Heathcote district it would not have included parts of the Northern Illawarra region inside the proposed Heathcote boundaries.

The reasons would be four fold.

First, the community interests within the electoral district, including economic, social and regional interests between the current Heathcote district and Illawarra differ greatly. Heathcote is mostly the outer suburban area of Sydney Metro dominated by urban minded city people where as the good people of Illawarra are predominately focused on main industries in the area. Those industries have traditionally been farming, coal mining and steel making.

Second, there is - in the urban context of the current Heathcote district - a significant geographical distance between the current district area and the new proposed part of the Northern Illawarra region which has significant burden regarding means of communication and travel within the electoral district which will consume too much valuable time of our local member and his team compared to other state members in the Sydney Metro outer urban areas.

Third, the physical features and area of the proposed Heathcote electoral district include vast areas set aside for conservation in various National Parks. These conservation areas separate people and as such cause significant differentiation in economic, social and regional interests.

Forth, the various National Parks on the south side of the current Heathcote district are jointly forming a very significant natural boundary separating the Northern Illawarra region from the Heathcote district.

My request is to not include the proposed Northern Illawarra region inside the proposed Heathcote boundaries after giving due consideration to the criteria in Electoral Act 2017 No 66 "Division 2 Redistribution of electoral districts" and more specific "21 Criteria for distributions" paragraph (b) (i) to (iv).

Thank you for your considerations.

Yours sincerely,

