



**THE FEDERAL  
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NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Comment on Objections 30

Marina Barker

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Please find my submission to the proposed boundary changes to the Mackellar electorate of which I am a **resident** and am involved in several volunteer community groups and movements.

I would like to record my **support** to bring the suburbs below into the electorate of Mackellar as a logical strategy as they will strengthen the unique Northern Beaches culture and unite "communities of interest" within Mackellar

- ✓ Dee Why
- ✓ Forestville
- ✓ Frenchs Forest within Mackellar and to the addition of
- ✓ Killarney Heights and
- ✓ North Curl Curl.

My son connects with his Northern Beaches contemporaries through education, sports tournaments, work and social contact all of which is very important to a creating his sense of belonging. The public transport network, sports competitions and school catchments have enabled and reinforced these lifelong connections

I would like to record my **objection** to the alternative proposal that suggests moving the boundaries to include St Ives and St Ives Chase on the upper North Shore.

Within my **Northern Beaches** community network I regularly connect with and work in Dee Why, Forestville, Frenchs Forest, Killarney Height and North Curl Curl. The residents of these suburbs are both geographically and socially close and we share similar lifestyles and attitudes. As a family, our lives revolve around the coastal and bush areas of McKellar and we will embrace the addition of these suburbs as part of the electoral catchment.

On the other hand, **St Ives** and **St Ives Chase** are **socially** and **geographically very different** from the Northern Beaches. The North Shore and the Northern Beaches are different and separate communities.

For my son: they are in different sporting competitions, different school catchments and largely unrelated transport networks. The public transport links between St Ives and the rest of Mackellar are weak. There are no direct links between St Ives and Frenchs Forest, or St Ives and the southern parts of Mackellar so even if he wanted to he wouldn't be able to travel there easily.

For me and my husband: our lives do not intersect with St Ives or St Ives Chase on a social, community or friendship basis at all!

The Northern Beaches is a cohesive community with a strong and unique culture, which is defined by the coastal and forest lifestyles (surf clubs, schools, community groups including RFS, sporting competitions, services).

We should have boundaries that **unite** and **strengthen** communities of interest, not divide them.