



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Comment on Objections 170

NSW Labor

7 pages

Australian Labor Party

Comments on Objections to

The Redistribution Committee for New South Wales

Foreword

The following comments by the Australian Labor Party are provided in response to objections made to the Redistribution Committee for New South Wales following publication of the proposed redistribution.

Accompanying the comments is a map illustrating proposed adjustments.

We thank the Redistribution Committee for considering the comments contained herein.

Comments on Objections to the Redistribution Committee for New South Wales

On 14 June 2024, the Redistribution Committee invited objections to the proposed redistribution by those interested in the redistribution of federal electoral divisions in New South Wales. In total, 738 objections were received by the deadline of 12 July 2024. Unsurprisingly, the majority of these objections addressed the abolished division of North Sydney. The Australian Labor Party again acknowledges the difficulty presented to the Redistribution Committee in formulating the 46 proposed electoral divisions of New South Wales and does not offer further comments on the division of North Sydney, or any other northern Sydney division.

Several objections suggest changes to divisions in inner, eastern and southern Sydney. Of particular note are OB269, OB375, OB504, OB668 and OB705 which seeks to expand Kingsford Smith north-west to take in Beaconsfield, Rosebery and Zetland in the south-eastern corner of the City of Sydney from the division of Sydney. In response to this, and other suggestions that propose adjustments to divisions in this part of metropolitan Sydney, the Australian Labor Party submits the following comments.

NSW Labor does not support moving the suburbs of Beaconsfield, Rosebery and Zetland out of Sydney and into Kingsford Smith. Further splitting the City of Sydney LGA (by moving suburbs into Kingsford Smith) is undesirable and inconsistent with the general approach taken across the Redistribution Committee's proposal. Likewise, the existing border between Sydney and Kingsford Smith (Southern Cross Drive) is longstanding and a very clear and defined road boundary.

The boundary proposed by the Redistribution Committee for the electoral division of Kingsford Smith seeks to add the communities of Kyeemagh, Rockdale, Sans Souci, Ramsgate, Monterey to the existing areas that include the likes of Kensington, Randwick and Coogee. Consistent with objections presented in OB86, OB269, OB375, OB504, OB649, OB687, OB705 and OB723, these areas have never been part of the electoral division of Kingsford Smith and are separated geographically by the Kingsford Smith Airport.

Noting comments made by the Redistribution Committee that the aforementioned areas taken from the electoral divisions of Barton and Cook are now part of the Bayside LGA, the amalgamation of Rockdale and Botany LGAs into Bayside LGA was, and remains, opposed by the community of the former Botany Council. In 2013, Botany Council commissioned a plebiscite of residents regarding the proposed council amalgamations which resulted in 97% of Botany residents voting to oppose the amalgamation of Botany and Rockdale Councils.

<https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/city-east/botany-residents-say-no-to-amalgamation/news-story/0ca77ead06260116edc6d4d4d94e5b63>

The community sentiment regarding this issue remains one of opposition to the newly merged Bayside LGA. It is noteworthy that Bayside councillors have recently voted to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of a demerger of Bayside LGA, with the removal of the former Botany LGA.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-04-05/bayside-council-to-prepare-demerger-business-case/103669388>

The Kingsford Smith Airport has always been a physical boundary that divides the communities on either side of the airport - with respect to community, sporting and social affiliations. There are a number of community and sporting organisations that share a community of interest within the existing Kingsford Smith boundary that **do not** (and will not) extend to the new areas proposed to be incorporated into Kingsford Smith.

By way of example, Surf Lifesaving is a community activity that defines the Kingsford Smith community. The surf lifesaving clubs within the existing boundaries of Kingsford Smith (South Maroubra SLSC, Maroubra SLSC, Coogee SLSC and Clovelly SLSC) make up the Randwick District of surf lifesaving. The Electoral Division of Cook has its own distinct surf lifesaving clubs comprising the Bate Bay district of Surf Lifesaving.

Similarly, communities in the electoral divisions of Barton and Cook play in different junior rugby league districts, and are traditional fan bases of different National Rugby League clubs. The community within the existing Kingsford Smith boundary traditionally supports South Sydney Rabbitohs. The Rabbitohs centre of excellence and administration are located in Maroubra, and a significant proportion of the Rabbitohs supporter-base derives from Botany and Mascot. This is exemplified by the singing of "Botany Road take me Home" at Rabbitohs home games. The new proposed areas (from the electoral divisions of Barton and Cook) are more closely aligned with St George Dragons and Cronulla Sharks, with their junior teams playing in a different district competition to the South Sydney junior rugby league district.

Likewise, the Randwick Netball Association competition includes teams from Rose Bay to La Perouse but this does not extend to teams from the St George or Sutherland areas who compete in a different competition.

Many social services provided by community groups service the community in the area that is confined to the northern side of Botany Bay. For example, Randwick-Waverley community transport provides transport for vulnerable community members and has its catchment area extending through the Randwick and Waverley LGAs. The catchment does not extend to the St George and Sutherland areas.

The Australian Labor Party acknowledges that the existing Kingsford Smith boundary does not meet the legislative requirement for elector numbers and must gain areas. However, a south-west shift to cross Kingsford Smith Airport (proposed by the Redistribution Committee) and/or a north-west shift into the City of Sydney (proposed by several objections including OB375) are inconsistent with the legislative consideration of 'communities of interest'.

The Australian Labor Party submits that the electoral division of Kingsford Smith ought to extend north to consolidate all of the suburbs of Randwick and Coogee which are split on the proposed boundaries.

Changes to the proposed division of Kingsford Smith

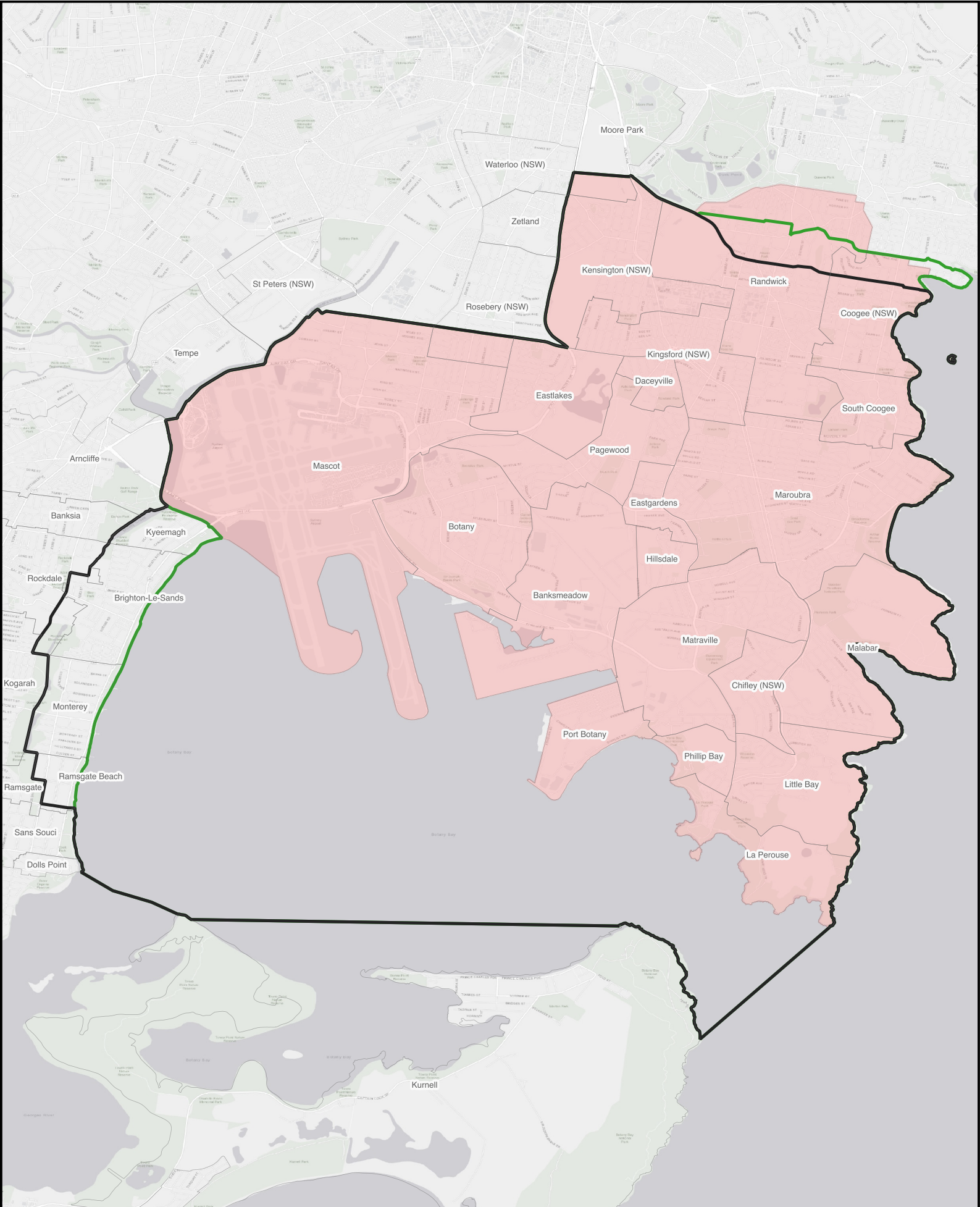
- Lose Brighton-Le-Sands, Monterey, Ramsgate Beach (to Barton)

- Gain remaining parts of Randwick and Coggee (from Wentworth)

Flow-on adjustments to neighbouring divisions

To accommodate the northern shift of Kingsford Smith into the remaining areas of Randwick and Coggee, the Australian Labor Party accepts that additional adjustments to adjacent divisions is required. Accordingly, the Australian Labor Party encourages the Redistribution Committee to contain said changes within the remaining four divisions in this part of metropolitan Sydney - namely Wentworth, Sydney, Grayndler and Barton.

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NSW Redistribution

**Electoral Division of
KINGSFORD
SMITH**



Scale: 1:243,743

Latitude and Longitude based on Geocentric Datum of Australia 2020

Coastal districts include offshore island areas
All road boundaries use road centralines unless otherwise described
Suburb boundaries are based on G-NAF 2016

Boundaries



Changes

Gain
Randwick
Coggee

Lose
Kyeemagh
Brighton-Le-Sands
Monterey
Ramsgate Beach



Australian Labor Party (NSW Branch)