



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 312

Geoff Brann

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Draft Plan to Abolish North Sydney Electorate in the 2024 Redistribution

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an objection. My name is Geoff Brann and I am a long time resident of the North Sydney electorate

I have read through your proposal regarding the electoral redistribution and it provides very detailed information on population statistics and projections of future trends. It is, however, clear that there are several ways that the electorates in this area could be adjusted to maintain their population numbers at the required level for an electorate. What has been have is to choose just one of several possible alternatives.

As well as population data, the overall characteristics of the electorate need to be kept in mind. The current boundaries encompass the centres of North Sydney, Crows Nest and St Leonards. Anyone who visits these locations can see the large amount of building of apartments occurring in these centres and this will lead to considerable population growth. I understand both the NSW State Government and the North Sydney council are predicting aggressive growth numbers. Of course, the opening of the new metro line will only encourage further growth.

There is a significant business area in North Sydney and further business hubs at St Leonard's and Chatswood and its makes sense for these businesses to have access to a local member with a strong knowledge of their needs. The electorates proposed to take over these areas do not have such a strong business focus

The current electorate has long been part of the electoral system and has a community that has a strong history in putting its views to its local member. Community engagement with politics is to be encouraged and this is a key positive for the continuation of North Sydney as a federal electorate. North Sydney, via the independent Ted Mack who was elected to the Federal parliament in 1990, is often referred to as the "father of the independent movement" This would not have occurred without strong involvement of the North Sydney community.

In summary, I would request that you take another look at other possible adjustments to the North Sydney electoral boundaries and give additional consideration to:

- the strong population growth that is projected to occur
- the structure of the current electorate including its business hubs
- the strong community interest by North Sydney residents in the political process