



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 425

Marie Hagen

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To: New South Wales augmented Electoral Commission

Date: 09 July 2024

RE: Objection to the AEC's proposal to abolish the federal seat of North Sydney

Dear Sir/Madam

North Sydney is a well-established and high functioning community

North Sydney is an historical seat having been a federal seat since federation.

North Sydney is growing

The AEC's proposal to abolish North Sydney does not consider existing and future population growth numbers inside our electorate, this alone should exclude North Sydney from this process, examples of this include:

1. The NSW State Government plans to see 5,900 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA alone by 2029.
2. North Sydney Council is expecting 19,500 new residents to move into the area by 2036.

It does not make sense to propose to split the high-growth area around St Leonards and Crows Nest into three separate electorates. Furthermore, we are the third-largest business centre in the country, with over 28,000 small- to medium-sized businesses that have specific needs.

North Sydney is a community of interest

The North Sydney community has unique characteristics and needs that might not be adequately addressed if its residents are absorbed into neighbouring electorates. We are a socially and politically engaged community, with environmental, humanitarian, religious and social groups all working together towards a better Australia.

On a personal note

Our family has always supported local, and this has been within the North Sydney electorate for the past 26 years that we have lived here. Our children went to Cammeray Public School and high schools in the North Sydney precinct (our son is still at high school in North Sydney), births of our children, medical care, mother's group, toddler groups, sporting groups, community groups and services and clubs have all been and continue to be in the North Sydney electorate.

With respect, this feels like a political decision rather than one of neutrality based on projected growth, history and community. I am a proud member of the North Sydney community. I strongly oppose the draft proposal that the federal seat of North Sydney be abolished and request for it to remain intact, with minimal changes to accommodate changes in overall numbers of electors in NSW.


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MARIE HAGEN - CASTLECRAG 2068