



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 529

Dr Katherine Woodthorpe AO

2 pages

To: Australian Electoral Commission NSW redistribution committee

Date: 10 July 2024

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

I live in Lane Cove and previously in Cammeray. During my time in these suburbs we have had two independents, namely Ted Mack and now Kylea Tink. I have served as a volunteer in her campaign as I feel strongly about our community having its own voice rather than that of a major party.

**North Sydney is a well-established and high functioning community.**

North Sydney has been a federal seat since federation. It is telling that we were one of the first electorates to stand up for independent representation in 2022, and one of the few to vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 referendum. This was achieved because we are a tight network of community minded individuals.

**North Sydney is in fact growing!**

The AEC's proposal to abolish North Sydney does not consider existing and future population growth numbers inside our electorate. The AEC has failed to consult appropriate sources for future growth numbers, including state and local planning policies, the number of developments under construction and the number of developments in the pipeline for future construction.

Two examples of what has not been considered:

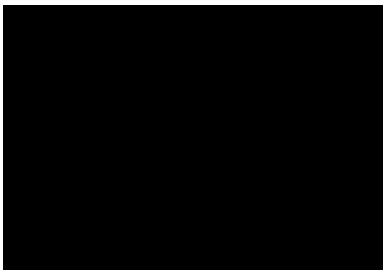
1. The NSW State Government plans to see 5,900 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA alone by 2029.
2. North Sydney Council is expecting 19,500 new residents to move into the area by 2036.

It does not make sense to propose to split the high-growth area around St Leonards and Crows Nest into three separate electorates.

**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. Furthermore the networks, connections, sporting groups, businesses, community groups, schools and transport lines are intrinsically linked within the current North Sydney electorate. Maintaining the seat ensures continuity in addressing long-term projects and community goals and is important economically given North Sydney is the third largest business centre in Australia and the significant economic corridor that runs through the electorate.

I am a proud member of the North Sydney community and have been for over 35 years. I strongly oppose the draft proposal that the federal seat of North Sydney be abolished and request for it to remain with, if necessary small adjustments to its boundaries to accommodate changes in overall numbers of electors in NSW. I ask that you please consider Kylea Tink MP's proposal in this regard.



Dr Katherine Woodthorpe AO

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Name & Suburb