



Objection 465

Manningham Council

2 pages

28 June 2024

Redistribution Committee for Victoria
Locked Bag 4007
CANBERRA ACT 2601

VIA EMAIL: FedRedistribution-VIC@aec.gov.au

Dear Victorian Redistribution Committee,

2023-24 Victorian Federal Redistribution

We refer to our letter to you dated 24 November 2023 outlining feedback on the Victorian federal redistribution changes.

The proposed federal election divisions announced on 31 May 2024 recommends the City of Manningham is split between the three Federal seats of Menzies, Deakin and Casey.

We refer The *Electoral Act* requiring the Redistribution Committee to give due consideration to four factors, these being:

1. Community interests within the proposed electoral division, including economic, social and regional interests;
2. Means of communication and travel within the proposed electoral division;
3. The physical features and area of the proposed electoral division; and
4. The boundaries of existing electoral divisions in Victoria, with this factor being subordinate to the consideration of 1, 2 and 3.

This proposed boundary changes highlight several areas of concern which could negatively impact the Manningham community and we believe that splitting up of the municipality is contrary to these factors.

As outlined in our previous letter, since the City of Manningham was created in 1994, it has been almost entirely within the Menzies boundaries. In addition, Manningham Council has been almost entirely within the seat of Menzies since the introduction of the seat at the 1984 Federal election.

By changing the boundaries to three electorates within Manningham, we foresee confusion among residents regarding who is advocating on behalf of their interests, or who to seek assistance from a federal perspective. Importantly, we highlight the splitting



Interpreter service
9840 9355

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Manningham Council
699 Doncaster Road (PO Box 1), Doncaster, Victoria 3108
p 03 9840 9333 f 03 9848 3110
e manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au
ABN 61 498 471 081 manningham.vic.gov.au



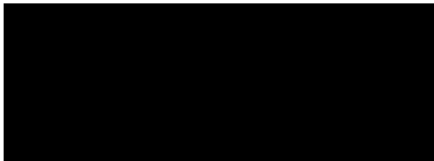
of the Donvale community and the removal of Wonga Park from the Federal seat covering Manningham. Whilst we respectfully do not stipulate a solution to the boundary challenge faced by the AEC, we do note the opportunity to extend further east into parts of Maroondah City Council that preserves the historical and community alignment of Menzies East-West boundary with the Eastern Freeway.

The proposal has ignored the common direction of travel within the existing electorate, particularly as it relates to public transportation (East-West), and disregarded Manningham's key physical features which define the municipal boundaries (the Yarra River and the Eastern Freeway).

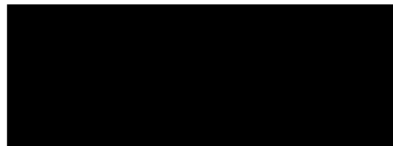
Whilst not formally endorsed by the Council, it is the consensus of the Councillors that that the proposed boundary rezoning for the Menzies seat be reviewed and amended to maintain the majority of Manningham's municipal area within the Menzies electorate. This will ensure we maintain our distinct sense of identity that flows from having consistent local government and federal electorate boundaries and ensure a strong sense of community and aligned community interests for one of Melbourne most unique municipalities.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



Cr Carli Lange
Mayor



Andrew Day
Chief Executive Officer

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