



Submission S15

Rebekha Sharkie MP



Rebekha Sharkie MP

Federal Member for Mayo

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA • HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Redistribution Committee for South Australia
Australian Electoral Commission
Locked Bag 4007
CANBERRA ACT 2601

BY EMAIL: FedRedistribution-sa@aec.gov.au

To the Redistribution Committee for South Australia

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL REDISTRIBUTION

Please find attached my written submission to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) Redistribution Committee regarding the current South Australian federal redistribution.

Our beautiful region has been my home for nearly 30 years. During that time I have developed deep understanding and connection with my community. I have been honoured to serve as Mayo's representative in the Australian Parliament since 2016. Mayo is characterised by its growing population and strong regional identity. Its community spirit clearly distinguishes its residents from those living in the urban electoral divisions of metropolitan Adelaide.

Given Mayo's vast size and unique composition, I recognise that the redistribution process presents both challenges and opportunities. To ensure fair and equitable representation, adjustments must account for population growth, while maintaining existing community ties and regional interests. Careful consideration must be given to preserve the integrity and cohesion of like communities of interest within the electorate.

With these factors in mind and for the reasons outlined in my attached submission, I strongly believe that any changes to the current boundaries of Mayo should proceed only after a thorough assessment to ensure that representation remains accessible to all constituents.

I thank you in advance for your time and thoughtful examination of this submission and I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely



 **Rebekha Sharkie MP**
Federal Member for Mayo

 November 2025

REBEKHA SHARKIE MP FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MAYO

SUBMISSION TO THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL REDISTRIBUTION

This submission responds to the invitation to submit written ideas to the Redistribution Committee for the redistribution of South Australia.

South Australia will undergo a redistribution as more than seven years has elapsed since the last redistribution was determined, as required under, the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (the Electoral Act).

In accordance with the 2023 determination of entitlement to members of the House of Representatives, South Australia remains entitled to 10 electorates.

Federal electorates are required to fall within two numerical ranges:

- the number of electors enrolled in each federal electorate on the determination date must be between minus 10% and plus 10% of the redistribution quota
- as far as practicable, the projected number of electors enrolled in each federal electorate at the projection time would be between minus 3.5% and plus 3.5% of the projected enrolment quota.

On the boundaries in place on 12 August 2025, four of South Australia's 10 federal electorates did not meet the requirement to be within these two numerical ranges.

The number of electors in each proposed electoral division must not deviate by more than 10% above or below the redistribution quota. The redistribution quota for South Australia is 130,786.

As far as practicable, the Redistribution Committee is to ensure that the number of electors enrolled in each electoral division on Monday 8 April 2030 (the projection time) will not deviate by more than 3.5% above or below the projected enrolment quota of 136,333.

The Electoral Act requires the Redistribution Committee for South Australia to comply with the following factors when making its proposed redistribution.

- Community of interests within the proposed electorate, including economic, social and regional interests
- Means of communication and travel within the proposed electorate
- Physical features and areas in the proposed electorate (i.e. prominent geographic features)
- The existing boundaries for that electorate.

1. Background and history of Mayo

Located to the south and east of Adelaide, Mayo takes in the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroos Island.

Mayo was established in 1984, and is named after Helen Mayo, a social activist and the first woman elected to an Australian University Council.

Mayo has a distinct and predominantly regional character, with strong connections existing between the three regions of the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island that form its core. The towns at the heart of Mayo such as Mount Barker, Victor Harbor, Goolwa, Yankalilla, Strathalbyn, Lobethal and Kingscote, distinguish the electorate from neighbouring metropolitan/urban electorates. Local and state government governance, program and engagement structures and approaches demonstrate recognition of the shared economic activity, physical features and community priorities that exist within Mayo.

Current and forecast numbers of electors in the division of Mayo indicate that representation could benefit from redistribution of some areas which are less aligned with the character of a predominantly regional electorate and have more in common with neighbouring more urban electorates.

2. Enrolment numbers

In accordance with section 65 of the Electoral Act, the Electoral Commissioner has determined the current enrolment quota for the purposes of the redistribution of South Australia to be 130,786.¹

The permissible maximum number of electors in an electoral division is 143,864.

The permissible minimum number of electors in an electoral division is 117,708.

Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) figures as of 30 September 2025 show that South Australian divisions are far larger on average than in other States and Territories:

STATE OR TERRITORY	AVERAGE ENROLMENT (NUMBER OF ELECTORS) PER DIVISION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	130,677
QUEENSLAND	124,598
NEW SOUTH WALES	123,594
VICTORIA	120,513
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	118,169
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY	107,166
TASMANIA	82,485
NORTHERN TERRITORY	77,895

Malapportionment is most severe in South Australia, meaning that South Australian electors are under-represented compared to their counterparts in other divisions across the nation.

It is noted there is no proposal to increase the number of divisions for South Australia, despite discussion by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters in its 2023 report on the *Conduct of the 2022 Federal Election and other matters*.

Mayo has a current enrolment of 139,164.

¹ Australian Electoral Commission (2025) *Redistribution and projected enrolment quotas for South Australia*, Federal redistributions, Canberra, Available at: <https://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2025/sa/quota.html>.

This renders Mayo one of the largest electorates in the country, reducing the relative value of each enrolled constituent's vote and the extent to which they can actively engage politically and express their political opinions through elections.

The average enrolment per division in Mayo shows a +6.41% deviation from the redistribution quota for South Australia of 130,876 as determined by the Electoral Commissioner on 21 August 2025. This represents the second highest percentage deviation of any division in South Australia after the division of Spence. As a result, the concept of 'one vote, one value' is distorted in South Australian divisions, and more severely in Mayo given its number of enrolled voters relative to most divisions in the country. Based on current boundaries this malapportionment is projected to increase to an 8.14% deviation based on the projected enrolment quota by 8 April 2030.

Given Mayo's particularly high, and growing, deviation from the South Australian quota, combined with the gap between the average enrolment per division in South Australia and all other Australian jurisdictions, redistribution could be one avenue to address significant malapportionment.

1.1 Projected Enrolment Growth

According to AEC published projections², Mayo will have an enrolment of 147,436 by 8 April 2030. This represents an increase of 8.14% on the current number of 139,164.

This projected growth means that Mayo will retain its current position as the electorate with the second largest number of enrolled voters in South Australia by 8 April 2030.

Mayo's projected growth is the second highest in South Australia, behind the division of Spence.

The projected enrolment quota for South Australia is 136,333. On these projections Mayo will be over quota by 11,103 enrolled voters in 2030.

²Australian Electoral Commission (2025) *Information about the South Australian federal redistribution*, Federal redistributions, Canberra, Available at: <https://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2025/sa/essential.html>.

In contrast the division of Kingston is forecast to be under quota by 2,723 voters and the division of Boothby by 2,982. The division of Sturt is similarly projected to be under quota by 2,347.

<u>Electorate</u> ¹	<u>Enrolment as at 12 August 2025</u>		<u>Projected enrolment at 8 April 2030</u>		<u>Is the numerical requirement met?</u>
	<u>Enrolment</u>	<u>Percentage variation from the redistribution quota</u>	<u>Projected enrolment</u>	<u>Percentage variation from the projected enrolment quota</u>	
Sturt	129,873	-0.70%	133,986	-1.72%	Yes
Spence	139,392	6.58%	153,055	12.27%	No
Mayo	139,164	6.41%	147,436	8.14%	No
Makin	123,230	-5.78%	125,587	-7.88%	No
Kingston	128,141	-2.02%	133,610	-2.00%	Yes
Hindmarsh	130,799	0.01%	137,208	0.64%	Yes
Grey	129,724	-0.81%	132,595	-2.74%	Yes
Boothby	128,867	-1.47%	133,351	-2.19%	Yes
Barker	128,035	-2.10%	131,186	-3.78%	No
Adelaide	130,638	-0.11%	135,319	-0.74%	Yes

1.2 Long-term Population Increases

The division of Mayo contains three key housing growth areas identified in the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan (GARP), each forecast to experience significant population increases between 2021 and 2051. These include the Adelaide Hills (Adelaide Hills Council and Mount Barker District Council) with a target housing growth of 18,000 homes (6%), Fleurieu Peninsula with a target housing growth of 26,000 homes (8%) and part of the Outer South area with a total target housing growth for the area of 21,000 homes (6%).³

In addition to the target housing growth areas, the GARP identifies four strategic growth spines for long term development, two of which fall within the division of Mayo: The Eastern Spine – connecting the Adelaide CBD with Mount Barker and Murray Bridge via the South Eastern Freeway, and the Southern Spine – focusing growth around the coastal towns of Victor Harbor and Goolwa, taking advantage of existing infrastructure and major upgrades such as the Fleurieu Connections Project.

³ Government of South Australia (2025) *Greater Adelaide Regional Plan 2025 Summary*, Department for Housing and Urban Development Available at: https://regional.plan.sa.gov.au/media/regions/GARP/documents/GARP_Summary.pdf.

Any electoral redistribution should take into consideration the target housing growth areas identified in the GARP and avoid newly incorporating additional such areas into the Mayo electorate as much as practicable. Preserving existing target growth areas within electoral divisions will help maintain momentum and community cohesion, support effective constituent representation and reflect shared social and economic connections that underpin these rapidly developing areas. As the Fleurieu Peninsula and Adelaide Hills target growth areas are the most aligned in terms of community, industry and local governance, it would be prudent to maintain the inclusion of these growth areas within the Mayo division.

The Adelaide Hills town of Mount Barker is one of the fastest growing regions in Australia, with a population forecast to reach more than 55,000 by 2035.⁴ Despite its growth and size, Mount Barker remains a town with a country presence, surrounded by and linked to smaller farming and rural communities which rely heavily on its services. This stands in clear contrast to Murray Bridge, which also lies along the above-mentioned Eastern Spine. Murray Bridge is located in the Murraylands region, on the banks of the River Murray and has food manufacturing as its main industry. Murray Bridge is located approximately 20 kilometres from the division of Mayo boundary and maintains strong community ties and shared interests with neighbouring River Murray townships including Mannum, Tailem Bend and Wellington.

2. Proposed Redistribution

To bring enrolments in the division of Mayo within the 3.5% deviation range I suggest consideration of the following boundary change to the division, as set out in *Figure 1: Map of Mayo showing proposed redistribution*:

- The boundary of Mayo to the west to now be drawn at South Road, with the removal from the division of the suburbs of Aldinga, Aldinga Beach and Sellicks Beach as highlighted in *Figure 2: Map of proposed redistribution into Kingston (Aldinga and Sellicks)*. Projected enrolment data for 2030 indicates this will reduce the size of the electorate by 12,422 enrolled voters, bringing Mayo much closer to the projected 2030 quota for South Australian divisions.
- The suburbs of Sellicks Beach, Aldinga and Aldinga Beach were formerly included in the division of Kingston, prior to the 2017 redistribution. This community still identifies with its previous electorate of Kingston and shares stronger social, economic and transport links with Kingston than with Mayo.
- The return of the inner south of Mayo back to the electorate of Kingston would acknowledge and indeed complement the likely impact of the redistribution of Spence into neighbouring divisions. This potentially reapportions the metropolitan divisions of Sturt and Boothby further south, reducing Kingston in the north to allow for the inclusion of Sellicks Beach, Aldinga and Aldinga Beach.

This proposed redistribution will ensure that the region of the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island remains in Mayo in its entirety.

⁴ Mount Barker District Council (2022) *Economic Development Strategy 2022-2027*, Mount Barker, Available at: https://www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/114156/Economic-Development-Strategy-2022-2027.PDF

3. Communities of Interest

The Electoral Act requires the Redistribution Committee give consideration to communities of interest within a proposed electoral division, including economic, social and regional interests.

There is no clear definition on what constitutes a 'community of interest', but the issue has been explored during previous electoral redistributions in different states, and those definitions are referenced below.

3.1 Local Government Areas

There is a clear precedent for considering local government boundaries when redistributing electoral boundaries. The division of a single local government area between two electorates can fragment community representation and complicate service delivery, making local government area an important consideration for any proposed boundary changes.

The *New South Wales Redistribution of Electoral Districts 2013* considered various principles be taken into account when redistributing electoral boundaries. Of note is the principle that "the boundaries were also defined, where possible and particularly in rural and regional areas, to include whole Local Government Areas (LGAs) so as to reflect community of interest".⁵

The *Tasmanian 2016-17 Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Redistribution* also considered the issue of community of interest. Speaking on the issue, the Committee "endeavoured, where possible, to utilise locality and local government area (LGA) boundaries when altering the boundaries of existing divisions".⁶

The following local government areas exist entirely within the electorate of Mayo:

1. Mount Barker District Council
2. Alexandrina Council
3. City of Victor Harbor
4. District Council of Yankalilla
5. Kangaroo Island Council
6. Alexandrina Council
7. Adelaide Hills Council (excluding the small foothill suburb of Woodforde and a portion of Teringie).

It is of note that all the above-mentioned local government areas are located within the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island region of Mayo.

⁵ New South Wales Government (2013) *Redistribution of Electoral Districts 2013*, New South Wales Electoral Commission, Available at: <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/getmedia/e44d9aeb-b14a-433e-a3b9-923f5d7e8b2b/redistribution-2013-report-part-1.pdf>

⁶ Hawkey A, Giudici M, Wardlaw-Kelly L (2017) *2016-17 Redistribution of Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries: Initial Redistribution Proposal – Reasons*, Tasmania, Available at: <https://www.lcredistribution.tas.gov.au/PDFs/Initial-Proposal-Booklet-2017Redistribution.pdf>

The remaining local government areas which form part of the division of Mayo are the City of Onkaparinga, located within the inner south region of Adelaide, and the City of Mitcham, located within the Adelaide metropolitan region.

The City of Onkaparinga is currently divided between the federal divisions of Kingston and Mayo. The more rural townships of Clarendon, Kangarilla, McLaren Vale and Willunga fall within Mayo while denser suburban areas including Aberfoyle Park, Morphett Vale, Port Noarlunga and Seaford are located within the division of Kingston. Due to comparatively higher size and population density the areas of Port Willunga, Aldinga and Aldinga Beach may be considered outliers among the other City of Onkaparinga townships within Mayo.

The City of Mitcham local government area is currently split between the divisions of Boothby and Mayo. The foothill suburbs of Craighburn Farm, Hawthorndene, Upper Sturt and a portion of Coromandel Valley lie within the Mayo footprint, while the remainder of the City of Mitcham is located within the Division of Boothby.

While the division of local government areas between federal electorates is not ideal, sometimes this cannot be avoided. When LGAs need to be split between federal divisions, the split should reflect the industry, community and character of sub-areas within the LGA and look to group aligned sub-areas.

3.2 South Australian Government Regions

South Australian Government departments and agencies use a consistent set of boundaries to define 12 administrative regions in the State. The boundaries help Government partners develop and improve reporting, planning and service delivery.

There are 12 distinct regions as defined by the South Australian Government.⁷

Adelaide Metropolitan Area:

1. Eastern Adelaide SA Government Region
2. Northern Adelaide SA Government Region
3. Southern Adelaide SA Government Region
4. Western Adelaide SA Government Region

Greater Adelaide:

5. Adelaide Hills SA Government Region
6. Barossa Light and Lower North SA Government Region
7. Fleurieu Kangaroo Island SA Government Region

⁷ Government of South Australia (2025) *South Australian Property and Planning Atlas*, Department for Housing and Urban Development, Available at: <https://sappa.plan.sa.gov.au/>

Country Regions:

8. Eyre Western SA Government Region
9. Far North SA Government Region
10. Limestone Coast SA Government Region
11. Murray Mallee SA Government Region
12. Yorke Mid North SA Government Region

Of these 12 regions, the Fleurieu Kangaroo Island SA Government Region is contained entirely within the electoral boundaries of Mayo, as is the Adelaide Hills SA Government Region. In addition, both the Adelaide Hills SA Government Region and the Fleurieu Kangaroo Island SA Government region are often grouped as a singular region for the purpose of South Australian Government publications⁸, programs and community engagement.

3.3 Regional Development Australia – Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Boards in South Australia are a unique tripartite partnership between the Australian and South Australian Governments, and the Local Government Association of South Australia on behalf of its members.

There are eight RDA Boards in South Australia responsible for detailed regional plans that focus on the economic development of their region and provide independent advice to all three levels of Government on critical issues affecting their region.⁹

RDA South Australia is divided into eight geographical regions, broadly aligned to the State Government regional boundaries serviced by their respective Board.¹⁰ The regions are:

1. Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island
2. Adelaide Metropolitan
3. Barossa Gawler Light Adelaide Plains
4. Far North
5. Limestone Coast
6. Murraylands and Riverland
7. Eyre Peninsula
8. Yorke and Mid North.¹¹

⁸ Regional Development Australia (2022) Strategic Regional Plan: Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu & Kangaroo Island Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts, Canberra, Available at: [Av https://www.rda.gov.au/](https://www.rda.gov.au/)

⁹ Regional Development Australia (n.d) *Regional Development South Australia*, Canberra, Available at: <https://www.rdaadelaide.com.au/rda-south-australia/>

¹⁰ Government of South Australia (2025) *Partnerships*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions. Adelaide, Available at: <https://pir.sa.gov.au/regions/partnerships>

¹¹ Regional Development South Australia (2022) *The RDA Regions of South Australia, Adelaide*, Available at: <https://regionaldevelopmentsa.com.au/regions/>

The RDA Board boundary for the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island exists entirely within the electorate of Mayo. There is a clear perception within both the South Australian and the Australian Government that the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island are to be considered a contiguous and consistent region. The benefit, not only to the community, but to all three levels of government that the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island region remaining wholly within in Mayo cannot be understated.

3.4 Economic Activity

The division of Mayo is home to several distinct economic industries.

The Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island are all recognised for their significant agricultural sectors. The Adelaide Hills is known for its wine regions and orchards, the Fleurieu for its vineyards and farming, and Kangaroo Island for its agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Viticulture

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions recognises 18 distinct wine regions across South Australia, six of which fall entirely within the boundaries of the federal division of Mayo.¹²

1. Adelaide Hills
2. Currency Creek
3. Southern Fleurieu
4. Kangaroo Island
5. Langhorne Creek
6. McLaren Vale

It is appropriate for these wine regions to be contained within a single electorate as far as practicable. Any redistribution of electoral boundaries should consider the uniqueness of each of these wine regions.

Horticulture

The Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu horticultural regions collectively support approximately 1,350 full time employees and more than 5,000 seasonal employees, as well as contributing an estimated \$245 million in total horticulture revenue.¹³

¹² Government of South Australia (2024) *South Australian Wine*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions, Adelaide. Available at: https://pir.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/270766/sa-wine-infographic.pdf

¹³ Horticulture Coalition of South Australia (2020) *Adelaide Hills & Fleurieu Horticulture Region: Strategic Directions - 2020 to 2025*, Adelaide. Available at: https://mcusercontent.com/d4a36de1379e48930bcb2e7bd/files/b88e5faf-0754-4462-a55d-82d666f04386/AHF_Strategic_Plan_Final_002_.pdf

The Adelaide Hills horticultural region is renowned for its cool climate and is suited to producing high quality apples, pears, strawberries and cherries. Approximately 80% of South Australian apple and pear growers and more than 90% of the state's cherry production occurs in the region.¹⁴

Kangaroo Island is home to the last remaining pure strain of Ligurian bees in the world, producing honey with a distinctively complex flavour profile. In addition to honey, Kangaroo Island has more than 23,000 hectares of land devoted to canola, wheat, cereal crops and pulses.¹⁵

Tourism

The geographical continuity of the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula, and Kangaroo Island tourism regions is highlighted by the substantial economic significance of tourism within Mayo.

South Australia comprises 12 distinct tourism regions, three of which are entirely located within the division of Mayo; Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island. Collectively, these regions contributed approximately \$908 million to South Australia's visitor economy in the year ending December 2024. This represents 9.2% of South Australian tourism revenue, which totals \$9.9 billion annually.¹⁶ Tourism within Mayo supports approximately 1,910 businesses and generates employment for more than 6,500 people across the three tourism regions.¹⁷

The tourism integration of the three regions and the economic benefit of their interconnection is underscored by the above statistics.

Dairy and Livestock

The Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island regions collectively account for 25.6% of South Australia's dairy cattle,¹⁸ generating approximately \$88.3 million in farm-gate revenue for the state economy.¹⁹ This strong dairy presence within Mayo complements the region's artisanal cheese-making industry, which is particularly prominent in the Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu Peninsula.

In addition to milk producing livestock, the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island region was home to over 1,000,000 head of sheep in 2018, primarily bred for wool and meat production.²⁰

¹⁴Regional Development Australia Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu & Kangaroo Island (2025) *Adelaide Hills Fleurieu Kangaroo Island Regional Drought Resilience Plan*, Adelaide. Available at: <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/adl-hills-fluerieu-kangaroo-island-rdr-plan.pdf>

¹⁵ Kangaroo Island Council (2025) *Agriculture*, Kangaroo Island. Available at: https://authentickangarooisland.com.au/member_type/agriculture/

¹⁶South Australian Tourism Commission (2025) *Regions*, Government of South Australia, Adelaide. Available from: <https://tourism.sa.gov.au/regions>

¹⁷ Government of South Australia (2024) *South Australian Dairy*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions, Adelaide. Available at: https://pir.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/274256/sa-dairy-infographic.pdf

¹⁸Government of South Australia (2023) *Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions, Adelaide. Available at: https://pir.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/424785/regional-summaries-infographics.pdf

¹⁹ Ibid 18

²⁰ Australian Bureau of Statistics (2018) *Sheep numbers – as at June 2018*, Meat & Livestock Australia, North Sydney. Available at <https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/prices--markets/documents/trends--analysis/fast-facts--maps/sheep-numbers-map-2019-june-2018-1.pdf>

3.5 Sporting Groups

Associations of sporting groups are a strong indicator of communities of interest. The following major sports, and their related associations of sporting groups, suggest significant communities of interest in the local government areas within Mayo, and predominantly within the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island regions.

Australian Rules Football²¹

The following associations operate within the division of Mayo:

- *Hills Football League*: 16 out of 18 clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Great Southern Football League*: All 10 clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Kangaroo island Football League*: All five clubs are within the division of Mayo.

Netball²²

The following associations operate within the division of Mayo:

- *Hills Netball Association*: All seven clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Mid Hills Netball Association*: All 13 clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Great Southern Netball Association*: All 10 clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Kangaroo Island Netball Association*: All five clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Southern Hills Netball Association*: Four out of eight clubs are within the division of Mayo.

Cricket²³

The following associations operate within the division of Mayo:

- *Alexandra and Eastern Hills Cricket Association*: All eight clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Hills Cricket Association*: All nine clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Kangaroo Island Cricket Association*: All six clubs are within the division of Mayo.
- *Great Southern Cricket Association*: Eight out of nine clubs are within the division of Mayo.

3.6 Community Commonalities

Mayo is home to dozens of towns throughout the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island. These include Bridgewater, Gumeracha, Lobethal, Strathalbyn, Mount Compass, Yankalilla, Milang, Langhorne Creek and Kingscote. These towns and their residents see themselves as communities with a country town feel. Even those towns closer to Adelaide, such as Stirling and Aldgate, are considered separate from the city's suburbs. In contrast Aldinga, for example, is regarded as a suburb of Adelaide.

²¹ South Australian National Football League (2025) *SA Country Football Championships – Leagues*, West Lakes. Available at: <https://sanfl.com.au/communityfootball/leagues/>

²² Netball South Australia (2025) *Netball SA Associations & Divisions*, Adelaide. Available at: <https://sa.netball.com.au/netball-sa-associations-divisions>

²³ Play HQ (2025) *Cricket Clubs and Associations*, Melbourne. Available at <https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia>

Communities in the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island are interconnected and benefit from shared infrastructure and community services, due to the local government areas in which they sit. The larger towns within the regions, Mount Barker, Victor Harbor and Kingscote are service provision centres for surrounding residents.

Data from the AEC (September 2025) shows in South Australia the electorate of Mayo has the highest number of enrolled voters over the age of 70, at 33,712.²⁴ The aged care sector is a growing area of focus across Mayo, to meet the needs of the older and ageing population.

3.6.1 Drought

Parts of South Australia, including much of the division of Mayo, have been experiencing prolonged drought conditions. This shared experience has resulted in the “Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island Regional Drought Resilience Plan”, with a focus on building resilience to drought for farms, communities and the natural environment.²⁵

3.6.2 Bushfires

Another issue of significance that affects the community as a whole is the constant threat of bushfires. The Adelaide Hills has been severely impacted by many bushfires, most prominently the Black Sunday bushfires in 1955, the first Ash Wednesday fire in 1980 followed by the second Ash Wednesday fire in 1983. More recently the Sampson Flat fire in 2016 and Cudlee Creek fire in 2019. The 2019-20 summer bushfires on Kangaroo Island were the largest in the island's recorded history.²⁶

The residents of the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island, due to their lived experiences, share an intimate understanding of the bushfire risk and together have developed community led preparedness and recovery programs. While bushfire concerns are shared by many regional South Australians, residents of Mayo within the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and on Kangaroo Island, must be constantly prepared for the threat of bushfire to a degree not required or considered by their metropolitan neighbours. This adds to the commonality of issues and concerns faced by those in the traditional core of the electorate.

4. Communications and Travel

Within Mayo, the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island constitute a cohesive and interdependent regional grouping, characterised by established patterns of travel,

²⁴ Australian Electoral Commission (2025) Elector count by division, age groups and gender for all states/territories, Canberra. Available at: https://www.aec.gov.au/Enrolling_to_vote/Enrolment_stats/elector_count/2025/Elector-Count-Sep-2025.pdf.

²⁵ Regional Development Australia Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu & Kangaroo Island (2025) *Adelaide Hills Fleurieu Kangaroo Island Regional Drought Resilience Plan*, Adelaide. Available at: <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/adl-hills-fluerieu-kangaroo-island-rdr-plan.pdf>

²⁶ Country Fire Service (2025) *Bushfire history*, Government of South Australia. Available at: <https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/about/about/bushfire-history/>

communication and economic activity.²⁷ Constituents across these areas maintain regular interaction through shared employment, education, health and commercial services with Mount Barker, Victor Harbor and Kingscote functioning as principal hubs.

Existing transport infrastructure, including Victor Harbor Road, Brookman Road, Onkaparinga Valley Road, Long Gully Road, Range Road and the Southeastern Freeway, provide direct links between communities in the Adelaide Hills, the Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island. Maintaining these regions within a single federal division reflects their connected nature and ensures effective representation of communities with aligned needs.²⁸

5. Physical Features

The physical features of the division of Mayo and those that define its borders are distinctive.

The Hills Face Zone is a large land-use planning zone in Adelaide that extends from Gawler in the north to Sellicks Beach in the south.²⁹ Together with the Onkaparinga River Catchment, the Hills Face Zone clearly defines the western boundary of the division.³⁰ Given that the Hills Face Zone restricts development on the western edge of the Mount Lofty Ranges, it effectively provides a physical barrier between urban metropolitan Adelaide and the communities of the Adelaide Hills.

The Barossa region to the north is a distinctive region in South Australia and provides an easily recognised and distinctive northern boundary of the electorate.³¹

The local government boundaries with the Mid Murray Council and Rural City of Murray Bridge form clear boundaries of the division of Mayo to the eastern Riverlands, and the south coast boundary of the Fleurieu Peninsula is a natural border to the south.³² Kangaroo Island is also a clear boundary within the electorate.

²⁷ Regional Development Australia (2025) *Our Region*, Australian Government, Canberra. Available at: <https://rdahc.com.au/our-region/>

²⁸ Infrastructure Australia (2022) *Regional Strengths and Infrastructure gaps – Regional Analysis: South Australia*, Canberra. Available at: https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-11/6.%20RSIG_Regional%20Analysis_SA_1122_0.pdf

²⁹ Government of South Australia (2024) *Adelaide Hills Zone*, Department for Infrastructure and Transport. Available from: https://www.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/899892/Adelaide-Hills-Area.pdf

³⁰ Landscape South Australia Hills and Fleurieu (2023) *Onkaparinga River Catchment Summary*, Mount Barker. Available at: https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/landscape/docs/hf/Onkaparinga-River-Catchment-Summary_Final-2.pdf

³¹ The Barossa Council (2025) *Property Maps*, Nuriootpa. Available at: <https://barossacouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e47cbd53f5c34dac87c48fc3d947259b>

³² Government of South Australia (2025) *Murray Bridge P&D Code Zones*, Department for Housing and Urban Development. Available at: https://prod-static.api.plan.sa.gov.au/CouncilZoningMaps%2FMurray%20Bridge%2FLGA_PDCodeZones_A0_MURRAY%20BRIDGE.pdf

6. Conclusion

The Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island are the heart of Mayo and home to closely aligned and likeminded communities.

Since its establishment in 1984, the division of Mayo has predominantly included the interconnected communities of the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island regions, with the notable townships of Mount Barker, Victor Harbor, Goolwa, Yankalilla, Strathalbyn, Lobethal and Kingscote situated within the electorate.³³

A clear and distinct identity exists throughout the electorate, particularly within the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island region of the seat, typified by like industries, social, sporting and cultural connections. Most townships within the division exhibit a predominantly rural character and consequently, share stronger connections with one another than with metropolitan suburbs. Although townships such as Stirling, Uraidla and Aldgate are geographically close to Adelaide, they retain a distinct identity and are regarded as separate from the city suburbs. In contrast, Aldinga and its neighbouring suburbs are widely regarded as part of the greater Adelaide suburban area owing to their higher population density and integration of urban services within the City of Onkaparinga local government area.

Across Mayo, and especially within the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island region, there exists a cohesive network of shared economic activity, physical features, state and local governance and community priorities. These commonalities distinguish the region from those in neighbouring electorates and reinforce the importance of maintaining these communities within a single federal division.

For these reasons, I submit that there is a clear case for retaining the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island region within the division of Mayo, with the suburbs of Aldinga, Aldinga Beach and Sellicks Beach being redistributed to the division of Kingston.

³³ Parliament of Australia (2025) Mayo – *Parliamentary Handbook*, Canberra. Available at: <https://handbook.aph.gov.au/electorates/South%20Australia/Mayo>

Appendix

Figure 1: Map of proposed redistribution of Mayo

SAPPA Report

The SA Property and Planning Atlas is available on the Plan SA website: <https://sappa.plan.sa.gov.au>

Proposed Mayo Redistribution

Date created: November 7, 2025



Government of South Australia
Department for Housing
and Urban Development



Disclaimer: The information provided above, is not represented to be accurate, current or complete at the time of printing this report. The Government of South Australia accepts no liability for the use of this data, or any reliance placed on it.

Figure 2: Map of proposed redistribution into Kingston (Aldinga and Sellicks Beach)

SAPPA Report

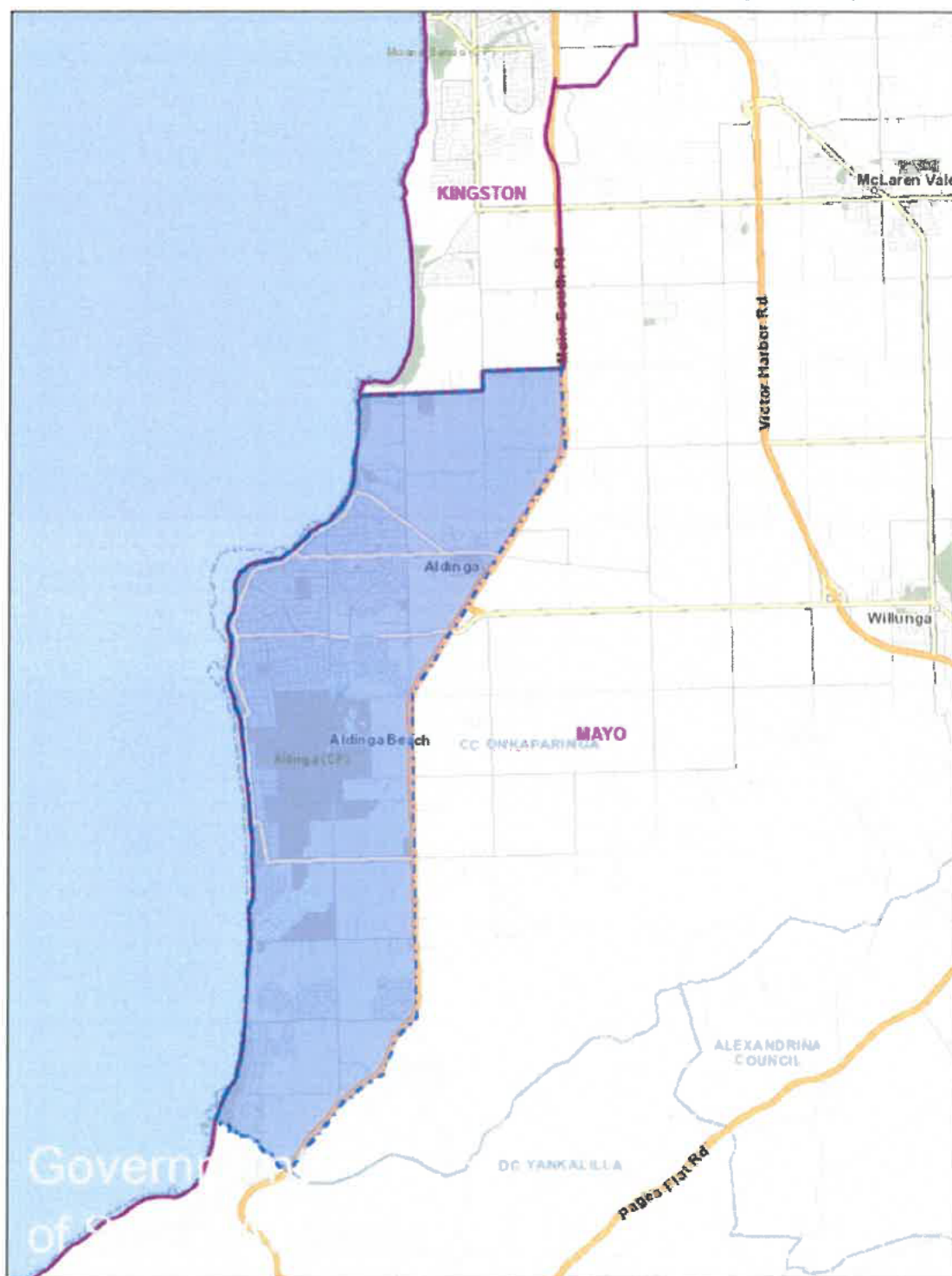
The SA Property and Planning Atlas is available on the Plan SA website: <https://sappa.plan.sa.gov.au>

Proposed Redistribution into Kingston (Aldinga and Sellicks Beach)

Date created: November 7, 2025



Government of South Australia
Department for Housing
and Urban Development



Disclaimer: The information provided above, is not represented to be accurate, current or complete at the time of printing this report. The Government of South Australia accepts no liability for the use of this data, or any reliance placed on it.

References

- Australian Bureau of Statistics (2018) *Sheep numbers – as at June 2018*, Meat & Livestock Australia, North Sydney. Available at <https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/prices--markets/documents/trends--analysis/fast-facts--maps/sheep-numbers-map-2019-june-2018-1.pdf>
- Australian Electoral Commission (2025) *Elector count by division, age groups and gender for all states/territories*, Canberra. Available at: https://www.aec.gov.au/Enrolling_to_vote/Enrolment_stats/elector_count/2025/Elector-Count-Sep-2025.pdf.
- Australian Electoral Commission (2025) *Information about the South Australian federal redistribution*, Federal redistributions, Canberra, Available at: <https://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2025/sa/essential.html>.
- Australian Electoral Commission (2025) *Redistribution and projected enrolment quotas for South Australia*, Federal redistributions, Canberra, Available at: <https://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2025/sa/quota.html>.
- The Barossa Council (2025) Property Maps, Nuriootpa. Available at: <https://barossacouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e47cbd53f5c34dac87c48fc3d947259b>
- Government of South Australia (2023) *Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions, Adelaide. Available at: https://pir.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/424785/regional-summaries-infographics.pdf
- Government of South Australia (2025) *Greater Adelaide Regional Plan 2025 Summary*, Department for Housing and Urban Development, Adelaide. Available at: https://regional.plan.sa.gov.au/media/regions/GARP/documents/GARP_Summary.pdf.
- Government of South Australia (2025) *Murray Bridge P&D Code Zones*, Department for Housing and Urban Development. Available at: https://prod-static.api.plan.sa.gov.au/CouncilZoningMaps%2FMurray%20Bridge%2FLGA_PDCodeZones_A0_MURRAY%20BRIDGE.pdf
- Government of South Australia (2025) *Partnerships*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions. Adelaide, Available at: <https://pir.sa.gov.au/regions/partnerships>
- Government of South Australia (2024) *South Australian Dairy*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions, Adelaide. Available at: https://pir.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/274256/sa-dairy-infographic.pdf
- Government of South Australia (2025) *South Australian Property and Planning Atlas*, Department for Housing and Urban Development Available at: <https://sappa.plan.sa.gov.au/>
- Government of South Australia (2024) *South Australian Wine*, Department of Primary Industries and Regions, Adelaide. Available at: https://pir.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/270766/sa-wine-infographic.pdf

Government of South Australia (2025) *Murray Bridge P&D Code Zones*, Department for Housing and Urban Development. Available at: https://prod-static.api.plan.sa.gov.au/CouncilZoningMaps%2FMurray%20Bridge%2FLGA_PDCodeZones_A0_MURRAY%20BRIDGE.pdf

Hawkey A, Giudici M, Wardlaw-Kelly L (2017) *2016-17 Redistribution of Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries: Initial Redistribution Proposal – Reasons*, Tasmania, Available at: <https://www.lcredistribution.tas.gov.au/PDFs/Initial-Proposal-Booklet-2017Redistribution.pdf>

Horticulture Coalition of South Australia (2020) *Adelaide Hills & Fleurieu Horticulture Region: Strategic Directions - 2020 to 2025*, Adelaide. Available at: https://mcusercontent.com/d4a36de1379e48930bcb2e7bd/files/b88e5faf-0754-4462-a55d-82d666f04386/AHF_Strategic_Plan_Final_002_.pdf

Infrastructure Australia (2022) *Regional Strengths and Infrastructure gaps – Regional Analysis: South Australia*, Canberra. Available at: https://www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-11/6.%20RSIG_Regional%20Analysis_SA_1122_0.pdf

Kangaroo Island Council (2025) *Agriculture, Kangaroo Island*. Available at: https://authentickangarooisland.com.au/member_type/agriculture/

Landscape South Australia Hills and Fleurieu (2023) *Onkaparinga River Catchment Summary*, Mount Barker. Available at: https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/landscape/docs/hf/Onkaparinga-River-Catchment-Summary_Final-2.pdf

Mount Barker District Council (2022) *Economic Development Strategy 2022-2027*, Mount Barker, Available at: https://www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/114156/Economic-Development-Strategy-2022-2027.PDF

New South Wales Government (2013) *Redistribution of Electoral Districts 2013*, New South Wales Electoral Commission, Available at: <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/getmedia/e44d9aeb-b14a-433e-a3b9-923f5d7e8b2b/redistribution-2013-report-part-1.pdf>

Netball South Australia (2025) *Netball SA Associations & Divisions*, Adelaide. Available at: <https://sa.netball.com.au/netball-sa-associations-divisions>

Parliament of Australia (2025) *Mayo – Parliamentary Handbook*, Canberra. Available at: <https://handbook.aph.gov.au/electorates/South%20Australia/Mayo>

Regional Development Australia (n.d) *Regional Development South Australia*, Canberra, Available at: <https://www.rdaadelaide.com.au/rda-south-australia/>

Regional Development Australia (2022) *Strategic Regional Plan: Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu & Kangaroo Island*, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts, Canberra, Available at: [Av https://www.rda.gov.au/](https://www.rda.gov.au/)

Regional Development Australia (2025) *Our Region*, Australian Government, Canberra.
Available at: <https://rdahc.com.au/our-region/>

Regional Development Australia: Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu & Kangaroo Island (2025) *Adelaide Hills Fleurieu Kangaroo Island Regional Drought Resilience Plan*, Adelaide. Available from:
<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/adl-hills-fluerieu-kangaroo-island-rdr-plan.pdf>

Regional Development South Australia (2022) *The RDA Regions of South Australia*, Adelaide,
Available at: <https://regionaldevelopmentsa.com.au/regions/>

South Australian National Football League (2025) *SA Country Football Championships – Leagues*, West Lakes. Available at: <https://sanfl.com.au/communityfootball/leagues/>