

Details of your suggestion

Please provide additional information and supporting documentation as attachments.

It is this Council's belief that the current review of Electoral Boundaries and potential redistribution is not adequately addressing or resolving the issue that Rural Electors have.

Historically as each redistribution is undertaken, another Elected Representative from Rural New South Wales is removed and a new seat created in inner or western Sydney.

Whilst we completely understand the principles of equal numbers of Electors in each Electorate, this fails to consider the productivity component and the requirements associated with Rural New South Wales. We need a voice that continues to seek support of, and improvements to, infrastructure and services associated with feeding the Nation and adding significantly to the GDP.

The last time the number of Elected Representatives was determined, was in the Greiner Government (1991). Since then, the population of New South Wales has exploded and this has disproportionately landed people on the Eastern Seaboard, East of the Blue Mountains. At the same time the farming practices and technology have meant reduced population in order to remain competitive on the world market. This does not however, diminish the need to provide adequate and appropriate services and infrastructure to support this productivity.

Another byproduct of these Redistributions is the ever increasing land size of Rural Electorates. There are already seats the size of some European Countries. This creates difficulties for Local Members to gain access to their constituents and understand the local community needs.

The voice of the bush needs to be heard and it is thought rather than a Redistribution, that a review of the number of Elected Representatives be undertaken to more appropriately reflect the views of all of New South Wales.