

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached the Shire of Brookton's submission on behalf of Council in reference to the Review of the Electoral Act 1907.

Kind regards,

Danni Chard

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Executive Governance Officer

OUR REF:
ENQUIRIES/CONTACT

GOV-029
IAN D'ARCY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



WA Electoral Reform Committee

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission - Review of the Electoral Act 1907

On behalf of the Council, please accept this letter as the Shire's submission in relation to review of the *Electoral Act, 1907*. While 'modernisation' of the WA electoral system is well over-due, it is the Council position that this review should:

- a) Be cognisant of and underpinned by fair and just electoral representation for all regional areas in Western Australia. It is this Local Government's opinion that the principal of 'one vote / one value' should not be supported given such a system would unequivocally work to the detriment of both regional and remote areas of Western Australia by diminishing the representation and therefore the capacity of people in the regions to be appropriately recognised and heard.
- b) Fundamentally recognise the importance of the regions and their significant contribution to the Western Australia economy through various sectors. This includes the resources, pastoral, agriculture, fishing and tourism sectors that substantially contribute to the State Government's fiscal position.
- c) Remove the Electoral Preference System where individual votes can and often are redirected at the discretion of one political party to another, commonly referred to 'preference harvesting'. This process in the Council's view is not fully transparent and openly can be construed as mis-leading and undemocratic.

I trust this letter is sufficient, however, should you require clarification or further information in relation to this submission please contact me on 9642 1106 or email ceo@brookton.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Ian D'Arcy
Chief Executive Officer

26th May 2021