

Good afternoon

Please see attached submission from the Shire President, Ian Mickel.

Thank you

Kind regards

Alli McArthur

Executive Assistant

REFERENCE D21/16678
ENQUIRIES (08) 9071 0666
DATE 25 May 2021

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Attn: Mr Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC
Chairperson - Ministerial Expert Committee on Electoral Reform

Email only - submissions@waelectoralreform.wa.gov.au

Dear Mr McCusker,

SUBMISSION – WA ELECTORAL REFORM

Please accept this letter as a formal submission regarding the proposed WA Electoral Reform.

Though the Shire is Esperance supportive of electoral change to remove anomalies in the process, we are concerned how the loss of regional representation in the Legislative Council could affect our community.

Additional weightings for population in remote and regional WA due to vastness of population and distances within electorates need careful consideration in any electoral reform. The travel demands for regional Legislative Council members also needs consideration due to the large distance regional members are required to travel compared to metropolitan electorates.

For an isolated Shire, such as Esperance having regional representation on the Legislative Council is more than necessary to ensure our region is catered for and considered throughout State Government decisions.

Without this regional representation, critical issues such as health and education outcomes, serious injuries and deaths on our roads, cost of transportation and access to reliable telecommunications will not be addressed or get the consideration they desperately need.

Thank you for your time viewing our submission. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

 Ian Mickel AM JP
SHIRE PRESIDENT