

LIBERAL PARTY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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24 March 2000

Redistribution Committee for Western Australia
28 Thorogood Street
BURSWOOD WA 6100

Dear Sirs

Attached are the original and four copies of our suggestion for the proposed redistribution of Federal electoral boundaries in Western Australia.

If there are any queries on this submission, please contact the writer.

Yours faithfully



Peter Wells
STATE DIRECTOR

PW1957.ltr:vm

Attached:



SUBMISSION TO THE
REDISTRIBUTION
COMMITTEE FOR
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

THE LIBERAL PARTY OF
AUSTRALIA (WA DIVISION)
INC

24 March 2000

SUBMISSION TO THE REDISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Introduction and Overview

The need to provide for an additional Division to Western Australia will mean that this redistribution must involve some substantial change to existing boundaries, and enable the Redistribution Committee to consider whether some such boundaries best serve the criteria of community of interest and means of communication.

At the same time it is recognised that there is no need for a wholesale redrawing of boundaries. We are mindful of the minimisation of change in the last Redistribution of Western Australia in 1996 when over 90% of electors remained within their existing Divisions. In this submission the Liberal Party is proposing that ten Divisions continue to include the great majority of their current electors, and that one of these remains entirely unchanged with another only minimally altered.

As in previous submissions, we would argue that the Swan River between Fremantle and Guildford, and the Canning River as far as Ferndale, constitute definitive natural boundaries. These boundaries have now been in force since 1984.

It thereby follows that the Divisions of Curtin, Perth, Swan, Tangney and Fremantle, anchored on the Swan and Canning Rivers, should remain on broadly the same boundaries.

Projected growth for 2004 is primarily concentrated in the existing urban divisions. In regard to the creation of a 15th Division, we propose that a new urban Division named Hasluck be situated in the eastern metropolitan area.

The Liberal Party proposal would divide the State into ten urban residential Divisions, three entirely rural and regional Divisions (Forrest, O'Connor and Kalgoorlie) and two rural/regional Divisions with an outer suburban component (Pearce and Canning).

It is proposed that the current configuration of the Divisions of Stirling and Cowan be altered to make use of Wanneroo Road and the Mitchell Freeway as natural boundaries.

Census Collection Districts (CCDs) have been the basis in the calculation of enrolments and the drawing up of maps. It has however been necessary to cut across the boundaries of geographically large CCDs in urban fringe areas where these do not coincide with logical natural boundaries. This had only a minor effect on the overall calculation of enrolment numbers.

Divisions of Forrest, O'Connor and Kalgoorlie

It is proposed that changes to these three large Divisions be kept to a minimum to avoid unnecessary displacement of electors. Our submission demonstrates that it is possible to transfer a major provincial city from one Division to another without a major disruption of existing boundaries.

The Division of Forrest requires a substantial reduction in the enrolment predicted for March 2004. Such a reduction can only be achieved by removing either the City of Albany or a major part of the City of Bunbury. The bisection of any of the state's four major regional cities is clearly not desirable. Therefore we submit that Albany (now combined in one local government area) be transferred to the Division of O'Connor.

It is not proposed that Denmark also be removed from Forrest. The Denmark Shire is a distinct community and not an appendage of Albany: it has as much if not more in common with the Manjimup Shire as with the City of Albany.

In turn Forrest will need to balance its numbers by extending northward to include the Shire of Harvey. The Australind Ward of the Harvey Shire was part of Forrest prior to the 1996 Redistribution. It has a continuing community of interest with Bunbury and is an outer suburb of a regional city. Electors in Australind have continued to direct their representations to the Bunbury office of the Member for Forrest. The remainder of the Shire of Harvey also enjoys an affinity with Bunbury and the Shires of Dardanup and Capel.

Accordingly the Division of Forrest will comprise its existing territory, less the City of Albany, and with the addition of the Shire of Harvey.

The Division of O'Connor, having gained Albany, will need to shed more electors in addition to those in Harvey Shire. Numerical balance will be achieved if the Shires of Waroona, Collie, Boddington, Williams and Wandering are transferred to Canning. This will have the effect of combining mining operations in the Escarpment, in Collie and in Boddington in the one Division. The Shires of Collie and Boddington have been linked in the same Legislative Assembly electorate since 1989.

Otherwise the western, northern and eastern boundaries of the Division of O'Connor can continue unchanged.

We contend strongly that there is no need to alter the boundary between the Divisions of O'Connor and Kalgoorlie. The Division of Kalgoorlie, with a projected growth to 89,775 electors in March 2004, will remain within quota on its current boundaries. On previous experience it may well be that population growth will fall short of the projected figure. At the last redistribution of State electoral boundaries in 1994 the Mining and Pastoral region of the State – the core of the federal Division of Kalgoorlie – retained its six Legislative Assembly districts in anticipation of substantial enrolment growth. This growth has subsequently failed to materialise. Claims that there are large numbers of eligible electors in mining towns and other remote localities who are not enrolled should be regarded with scepticism.

There is in fact some evidence to suggest that enrolment for the Division of Kalgoorlie is inflated by electors who have left the Division. A current mail out of information to electors throughout the Division of Kalgoorlie from Parliamentary offices of Liberal Members of Parliament is showing a return of 1000 mail items. This indicates that as many as 2000 electors have vacated their place of address. At the last Federal election there was a turnout of 86.97% in Kalgoorlie compared with a Western Australian average turnout of 94.66%. The Division of Kalgoorlie had

appreciably the lowest turnout of any Division in Australia. In the 1993 and 1996 elections Kalgoorlie had voter turnouts of 89.72% and 88.83%, on each occasion about 6% less than the statewide average.

It therefore follows that there is no justification for "nibbling" at the current boundary by removing agricultural Shires from the Division of Kalgoorlie. Still less is there any good reason to remove the Shire of Esperance from Kalgoorlie. Esperance has a long standing affinity with the Eastern Goldfields and only for brief periods (1974-77 and 1980-83) has it ever been in a different federal Division.

Urban and Inner Rural/Regional Divisions North of the Swan River

A description of the proposed boundaries of the metropolitan Divisions might begin at the existing boundary of Fremantle and Curtin. This has been unchanged since 1980 and it demarcates the community of interest of the City of Fremantle on the one side and the coastal suburbs to the north. Furthermore the Liberal Party submits that the boundaries of Curtin require only minimal adjustment. Like those of Kalgoorlie, they will ensure that the Division remains within quota in March 2004.

Curtin has a most satisfactory eastern boundary, following the lines of the Mitchell Freeway and Charles Street/Wanneroo Road. We do however suggest a minor adjustment to the northern boundary so that it follows Scarborough Beach Road eastward to the Mitchell Freeway, enabling the industrial area of Osborne Park (with almost no electors) to be united in the Division of Stirling with the residential component of the suburb. This transfer would involve a number of electors in a split CCD. It is also proposed that a small section of Joondanna be transferred to Stirling so that Curtin should not exceed the permissible maximum number of electors on current enrolment. The border would run along Roberts street rather than MacDonald Street.

The northern boundary of Curtin commencing at the coast would follow the lines of Brighton Road, Ewen Street, and Scarborough Beach Road to the junction of the Mitchell Freeway. It would then follow Roberts Street, to the junction with Charles Street and the current eastern boundary of Curtin.

Perth has been long established as following the north bank of the Swan River, that defines its character and community of interest. It is submitted that this basic configuration should continue subject to two exceptions: some adjustment with the Division of Cowan on the northern boundary, and the removal of the Midland/Bellevue area to the new Division. The Swan River would comprise both the southern and eastern boundary of the Division. In order to maintain sufficient numbers of electors in Perth, the boundary with Cowan would need to be adjusted northward.

The northern boundary of Perth would run westward from the Swan River along Middle Swan Road, West Swan Road, Coast Road, Arthur Street and Marshall Road (as at present). It would then run south along the major thoroughfare of Beechboro Road, until the junction with Devonshire Street. It would then run westward in a line of roads – Devonshire Street, Lindsay Drive, Deschamp Road, Wonga Road, Wylde

Road and Noranda Avenue to the junction with Wellington Road. It would follow Wellington Road and Morley Drive to the junction with Alexander Drive, from where the current western boundary of Perth would continue unaltered. This aspect of the proposal would align the boundary between Perth and Cowan precisely along the suburban boundary between Morley and Noranda.

Stirling has no such natural boundaries as Curtin and Perth. It is a Division that during its 45-year history has ranged as far east as Midland and as far north as Hillarys. We would argue strongly that Wanneroo Road, particularly from the intersection with Morley Drive as far as the intersection with Ocean Reef Road, constitutes a clear physical boundary. In this section it does not cut through any shopping centres. The eastern section of the existing Stirling, having little community of interest with suburbs to the west of Wanneroo Road, would be transferred to Cowan. The exception to this would be the suburb of Yokine, since Wanneroo Road where it separates Yokine from Tuart Hill passes through a shopping centre and is less of a physical barrier.

The altered eastern boundary between Stirling and Cowan would follow Cresswell Road, Swan Street, Hayes Avenue, Williams Road and then run westward along Morley Drive to Wanneroo Road. This would retain the entire suburb of Yokine within Stirling while transferring all of that part of Dianella presently in Stirling to Cowan. The boundary would then proceed northward along Wanneroo Road to Ocean Reef Road.

In turn Ocean Reef Road, the Mitchell Freeway, and Beach Road would constitute a similar clear demarcation between the Divisions of Stirling and Moore. This would have the effect of replacing the suburb of Marmion and the lower portion of Sorrento in the Division of Moore. No suburb would be bisected along secondary roads as occurs with Sorrento on the present Moore/Stirling boundary.

Cowan would lose to Stirling the four closely related suburbs of Warwick, Greenwood, Kingsley and Woodvale that together constitute the Legislative Assembly district of Kingsley. In turn the Division would consolidate east of Wanneroo Road, retaining a growth area in Wanneroo and surrounding suburbs. Lake Joondalup constitutes not only a physical boundary but also the boundary between the cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo.

The northern and eastern boundaries of Cowan would not change, apart from the inclusion of Mariginiup by following Pinjar Road north east from Clarkson Avenue to Neaves Road, and then following Neaves Road eastward until it connects to the Wanneroo City eastern boundary.

The Division of Moore would fall almost entirely within the City of Joondalup as a Division comprised of largely established suburbs, and composed overwhelmingly of electors of the current Division of Moore. Its southwestern boundary as already described would be straightened and its eastern boundaries would follow the Mitchell Freeway and Lake Joondalup as at present. It would be necessary for Moore to retain the suburb of Mindarie in order to maintain its numerical balance.

The boundary between Moore and Pearce would run eastward from the coast along Quinns Road, southward along Marmion Avenue as far as the boundary between Wanneroo and Joondalup Cities, and then eastward and southward along the postcode boundary between 6031 and 6028 (also the proposed Freeway extension) to Burns Beach Road. It would continue to follow the boundary of the two Cities eastward to connect with the current eastern boundary of Moore.

Just as the southern portion of the new City of Wanneroo would remain in Cowan, the northern section would be thus transferred to Pearce. A general area of high population growth would be split between three Divisions.

The Division of Pearce would still retain a markedly rural and outer suburban character. Apart from the changes described, its southern boundary would continue eastward unaltered as far as Toodyay Road.

The boundary between Pearce and the new Division (Hasluck) would continue eastward and southward along Talbot Road as far as Morrison Road. It would run westward along Morrison Road, then southward along the railway line, eastward along Great Eastern Highway, then southward along Scott Street and Ridge Hill Road to the junction with Watsonia Road. Proceeding southward along Watsonia Road, the boundary of Pearce would follow those CCD boundaries that constitute the postcode boundary between 6057 and 6058 to the west and 6076 to the east. The boundary would then follow the southern boundary of the Shire of Kalamunda as it marches with the Cities of Gosnells and Armadale.

This line of the Escarpment as described constitutes a clear separation between suburbs and local communities and in the past has often formed a boundary between Legislative Assembly districts. It is notable that the boundary of the Metropolitan Fire District closely follows the proposed boundary between Pearce and the new District southward from the Helena River.

Pearce having gained the northern part of Wanneroo City would surrender the suburbs of Stratton, Koongamia, Helena Valley, Maida Vale and Forrestfield to the new Division. The boundary between Pearce and O'Connor could be left undisturbed. In order to harmonise with local government boundaries, Roleystone would be transferred to Canning. The 1996 Report of the then Redistribution Committee referred to Mundaring and Kalamunda as the core of the Division. This proposal effectively retains this core.

Urban and Inner Rural/Regional Divisions South of the Swan River

The Division of Fremantle like Curtin is partly defined by the sea coast and the Swan River. It is accepted that the northeastern boundary of the Division is unlikely to be changed. The necessary removal of electors to bring the Division within quota in March 2004 could be achieved by the transfer of electors in the southeastern part of the Division.

The current eastern boundary of Fremantle would continue southward along North Lake Road as far as its junction with Armadale Road. It would then proceed eastward

along Armadale Road to connect with and follow the existing south east boundary of Fremantle Division. The suburbs of North Lake, Bibra Lake, Jandakot and South Lake would thus be added to Tangney while Banjup, Atwell and Success remained within the Division of Fremantle.

The effect of these transfers to Tangney enables the current boundary between Fremantle and Brand, that is also the local authority boundary between Cockburn and Kwinana, to remain undisturbed. This in turn minimises disruption to the Division of Brand: only its southern boundary would require alteration. The Division of Brand would remain based upon the Town of Kwinana and the City of Rockingham with a major if reduced portion of Mandurah.

The current boundary between Brand and Canning cuts across newly subdivided back roads. The transfer of Erskine, Halls Head and Coodanup from Brand to Canning would allow for a clear physical boundary: Mandurah Estuary, Mandurah By-Pass and Pinjarra Road as far as the City of Mandurah boundary would separate the two Divisions.

Tangney should retain its northern boundary along the Canning River, and will need to contract on its south eastern boundary that currently bisects the suburb of Thornlie. The new Tangney boundary south from the Canning River would follow Nicholson Road as far as the railway line and then proceed west along that line as far as the City of Melville southeastern boundary. It would then proceed south easterly along the City of Canning/City of Cockburn boundary along Acourt Road to Warton Road. It would follow Warton Road to connect to Armadale Road.

Accordingly those parts of Thornlie currently in Tangney, with Langford and Canning Vale, would be removed from the Division of Tangney, to the new Division (Hasluck) and to Canning. This would also have the effect of consolidating nearly all of the City of Gosnells within the new Division.

The southern and eastern boundaries of Canning have already been described, being the same as the Shire boundaries of Waroona, Boddington, Collie, Williams and Wandering. The northern boundary of Canning would follow the eastern and northern boundary of the City of Armadale, as far as the intersection of Ranford and Warton Roads. It would then proceed generally northward along Ranford Road, Campbell Road, Dunbarton Road and Nicholson Road as far as the railway line. It would then follow the Tangney boundary as already described, reconnecting with the western boundary of the City of Armadale.

The Division of Canning would have its predominantly outer suburban and rural regional character reinforced. Apart from unavoidably bisecting Mandurah, and its northwestern corner, it would comprise a City and seven Shires in their entirety.

The major change to Swan would be the deletion of High Wycombe, added in 1996 and separated from the heartland of the Division by Perth Airport and a railway line. We propose that Guildford, currently in Perth, be united with South Guildford within the Division of Swan, so that the Swan River rather than the Helena River would constitute the extreme northern boundary of the Division. The eastern boundary of Swan would run southward from the Swan River along the suburb/postcode boundary

between Guildford and Midland, and the railway line (apart from a deviation to follow the western boundary of the Shire of Kalamunda). The boundary would continue until the junction with Brixton Street. The southern boundary of Swan would proceed generally westward along Brixton Street, Sydenham Street, and Albany Highway as far as Nicholson Road and the existing Canning River southern boundary.

Swan would continue to include all of the Cities of Belmont and South Perth, with the Town of Victoria Park.

The boundaries of the new Division of Hasluck have already been substantially described. The southern and south eastern boundary of Hasluck would be the same as the eastern and southern boundary of the City of Gosnells. The Division would be composed of electors from the existing Divisions of Perth, Pearce, Swan, Tangney and Canning, summarised as follows:

- Midland, Middle Swan and Bellevue from the existing Division of Perth;
- Stratton, part of Swan View, Koongamia, Helena Valley, Maida Vale, Forrestfield and Wattle Grove from the existing Division of Pearce;
- High Wycombe and a part of Beckenham from the existing Division of Swan;
- Langford and part of Thornlie from the existing Division of Tangney;
- Maddington, Kenwick, part of Thornlie, Huntingdale and Gosnells from the existing Division of Canning.

Hasluck would have a clear community of interest in uniting the outer eastern metropolitan suburbs, with the Roe and Tonkin Highways forming a north-south spine. These suburban communities have a far greater community of interest with each other than with the Hills suburbs and semi-rural areas to their east, while the combination of Perth airport and a major railway and marshalling yards creates a major physical barrier from the older suburbs within the Division of Swan.

Name of the new Division

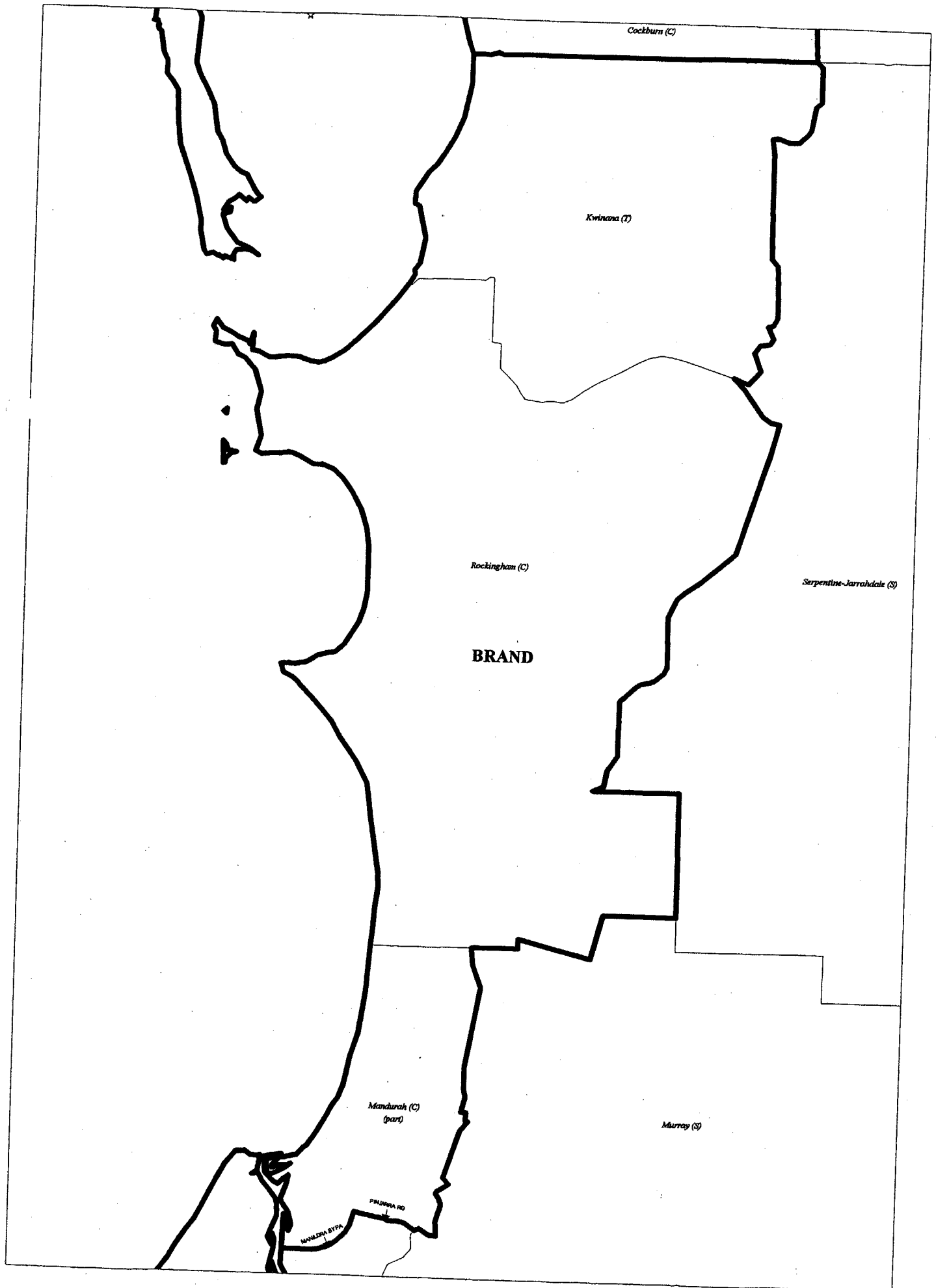
We would argue strongly that the 15th Western Australian Division be named Hasluck in honour of both Sir Paul Hasluck and Dame Alexandra Hasluck: like the Divisions of Macarthur (NSW) and Lyons (Tasmania) the name Hasluck would simultaneously commemorate a man and a woman who have contributed to public life. Both were prominent figures in literary and historical circles, and Sir Paul Hasluck was a prominent Cabinet Minister from 1951 to 1969 before serving as the third Australian-born Governor General in 1969-74.

The two previous Australian-born Governors General, Sir Isaac Isaacs and Lord Casey, have had electoral Divisions named in their honour in 1948 and 1968 respectively. Like Sir Paul Hasluck they had also both served in Federal Parliament. Sir Paul Hasluck was still living when redistributions in 1984 and 1989 last created new Western Australian Divisions, and thus was ineligible to be commemorated. It is now timely that his name and that of Alexandra Hasluck be given to a Western Australian electorate.

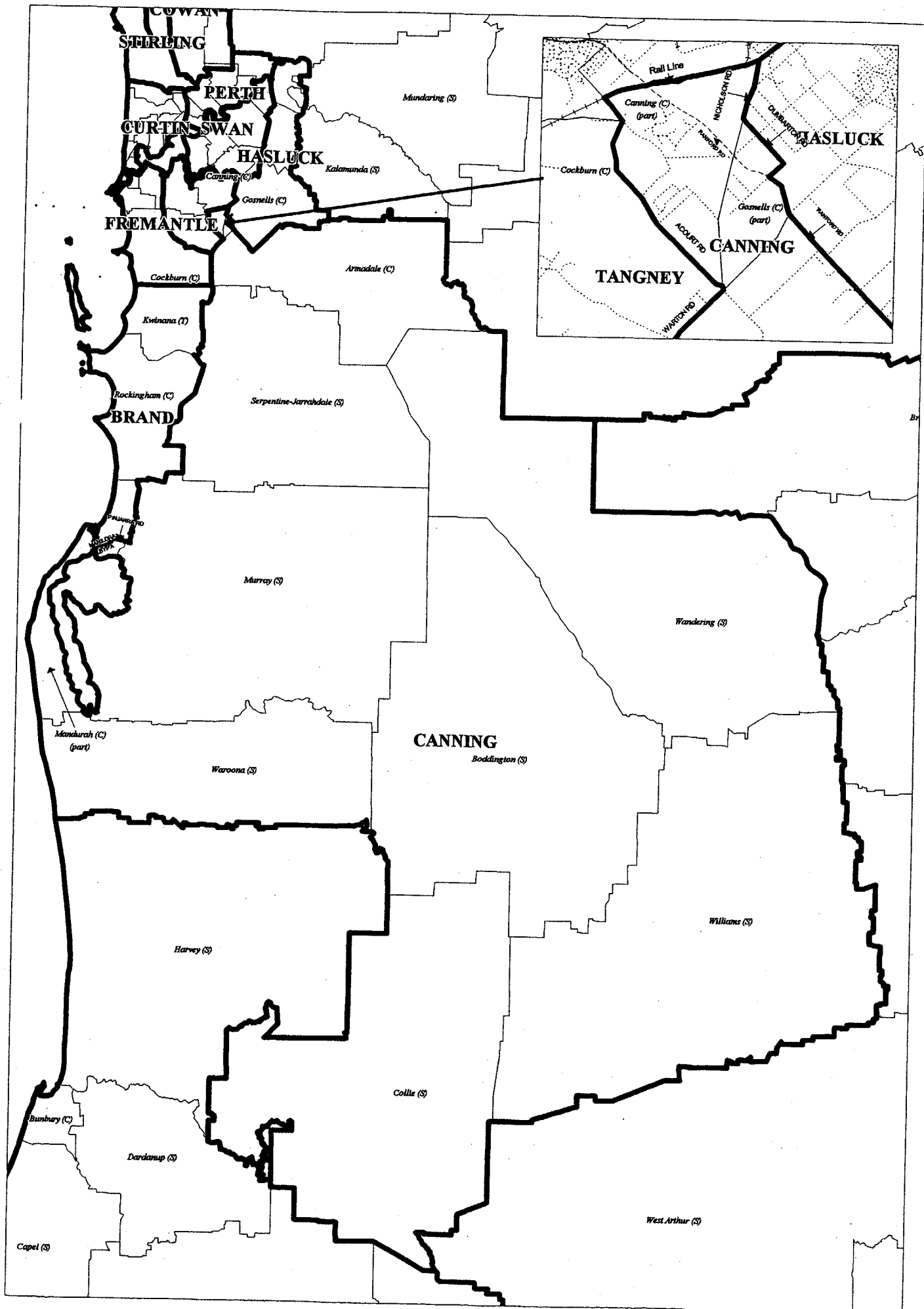
Enrolment and Projections

	Current	Projected	Growth %
Brand	72216	85932	18.99
Canning	74842	86358	15.39
Cowan	77264	86131	11.48
Curtin	86441	89043	3.01
Forrest	77125	88673	14.97
Fremantle	77917	85371	9.57
Hasluck	77087	88707	15.07
Kalgoorlie	82701	89775	8.55
Moore	73549	87111	18.44
O'Connor	84261	87632	4.00
Pearce	75379	88647	17.60
Perth	80412	86262	7.28
Stirling	84401	88901	5.33
Swan	79477	86979	9.44
Tangney	80986	85480	5.55
	1184058	1311002	

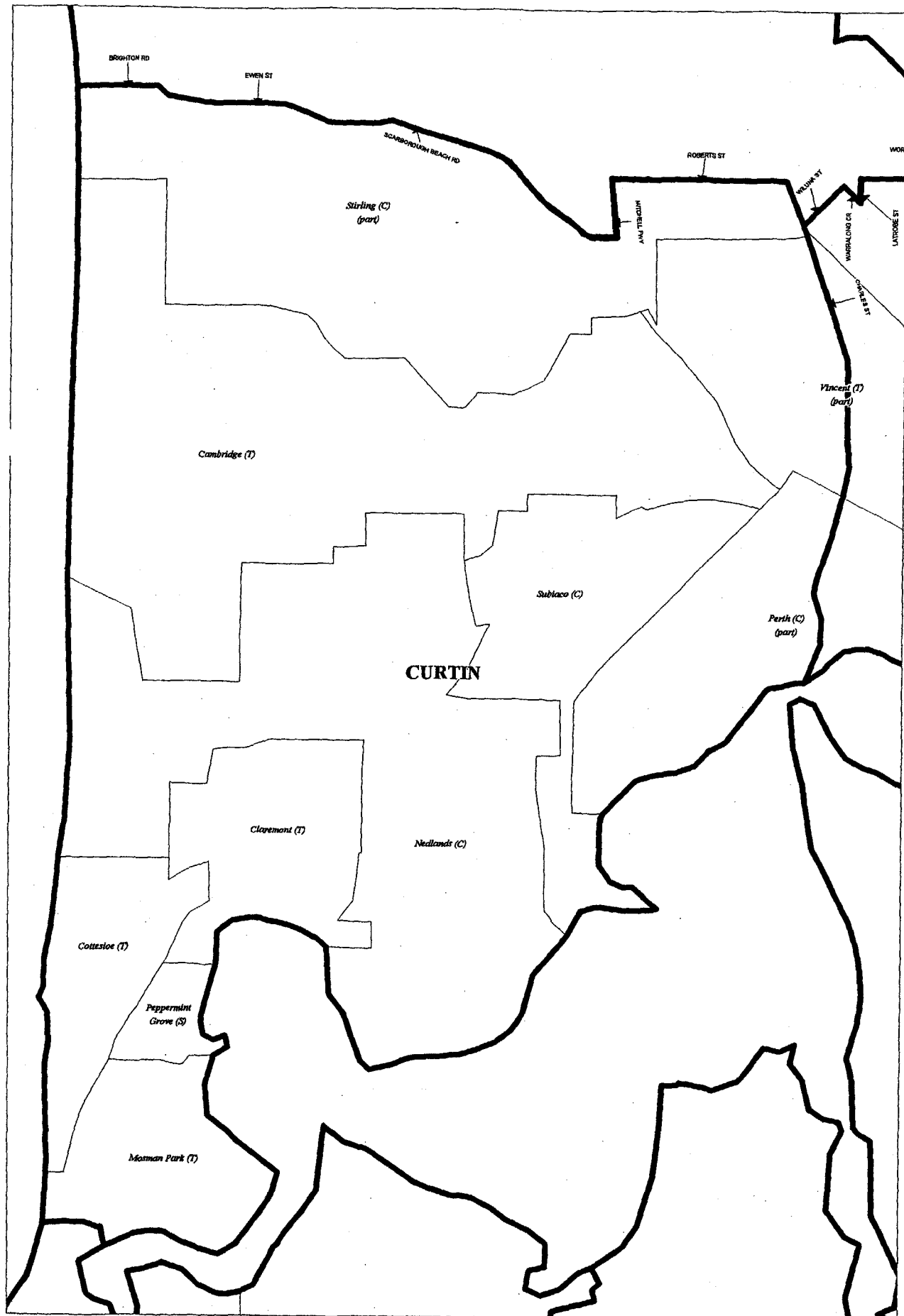
Proposed Electoral Division of Brand



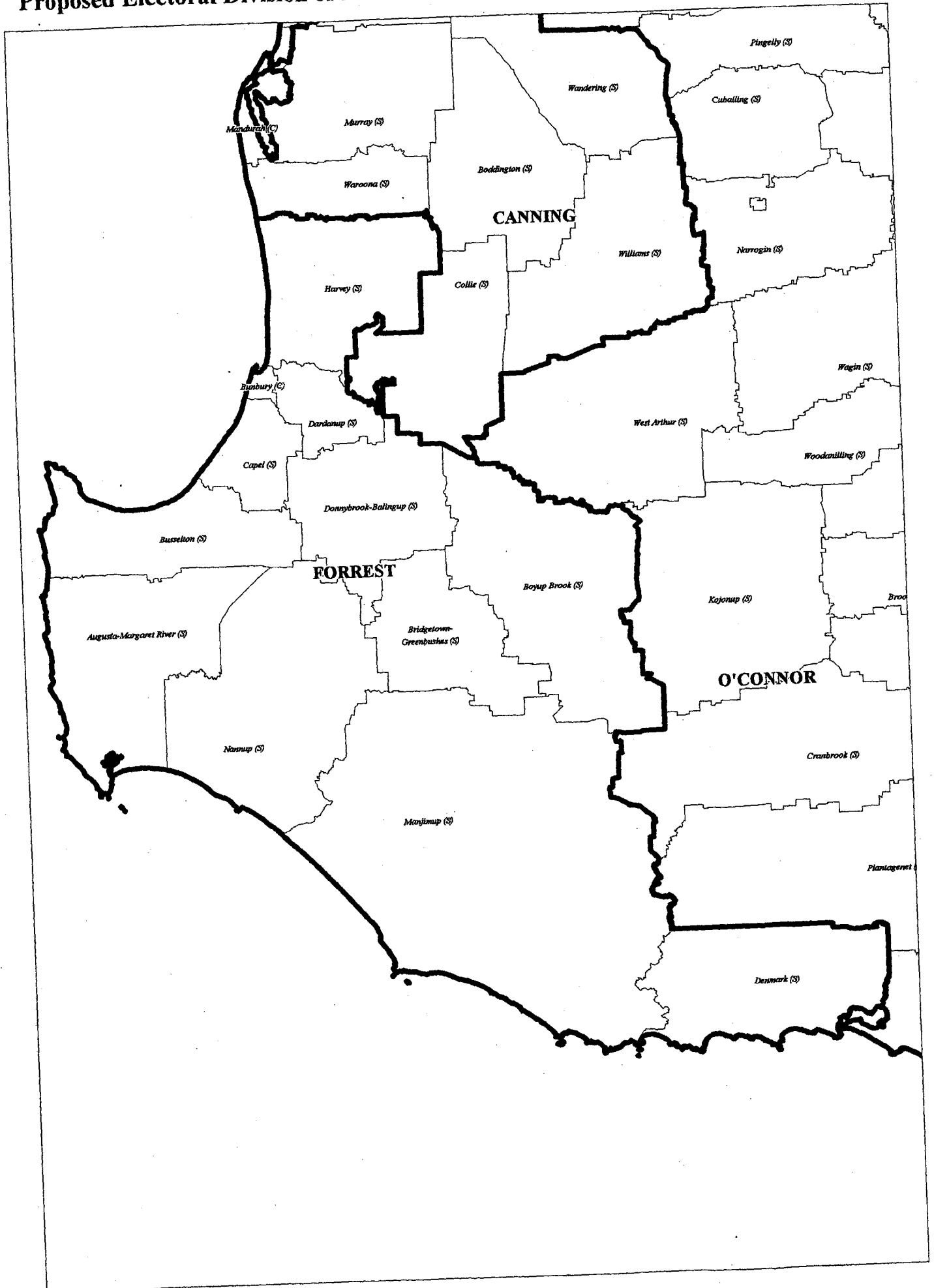
Proposed Electoral Division of Canning



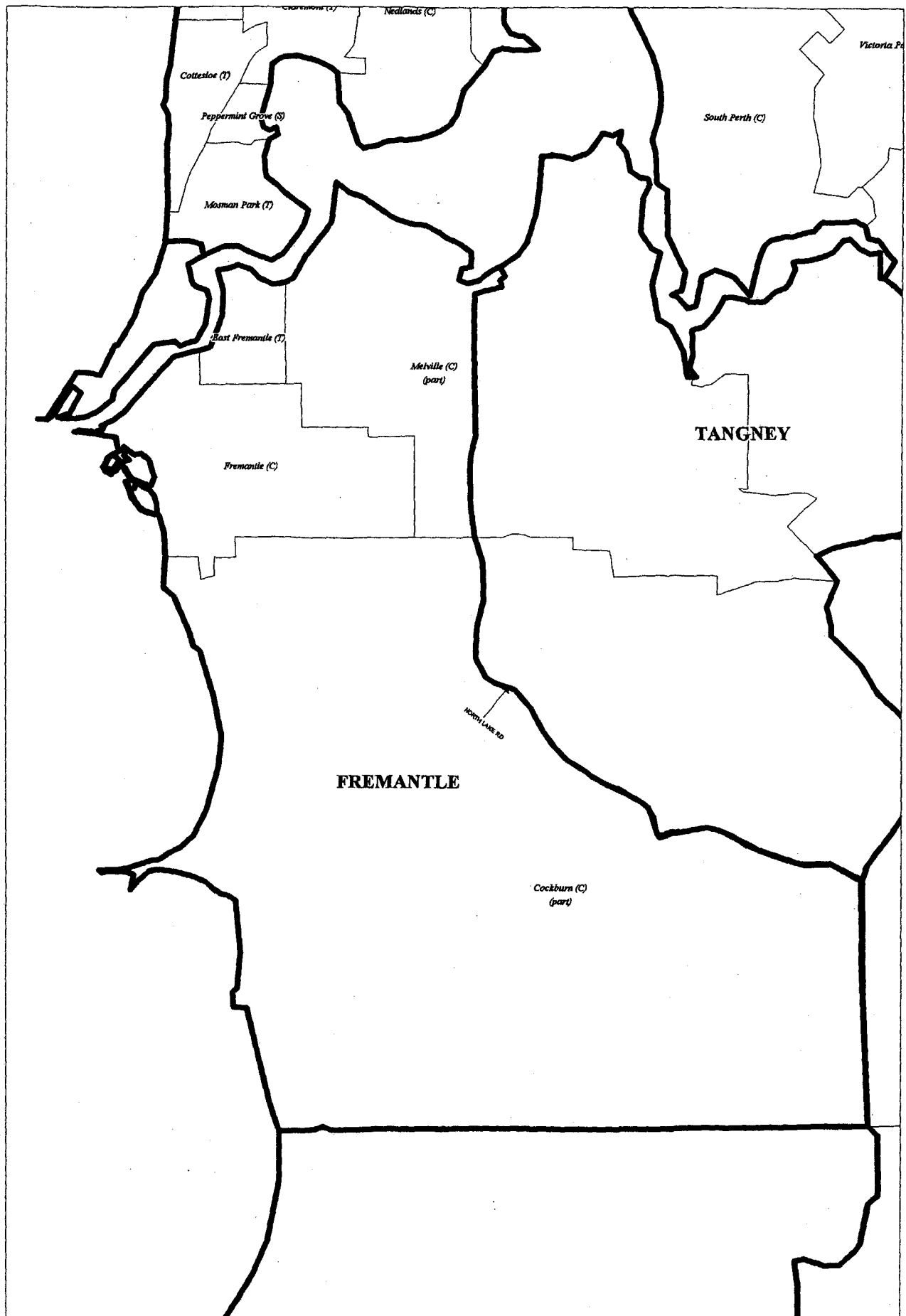
Proposed Electoral Division of Curtin



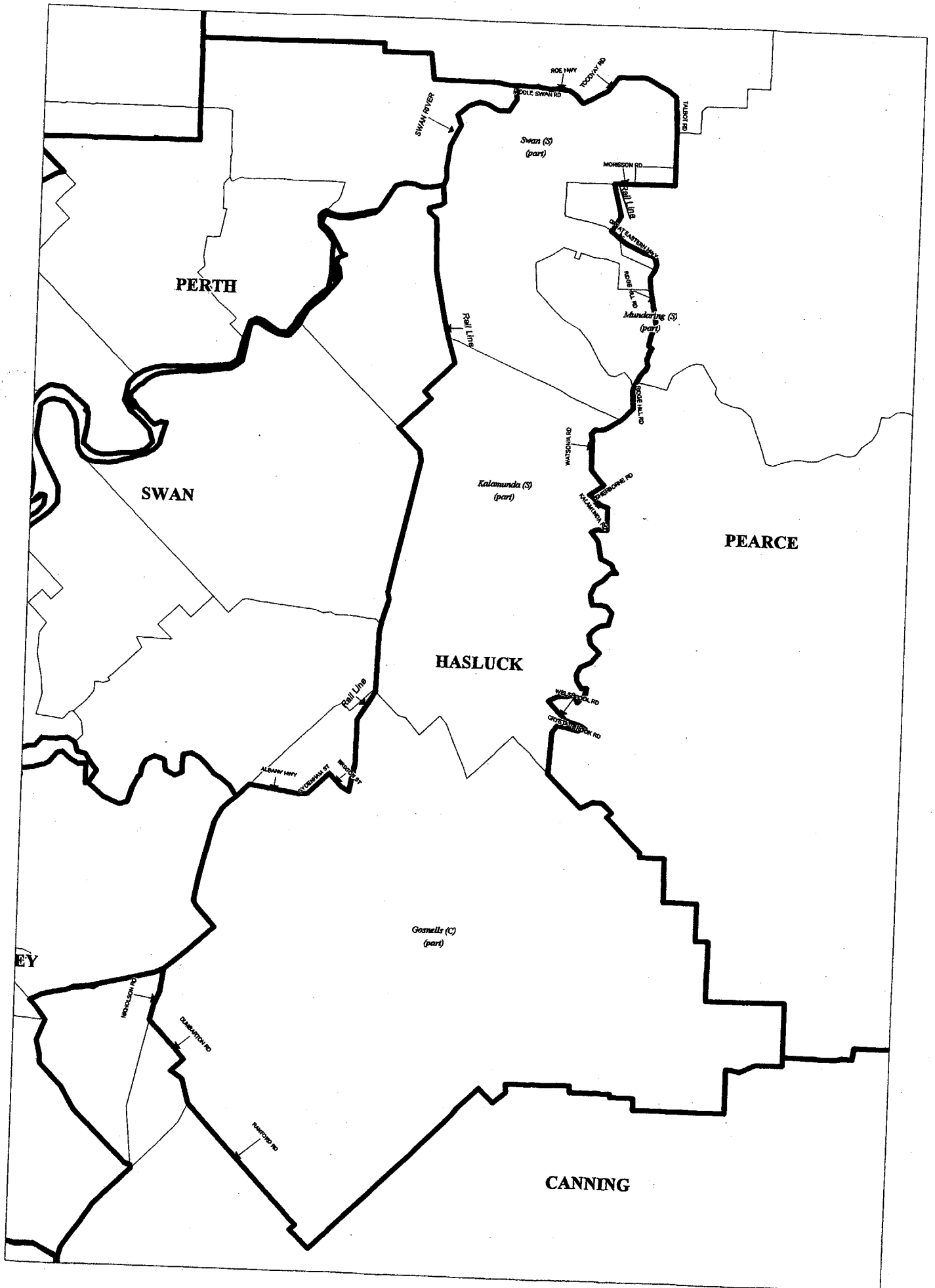
Proposed Electoral Division of Forrest



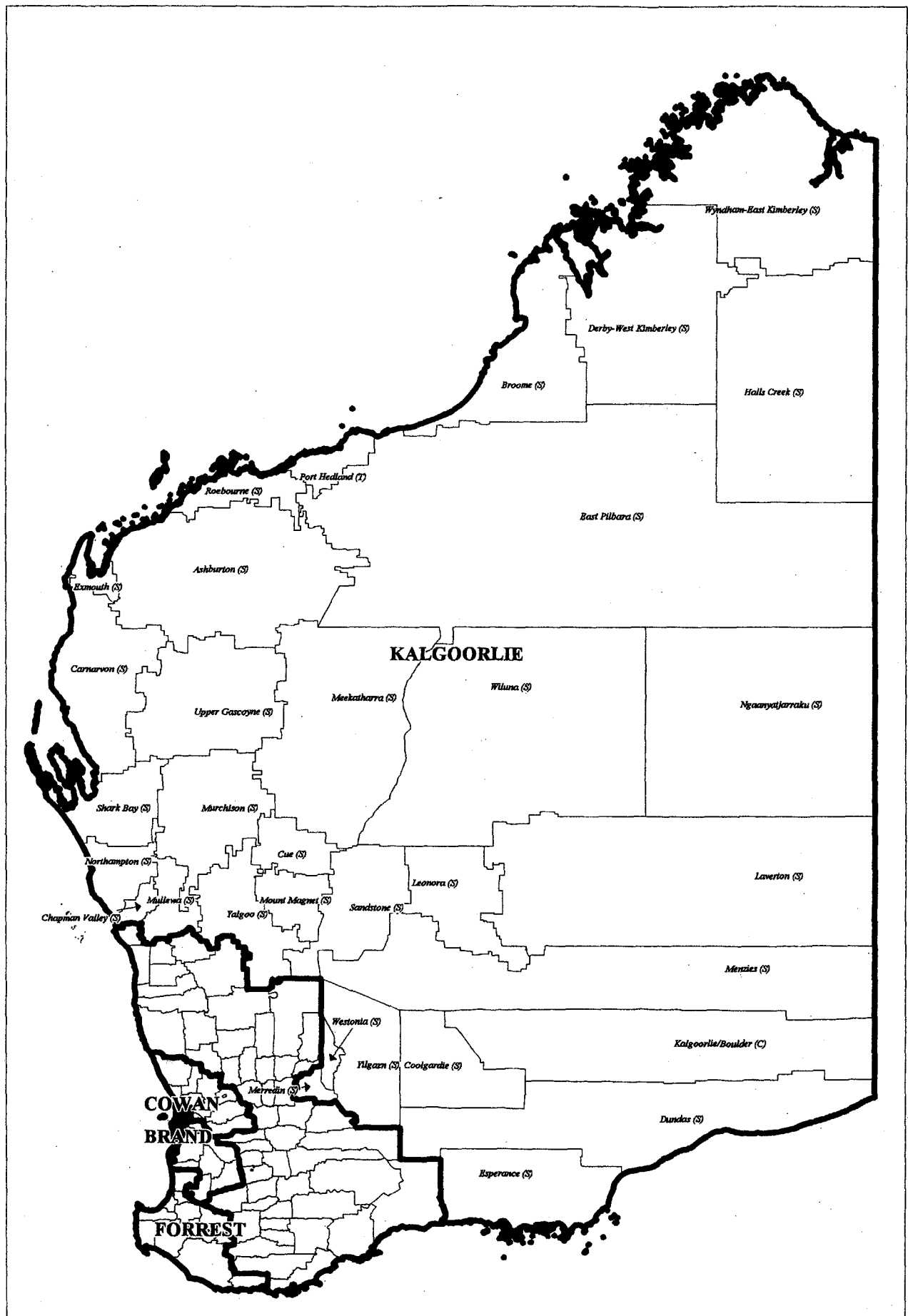
Proposed Electoral Division of Fremantle



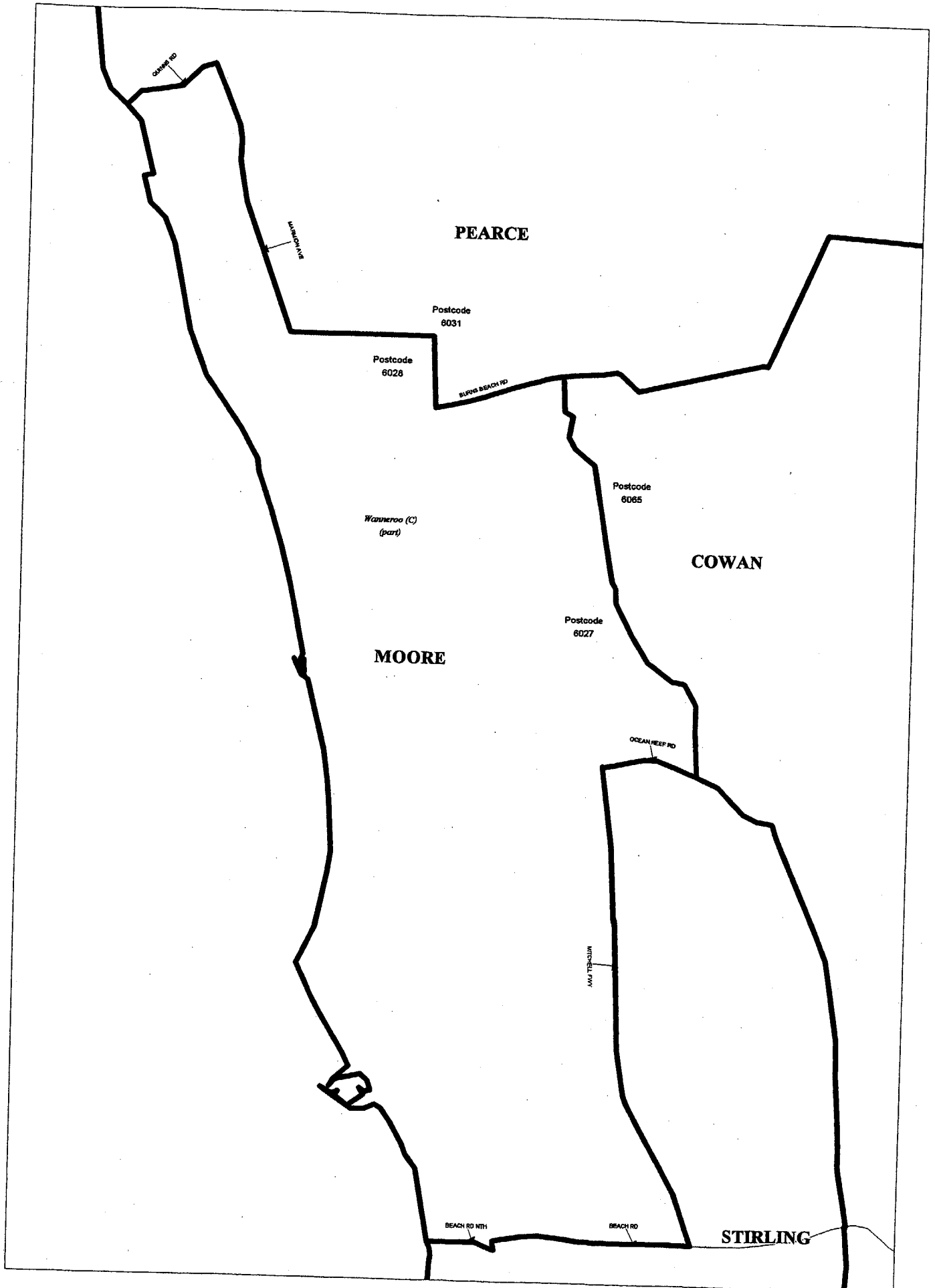
Proposed Electoral Division of Hasluck



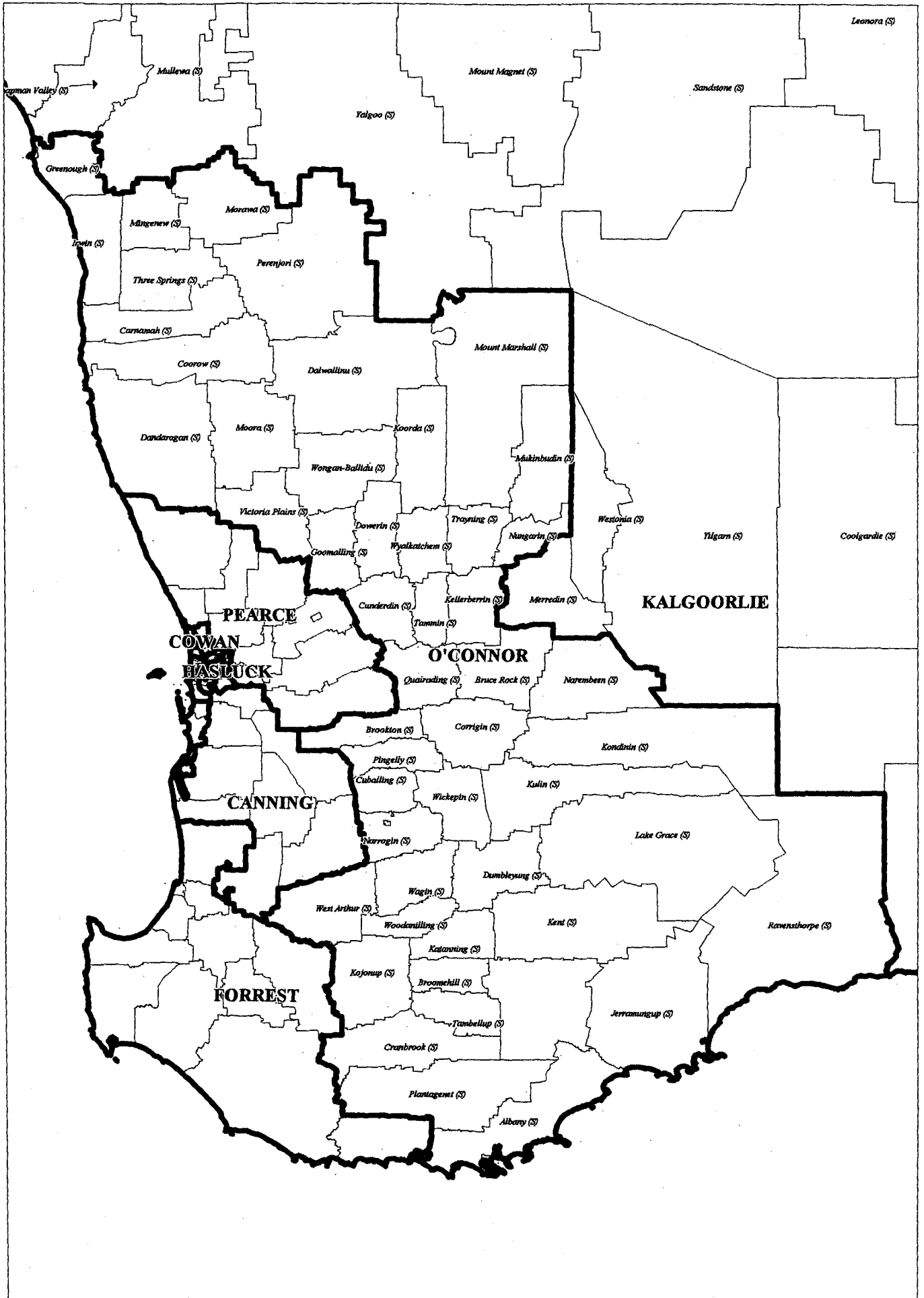
Proposed Electoral Division of Kalgoorlie



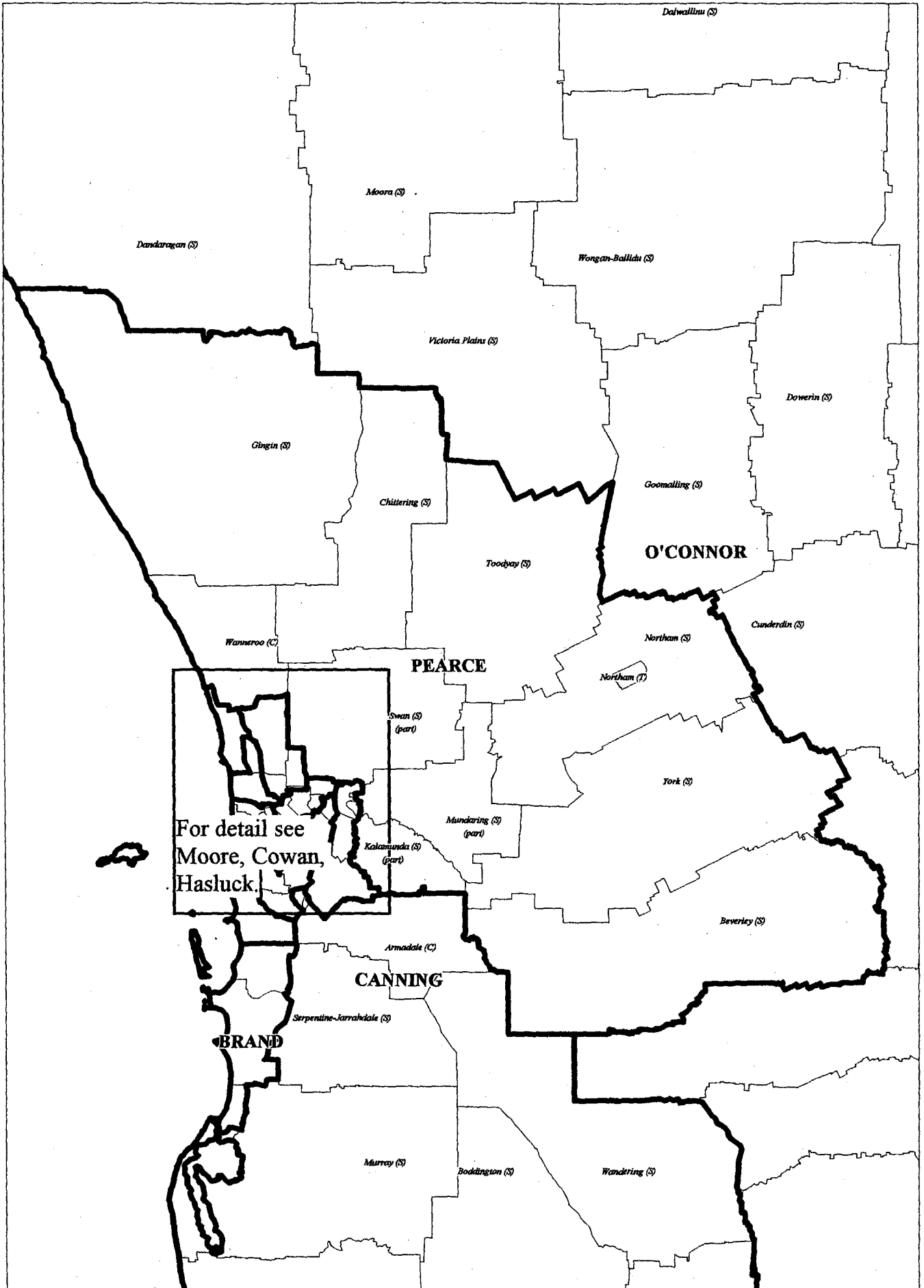
Proposed Electoral Division of Moore



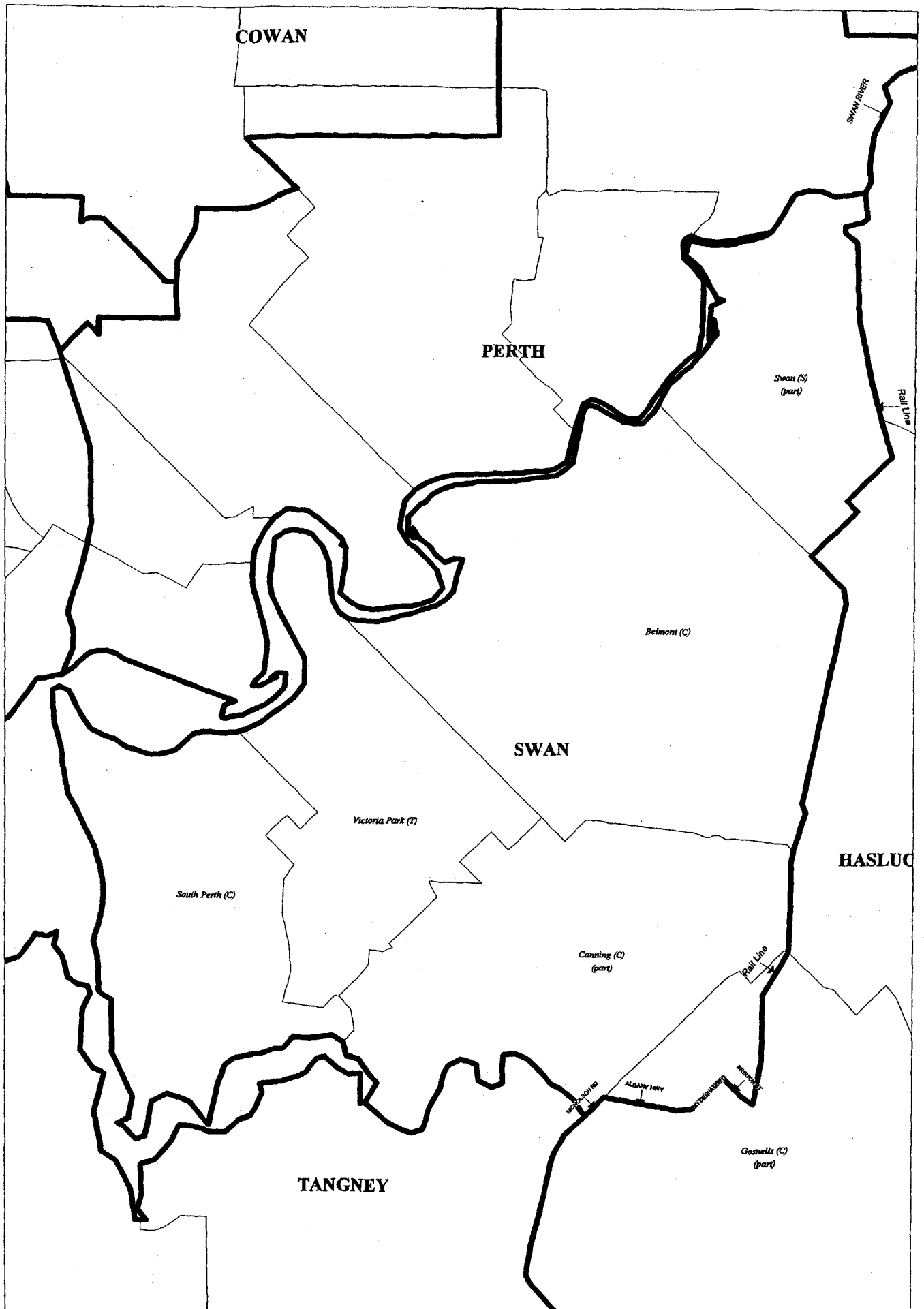
Proposed Electoral Division of O'Connor



Proposed Electoral Division of Pearce



Proposed Electoral Division of Swan



Proposed Electoral Division of Tangney

