



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Objection 214

Alison Handmer

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To: Australian Electoral Commission
Via your online portal

3 July 2024

From: Alison Handmer

[REDACTED]
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Dear Madam/Sir

Objection to the elimination of the Federal Seat of North Sydney

I object to the elimination of the Federal Electorate of North Sydney and ask that you and your colleagues act to retain the seat, for multiple reasons which mean that the residents are best served by a representative familiar with the unique area.

The seat of North Sydney has unique historical, economic, social, geographical and political features.

Historically, the electorate was one of the earliest areas to be developed on the northern side of the harbour, after The Rocks and CBD, after white occupation, setting the pattern for the development of buildings and businesses which differentiate it markedly from the seats of Warringah and neighbouring seats.

The North Sydney CBD is large and thriving, whereas Warringah and neighbouring seats feature mostly housing.

North Sydney is a transport hub, with at least 40,000 workers travelling in and out daily on roads, buses, trains, ferries, and soon, the metro, giving it markedly different needs from dormitory suburbs. ([Figure is from 2021 Census](#))

North Sydney is also a hub for public and independent schools (at least 20), meaning many thousands of mostly young people travel in and out daily, again affecting transport and development, and setting specific safety challenges quite different to those of neighbouring areas.

Geographically, North Sydney has many more arterial and busy roads than neighbouring electorates, serving as it does as the northern harbour crossing with both the Sydney Harbour Bridge and tunnel.

North Sydney is also much busier than Warringah and neighbouring electoral divisions due to its popularity with international visitors crossing from the CBD to enjoy Wendy Whiteley's Secret Garden, Luna Park, harbourside walks, the Sydney Harbour Bridge and ferry service and accessible bushland areas such as Ball's Head.

Politically, North Sydney has been well served by politicians of all persuasions who have understood the unique requirements of this distinct area and been able to meet the unique challenges.

To roll this unique electorate into neighbouring ones would be to ignore the distinct history and needs of this electorate, and to extinguish an electorate that has been serving its purpose since Federation.

I urge you in the strongest terms to reconsider, and to please resist an unnecessary stroke of a pen. Please allow this electorate and its Members to continue to serve residents living in this area, so that our needs – which are so different to those of our neighbours – can continue to be met.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Alison Handmer