



Objection 364

Glenroy Neighbourhood House

2 pages

Dear Redistribution Committee,

I write to you on behalf of Glenroy Neighbourhood House (GNH), to object to the proposed boundaries of the Federal Electoral Division of Wills, as per the proposed redistribution report released on 31 May 2024.

GNH supports the current boundaries in Wills as the local area has been a strong community hub that enables us to remain connected through our cultural, language and religious needs. GNH strongly opposes the removal of parts of Glenroy from the Division of Wills.

The key reasons we believe that the entirety of the suburb of Glenroy should remain in Wills are:

1. Our suburb has a longstanding connection to the City of Merri-bek (formerly Moreland) having been part of that Local Government Area. Many people from GNH, are residents in the neighbouring suburbs of Oak Park, Pascoe Vale and Hadfield more broadly.
2. It is essential that our community is not divided. We have cultural, language and religious needs that need to be protected and nurtured. Advocating to council and the Federal government on behalf of our community for culturally competent services and sufficient funding will be extremely difficult if our community is split into multiple electorate and council areas. Being within one electorate helps us in establishing ourselves in being part of the cultural fabric of our community.
3. The new electorate we are proposed to be included in (Maribyrnong) does not reflect our community.
4. Our community continues to grow as do our needs – many of us experience barriers to employment, education, health equity and access to services. Merri-bek council has many diverse staff and services which are curated to the needs of our community – we don't want to build this from scratch with an entirely new council area.

The removal of large parts of the suburb of Glenroy from Wills is not reflective of the interests and needs of our community group, and the community we are a part of at large. For these reasons, we urge the committee to reconsider the proposed boundary changes related to our suburb of Glenroy.

Thank you for considering our objections.

Kind regards,

BDrake

Bec Drake
Manager

Glenroy Neighbourhood House