



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Submission OB399

City of Port Lincoln Council



Our Ref: 121987

Submission to the Australian Electoral Commission Proposed Redistribution of South Australia's Federal Electoral Boundaries

From: City of Port Lincoln Council

Date: 22 April 2026

Introduction

The City of Port Lincoln Council writes in response to the proposed redistribution of South Australia's federal electorates, including changes to the existing Division of Grey and its proposed renaming to O'Donoghue.

This submission is made pursuant to a resolution of Council at its meeting held on 20 April 2026 (CO 26/088):

That Council:

1. Notes the correspondence received from Tom Venning MP regarding the Australian Electoral Commission's proposed redistribution of South Australia's federal electorates and the proposed renaming of the federal electorate of Grey to O'Donoghue;
2. Endorses the preparation and lodgement of a submission to the Australian Electoral Commission expressing Council's view that:
 - a. Effective representation of regional and remote communities should remain a key consideration in any final determination affecting the electorate of Grey/proposed O'Donoghue;
 - b. The electorate is already of significant geographic scale and complexity, and any further expansion should be carefully assessed having regard to communities of interest, means of communication and travel, and the practicalities of federal representation across regional South Australia;
 - c. Considering points (a) and (b) above, Council do not support the inclusion of parts of the City of Playford and the City of Salisbury into the Grey/proposed O'Donoghue division;
 - d. Supports the alternative option to incorporate elements of the Light Regional Council that are currently within Spence; and
 - e. Council does support the proposed renaming of the electorate from Grey to O'Donoghue;
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to finalise and lodge the submission with the Australian Electoral Commission on behalf of Council, noting that submissions close at 6.00 pm ACST on Friday 24 April 2026.

We work on Barngarla Country. The City of Port Lincoln acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and their continuing connection to land, sea, culture and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging and are committed to working together on our reconciliation journey.



Council Position

1. Importance of Effective Regional Representation

Council emphasises that effective representation of regional and remote communities must remain a central consideration in any final determination. The unique challenges faced by these communities—including distance, service access, and economic diversity—require strong and accessible federal representation.

2. Geographic Scale and Practical Representation

The current Division of Grey is already of considerable geographic size and complexity. Council submits that any further expansion should be approached with caution and carefully assessed against:

- Established communities of interest;
- Available means of communication and transport; and
- The practical realities of representing widely dispersed populations across regional South Australia.

3. Opposition to Inclusion of Metropolitan Fringe Areas

Having regard to the considerations above, Council **does not** support the inclusion of parts of the City of Playford and City of Salisbury within the Grey/proposed O'Donoghue division.

Council considers that incorporating metropolitan fringe communities into a predominantly regional and remote electorate would dilute the focus on distinctly regional issues and weaken effective representation.

4. Support for Alternative Boundary Adjustment

Council **supports** the alternative option of incorporating elements of the Light Regional Council that are currently within the Division of Spence.

Council considers this approach more consistent with maintaining coherent regional communities of interest.

5. Proposed Renaming of the Electorate

Council **supports** the proposed renaming of the electorate from Grey to O'Donoghue.

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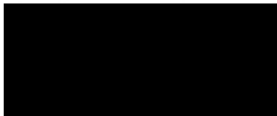
Council recognises that electoral names provide an opportunity to reflect individuals who have made significant contributions to public life and to better represent the identity and heritage of the electorate. The proposed name “O’Donoghue” is considered an appropriate and respectful recognition, and Council supports its adoption as part of the redistribution.

Conclusion

The City of Port Lincoln Council thanks the Australian Electoral Commission for the opportunity to provide input into this important process. Council respectfully requests that the matters raised in this submission be given due consideration in determining the final electoral boundaries.

Authorisation

This submission is authorised by resolution of the City of Port Lincoln Council. The Chief Executive Officer is authorised to finalise and lodge this submission on behalf of Council.



Eric Brown
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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