



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 439

Suzanne Mordaunt OAM

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To: The NSW Redistribution Committee

9<sup>th</sup> July 2024

RE: Objection to the AEC's proposal to abolish the federal seat of North Sydney.

Dear Sir/Madam:

I reside in Northbridge in the North Sydney electorate and have been for 43 years. For the first time I have an elected representative with whom I can identify and who shares my values.

It is with horror that I find that the electorate is to be abolished given it has been a federal seat since federation. North Sydney as presently constituted is a well-established and cohesive community.

As the electorate is constituted at present it is telling that we were one of the first electorates to stand up for independent representation in 2022, and one of the few to vote for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament in the 2023 referendum. This was achieved because we are a tight network of community minded individuals.

The AEC's proposal to abolish North Sydney does not consider existing and future population growth numbers inside our electorate. The AEC has failed to consult appropriate sources for future growth numbers, including state and local planning policies, the number of developments under construction and the number of developments in the pipeline for future construction. Had they done so, we would not be on the list of possible electorates to be abolished.

What has not been considered is that North Sydney is growing fast, one only has to drive along the Pacific Highway from North Sydney towards Chatswood

1. The NSW State Government plans to see 5,900 new homes built in the North Sydney LGA alone by 2029.
2. North Sydney Council is expecting 19,500 new residents to move into the area by 2036.

Abolishment will lead to disadvantage

The repercussions of the abolishment will also compromise effective representation by an elected Federal MP, to the disadvantage of the existing members of North Sydney. North Sydney has unique socioeconomic characteristics and needs that will not be adequately addressed if its residents are absorbed into three separate electorates. The sense of community which has grown and flourished since 1901 will be lost. Furthermore, organisations and services with ties to the community will lose out not only the managements but also their clients.

Maintaining the seat ensures continuity in addressing long-term projects and community goals and the aspirations of the electorate.

I am an active member of the North Sydney community. I strongly oppose the draft proposal that the federal seat of North Sydney be abolished and request for it to remain intact and that proper consideration be given to the proposal.

Yours Truly

Suzanne Mordaunt OAM