



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 476

Mardi Kent

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To: New South Wales Augmented Electoral Commission

Date: 9 July 2024

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

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to you to express my objection to the proposed abolition of the Federal seat of North Sydney.

North Sydney has been a federal seat since federation. It is on the public record 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, with the Yes vote more than 60%. 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.

Two examples of what has not been considered:

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.

In anticipation of this growth, the Metro train line has been extended beyond the current terminus of Chatswood station resulting in the building of the new stations of Crows Nest and Victoria Cross this side of the Harbour Bridge, which are due to open in early August 2024.

Given these growth projections and transport measures already in place to deal with this growth, it does not make sense to propose to split the high-growth area around St Leonards and Crows Nest into three separate electorates.

The networks, connections, sporting groups, businesses, community groups, schools and transport lines are intrinsically linked within the current North Sydney electorate. In my own case, I am a regular subscriber to the Ensemble Theatre in Kirribilli, am a chorister with the Willoughby Symphony Choir and attend the Curves ladies gym in Crows Nest 6 times/week.

Maintaining the seat ensures continuity in addressing long-term projects and community goals and is important economically given North Sydney is the third largest business centre in Australia and the significant economic corridor that runs through the electorate.

I am a proud and engaged 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, with minimal changes to accommodate changes in overall numbers of electors in NSW.



Mardi Kent, Chatswood