



**THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

# Objection 647

Helen Benham

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To: New South Wales augmented Electoral Commission

Date: 12 July 2024

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

Dear Sir/Madam:

**North Sydney is a well-established and high functioning community.**

North Sydney has been a federal seat since federation. 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.

**North Sydney is in fact growing!**

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.

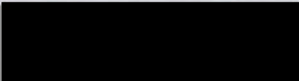
Two examples of what has not been considered:

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.

**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 might not be adequately addressed if its residents are absorbed into neighbouring, less cohesive electorates. Furthermore, all networks, connections, organisations, social case works, etc are intrinsically linked by being part of this community since 1901. Maintaining the seat ensures continuity in addressing long-term projects and community goals.

I am a proud 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.

  
Signature

HELEN BENHAM / CASTLECRAIG  
Name & Suburb