



Objection 656

Kristina Dobbs

To the Electoral Commission re the abolishment of the Federal seat of North Sydney.

I write to object to the abolishment of the Federal seat of North Sydney.

I have lived in this seat for over 20 years and I can't understand why the federation seat of North Sydney is the one chosen to be abolished. The North Sydney electorate is a vibrant area where the population is predicted to grow (as it is so close to the city), many more residences are planned to be built and major transport infrastructure worth many billions of dollars has just been competed or well underway. This includes the metro due to open in August 2024, with stations in the North Sydney electorate, and the Warringah Freeway Upgrade and the Western Harbour tunnel due to be finished in 2029. It doesn't make sense. The State government is planning for increased development and numbers with these transport corridors yet the AEC has said the area is declining in numbers. Long term thinking is required.

This reminds me of the Greiner government when they announced that families won't live in apartments and therefore its ok to close schools and sell off the land as the population of children will reduce in the area. This short-sighted thinking has left suburbs in the North Sydney electorate without schools, Naremburn is a case in point, where they no longer have a primary school and children have to travel across major roads and transport corridors to get to their local primary school. Northbridge Primary school was also set to close – thank goodness it didn't.

Crows Nest Boys did close and when my son was about to go to high school in 2014 his local high school was Killarney Heights – 14km away, with one bus serve to get to school and one to return home. Thank goodness Cammeraygal Highschool opened and Northbridge, where we live, was in area. This school is now bursting at the seams.

As I live in Northbridge, I note that my proposed electorate will be Bradfield and will extend from Turramurra to Northbridge. This is a very long way in a densely populated area that is projected to grow with the TOD and new panning reforms.

This boundary change is very short sighted and the residents of the North Sydney electorate deserve to be properly represented at the Federal level.

Please take these points into consideration, this is an electorate expected to grow and has been identified as such by the Minns Government.

Kind regards

Kristina Dodds