



Comment on objections 90

North Melbourne Language and Learning

2 pages



North Melbourne Language & Learning

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ATTN: AEC Redistribution Committee

I write to you as the Chair of the Committee of Management of North Melbourne Language and Learning.

North Melbourne Language and Learning (NMLL) was established in 1989 and is a community organisation located at the base of the public housing towers on Alfred St. We serve the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) residents of the area by providing English language and basic computer literacy classes.

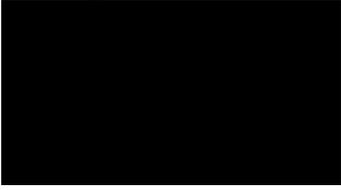
NMLL aims to support and nurture our students so they can fully participate in, and actively contribute to, Australian society. Most of our students live here in the public housing towers of North Melbourne, come from a wide range of diverse backgrounds, and have a strong connection with the immediate area. To meet the needs of this community, in addition to our educational courses, we also connect people to other vital support services and information, and run social activities. We have recently initiated a Community Food Pantry.

Our current General Manager has been in the role since 2016. He knows North Melbourne's public housing community well. In his time as General Manager he has built a strong relationship with Adam Bandt and his team, as the Member for Melbourne. Adam understands the issues our community faces, and has a strong connection with our centre and the community we serve.

North Melbourne is an inner city area. We believe it does not make sense to move North Melbourne into the electorate of Maribyrnong, as proposed by the Victorian Labor Party. The name of our suburb itself suggests that we belong in the Melbourne electorate, and we believe we are most effectively represented in the seat of Melbourne.

Housing is a major issue currently in Australia, and the future for public housing in Victoria is uncertain. It is critically important now more than ever for the voices of public housing residents to be heard by elected representatives with strong local knowledge of, and commitment to, our community. Cutting North Melbourne, and its large population of public housing residents, out of the seat of Melbourne would disconnect it from the majority of public housing towers in Victoria. We sincerely believe that keeping North Melbourne within the Federal seat of Melbourne is important to ensure that our community's strong connection to the inner-city and to the broader community of public housing residents across Melbourne is maintained and effectively represented.

Thank you for your consideration.



David Lansley

Chair
Committee of Management, North Melbourne Language and Learning Inc