



Comment on objections 100

Young Australian People

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Barry Berih
Head of Young Australian People

Young Australian People is a not-for-profit organisation that has been created - and is operated by – the same community that the organisation aims to help - residents of Melbourne’s public housing estates and multicultural communities.

The community of young, diverse Australians living in public housing is well connected across inner city Melbourne. Our organisation works with and amplifies the voices of this community every day. We run regular events and activities that bring together these communities from all the public housing towers in Melbourne - most of which are currently represented by Adam Bandt as the member for Melbourne. We facilitate young people to work together and support each other, so they can advance through life.

I do this work because I want to remove the barriers that restrict and disadvantage young people who have grown up in public housing from getting ahead. Part of my advocacy is building relationships with our elected representatives, and I am concerned that by cutting North Melbourne out of the electorate of Melbourne, we’ll be cut off from other public housing residents, our voice will be fragmented and outcomes will suffer.

I grew up in the towers on Alfred Street, and personally know our North Melbourne community well. As well as my work with Young Australian People, I work with other North Melbourne organisations including the North Melbourne Language & Learning Centre, and I am a current Board Member of the North & West Melbourne Neighbourhood Centre. I am also part of Eritrean Communities of Australia. I have grown up here, I know the community and I know how connected we are.

North Melbourne is the same community as Carlton, West Melbourne, and the City, and not just in terms of people who live in public housing. I come into contact with lots of different community members through my other roles with local organisations, and see everyday how the community here is connected with their neighbours, and considers all of these inner city suburbs as one.

I think the AEC should keep North Melbourne in the Melbourne electorate.

Barry Berih

12 July 2024.



www.youngaustrianpeople.com