



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Electoral Redistribution means loss of country seat But New England expands to include Liverpool Plains

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor has mixed feelings about the NSW Federal Electoral Redistribution released today by the Australian Electoral Commission that sees the loss of the seat of Gwydir but the expansion of the seat of New England to take in all of Liverpool Plains Shire Council.

“The loss of a country seat is disappointing in that country people are losing representation in the Parliament after the next election.

Should the recommendations of the Redistribution Committee be accepted, there will only be six New South Wales country seats in the Federal Parliament thereby reducing the voting capacity of country people,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor believes that the loss of the seat of Gwydir held by the former Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party, John Anderson is a reflection of Government policy that has seen population decline in country areas.

“It is a sad indictment on Government policy that has brought about population decline in country Australia to the point that we will now have one less country voice in the Parliament.

The Gwydir region in fact had the highest population loss of any region in Australia,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor is however happy with the inclusion of the Liverpool Plains Shire Council area into the seat of New England.

“I welcome the addition of the Liverpool Plains Shire Council area into the electorate of New England.

Part of Liverpool Plains has been in New England for many years and I look forward to representing the people of all of Liverpool Plains after the next election.

It is an area with which I am very familiar having lived and worked in the area all of my life.

I understand the concerns of the people of the Liverpool Plains region and trust that the people of this area have the confidence in me to represent them in the Federal Parliament.

I would also regard it as a great personal honour to represent the people of the Quirindi district as my great-grandfather was the first Mayor of Quirindi,” Mr Windsor said.

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