

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

New Tamworth electorate takes clear shape

21 October 2004

The proposed changes to boundaries for the Tamworth electorate remain unchanged with the completion of the first stage of the appeal process, Member for Tamworth Peter Draper said today.

While the proposed boundaries remove Walcha, the Tamworth electorate will most certainly gain the communities of Barraba, Breeza, Boggabri, Manilla, Mullaley and Tambar Springs.

Having considered comments and suggestions on the changes, the Electoral Districts Commissioners yesterday released amendments to the proposed boundaries.

"I have been informed that it was not necessary to amend what has been proposed for the Tamworth electorate which means the changes released by the Commission last month will almost certainly form the new boundary," Mr Draper said.

Mr Draper said the Commission would still consider suggestions or objections to the amended proposals and hold a second round of public hearings if necessary.

"I'm really pleased by what has been a smooth transition and am eager to get out into the communities and start canvassing issues through a series of public meetings. The new boundaries will not apply until the 2007 election and I intend to continue representing Walcha and the constituents who will be transferred from the electorate with the diligence and attention which they deserve," he said.

Mr Draper asked for Manilla to be included in the Tamworth electorate due to proven traffic movement and strong community interest.

End Release

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