Assessment of Sarawak First Redelineation Proposal

TindakMalaysia Network Services PLT ("Tindak Malaysia"), Persatuan Bertindak Pilihan Raya Bebas dan Saksama ("Tindak") and Rise of Social Efforts ("ROSE") jointly present this assessment of the Election Commission's First Round of Proposals ("Syor 1"). The assessment examines the proposals' potential benefits and shortcomings and puts forward recommendations to address identified concerns and guide the way forward.

Reforms

Polling District Reforms: Addressing Inequality in Voter Population

One of the most significant reforms undertaken by the Election Commission (EC) in the Sarawak redelineation exercise was the restructuring of polling districts. Based on our analysis of the Pelan Warta (pre-redelineation gazetted plan), Peta Asal (an interim map showing the subdivision of existing polling districts as part of the slide-deck), and Rang Pelan Warta (the proposed plan under Syor 1), the number of polling districts increased from 887 before redelineation to 1,139 in Peta Asal, and subsequently to 1,141 under the Syor 1 proposal.

This restructuring substantially reduced the number of polling districts with more than 10,000 voters, including those with exceptionally large electorates such as Kuala Baram, which had 58,283 voters before redelineation. The number of polling districts exceeding the 10,000-voter threshold fell from 22 to just two (Stakan (Jalan Muara Tuang) and Pantai Beraya (Taman Tunku)).

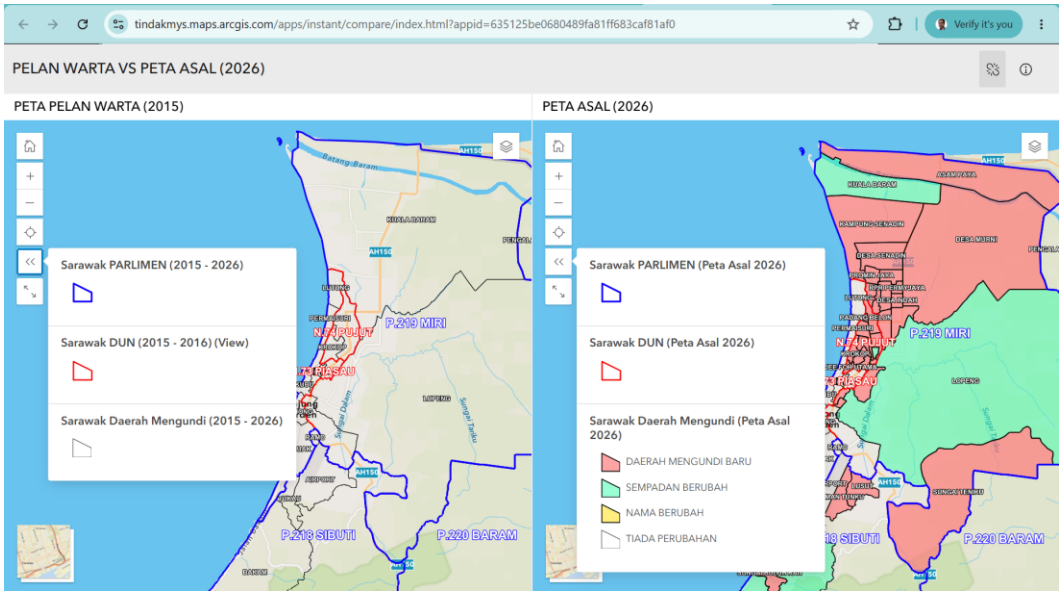


Figure 1: Transition from Pelan Warta to Peta Asal, illustrating the subdivision of existing polling districts.

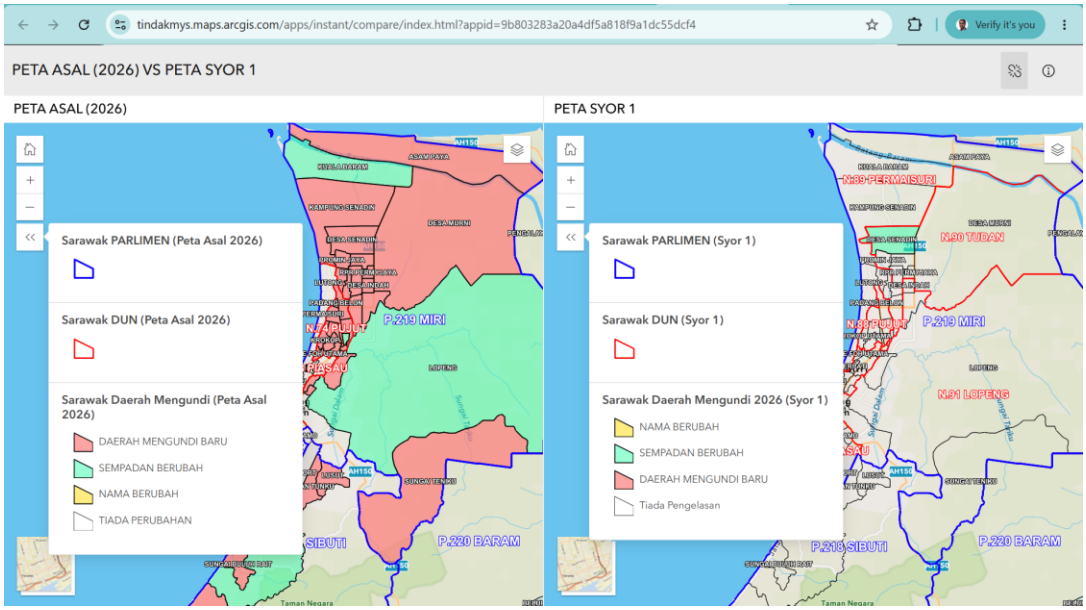


Figure 2: Transition from Peta Asal to the Syor 1 proposal, illustrating the proposed state constituency (DUN) boundaries and the final round of polling district adjustments.

These reforms address one of the five key aspects of electoral reform that Tindak Malaysia/ Tindak has advocated to the EC since 2019: reducing disparities in voter populations among polling districts. The scale of the changes is further illustrated by the three-dimensional visualisations of polling district electorates before and after the proposed redelineation.

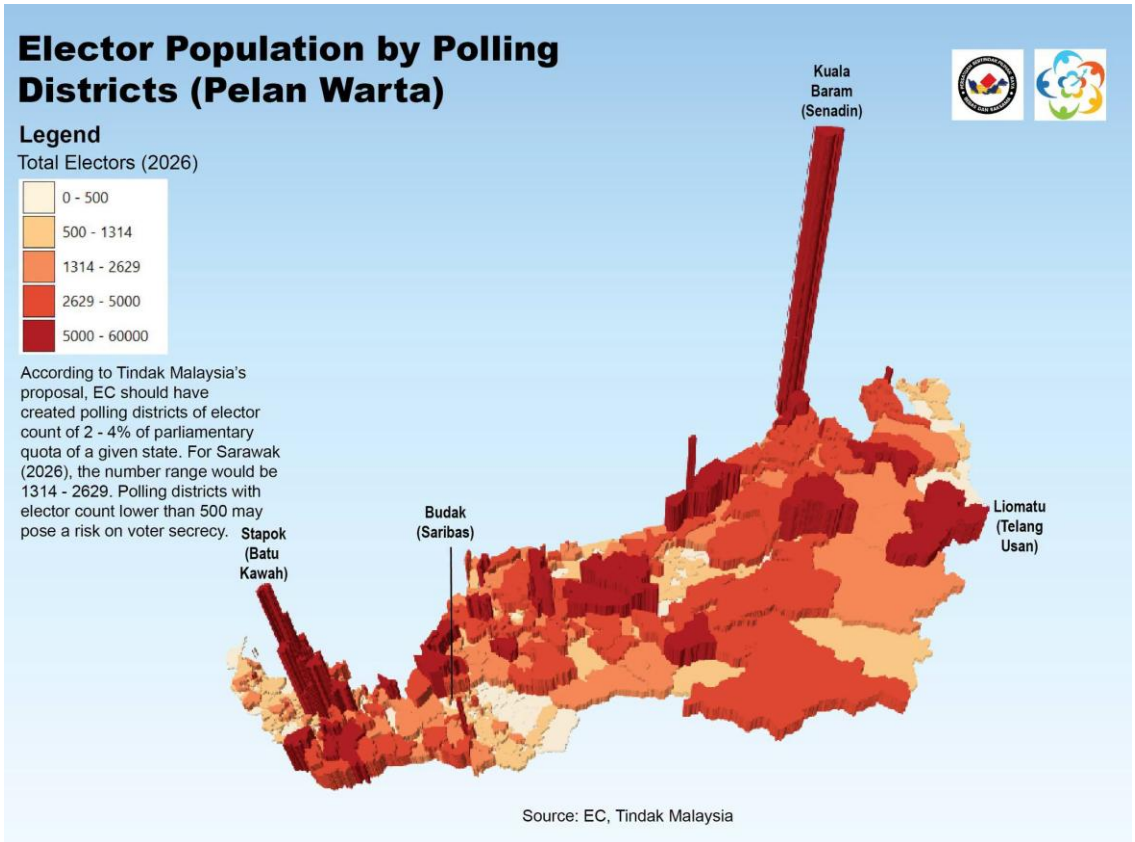


Figure 3: Three-dimensional visualisation of voter populations across polling districts under the Pelan Warta (pre-redelineation).

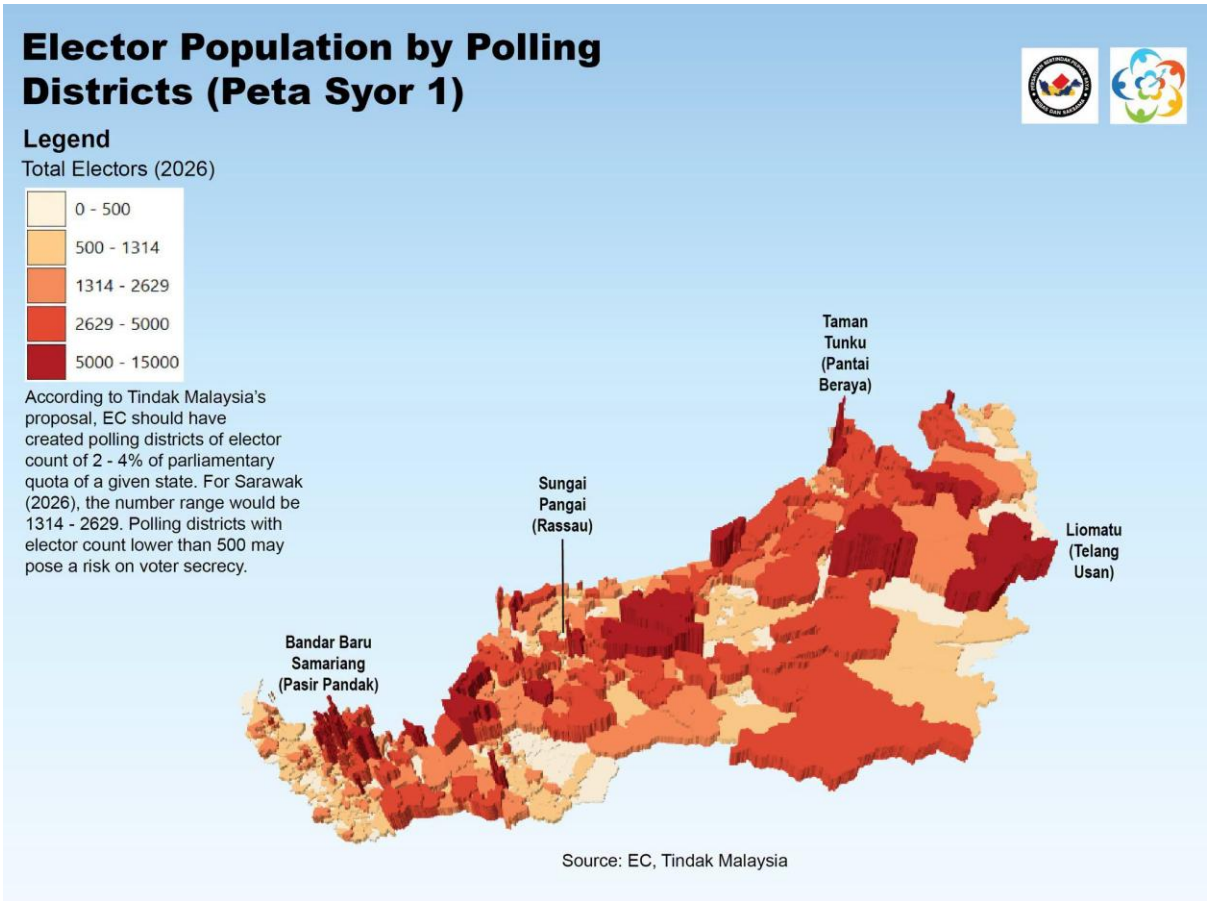


Figure 4: Three-dimensional visualisation of voter populations across polling districts under the Syor 1 proposal.

Before redelineation, Kuala Baram had 58,283 voters, while Budak had only 95 voters. Under Syor 1, the largest polling district electorate among the examples presented is Taman Tunku, with 14,325 voters, while Sungai Pangai has just 70 voters. These figures demonstrate the extent of the changes in polling district size, particularly the reduction of very populous ones.

By restructuring polling districts and narrowing the disparities in their voter populations, the EC has laid an important foundation for improving electoral representation through constituency equalisation. However, while more balanced polling district populations are a meaningful step forward, they do not, on their own, guarantee equitable representation among constituencies. The distribution of voters across state constituencies must also be assessed to determine whether the broader objective of electoral equality has been achieved.

Constituency Equalisation: Narrowing the Gap in Voter Populations

Building on the polling district reforms outlined above, the EC also narrowed the disparity between the most populous and least populous state constituencies (DUNs) in Sarawak. The ratio between the two extremes decreased from approximately 7.1:1 before redelineation to 3.3:1 under the Syor 1 proposal.

Before redelineation in 2026, DUN Senadin was the most populous constituency, with 74,501 voters, while DUN Gedong was the least populous, with 10,481 voters. This represented a 7.1-fold difference in electorate size. Under the Syor 1 proposal, DUN Piasau had the largest electorate, with 34,546 voters, while DUN Pelagus had the smallest, with 10,372 voters, reducing the difference to approximately 3.3-fold.

This reduction represents a notable shift towards greater parity in constituency electorates. Nevertheless, the remaining disparity indicates that substantial differences in voter populations persist across Sarawak's state constituencies.

The Syor 1 proposal also increased the number of constituencies whose electorates fall within ±20% of the Electoral Quota (EQ), a benchmark used to assess disparities in constituency populations. The distribution before redelineation and under Syor 1 is summarised below.

The figures show that the number of constituencies within the ±20% EQ range (equal-sized) increased from 19 to 35. Meanwhile, the number of constituencies with electorates of 20% below EQ decreased from 40 to 34 (undersized – too little voters). However, the number of constituencies with electorates more than 20% above EQ increased from 23 to 30 (oversized – too many voters).

These changes suggest that the proposed redelineation has brought more constituencies closer to the Electoral Quota, but the improvements have not been uniform. Although more constituencies now fall within the ±20% range, the increase in the number of constituencies exceeding the upper threshold indicates that significant disparities remain.

Malapportionment Category	Pre-Redelineation	Syor 1
Electorate Size less than – 20% of EQ	40	34
Electorate Size within +/-20% of EQ	19	35
Electorate Size greater +20%	23	30

Table 1: Number of Sarawak DUNs by malapportionment category before redelineation and under the Syor 1 proposal.

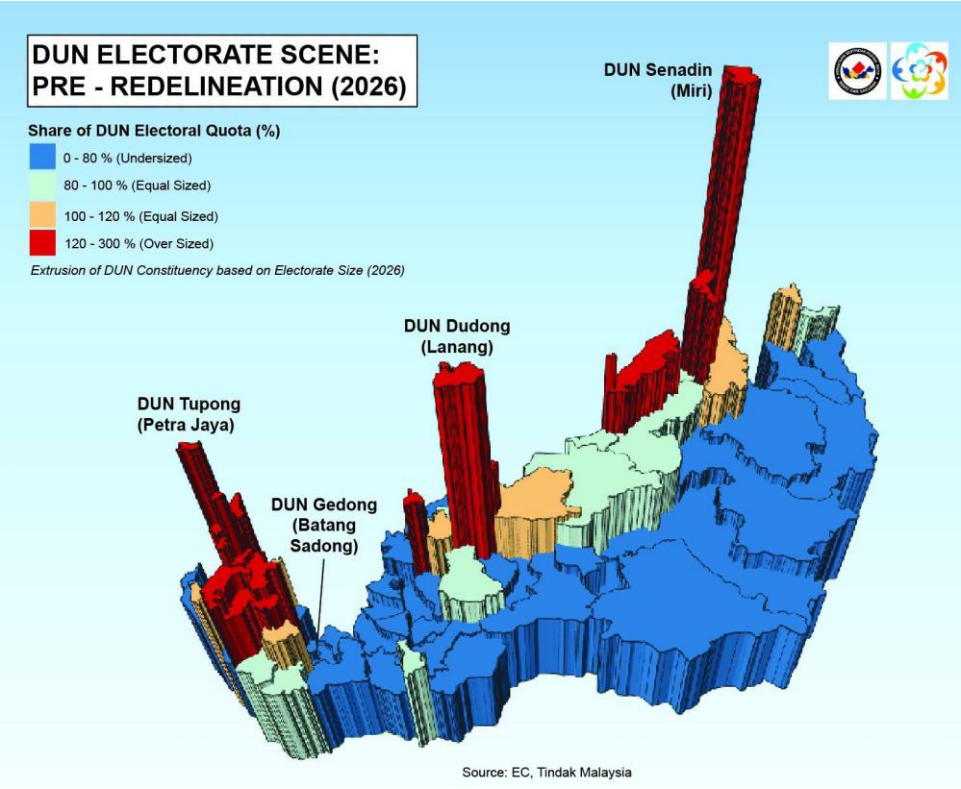


Figure 5: Malapportionment across Sarawak's DUNs before redelineation.

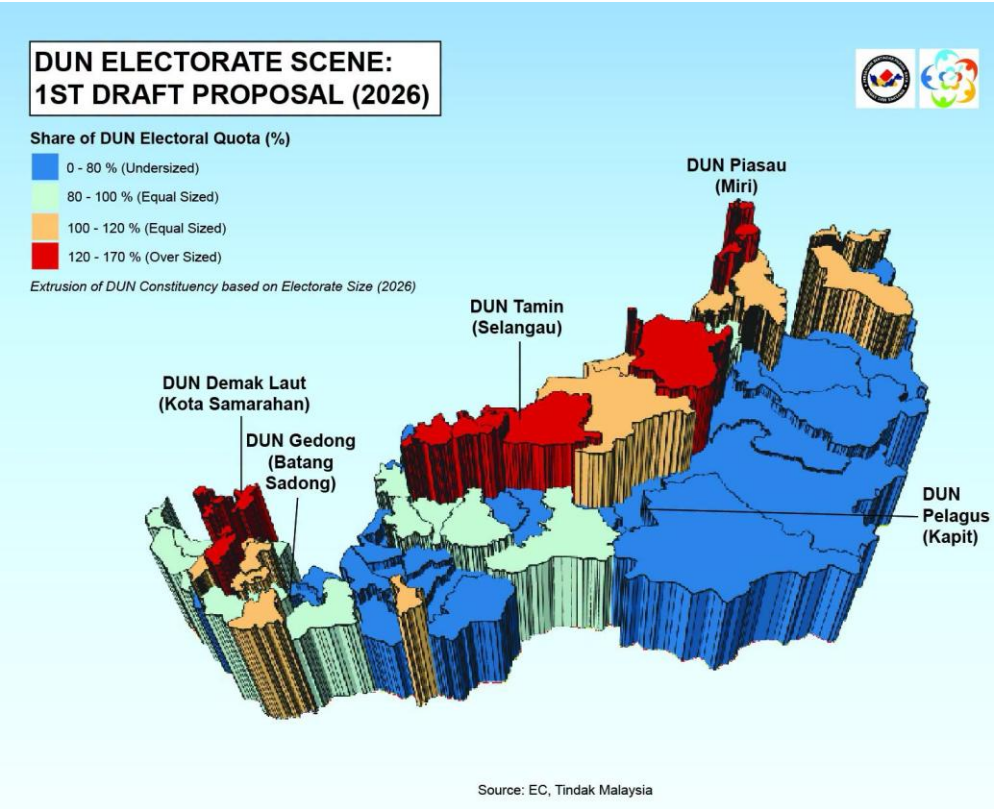


Figure 6: Malapportionment across Sarawak's DUNs under the Syor 1 proposal.

Overall, the reduction in the gap between the largest and smallest constituency electorates, together with the increase in the number of constituencies within ±20% of EQ, indicates progress towards greater electoral equality. However, the remaining disparities warrant further examination in subsequent rounds of the redelineation process to determine whether additional adjustments could improve constituency equalisation while taking other relevant boundary considerations into account.

Local Ties: Improving Alignment with Administrative District Boundaries

Local ties can be defined and assessed in various ways, and the Election Commission (EC) should not be constrained by a single definition when evaluating this principle during the redelineation process. For this assessment, we use conformity with Sarawak's administrative district boundaries as one measurable indicator of how well the proposed state constituencies (DUNs) preserve local ties.

Ideally, the EC should assess the electorate of each administrative district and divide that figure by the state constituency Electoral Quota (EQ) of 20,582 voters. This would provide an initial indication of how many constituencies each district could reasonably accommodate, helping the EC balance electoral equality with the objective of keeping constituencies within coherent administrative boundaries. However, based on the materials reviewed, we have not found evidence that the EC adopted this approach in developing the Syor 1 proposal.

Nevertheless, Syor 1 shows an improvement in the alignment of proposed DUN boundaries with administrative district boundaries compared with the 2015 Pelan Warta.

Category of DUNs	Pelan Warta (2015)	Syor 1 (2026)	Share of 82 Seats (%)	Share of 99 Seats (%)
DUN wholly within 1 district	45	60	54.9	60.6
DUN spans over 2 districts	27	28	32.9	28.3
DUN spans over 3 districts	9	10	11	10.1
DUN spans over 4 districts	1	1	1.2	1.0

Table 2: Distribution of DUNs according to their relationship with administrative district boundaries.

The figures show that the number of DUNs wholly contained within a single administrative district increased from 45 to 60. Their share of the total number of seats also rose from 54.9% of the previous 82-seat arrangement to 60.6% of the proposed 99-seat arrangement. This indicates that a greater proportion of constituencies under Syor 1 would be contained within a single district.

Although the number of DUNs spanning two or three districts increased in absolute terms, this needs to be considered in the context of the increase in the total number of seats from 82 to 99. Overall, the distribution suggests improved alignment between DUN boundaries and administrative district boundaries under Syor 1.

One example of the EC's efforts to improve alignment between electoral boundaries and administrative boundaries is the proposed reallocation of the polling districts of Skrang, Aur and Enteban from DUN Engkilili in the Lubok Antu area to DUN Layar in Betong.

Although parts of these polling districts extend into Sri Aman Division, most of their voters are in Betong. The proposed reallocation therefore appears to better reflect the distribution of voters in relation to the surrounding administrative geography.

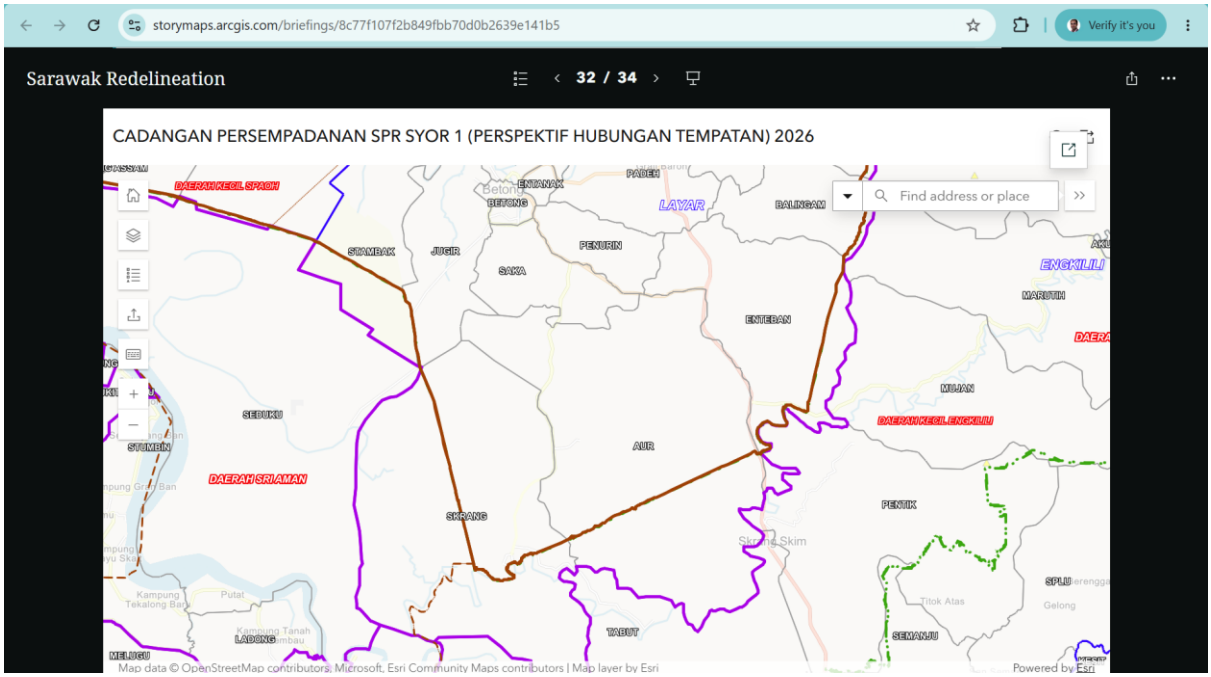


Figure 7: Map illustrating the EC's proposed reallocation of Skrang, Aur and Enteban to DUN Layar. The thick brown lines indicate the boundaries of Sri Aman and Betong Divisions.

This example illustrates how adjustments to polling district allocations can improve the alignment of electoral constituencies with administrative geography. However, administrative boundaries are only one indicator of local ties. Other considerations, including community relationships, transport links and shared local interests, should also inform the assessment.

Going forward, we recommend that the EC explicitly assess the relationship between administrative district electorates and the DUN Electoral Quota when developing redelineation proposals. Such an assessment would provide a more transparent and systematic basis for balancing electoral equality with local ties, while allowing justified exceptions where equalisation needs, community circumstances or geographical considerations warrant them.

Facilitating Representation

The EC has made significant strides in communicating its redelineation proposals to the public. A dedicated myST portal was developed in accordance with Malaysian Government website design guidelines, providing voters with a more accessible and structured platform to understand the proposed changes.

The portal includes maps illustrating the evolution of electoral boundaries, from polling districts to parliamentary constituencies. Within these maps, the EC has taken steps to distinguish polling districts that have been relocated, newly established or retained without changes. These visual aids make it easier for the public to identify and understand the implications of the proposed redelineation.

The portal also includes a dedicated section to help voters determine whether they are eligible to submit an objection, as well as a facility for submitting formal representations digitally. Together, these features have improved access to information and simplified the process through which members of the public can participate in the redelineation exercise.

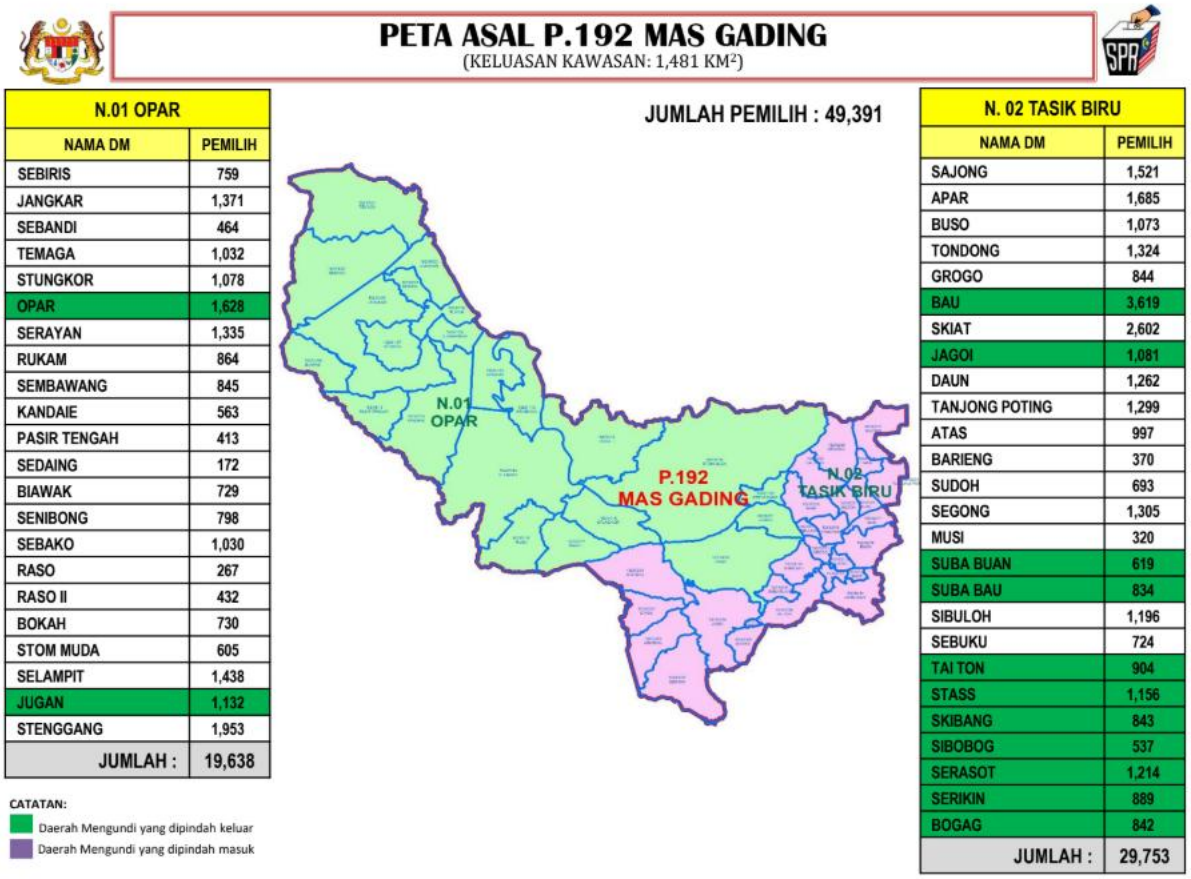
We believe these improvements in public communication and accessibility were among the factors contributing to the unprecedented number of representations (133) received during the Sarawak Syor 1 exercise. The total reportedly surpassed the number recorded in any previous redelineation cycle since 1968, including the cumulative representation counts of preceding cycles. This response highlights the potential value of making electoral boundary proposals easier to understand and providing more accessible channels for public participation.

In addition to improving its public-facing communication, the EC has broadened the scope for voter participation in the objection process. Of Sarawak's 31 parliamentary constituencies, 29 were affected by the proposed redelineation. Consequently, a substantial majority of voters fall within constituencies affected by the exercise and may be eligible to participate in the local enquiry process, subject to the applicable constitutional requirements.

The EC has also simplified the eligibility criteria for submitting representations under the local enquiry category. Under the previous approach, eligibility was linked to voters belonging to polling districts that had been relocated or to voters partnering with such polling districts. Under the current approach, voters from an affected parliamentary constituency can form a group of at least 100 voters from that constituency to submit a representation, without necessarily being residents of the specific polling districts that have been moved.

This change potentially widens the scope for public scrutiny by allowing voters across an affected constituency to raise concerns about proposed boundary changes, rather than restricting participation to those directly associated with relocated polling districts.

Overall, the improvements to the myST portal, the introduction of digital representation submissions and the broader eligibility criteria for local enquiries represent meaningful steps towards greater transparency and public participation in the redelineation process. These measures provide a stronger foundation for informed civic engagement and public accountability. Moving forward, the EC should continue to improve the portal's accessibility, ensure that eligibility requirements are clearly explained, and provide timely information on the handling and outcomes of representations received.



PETA ASAL P.192 MAS GADING
(KELUASAN KAWASAN: 1,481 KM²)

JUMLAH PEMILIH : 49,391

N.01 OPAR	
NAMA DM	PEMILIH
SEBIRIS	759
JANGKAR	1,371
SEBANDI	464
TEMAGA	1,032
STUNGKOR	1,078
OPAR	1,628
SERAYAN	1,335
RUKAM	864
SEMBAWANG	845
KANDAIE	563
PASIR TENGAH	413
SEDAING	172
BIAWAK	729
SENIBONG	798
SEBAKO	1,030
RASO	267
RASO II	432
BOKAH	730
STOM MUDA	605
SELAMPIT	1,438
JUGAN	1,132
STENGGANG	1,953
JUMLAH :	19,638

CATATAN:
Daerah Mengundi yang dipindah keluar
Daerah Mengundi yang dipindah masuk

N.01 OPAR
P.192 MAS GADING
N.02 TASIK BIRU

N. 02 TASIK BIRU	
NAMA DM	PEMILIH
SAJONG	1,521
APAR	1,685
BUSO	1,073
TONDONG	1,324
GROGO	844
BAU	3,619
SKIAT	2,602
JAGOI	1,081
DAUN	1,262
TANJONG POTING	1,299
ATAS	997
BARIENG	370
SUDOH	693
SEGONG	1,305
MUSI	320
SUBA BUAN	619
SUBA BAU	834
SIBULOH	1,196
SEBUKU	724
TAI TON	904
STASS	1,156
SKIBANG	843
SIBOBOG	537
SERASOT	1,214
SERIKIN	889
BOGAG	842
JUMLAH :	29,753

Figure 8: Example of EC's communication of original boundaries of Mas Gading and proposed polling districts that undergone movements

Miscellaneous

EC has been shown generally proactive at the early stage of the Redelineation. This includes accepting the invitation by ROSE for physical briefing in Kuching of which Dr Faisal and Mrs Zoe presented all facets of the redelineation (early September). EC has leveraged various forms of media (non-EC channels) to communicate about the redelineation proposal. In the post Redelineation, both Dr Azmi and Dr Faisal wrote in two different newspapers about the logic and experiences carrying out the Syor 1 redelineation. Besides that, EC has proactively informed that qualified redelineation objectors will be given a two-weeks heads-up for the local enquiry.

Shortcomings

It is important to first acknowledge the significant improvements the Election Commission (EC) has made under the Syor 1 proposal. However, these advances are accompanied by areas of shortcomings that warrant further attention. The following sections examine the key shortcomings of Syor 1 and outline the improvements needed to address them in subsequent stages of the redelineation process.

Polling Districts

Although the EC has made significant progress in reforming polling districts, the changes under Syor 1 remain incomplete and, in some instances, have resulted in even smaller electorates than those recorded before redelineation.

As highlighted in the earlier discussion on polling district reforms, Kuala Baram had 58,283 voters before redelineation, while Budak had just 95 voters. Under the Syor 1 proposal, the largest polling district among the examples discussed, Taman Tunku, has 14,325 voters, while Sungai Pangai has only 70 voters. These figures demonstrate the substantial reduction in the size of some polling district electorates, but they also raise concerns about the creation of polling districts with exceptionally few voters.

For years, Tindak Malaysia has urged the EC to exercise caution when establishing polling districts with fewer than 500 voters. Against this background, the proposed creation of Sungai Pangai, with an electorate even smaller than that of Budak before redelineation

Furthermore, Sungai Pangai, which was created through the subdivision of the existing Penasu polling district, does not appear to be particularly remote and is located relatively close to Sibu City. This raises an important question: What operational, geographical or administrative considerations justify establishing a polling district with only 70 voters in this location?

The concern extends beyond administrative efficiency. Polling districts with very small electorates may increase the risk of compromising ballot secrecy in practice. Although voting is conducted by secret ballot, a small number of voters can make it easier to analyse voting patterns at a more granular level, particularly when results are examined alongside other available information.

We therefore call on the EC to explain the rationale for establishing polling districts with fewer than 500 voters, particularly in areas that are not geographically isolated.

A clear and consistently applied policy on minimum polling district electorates would help prevent unnecessary fragmentation, improve administrative efficiency and strengthen public confidence in the integrity and secrecy of the electoral process.

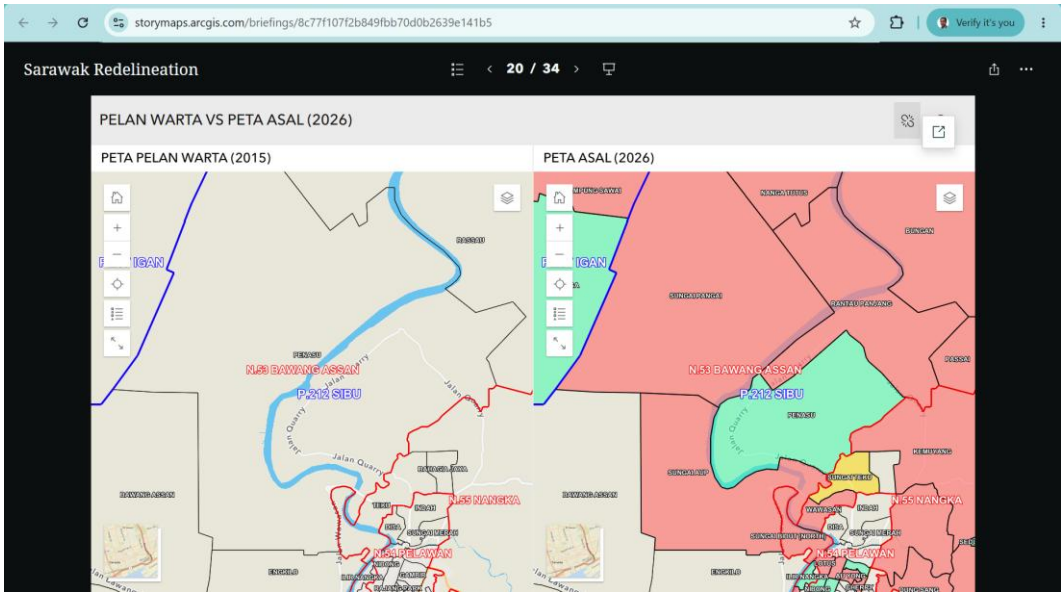


Figure 9: Origin of Sungai Pangai polling district

While the EC has undertaken substantial reforms to polling districts under Syor 1, we observed that small polling districts in urban areas were largely left unchanged. One example is the polling district of Maderasah in DUN Satok, which has only 101 voters. In an urban area where access to polling facilities is generally less constrained by distance, retaining a polling district with such a small electorate raises questions about the rationale behind the EC's decision.

We see no apparent justification for retaining a polling district of this size without a clear operational, geographical or administrative reason. The EC should review small urban polling districts and consider whether they could be consolidated with neighbouring polling districts without compromising voter accessibility or creating other logistical difficulties.

The Syor 1 proposal also appears to have left some unusual polling district boundaries from previous arrangements insufficiently addressed. These irregularities presented opportunities for correction during the redelineation process, but not all appear to have been resolved.

One example is the polling district of Sengat in Simanggang, where the existing boundary appears to form an unusual protrusion. The Peta Asal phase provided an opportunity for the EC to review and rectify this irregularity, yet the issue appears unresolved in the Syor 1 proposal.

This raises the question of why the opportunity to regularise the Sengat polling district boundary was not taken. Unusual protrusions can complicate the interpretation and administration of electoral boundaries, particularly where they do not correspond to geographical realities.

We recommend that the EC conduct a systematic review of polling district boundaries to identify and rectify unnecessary protrusions, irregular shapes and other anomalies. Where such boundaries are retained, the EC should provide clear explanation with facts.

Taken together, these examples suggest that further work is needed to ensure the polling district reforms are applied consistently. Addressing disproportionately small urban polling districts and correcting inherited boundary irregularities would facilitate compliance with 13th Schedule.



Figure 10: Polling District of Sengat (Simanggang) as shown in Syor 1 proposal

The examples of Skrang, Aur and Enteban illustrate that the EC has not fully utilised the redelineation exercise to realign polling districts with existing administrative boundaries, including district, divisional and local council boundaries. While the Syor 1 proposal has improved the alignment of some constituencies with administrative districts, the reform remains incomplete at the polling district level.

We consider this an important structural reform. Electoral boundaries should, wherever practicable, align with existing administrative boundaries so that future constituencies can operate within established administrative frameworks. Such alignment would reduce bureaucratic complexity, facilitate coordination with government agencies and local authorities, and minimise administrative inconveniences for State Assemblypersons (ADUNs) and Members of Parliament (MPs).

The proposed reallocation of Skrang, Aur and Enteban to DUN Layar illustrates the limitations of addressing constituency boundaries without fully resolving the underlying polling district boundaries.

Although most voters in these polling districts are in Betong, parts of their geographical areas extend into Sri Aman Division. If voters residing on the Sri Aman side are represented by the ADUN for Layar, the elected representative may need to coordinate with a different set of administrative authorities to address the needs of a relatively small group of constituents. This could involve dealing with the Sri Aman administrative offices, despite the representative's broader focus on the Betong Resident's Office and Betong District Council. Such arrangements risk creating unnecessary administrative complexity for both the elected representative and the affected residents.

We therefore recommend that the EC review the boundaries of Skrang, Aur and Enteban at the polling district level, with the objective of aligning them more closely with divisional and district boundaries wherever practicable. Any proposed adjustments should also consider voter distribution, community ties, geographical continuity and access to public services.

DUN Daro, the only state constituency spanning four administrative districts and multiple divisions (Bahagian), provides another example of the consequences of incomplete polling district reform.

In our assessment, the underlying issue stems partly from missed opportunities to subdivide existing polling districts along administrative boundaries. Subdivision could have allowed the EC to create new polling districts (and reshaped older ones) that respect district and divisional boundaries.

We recommend that the EC adopt a more systematic approach to polling district subdivision in future redelineation exercises. Before finalising constituency boundaries, the EC should identify polling districts that cross administrative boundaries and assess whether subdivision would produce more coherent electoral units.

Malapportionment

Although the EC has not been required under the constitutional framework since the 1962 amendment to specify deviation limits for malapportionment, it is worth noting that, during Sarawak's first delineation in 1968, the EC voluntarily adopted a deviation limit of ±30% from the Electoral Quota (EQ). Based on our review, this remains the only known instance since post 1962 constitutional amendments.

Under Syor 1, DUN electorates range from 50% below to 68% above the EQ. While perfect equalisation may not be practical, we urge the EC to work towards a deviation limit of ±20% for DUNs under Syor 2. Geographically extensive constituencies should be supported through additional funding for constituency offices and staff, while the Sarawak Government should improve connectivity to facilitate access to public services. Recent opening river bridges is easing up the issue of difficulty in reaching electors (reducing need of malapportionment). EC welcome to study our proposal of where all DUN constituencies are within +/-20% of the EQ.

The EC has considered geographical factors and community ties in its redelineation exercise. We urge the EC to further assess the distribution of voters across every administrative district and local council area by dividing each area's electorate by the DUN EQ. This would provide an indicative estimate of how many DUNs each area could accommodate.

Based on this assessment, the EC could determine whether constituencies should follow existing administrative boundaries or whether justified exceptions are necessary, balancing electoral equality, local ties and administrative practicality.

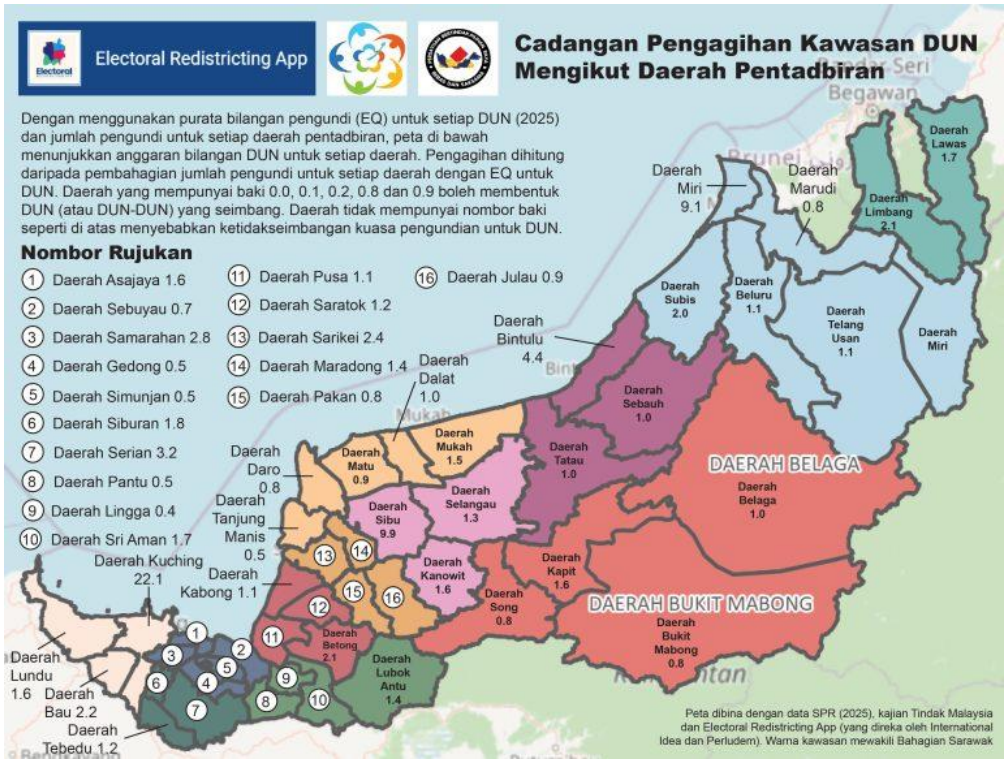


Figure 11: Total DUNs to be assigned across districts of Sarawak (Tindak Proposal)

While the EC has improved malapportionment at the DUN level, it has missed the opportunity to address disparities among parliamentary constituencies. Under Syor 1, Lubok Antu has the smallest electorate, with 28,458 voters (57% below the Parliamentary Electoral Quota), while Miri has the largest, with 158,411 voters (141% above the Electoral Quota). These disparities are inconsistent with the principle of electoral equality under Principle 2(c) of the Thirteenth Schedule.

Malapportionment Category	Pre-Redelineation (2015)	Syor 1 (2026)
Electorate Size less than – 20% of EQ	16	16*
Electorate Size within +/-20% of EQ	5	6*
Electorate Size greater +20%	10	9*

Table 3: Number of Parliamentary Constituencies within the Malapportionment categories

*Significant boundary change between Mas Gading and Puncak Borneo (switching of DUN Serembu) resulted in equalisation of both constituencies. However other boundary changes (or no changes) resulted worsening malapportionment (Sri Aman and Sibuti).

Given the substantial improvements at the DUN level, the EC should also address parliamentary malapportionment. Reformed polling districts provide the foundation for more balanced DUNs and, ultimately, more equitable parliamentary constituencies.

While achieving ±20% equalisation for every parliamentary constituency may be impractical given Sarawak's departure from the principle of simple multiple, we believe it is feasible to bring all parliamentary constituencies within ±30% of the EQ while respecting local ties. If this can't be attained, a proper justification should be given.

Disrespecting local ties

The polling district reforms presented an opportunity for the EC to realign constituency boundaries more sensibly. The situation between Batang Lupar and Sri Aman illustrates the need for clearer justification of boundary changes.

The polling district of Bukit Balau in Sri Aman was subdivided into a smaller Bukit Balau and four new polling districts: Tanjong Bijat, Bakong, Bakong Ai and Empelanjau. These areas are located along the southern bank of the Batang Lupar River. Under Syor 1, Bakong and Tanjong Bijat were transferred to Batang Lupar through their association with Seduku.

As the EC has not clearly explained the implications or rationale for these changes, it is difficult to understand why these boundary adjustments were made. Conversely, the relatively isolated Lamanak, near Simanggang, remains part of Batang Lupar, despite appearing to have stronger geographical ties with the rest of Simanggang.

We urge the EC to explain the rationale behind these boundary decisions and reconsider whether they better reflect geographical accessibility, community ties and administrative practicality.

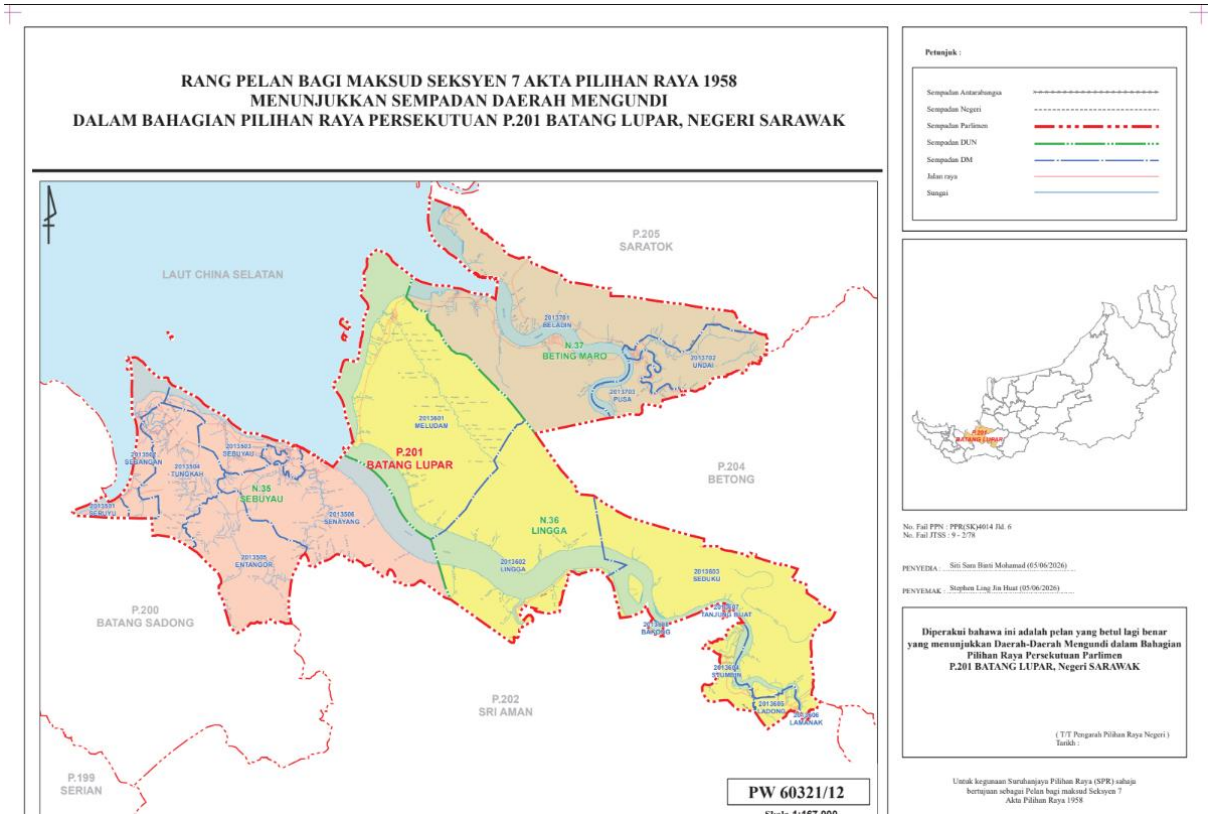


Figure 12: Location of Bakong, Tanjung Bijat and Lamanak Seberang

The proposed DUN N.89 Permaisuri raises concerns regarding compliance with Principle 2(b) of the Thirteenth Schedule. The constituency appears to group polling districts with disconnected road networks, separated by a river, raising questions about geographical continuity and accessibility within the proposed boundaries.

We urge the EC to review the proposed boundaries of Permaisuri to ensure they comply with the relevant constitutional principles and better reflect geographical connectivity and community ties.

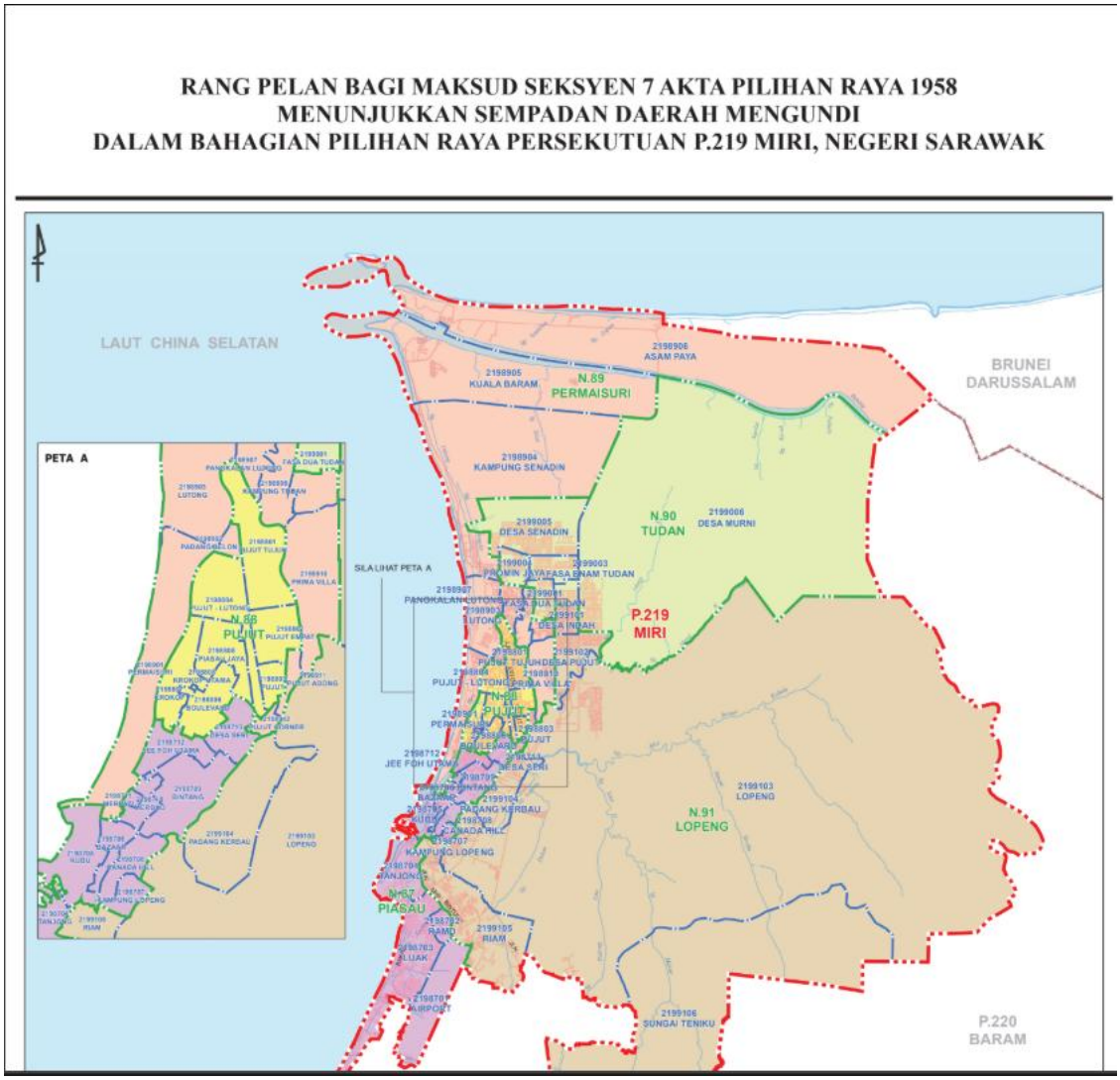


Figure 13: Proposed DUN Permaisuri

Shortcomings of Communicating Redelineation Proposal

When Syor 1 was published through the myST portal, each constituency—except Saratok and Selangau—was accompanied by three sets of documents: the pre-redelineation Pelan Warta, the proposed Rang Pelan Warta, and a constituency proposal presented in slide-deck format (including Peta Asal). From the outset, we identified numerous errors, omissions and inconsistencies, many of which we reported to the EC for correction.

A major concern was the illegibility of Peta Asal in the slide decks. This interim map is essential for understanding how polling districts evolved during the reform process. As we conduct detailed studies of these changes, the poor legibility forced us to reconstruct information by comparing the Pelan Warta and Rang Pelan Warta. While polling district names could sometimes be traced, the corresponding codes remained incomplete.

Non-exhaustive List of Errors and Inconsistencies

1. **Missing documentation:** P.205 and P.214 initially lacked the *Maklumat Syor/Jumlah Pemilih* documents. The EC explained that these constituencies were unchanged and therefore the information was omitted.
2. **Incomplete map of Julau:** The map showed only one DUN instead of both constituencies on a single map. The EC subsequently corrected this.
3. **Contradictory electorate totals:** N.57 Meluan was listed with two different totals: 18,896 and 18,869 voters. Subsequently corrected.
4. **Conflicting voter counts:** Kumpang in DUN Batang Ai was recorded as having either 301 or 201 voters. Subsequently corrected.
5. **Inconsistent polling district names:** Polling districts in DUN Meradong were renamed in the *Rang Pelan Warta*, contrary to the names shown in the *Pelan Warta* and *Peta Asal*. Subsequently corrected.
6. **Incorrect parliamentary area information:** Santubong experienced the removal of one DUN and the addition of another, yet its reported area remained unchanged at 1,501 sq km. The issue remains unaddressed
7. **Inconsistent classification of transferred polling districts:** The definitions of *Dipindah Masuk* and *Dipindah Keluar* do not adequately explain transfers between parliamentary constituencies. In P.193 Santubong, Samariang was not colour-coded as an incoming polling district. Conversely, in P.200 Batang Sadong, the entire Asajaya area was classified as incoming despite no change in its DUN status or polling district count. Unaddressed.
8. **Incorrect classification of Sungai Amang:** Sungai Amang in DUN Pelagus existed in 2015 but was classified as a new polling district in the Kapit slide deck. Its boundaries and voter count had not changed. Unaddressed.
9. **Unclear status of Long Wat:** Long Murum in DUN Murum was subdivided into Long Peran, Long Luar, Long Lidam, Long Tanyit and Long Wat. However, Long Wat was not classified as a new polling district in the P.216 Hulu Rajang slide deck. Clarification is still required on whether it is newly created or merely renamed. Unaddressed.
10. **Conflicting figures for Latong:** Latong in Kanowit was listed with 4,298 voters in *Peta Asal* but 4,281 in *Peta Syor*. The correct figure is 4,298. Subsequently corrected.
11. **Mismatched polling district codes in Pelawan:** The codes in the DUN Pelawan slide deck did not match those in the *Rang Pelan Warta*.
12. **Inconsistent place-name spelling:** Tanjung Bijat, transferred from Sri Aman to Batang Lupar, was incorrectly rendered as “Tanjong Bijat”.
13. **Mismatched code for Selirik:** The slide deck listed Selirik as 215/75/12, while the *Rang Pelan Warta* listed it as 212/75/01.
14. **Omitted polling district information:** Names and codes for parts of Bintulu were missing from the *Pelan Warta*.

15. **Incorrect transfer classification for Sungai Empit:** The EC described Sungai Empit as entering Stakan, although *Peta Asal* showed it as an existing polling district within Stakan. This classification was therefore inaccurate.

Initially, the EC responded to our findings and corrected some errors, either directly or without further correspondence. However, from the second week onwards, we observed that our subsequent emails reporting errors increasingly went unanswered.

We also identified changes in voter distribution that were not clearly explained in the published documents.

In the case of Simanggang and Lamanak Seberang, the EC's maps show no boundary changes, yet 1,561 voters were exchanged between the two polling districts. We have not yet established which localities were involved in this transfer.

A second example concerns the subdivision of polling districts along the edge of Puncak Borneo. In the 2015 Pelan Warta, Siburan had 10,296 voters and Tijirak had 1,219. In Peta Asal, Siburan was subdivided to create Siburan Village. Under Syor 1, the electorates stood at 4,792 for Siburan, 5,041 for Siburan Village and 1,682 for Tijirak.

During the subdivision and DUN boundary changes, 463 voters were transferred from Siburan to Tijirak. Although the southern boundary of Siburan did not change, the composition of both polling districts did. This highlights the need for the EC to document locality-level changes clearly, rather than relying solely on boundary maps.

Finally, while the EC proactively identified newly created polling districts, it did not provide a corresponding list of abolished polling districts (we have identified the four who got abolished).

We urge the EC to improve the accuracy, legibility and completeness of its documentation, explain changes in polling district composition, and publish a comprehensive record of newly created, renamed, transferred and abolished polling districts. These measures are essential for meaningful public scrutiny and confidence in the redelineation process.

Weakness of myST portal/ Miscellaneous matters

As this was the EC's first attempt at launching a dedicated redelineation portal, some initial issues were perhaps inevitable. Nevertheless, while myST made significant progress in helping voters determine their eligibility to object, several shortcomings should be addressed before Syor 2.

1. Improve the redelineation objection checker

The current checker does not tell voters whether they have moved to a different polling district, DUN or parliamentary constituency. Voters must compare three separate documents to trace these changes. Tindak Malaysia has developed a basic redelineation checker that tracks the evolution of the original 887 polling districts through subsequent subdivisions and transfers. However, the complexity of these changes makes it difficult for us to trace individual voters from the 2025 Electoral Roll (DPI) to their new localities.

For Syor 2, the myST checker should allow voters to identify their new polling district, DUN and parliamentary constituency directly.

2. Accommodate representations beyond local enquiries

The myST portal primarily caters to objectors eligible for local enquiries and the associated endorsement requirements. However, the EC has acknowledged that representations not qualifying for local enquiries would also be taken into account. Historically, political parties, associations and groups led by persons of standing have submitted such representations.

The portal should therefore provide separate guidance for those eligible for local enquiries and those submitting representations that do not qualify for one. This would enable organisations such as ours to submit representations through an appropriate channel.

3. Improve portal reliability and document availability

During the third and fourth weeks of September 2026, the myST portal experienced intermittent downtime, sometimes becoming inaccessible for an entire day. Fortunately, this did not appear to affect the submission deadline of 30 September 2026. However, we also observed that some redelineation documents were removed on the day of the deadline, before the 5 p.m. cut-off.

For Syor 2, the EC should ensure the portal remains accessible throughout the objection period and that all relevant documents remain available until the deadline has passed. Moreover, we urge EC to keep myST portal as it is after the deadline until the conclusion of Local Enquiry (but disabling the submission of representation menu option). This is to allow Redelineation Objectors (qualified for local enquiry) to access the maps and data as part of the preparation for the local enquiry.

4. Improve responsiveness to email enquiries

We experienced a lack of response from the officers assigned to handle KSP redelineation enquiries. An email sent on 21 September 2026 received no reply, and a follow-up sent on 23 September also remained unanswered at the time of writing.

The EC should establish clear response procedures and ensure that enquiries are acknowledged and addressed within a reasonable timeframe.

5. Provide clearer procedures for physical submissions

EC Sarawak office staff appeared uncertain about the procedures for receiving physical redelineation representations. The EC should provide staff with clear instructions and ensure consistent handling of submissions, whether made physically or digitally.

Overall, the myST portal represents an important step towards more accessible public participation. For Syor 2, EC should work to implement the improvements as stated above.

Conclusion

The EC has made significant progress in addressing the technical and communication aspects of the redelineation process. However, these advances are undermined by its failure to fully uphold certain constitutional principles, address persistent deficiencies in electoral boundary design, and communicate the proposals effectively. We urge the EC to address these issues through meaningful improvements in Syor 2 to ensure greater electoral equality, respect for local ties, constitutional compliance and transparency.

We would like to thank International Idea for helping Tindak Malaysia and ROSE for Redelineation preparation in early 2026.