

**Submission ID:** O-0719  
**Date Received:** 9/4/26, 4:24 pm  
**Name:** Ben Riley  
**Organisation Name:** Liberal National Party of Queensland  
**Submission Topic:** Electorate Boundaries and Names  
**Electoral District:** Aspley; Broadwater; Bundaberg; Burdekin; Burnett; Caloundra; Cook; Gaven; Gregory; Gympie; Hervey Bay; Hinchinbrook; Kurwongbah; Logan; Mackay; Maryborough; Mermaid Beach; Mirani; Morayfield; Mulgrave; Mundingburra; Murrumba; Nudgee; Pumicestone; Warrego; Beaudesert (formerly Scenic Rim); Caboolture (New); Flinders (formerly Traeger); Labrador (formerly Bonney); Marsden (formerly Waterford); Oxenford (formerly Theodore)

**Submission:**

See below

**Submission Attachments**

Email - Ben Riley - LNP Objections to the QRC.pdf

Judge Gregory Koppenol  
Chairperson  
Queensland Redistribution Commission  
GPO Box 1393  
Brisbane QLD 4001

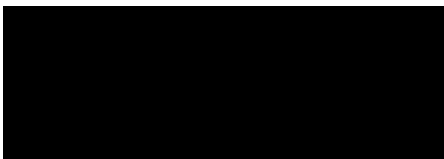
Dear Chairperson,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission with respect to the draft electoral boundaries that have been published.

The Liberal National Party appreciates the considerable effort that has gone into the process and our submission is intended to bring local focus to particular areas to ensure that the boundaries best satisfy the requirements of the legislation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information in relation to this submission.

Yours sincerely



Ben Riley  
State Director

## **Liberal National Party Submission**

The LNP lodges the following objections to the draft redistribution boundaries. In preparing its proposed redistribution, the Commission was required by section 46 of the Electoral Act to consider communities of interest, ways of communication and travel, physical features, existing electorate boundaries, demographic trends, and local government area boundaries.

The LNP's objections are grounded in those same criteria. Where the draft boundaries do not give adequate weight to one or more of those factors, targeted refinements are proposed that would better give effect to the Commission's statutory obligations.

### **Cook / Flinders**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries to the extent that the Mareeba Airport precinct is not contained within the electorate of Cook. Mareeba Airport is approximately eight kilometres from Mareeba and operated by Mareeba Shire Council.

The LNP further submits that the communities of Chillagoe and the Dimbulah irrigation area are strongly oriented toward Mareeba. The Growers are all part of the Tinaroo Dimbulah water scheme, obtain supplies and sell produce through Mareeba, reinforcing the functional relationship of these areas with the township.

Including these communities, to the extent they fit within population requirements would better reflect these established economic, cultural and social links.

### **Mulgrave / Hinchinbrook**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries as Walsh's Pyramid and the Aloomba locality should be part of the seat of Mulgrave.

Walsh's Pyramid is a scenic and defining backdrop to Gordonvale, and the Great Pyramid Race begins in Gordonvale and finishes at the peak.

Transferring Walsh's Pyramid and Aloomba into Mulgrave would better reflect these established community and cultural links.

### **Mundingburra / Burdekin**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries on the basis that Lavarack Barracks is not wholly contained within the seat of Mundingburra.

The Commission is required to consider communities of interest, and the LNP submits that Townsville's strong and distinct defence force community constitutes precisely such an interest. It is contrary to that principle for the Lavarack Barracks precinct to fall outside the three Townsville-based seats entirely.

Transferring Lavarack Barracks from Burdekin into Mundingburra would ensure this community is represented within a seat that reflects its functional and geographic ties to the city.

## **Gregory / Warrego**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries as the locality of Tambo is not included within the seat of Gregory. The Commission is required by section 46 to consider local government area boundaries, and the LNP submits that placing the Blackall Tambo Regional Council across two electorates does not adequately reflect that obligation.

The Blackall Tambo Regional Council was itself the product of a forced amalgamation, and significant work has since been undertaken to integrate these communities into a coherent and functional local government area.

The LNP submits that dividing that area across two electorates undermines that integration, and that the draft boundaries would better give effect to section 46 if Tambo were returned to Gregory, keeping the Blackall Tambo Regional Council within a single electorate.

## **Mirani / Mackay**

The LNP submits that proposed boundaries that separate the key sugarcane growing districts of Eton, Pioneer Valley, Homebush, Pleystow and Walkerstone from the milling infrastructure at Racecourse Sugar Mill is not considerate of the single community of interest that exists around sugar production.

The LNP proposes that the boundary instead be altered to follow Cowleys Road on a north-south axis, Peak Downs Highway on an east-west axis and then the North Coast rail line. This will have a minimal impact on the total voter numbers but will ensure the shared economic and agricultural community of interest remains intact.

## **Bundaberg / Burnett**

The LNP firmly objects to the proposed configuration in which the seat of Bundaberg sits like a doughnut hole, wholly within the boundaries of Burnett, which is why the LNP's original submission saw Bundaberg extend to the coast.

The Commission is required by section 46 to consider communities of interest and physical features, and the LNP submits that this arrangement fails on both counts.

If the Commission remains unpersuaded to adopt a fundamentally different model, the LNP submits that at a minimum, Bundaberg ought to be adjusted to straddle both banks of the Burnett River along its length. This would incorporate the community of Sharon to the northwest, extending east of Gin Gin Road to Splitters Creek, tracking north to Rosedale Road before cutting east through Gooburrum to the Burnett River.

These communities share a common outlook on the river and are collectively affected by its flows, particularly during flood and disaster events - as experienced in the recent flood. They are, on any proper application of the Commission's own criteria, a single community that belongs within one electorate.

### **Maryborough / Burnett / Gympie / Hervey Bay**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries that incorporates the community of Burrum Heads within the Burnett electorate.

The Commission is required to consider ways of communication and travel, and the LNP submits this criterion has not been adequately applied. Burrum Heads is effectively isolated from the Burnett electorate. The nearest crossing of the Isis River is at the Bruce Highway, meaning travel from Burrum Heads to Burrum Point on the opposite side of the river mouth takes approximately one hour and twenty minutes. Burrum Heads is principally served by the Maryborough and Hervey Bay communities via Hervey Bay–Burrum Heads Road.

Its natural home, on any proper application of section 46, is the Maryborough electorate.

To offset this adjustment, the LNP submits that Tiaro, including the Tiaro State Forest and areas west of the Mary River currently within Maryborough, would more logically sit within Gympie.

The LNP further objects to the exclusion of the Hervey Bay Hospital precinct from the Hervey Bay electorate, submitting that the community of interest in maintaining that health precinct within a single seat has not been given adequate weight in the draft. Returning just the Hervey Bay Hospital to the Hervey Bay electorate could be done without impacting the delicate population balance in the region.

### **Caloundra / Pumicestone**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries as they do not give adequate weight to the local government boundary between Caloundra and Pumicestone as a marker of distinct community identity and interest.

The Commission is required by section 46 to consider local government area boundaries, and the LNP submits that extending Caloundra south to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council boundary, east of the Bruce Highway, would better give effect to that obligation.

The LNP further submits that this refinement would achieve a more balanced distribution of population between the two seats, consistent with the Commission's enrolment objectives.

## **Caboolture / Morayfield**

The LNP submits that the semi-rural nature of much of the new seat of Caboolture would be better suited to represent the localities of Rocksberg, Greenstone and Moorina which are currently within the draft Morayfield boundaries.

The north/south transport links connect these localities more easily to Caboolture, which is recognised by them being part of Division 12 of the Moreton Bay Regional Council. This population shift allows Morayfield to remain within quota, but gives more scope for the strong growth that is projected to occur within the urban centre of the Morayfield electorate.

## **Kurwongbah / Murrumba**

The LNP submits that the Commission has erred in placing the Petrie Rail Station and Moreton Bay Campus at the Petrie Mill site of the Sunshine Coast University into the electorate of Murrumba.

Whilst the area currently has zero electors, it is projected that it will gain electors during the cycle, however Kurwongbah has far more scope for elector growth than the electorate of Murrumba.

The case for inclusion into Kurwongbah is also supported by the need to cross the electoral boundaries of Kurwongbah on Anzac Avenue in order to access the area within the SA1.

On application of section 46, it is clear there is a far stronger community of interest with Kurwongbah than the proposal to move this into Murrumba.

## **Nudgee / Aspley**

Whilst the LNP accepts the Commission's decision to adopt a different approach to the configuration of Aspley than that proposed in the LNP's original submission, an opportunity remains to reduce voter confusion by aligning the boundary between Nudgee and Aspley with the Deagon Ward boundary of the Brisbane City Council.

Section 46 of the Electoral Act requires the Commission to consider local government area boundaries. Aligning the electoral boundary with the Deagon Ward boundary would better give effect to that obligation and maintain consistency with previous Brisbane City Council redistributions, where this boundary has been recognised as a meaningful marker of community identity.

This adjustment would bring into Nudgee the community bounded by Ellison Road and Murphy Road, better reflecting the functional relationships of residents in that area, uniting those who use the Geebung train station, who look east to Sandgate Road for their north/south commute, and improve consistency between local government and state electoral boundaries.

## **Marsden / Waterford**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries as they fail to give adequate weight to the existing electorate boundaries and the disruption their alteration causes to affected voters.

Transferring the Park Ridge area, including the portion east of Mount Lindesay Highway and south of Green Road, into the seat of Logan would allow Waterford and Waterford West, south of Kingston Road, to be returned to their natural electorate.

This would permit the seat to retain the name "Waterford," better reflecting the community it serves and avoiding unnecessary disruption to voters in that area.

## **Beaudesert / Logan**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries as they do not adequately reflect the community of interest between Logan LGA residents and the seat that bears their region's name.

The Commission is required by section 46 to consider communities of interest, and the LNP submits that communities including Cedar Vale and Woodhill, bounded by the Logan River to the west and the Logan City LGA boundary to the south, share a stronger functional relationship with Logan than with Beaudesert.

Transferring those communities into Logan would better give effect to that criterion.

The LNP acknowledges that Beaudesert would correspondingly gain portions of the Guanaba–Springbrook area that have a functional relationship with Tamborine, with the northwestern boundary becoming Maudsland Road and Beaudesert–Nerang Road.

While this would see Beaudesert extend into the Gold Coast LGA, the LNP notes that the Tamborine community has itself actively sought inclusion within the Gold Coast LGA, reflecting a well-established community of interest with the Gold Coast that predates and supports this proposed boundary adjustment.

The LNP submits that this cross-LGA boundary is therefore a proportionate and reasonable consequence of better aligning both electorates with the communities they serve.

## **Oxenford**

The LNP objects to the Riverstone Crossing community not being included within the seat of Oxenford.

The Commission is required by section 46 to consider the physical features of proposed electorates, and the LNP submits that the Coomera River represents precisely the kind of logical, recognisable natural boundary the Commission should apply.

Extending Oxenford's southwestern boundary to the Coomera River would incorporate the Riverstone Crossing community, respect the physical features of the area, and avoid unnecessary disruption to voters whose community of interest is clearly oriented toward Oxenford.

### **Broadwater / Labrador**

The LNP objects to the Coombabah locality not being wholly contained within the Broadwater electorate.

The Commission is required to consider communities of interest, and the LNP submits that the area bounded by Brisbane Road and Pine Ridge Road, which includes Coombabah State High School, is functionally part of the Broadwater community.

The LNP further objects to the current placement of the small portion of Biggera Waters south of Coombabah Road and Drome Street within Broadwater, submitting that this area more naturally forms part of Labrador and that its transfer would consolidate a coherent community within a single electorate.

### **Gaven / Mermaid Beach**

The LNP objects to the draft boundaries where the Glades Golf Course, associated housing estates, and the Breakwater area are not included within the seat of Gaven.

These contiguous statistical areas form a logical southern tip to the Gaven electorate, bounded by Mudgeeraba Creek.

The Commission is required under section 46 to consider ways of communication and travel, and the LNP submits this has not been adequately applied here. The area's primary access is via the Pacific Motorway, oriented westward toward Gaven rather than eastward toward Mermaid Beach.

The community also has strong functional ties to the nearby All Saints Anglican School.

The draft boundaries would better reflect the physical features of the area, and the community of interest it represents, if this adjustment were made.

## **Objections to Electorate Names**

### **Coolum / Ninderry**

The LNP proposes that the electorate name revert to Ninderry, reflecting the centrality of Mount Ninderry and the surrounding community. Using a well-recognised and pre-existing electorate name reflects the community of interest well and reduces voter disruption.

### **Pimpama / Coomera**

The LNP acknowledges that it originally proposed the name Pimpama for this seat. However, that proposal was made in the context of the LNP's own suggested boundary configuration.

Given that the Commission has adopted a different boundary outcome, the LNP no longer supports the renaming and objects to the proposed change from Coomera to Pimpama.

The Commission has itself stated that voter recognition of an electorate's location is essential, and that names which do not identify or suggest the location of an electorate are apt to cause unnecessary confusion.

The LNP submits that this principle weighs strongly in favour of retaining the name Coomera, particularly given the significant volume of State and private infrastructure that bears that name, including Coomera Town Centre and Coomera Hospital, and the strong voter recognition that name already commands in the community.

### **Marsden / Waterford**

As set out above, the LNP submits that the boundaries for Waterford should be altered to minimise voter disruption.

It then follows that in order to support voter recognition, the seat retain the existing name of Waterford, better reflecting the community it serves.