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Name: Mark Yore
Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries and Names
Electoral District: All
Related Submissions:

Submission:

See below

Submission Attachments

Comments on Objections to the Draft Boundaries of the Queensland Redistribution Commission 2025 Mark Yore.pdf

Queensland Redistribution Commission

Comments on Objections to the Draft Boundaries of the Queensland Redistribution 2025

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Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my thoughts on the draft boundaries.

I welcome the interest in the boundaries by members of the public that resulted in 754 submissions. However it is not unknown for political parties, elected Members and those with other interests in the outcome to encourage submissions at this stage of the process.

Some areas are going to be messy because of extreme growth. In particular the southern Sunshine Coast and Moreton Bay regions, the northern Gold Coast and the Logan and Ipswich areas cannot be forecast with any degree of certainty and are likely to be out of kilter at the next redistribution.

I have read each submission and have been alternately encouraged or horrified at the level of understanding of our political process. Comments such as “*I object, as this is purely a political sham*”, “*just because the population is smaller than cities it should not affect the rights to a seat*”; and statements that democracy should not be a priority for the purposes of a redistribution.

A one-word response of “*Disagree*” is concise but not illuminating. There are some submissions, at this stage, that would require restarting the process completely, substantial legislative change or the introduction of a referendum.

The written outline of this process as published in the Government Gazette on April 20, 2026 seems fairly clear.

Comments on objections

In accordance with section 49(2) of the Electoral Act 1992, the Commission now invites comments on the objections. Any person or body may comment in writing to the Commission on the objections within 10 days after publication of this notice in the Queensland Government Gazette.

I encourage the Commission to set aside those submissions or parts thereof that do not meet this requirement by introducing topics not previously raised in objections to the draft boundaries.

Statement of Principles

1. A number of submissions rely on individual attachment to their current Member. Being a member of a politician’s fan club is not a valid reason for objection.
2. Some submissions call for massive changes to the Draft Boundaries based on no evidence of technical failure by the Commission. This is also not a valid reason for objection.
3. Some submissions, generally as a result of questionable statements by political entities, attempt to build engagement to in order to boost their electoral prospects. The question of electoral impact on marginal seats is also not a valid reason for objection.
4. Queensland’s fluctuating demographics have created a number of areas where increasing or relatively decreasing populations have created stress that can’t be overlooked. Objecting to change because you do not like change is not a valid reason for objection.
5. Objections that completely fail to address the subject of commenting on objections to the draft boundaries but wander off on small or wild tangents are not valid reasons for objection.
6. Objections that call for broad change that should have been introduced at the beginning of the process waste the time and effort of not just the Commissioners but also the many Queenslanders who have been engaged at multiple steps of the process.
7. With a few exceptions the submissions calling for a change to boundaries, generally to include or retain an area, do not indicate how they will remedy the impact on adjoining electorates. Not only does this create an imbalance that almost certainly breaches the numerical guidelines for redistribution, it removes the ability of those affected by the proposed changes to also have their say.

This part of the process is a refinement but not an opportunity to start again from scratch.

Scope of Submissions

I've collated the submissions in order to determine the relative weight of concern by respondents. This is only a rough guide because there was inconsistency in how some of the submissions were classified, particularly over multiple disparate electorates. However it's enough to determine the interest in each of the electorates. I've attached the full breakdown in *Annexure 1*.

Electorate Group	Submissions
All	74
Multiple	29
Hill	183
Aspley	46
Hervey Bay	44
Kurwongbah	28
Beaudesert (formerly Scenic Rim)	21
Greenbank (formerly Jordan)	21
Gympie	18
Hervey Bay; Maryborough	18
Aspley; Nudgee	16
Burnett; Callide	15
Burnett	13
Flinders (formerly Traeger)	13
Mulgrave	13
Maryborough	10
Gympie; Nambour (formerly Nicklin)	8
Callide	7
Nambour (formerly Nicklin)	7
Noosa; Nambour (formerly Nicklin)	7
Springfield (New)	7
Ipswich	6
Noosa	6
Gregory	5
Nudgee	5
Coolum (formerly Ninderry); Nambour (formerly Nicklin); Noosa	4
Hill; Mulgrave	4
Hinchinbrook	4
Lytton	4
Mirani	4
Moggill	4

Issues Raised in the Draft Boundaries

1) Electorate (Individual and Grouped) Electorate submissions

a) Hill

While a number of submissions stressed the indivisibility of the community of Hill, there seemed to be an inability to acknowledge that the current Hill is served wholly (Tablelands) or partly by divided (Cassowary Coast, Cairns and Mareeba) Local Government areas. It is also covered by the Federal electorates of Kennedy and Leichardt.

While there is significant support for their local Member, that alone is not a valid reason to object to changes. Redistributions are not unknown to Mr Knuth, having represented Charters Towers, Dalrymple and Hill; as well as Katter’s Australian Party (KAP) and the Liberal National Party (LNP).

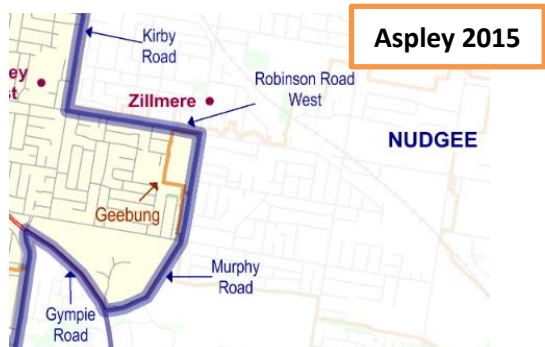
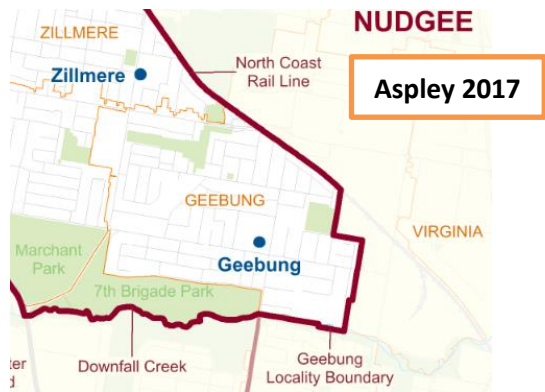
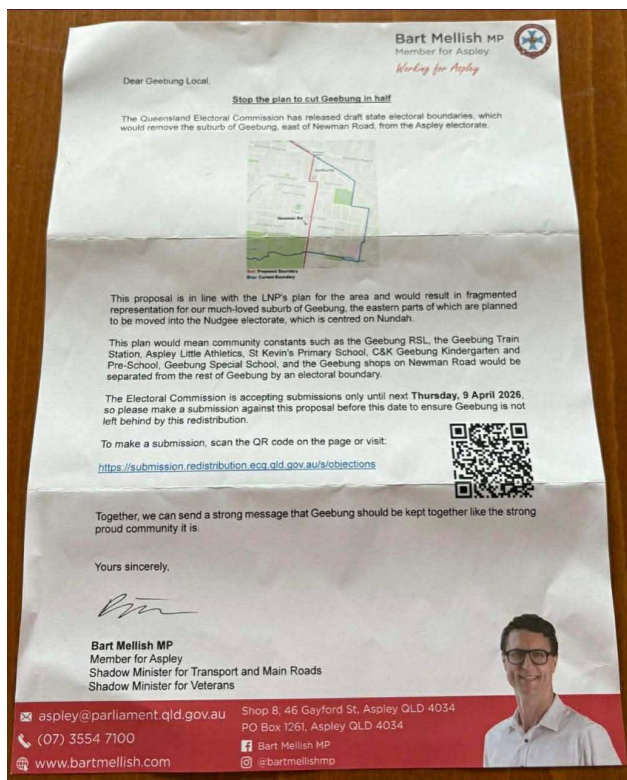
b) Aspley/Nudgee

This area had the second-largest number of responses based on individual electorates. Many of them do not meet the requirements for an objection, based mostly on “my MP has worked hard for our area and me personally on several issues” or repeating talking points provided in the letter below.

The correspondence distributed by the Member for Aspley regarding the section of Geebung being redistributed to Nudgee advised of the “fragmented representation” that would bring. (see Annexure 2). While I do not believe that solely political considerations formed this campaign, it is a happy coincidence for this area to be included in a marginal seat.

I am not aware if the residents of McDowall that were previously in Aspley but are now in the draft electorate of Everton received the same correspondence.

I also note that “well-loved” boundaries that include this section west of Newman Road were added to Aspley at the 2017 election. Prior to that at the 2015 election the boundary was further west at Robinson Road.



c) Hervey Bay /Maryborough

I’m not sure why the animosity between Hervey Bay and Maryborough exists but it does appear to have been stoked for political purposes. A number of submissions appear to have

confused the impact of the boundary changes despite both electorates being in the Fraser Coast Regional Council.

One solution could be to reattach the Hervey Bay Hospital back into the Hervey Bay electorate. There is a great deal of angst regarding its shift and I believe many of those who made submissions would view it as a win. A single SA1 (31904151827) would move 233 current electors in the area bounded by Nissen Street, Bayswater Drive, Pantlins Lane and Uraween Road, Pialba and the hospital and Hervey Bay Christian Academy back into the Hervey Bay electorate. It would also attach the hospital to the various medical services directly across Nissen Street.

d) Kurwongbah

While I'm not suggesting that the Member for Kurwongbah has done a quick ring around of his local supporters... I'm actually stating it, given the number of submissions that could be repurposed as an employment reference. That's not to suggest that the submissions don't have merit, just a slight question if the QRC would have received them unprompted.

e) Beaudesert (formerly Scenic Rim)

The main dispute appears to be over the renaming of the seat. I support the submission of the Federal Member for Wright to rename it to Wyaralong as I note on my comments on his objection.

f) Greenbank (formerly Jordan)

There is an almost one-sided view that Ripley must remain in an Ipswich electorate instead of going into Logan electorate. Unfortunately, in one of the highest growth areas in Queensland, there is not a single suggestion as to how to achieve it in line with the Electoral Act.

Dr Mickel's comment that Ipswich will have five electorates at the next redistribution is almost certainly correct and I'm sure that the Member for Greenbank will work just as hard for the residents of South Ripley as the Member for an Ipswich-based seat would.

In the meantime there will be growing pains.

g) Gympie

"I object to the proposal of boundary realignment of some localities to Nambour" is not a helpful objection. Unfortunately there is a lack of clarity amongst many of these submissions as what the effect of the boundary changes would be. Perhaps the QRC could ease concerns that people would be travelling to Nambour Hospital instead of Gympie Hospital if the boundaries changed.

Objections such as *"The proposed areas to be moved out of the Gympie region should remain a part of Gympie. They have, and always will be a part of the Gympie community"* seem to be mixing the state electorate with the council area.

h) Burnett /Callide

Objections to the draft boundaries are almost completely centred around the areas of Agnes Water and 1770. Unfortunately moving these areas into Callide is the least worst option, compared to splitting Bundaberg or fragmenting the remainder of those coastal areas.

The lack of populations starves the redistribution of options.

i) Flinders (formerly Traeger)

I think that sometimes people overestimate the impact of being moved into another electorate. Comments such as *"this redistribution is ostracising us and our neighbours from our community"* lead me to ask "How?"

The other concern is the name of the electorate. I do agree that Flinders may not be the best option and the QRC may wish to seek supplementary information from those who have

raised that objection. Ideally you want an area that won't be moved out of the electorate in future redistributions. In my original submission I suggested Mt Isa, but any of the regional town such as Richmond or Camooweal would be an improvement.

2) Multiple and All submissions

There is a great deal of chaff in these objections and I do not envy the Commissioners having to read through some of them. For that reason I am not going to individually examine all 754 objections. However there are a few diamonds in the rough and I believe the Commissioners will be able to thread their way through them.

3) Political organisations

a) REXIT Australia Inc (O-406)

I've included REXIT (Regional Exit Australia) in this section as a proto-political organisation despite not being a registered political party.

A particular issue with REXIT's approach to the electorates of Hill, Wide Bay/Burnett and Callide is a perspective that the boundaries of North Queensland, Far North Queensland and Mackay/Isaac are somehow fixed and each is entitled to the number of electorates they previously had despite population changes. There are going to be times when seats straddle regions and even occasionally Local Government Areas because otherwise the numbers simply won't work.

Unfortunately REXIT has a view that these regional areas represent potential new states. There is no way to implement their proposed boundaries without increasing the variance involved in electoral numbers.

b) Queensland Greens (O-685)

I agree with a number of The Greens sentiments, particularly with respect to Miller, Mount Ommaney and the alignment of boundaries with major roads.

I do not agree with their view on naming conventions, regarding the previous redistribution as introducing an unwarranted free-for-all when it came to names. My view is that electorate names should reflect actual suburb names and should not be an expression of particular beliefs, preferring the practical over the political.

However their points around multiple names are well taken, particularly in the central Brisbane area. I argued that the name Meanjin is appropriate for the central Brisbane area containing Parliament House as it is a clearly defined location, being that section of Gardens Point to Parliament House and extending to Eagle Street.

Maiwar, the indigenous name for the Brisbane River, could be applied to any of 10 electorates within the Brisbane City area.

With respect to the name Eight Mile Plains, it is not only well known locally but it predates many other suburbs in the area. The Eight Mile Plains Agricultural Area was first gazetted in 1864 and was named after the distance from Woollongabba following Logan Road. Although the section of Eight Mile Plains on the Eastern side of Logan Road is proposed to be in the electorate of Mansfield, this particular area is vastly different to the rest of Eight Mile Plains and there is a good case for it to be absorbed into Upper Mount Gravatt, as access to this area passes from Upper Mt Gravatt to Rochedale. Unfortunately the extension of the M1 through this area created a number of insular pockets.

I agree with their housekeeping proposals for Clayfield/Stafford and Bulimba/Carindale, with the latter SA1 possibly able to be realigned at the next Census.

c) Katter's Australian Party (O-706)

The Proposed Principles at the heart of this submission are simple – we want outsized representation for our areas, whether that is increasing the weighting based on land size or indigenous councils. It's a request for the principles of "*One Vote, Different Values*".

What North and Western Queensland doesn't need is the reintroduction of "*rotten boroughs*", but greater investment in regional Queensland to increase the population.

Having said that, some of the minor boundary changes referred to could be looked at - with the understanding that other people affected by these changes will have no opportunity to put their case.

d) Liberal National Party of Queensland (O-719)

Many of the minor changes made by the LNP submission are reasonable, but as the scope increases they become far more difficult to implement due to knock- on effects.

In particular I note the objection to the boundaries of Pumicestone as it crosses the council boundaries of Moreton Bay and Sunshine Coast. I also note that the LNP submission for Springwood crossed a long-standing boundary between Brisbane and Logan at Rochedale at Underwood Road, which is also a Federal electorate boundary.

I am also unsure how removing the added part of the Sunshine Coast while also removing the areas west of the Bruce Highway will allow Pumicestone to remain in quota.

e) Australian Labor Party (State of Queensland) (O-724)

The ALP Objection to the draft boundaries is much more detailed than their original submission, continuing a long-standing practice. Whether that is designed to reduce the opportunity to comment on their proposals, or whether it is simply to allow them to only comment on other proposals they object to, is a matter of conjecture.

However I note that some of these changes are substantial and, if implemented, would strip affected Queenslanders of the right to object. This was a particular problem in the 2017 redistribution when major changes were made at a comparatively late stage.

4) State Members

a) Member for Condamine (O-501)

I am generally supportive of this objection. There are valid community considerations and Condamine, Toowoomba North and Toowoomba South are stable electorates. Any impact on quotas to meet this change would be minor.

b) Member for Pine Rivers (O-513)

I'm not quite sure why the Member for Pine Rivers has a view on the boundaries of Warrego but I welcome her engagement in the process.

c) Member for Hill (O-607)

This is a well-argued and considered submission from the local Member. Had it been lodged at the beginning of the process it may have substantially changed the outcome of the redistribution.

d) Member for Kurwongbah (O-725)

The location of the Member's electorate office is not a material concern. Historically there have been a number of electorate offices located either accidentally or deliberately outside the boundaries of the electorate. This should also be a consideration for Parliamentary Services to locate electorate offices as close to the centre of electorates, subject to accessibility, as possible.

I also note that the office was moved from Kallangur to Narangba after Mr King's election in 2017. At that stage Young Road was close to the northern edge of the electorate. Members have a degree of responsibility over where electorate offices are located and the majority of them locate them centrally.

The location of the schools are a concern but in general elected Members pastoral work reaches across the chamber, even if they represent different political parties.

I'm confident that the electors in Kurwongbah can adjust to the new boundaries and new representation, much the same as people across Queensland are adjusting to much larger changes.

e) Member for Logan (O-749)

While the Member for Logan would have liked to attend public hearings, raising the issue after the draft maps were drawn was probably the wrong time to do it. As an elected Member of Parliament I would expect that he would have a greater knowledge of the statutory timeframes involved in a redistribution.

f) Hon. Dr John Mickel (O-752)

I welcome the contribution from the former Speaker and former Member for Logan. Dr John Mickel is widely respected and the issues he has raised are relevant.

As I've stated, the growth in the Ipswich-Logan corridor is both explosive and uneven. I had significant difficulties in my submission because of the suburban growth. The White Rock Conservation Estate can fit within Springfield with minimal adjustment. As Dr Mickel notes, at the next redistribution we will be revisiting this area again and the boundaries will need to be radically redrawn at that time. The only consolation is that the majority of residents will be new to the area and will adjust.

I agree that the name of Algester should be replaced by Calamvale. If Marsden were to be renamed Berrinba that would be a suitable choice.

g) Member for Coomera (O-754)

I support the solution from the Member for Coomera. If the suburb of Pimpama is not wholly contained within the proposed electorate then it is an unsuitable name. Since the entirety of Coomera will be within the electorate I assume it is just one of those things that slipped through.

5) Federal Members

a) Federal Member for Blair (O-370)

The Ipswich-Logan growth has created a division between what is desirable and what is possible. As the Federal Member notes, this is causing issues at the fracture point due to growth. I do not believe taking an electorate that is dealing with significant growth right to the allowable margins is the right approach.

I do support the unpopulated conservation area being moved to Springfield.

While my original suggestion (and almost every other submission) was to continue Moggill into Fig Tree Pocket we do not have the opportunity to revisit that. Moggill will remain significantly under growth because of the possibility of future development in the area. If the seat must move south then I suggest it should sit at the upper range of the quota.

b) Federal Member for Wright (O-376)

I agree with the Federal Member for Wright. Wyaralong is both a significant water storage that transverses the electorate as well as a mostly unpopulated suburb within. In many ways it mirrors the electorate of Kurwongbah 30 years ago. Given Queensland's extensive growth I anticipate that this area will be suburbia by the time the next redistribution rolls around.

I also note the number of people who are divided on whether it should be called Beaudesert or Scenic Rim and I believe Wyaralong would be a reasonable compromise.

c) Federal Member for Kennedy (O-745)

The Federal Member for Kennedy has presented a petition signed by a number of people that asks the Commission to maintain the same number of seats with a smaller relative population. As discussed earlier this is not possible under the Electoral Act and unfortunately he does not offer a way to achieve that.

6) Local Government Councillors and Councils

There were 19 submissions from Councils, individual Councillors and former Councillors. In general the submissions looked at their particular area and provided occasional detail on minor changes. However there was an absence of how the numerical balance would be met, particularly for those electorates that would need to cross Council boundaries.

In a number of instances there was an attachment to their sitting State Members based on personal interactions.

7) Other entities and organisations

I've identified 6 Community groups, 12 Industry groups and 8 groups that could be described as schools, local businesses and others.

As many elected Members know, local Community groups can be a mixed blessing. They can be a vibrant contributor to local representation; they can be a stalking horse for political candidates; or they can be a man with time on his hands, a dog and a host of Facebook aliases.

Industry groups can also have their own agenda – I note 3 Council-based entities, 3 associated with the sugar industry, 5 business groups in various industries and the QCWA. While they may provide an outside perspective on matters affecting the redistribution, it would be naïve to assume that self-interest would colour some of the submissions. Of course, you ignore the QCWA at your peril.

The final group consists as mostly local supporters and comprise 3 from Narangba, 2 from Geebung, 1 from Scenic Rim and 2 from Hill.

Many of these groups have strong views, either positive or negative, of political parties and their local Member.

Naming Conventions

I urge the Commission to stick to their guidelines for naming conventions. While there are a few sensible changes to be made the basic principles underlying these names should remain consistent.

Otherwise we will end up with suggestions such as those from O-0751, which call for the electorates within the Redlands Local Government Area to be renamed to Redlands South, Redlands North and Redlands West. Unfortunately the precedents in Toowoomba and Brisbane encourage this approach and it's a very slippery slope towards renaming Mansfield to Brisbane South South South and a bit East.

There have been suggestions about electorates named after people being retained, such as Oodgeroo and Traegar. My view is that they are more properly contained within the Federal electorate naming scheme and I have some thoughts on repurposing those names for the coming Federal redistribution for Queensland.

Summary

There were a number of interesting objections to the draft boundaries of the redistribution. Many of them are valid, some are workable and for others I have provided suggestions on how that goal may be achieved.

Unfortunately there are also objections that didn't read the guidelines and have veered off into the wilderness.

There are also objections that were challenging and I urge the Commission to recommend ways to provide support for those wishing to make a suggestion. Educating Queenslanders on what impact a redistribution will have on them personally may very well reduce the number of submissions in general but may increase the number of submissions that can make a meaningful difference.

I believe the ECQ should think about providing a template to guide submitters around what they want to achieve. It wouldn't need to be complex, just enough to take them through each part one step at a time.

In closing, this has been an exceptionally professional redistribution and I thank the Commissioners and staff for putting a considerable amount of effort into it.

Kind regards,

Mark Yore

Addendum 1 – Complete list of submissions by electorate

Electorate Group	Submissions
All	74
Multiple	29
Hill	183
Aspley	46
Hervey Bay	44
Kurwongbah	28
Beaudesert (formerly Scenic Rim)	21
Greenbank (formerly Jordan)	21
Gympie	18
Hervey Bay; Maryborough	18
Aspley; Nudgee	16
Burnett; Callide	15
Burnett	13
Flinders (formerly Traeger)	13
Mulgrave	13
Maryborough	10
Gympie; Nambour (formerly Nicklin)	8
Callide	7
Nambour (formerly Nicklin)	7
Noosa; Nambour (formerly Nicklin)	7
Springfield (New)	7
Ipswich	6
Noosa	6
Gregory	5
Nudgee	5
Coolum (formerly Ninderry); Nambour (formerly Nicklin); Noosa	4
Hill; Mulgrave	4
Hinchinbrook	4
Lytton	4
Mirani	4
Moggill	4
Barron River	3
Beenleigh (formerly Macalister)	3
Cook; Flinders (formerly Traeger)	3
Indooroopilly (formerly Maiwar)	3
Ipswich West	3
Ipswich; Greenbank (formerly Jordan)	3
Mount Ommaney	3
Algeria	2
Barron River; Cook	2
Burnett; Hervey Bay; Maryborough	2
Cleveland (formerly Oodgeroo)	2
Condamine	2
Cook	2
Cook; Flinders (formerly Traeger); Hill	2
Coolum (formerly Ninderry)	2
Flinders (formerly Traeger); Hill	2
Gaven	2
Gladstone	2
Greenbank (formerly Jordan); Redbank (formerly Bundamba)	2
Gregory; Warrego	2
Hill; Hinchinbrook; Mulgrave	2
Inala	2
Logan	2
All; Aspley	1

All; Barron River	1
Annerley (formerly Miller)	1
Annerley (formerly Miller); Mount Ommaney; Springfield (New)	1
Annerley (formerly Miller); Springfield (New)	1
Aspley; Burdekin	1
Barron River; Hill	1
Barron River; Mulgrave	1
Beaudesert	1
Beenleigh (formerly Macalister); Cleveland (formerly Oodgeroo)	1
Beenleigh (formerly Macalister); Gaven; Oxenford (formerly Theodore)	1
Beenleigh (formerly Macalister); Marsden (formerly Waterford)	1
Broadwater; Burnett; Callide	1
Buderim	1
Bulimba; Greenbank (formerly Jordan)	1
Burdekin	1
Cairns; Mulgrave	1
Callide; Nanango	1
Capalaba; Cleveland (formerly Oodgeroo); Redlands	1
Cleveland (formerly Oodgeroo); Indooroopilly (formerly Maiwar)	1
Condamine; Lockyer; Toowoomba North; Toowoomba South	1
Deception Bay (formerly Bancroft)	1
Eight Mile Plains (formerly Toohey); Mansfield	1
Ferny Grove; Ashgrove (formerly Cooper)	1
Ferny Grove; Hill; Mulgrave	1
Flinders	1
Greenbank (formerly Jordan); Redbank (formerly Bundamba); Springfield (New)	1
Gregory; Mackay; Mirani	1
Gympie; Maryborough	1
Hinchinbrook, Mundingburra, Thuringowa and Townsville	1
Hill; Caboolture (New); Greenbank (formerly Jordan)	1
Hill; Flinders (formerly Traeger)	1
Hill; Hinchinbrook; Flinders (formerly Traeger)	1
Hill; Mulgrave; Flinders (formerly Traeger)	1
Hill; Noosa	1
Hinchinbrook; Townsville	1
Inala; Moggill; Mount Ommaney	1
Inala; Mount Ommaney; Annerley (formerly Miller); Springfield (New)	1
Inala; Mount Ommaney; Springfield (New)	1
Ipswich West; Moggill	1
Ipswich West; Moggill; Greenbank (formerly Jordan); Springfield (New)	1
Ipswich; Ipswich West; Greenbank (formerly Jordan)	1
Ipswich; Moggill	1
Kurwongbah; Morayfield; Pine Rivers	1
Labrador (formerly Bonney)	1
Logan; Woodridge; Beenleigh (formerly Macalister)	1
Mackay; Mirani	1
Moggill; Beenleigh (formerly Macalister); Indooroopilly (formerly Maiwar)	1
Mount Ommaney; Springfield (New)	1
Mulgrave; Flinders (formerly Traeger)	1
Pimpama (formerly Coomera)	1
Redbank (formerly Bundamba)	1
Redlands	1
Scenic Rim	1
Springfield	1
Springwood	1
Warrego	1
Total	754

Addendum 2 – Letterbox drop from Bart Mellish, Member for Aspley, to Geebung residents.

Bart Mellish MP
Member for Aspley
Working for Aspley 

Dear Geebung Local,

Stop the plan to cut Geebung in half

The Queensland Electoral Commission has released draft state electoral boundaries, which would remove the suburb of Geebung, east of Newman Road, from the Aspley electorate.



This proposal is in line with the LNP's plan for the area and would result in fragmented representation for our much-loved suburb of Geebung, the eastern parts of which are planned to be moved into the Nudgee electorate, which is centred on Nundah.

This plan would mean community constants such as the Geebung RSL, the Geebung Train Station, Aspley Little Athletics, St Kevin's Primary School, C&K Geebung Kindergarten and Pre-School, Geebung Special School, and the Geebung shops on Newman Road would be separated from the rest of Geebung by an electoral boundary.

The Electoral Commission is accepting submissions only until next **Thursday, 9 April 2026**, so please make a submission against this proposal before this date to ensure Geebung is not left behind by this redistribution.

To make a submission, scan the QR code on the page or visit:

<https://submission.redistribution.ecq.qld.gov.au/s/objections>



Together, we can send a strong message that Geebung should be kept together like the strong proud community it is.

Yours sincerely,



Bart Mellish MP
Member for Aspley
Shadow Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Shadow Minister for Veterans



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