

Submission ID: O-0482
Date Received: 1/4/26, 1:14 pm
Name: Benjamin Close
Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries and Names
Electoral District: All

Submission:

Detailed submission in response the Commissions proposal.

Appended Submission - 3/4/2026, 9:39 am

Submission Attachments

queensland state.docx

Email - Benjamin Close - Re_ QRC Submission.pdf

Find attached my objections against the proposed redistribution.

First and foremost, I would like to note Ben Raues post on Tallyroom.com.au <https://www.tallyroom.com.au/64578> to which I agree in regards to the districts of Woodridge and Marsden (Waterford), the districts of Toohey (Eight Mile Plains) and Stretton & the districts of Greenbank (Jordan) and Springfield.

"81.9% of voters are new to "Marsden", which the ECQ claims is a new name for Waterford. 62.5% of Marsden voters have actually come from Woodridge.

Meanwhile just 37.5% of voters in the new Woodridge came from the old Woodridge. 67% have actually come from Waterford.

So I would argue that Woodridge is a new name for Waterford and Marsden is a new name for Woodridge.

This tweak lowers the number of voters in a new seat down to 15.01%.

Greenbank is supposedly a new name for Jordan, but only 39.1% of Greenbank voters have come from Jordan. Eight Mile Plains is supposedly a new name for Toohey, but 57.3% of voters come from the abolished seat of Stretton. So I would argue that it is actually Toohey that that has been abolished, not Stretton. But perhaps I'm wrong? Let me know.

This lowers the number of voters moved to 14.85%.

Just to summarise, I have found a number of seats where I think the Commission has been mistaken in matching the old seat to the new

Greenbank is the new seat, not Springfield. The old seat of Jordan has transferred much more substantially to Springfield than Greenbank.

Toohey was abolished, not Stretton. The new seat of Eight Mile Plains overlaps substantially more with Stretton.

Marsden is not a new name for Waterford. Rather the name of Woodridge was applied to the old seat of Waterford, and the old seat of Woodridge was renamed Marsden."

This analysis is correct and I would hope the commission adjusts accordingly. I would also argue that Sunnybank is a more appropriate for Eight Mile Plains. Given the whole suburb is not in the seat and it the edge of the seat whereas Sunnybank is at the centre and is a previous name for the seat which is very similar in terms of makeup.

In my own submission and comments on suggestions I proposed Woodridge became Marsden. Given Waterford is also no longer relevant and Woodridge's voters being largely in "Marsden" a new name for Waterford is needed. I would propose Meadowbrook.

In regards to the remainder of the proposal there are some things agree have been done correctly, some which i think a little modification is needed (GC and Logan) and some i largely disagree with. Mainly the abolition of Hill. I support the LNP but I cannot see the logic in abolishing Hill. I think abolishing an at quota seat in the middle of probably the most stable area in terms of elector numbers makes no sense. The flow on effects wreak havoc on surrounding seats that do not need drastic alteration.

I would strongly oppose the abolition of Hill and direct the commissions attention to either Mirani, Burdekin or Callide as the numbers in Central Queensland are where the issue is. The area where the most out of quota numbers are in terms of actual electors and projected is most dire here. Furthermore, these two seats which actually touch are most optimal for abolition not only for that reason but because they cross multiple LGAs and contain multiple partial LGAs.

Despite the commission argument over Col factors in Hill, the Col problems in Mirani and Callide are much worse and that is where the commission should focus their efforts. As these boundaries make the Col problems worse in those two seats. There is also the fact that the Atherton Tablelands have significant Col with the Cassowary Coast despite what the commission have stated. People travelling to the Tablelands obviously have to travel from or through the Cassowary Coast connected by the Palmerston Highway and not the far reaches of north western Queensland.

Mirani is the most concerning. It crosses parts of Mackay, Issacs, Livingstone and Rockhampton. Only containing partial parts of all 4. Callide is similar in that it crosses 3 partials LGAs and 2 whole LGAs. Being parts of Gladstone, Bundaberg and Western Downs. Along with the Banana and North Burnett shires. I would implore the commission to revisit my proposal suggestion 114 and Cs-385 which fixed everything up to see a better alternative for Northern, Central and Regional Queensland.

In addition, I have solved Traeger aka Flinders by adding the shires of Diamantina, Winton and Boulia. While it increases the area by 200,000 sqkm these areas have a lot better Col with Mt Isa and are a lot closer than the voters in Atherton Tablelands. Furthermore, the Shire of Boulia is already in the same division as Mt Isa federally in the Division of Kennedy It also shores up Flinders projected enrolment better than the current proposal that would see it within tolerance at next redistribution whereas the current proposal would see it outside the tolerance. Furthermore, this allows Gregory to move into the Issacs Regional Council and become less reliant on ghost voters. This

also provides a better projected enrolment for Gregory. This also makes it so Issacs Council is only in 2 seats instead of 3.

In regards to naming I believe as Gregory moves closer to the coast and would undoubtedly move even further closer at next redistribution due to current trends on the Sunshine Coast another regional seat will need to be abolished at the next redistribution to allow for a new seat there. I believe the next redistribution will allow the other troublesome seat of Callide to be abolished. This would pull Gregory down and likely make it smaller. Gregory which currently has existed since 1878 would be able to focused on a geographic area. For that reason, I propose transferring the name of Gregory to Traeger/Flinders through this territory transfer. Flinders is proposed to be named after the highway that connects the seat. The name Gregory could also be used for that reason the man who for who the seat is named has at least 3 namesakes in the current seat that would unlikely be removed at any future redistributions due to being located in the shire of Burke. Namely the town of Gregory and the Gregory River along with the Gregory Highway which runs from Mount Surprise to Charters Towers. This future prospect of Gregory would obviously leave Traeger as the biggest seat in Queensland but due to its remoteness in the outback of Queensland this is inevitable.

In regards to Gregory it could be called Belyando after the mighty river which flows through the seat and is over 1000km long. Gregory can also lose the Shire of Barcoo to Warrego in order to fix up the shape of Gregory and the numbers in Warrego.

These alternatives allow for the minor adjustment in Cook taking in the parts of Mareeba from Hill. Barron River can remain unchanged although it could take in the unpopulated Lumley Hill from Cairns. Cairns can take the parts north of Toogood Road from Mulgrave and Mulgrave can absorb the remainder of Cairns from Hill. This fits Cairns neatly into 3 seats. And unites the parts of the Shire of Mareeba into almost one seat.

Hill is then free to take in the remainder of the Shire of Hinchinbrook into one seat. This would make Hinchinbrook the 4th Townsville seat. Currently the Hinchinbrook/Townsville boundary is the Bohle River which makes for a much better and more natural boundary than the one proposed.

Townsville can make a slight adjustment taking in the one Sa1 encompassing the Anderson Gardens to move it to High Street and Ross Rover Road. While the projected numbers have it a bit more under quota this can be fixed at a future date and as the same Thuringowa can be left unaltered. This is to compensate for the future above quota seats in the Moreton Bay/Sunshine Coast area which at present state aren't going to be fixed this time around either. These two seats can be fixed at the next redistribution when better numbers become available. Mundingburra can then take in the remainder of Townsville City from Burdekin.

As it loses the parts of Townsville and Issacs Council, Burdekin Shire can then be paired with the Whitsunday LGA which it shares a much better Col. This would result in an approximately 55/45 split between the Burdekin and Whitsunday seats in terms of electors' numbers provided although the majority of electors would come from Whitsunday Council. If either of these names were no longer appropriate an alternative could be sought. Possibly Edgecumbe after the Bay that currently separates both seats. It would also reunite Whitsunday Council into one seat, which is currently split between Burdekin and Whitsunday.

This in turn fixes up the Mirani/Callide problem and the splitting of Mackay, Rockhampton and Livingstone shires which are currently split into 4, 3 and 2 seats respectively. My proposal would unite Livingstone Shire into one seat. Split Rockhampton only between 2. And reduce Mackay down to 3 seats and now its wholly in 2 seats with the remainder in the 3rd as opposed to having Mackay and three partial seats.

The commission's proposal pushes Mirani into a 5th partial LGA.

Assuming the commission just merges Burdekin/Whitsunday. This allows Mirani to absorb all of Mackay from Whitsunday and shed the parts south of the Alligator River along with the parts of Isaacs and Livingstone Shire to Keppel and the parts of Rockhampton to Callide. While Mirani would still be in the seat it would only contain about 1/3 of its voters and therefore a name change would still be required. Pioneer River being an obvious choice. The proposed seat of Mackay could remain as is.

The flow on effect pushes Keppel up to the Alligator River and it can then lose the parts of Rockhampton to Rockhampton. This change unites Livingstone Shire into one seat more neatly arranges Mackay Regional and puts Rockhampton into only 2 seats.

Rockhampton can then shed any excess quota to Callide which has already taken in the rest of Rockhampton from Mirani.

Callide could lose all of Gladstone to Gladstone, all of Bundaberg to Burnett which through territory changes can fix up the under-quota Bundaberg and lose the parts of Western Downs the tribunal has already ceded to Warrego. This unites Bundaberg into 2 seats. There is absolutely no need for Callide to take on more of Gladstone council. Callide in addition to taking all of Rockhampton from Mirani could take in Gracemere from Rockhampton to fix its numbers up. Although Col and shape might be of concern the next redistribution would likely see Callide abolished as it sits in the middle of over quota Sunshine Coast and under quota North Queensland. I have no doubt these areas would be split in the south to Warrego to the west to Gregory and to the east to

Nanango. This could be regarded as the "leftovers" seat that would be fixed the next time around.

Callide has enough Col problems already without taking in more of Gladstone, part of South Burnett, part of Gympie and parts of the Fraser Coast. As well as shedding parts of the Banana Shire which is currently united in the one seat. That would mean Callide crosses 8 different LGA boundaries. Only containing the whole of one.

Callide currently contains 5 different LGAs. My proposal limits it to 4.

Warrego should also take in the town of Warra from Callide. Along with the Shire of Barcoo from Gregory to help with the shape of Gregory and the numbers in Warrego. Tambo should be returned to Gregory as well.

In regards to the Bundaberg-Burnett boundaries I would keep the changes proposed in regards to the additions but add in the territory south of Burnett Heads and Moore's road to give greater numbers in terms of electors and remove the bit south of Silky Oak Street in order to give it a much cleaner boundary in terms of shape it would be better if that part weren't protruding from the district.

Hervey Bay would be better off contracting rather than expanding its boundaries focusing entirely on the coastal areas in Hervey Bay itself. This would allow Maryborough to shift north and take in all of the Booral - River Heads SA1s. Hervey Bay could take in the remainder of the suburbs encompassed by the Pialba - Eli Waters SA1s from Maryborough. This would also entail shifting Gympie along the Eastern bank of the Mary River up to Three Mile Road, Matilda Way and along Tinana Creek.

This would mean Fraser Island or "K'Gari" would need to be shifted due to access being no longer in the seat. It would probably go better in Gympie due to the fact it is also in the same seat federally.

Noosa should take in more of the Noosa council specifically the parts of north of the Bruce Highway.

Nambour should shift south and take in all the Palmwoods SA1s.

Glass House can shed the Caloundra Hinterland to Caboolture and take in the parts of the Sunshine Coast from Pumicestone along with the parts of Caboolture between the Bruce Highway and Beerburrum Road.

Nanango can then take in parts of Gympie west of the Mary River and south of the Forest, while losing Somerset Council and the parts of Crows Nest that have been recently added to it to Caboolture.

Maroochydore should revert to its previous boundaries. Along with Buderim and Kawana. These boundaries were within tolerance and the boundaries were much more natural.

Moreton Bay could remain largely the same except I would retract Pumicestone back to the Moreton Bay LGA border. I would also shift the parts of Caboolture between Beerburrum Road and the Bruce Highway into Glass House. Caboolture could take in the parts of Somerset Council from Nanango along with the parts of Crows Nest added to Nanango from Condamine. I would recommend naming Caboolture to D'Aguiar. This name is more inclusive of the seats diversity. The name was suggested at the last redistribution before ultimately not being used.

The district of Currumbin slightly alters the boundary to take in the remainder of the suburb of Tallebudgera. I would argue the Tallebudgera Creek makes for a much more natural boundary. Also, this adjustment does not fully solve the deficit in Currumbin. Pushing Currumbin up to Palm Beach Avenue does solve it. Likewise, Burleigh crossing Camp Creek to take in the rest of Varsity Lakes also crosses another natural boundary. Burleigh would be better taking the suburb of Miami and the rest of the suburb of Burleigh Water from Mermaid Beach. Mermaid Beach would be better taking the suburb of Clear Island Waters from Surfers Paradise and also ending at the Mudgeeraba Creek in Robina as a natural boundary. While the commission has recommended no changes to Surfers Paradise, Southport and Bonney now Labrador both Surfers Paradise and Labrador are going to be approximately 9% over quota on forward estimates and this can be fixed by small adjustments to Surfers Paradise, Southport and Labrador. Surfers Paradise after losing Clear Island Waters to Mermaid Beach can gain the remainder of Bundall either along Statyer Avenue or the Nerang River. Southport can take the part of Southport from Labrador that is south of Coders Creek. In regards to Gaven I feel the boundary is unnecessarily long and the tail an odd and unnecessary protrusion. Therefore, I propose a territory swap with Mudgeeraba. Mudgeeraba would gain everything south of Nielsens Road in exchange for everything north of Alexandria Drive, the Nerang River and the SA1s north of the Advancetown Lake SA1.

Whilst I believe it was unnecessary for there to be a crossing between Logan and the Gold Coast, I suppose the Beenleigh crossing can be left alone. However, I don't believe Logan should cross into Redlands or Ipswich. These crossings are not necessary and can be avoided. As there was opposition to Mount Cotton being included in Springwood the same Col problems could be raised with Carbrook being put into Redlands. This area should be put in Springwood and wouldn't alter the numbers much in either seat. In regards to the Logan/Ipswich crossing Ripley South and the Ipswich area should be united into Redbank. Greenbank can then be moved across to the Mount Lindsay highway in Logan to make up the numbers.

In regards to naming, Springwood/Springfield and Redbank, Greenbank, Greenslopes & Redlands have very similar names and might cause confusion and as such new names should be considered. Redbank, Greenslopes and Springwood should be renamed.

With Springwood being renamed Shailer Park, Greenbank being renamed Coorparoo and Redbank returning to its original name of Bundamba.

Beaudesert should likewise return to the name of Scenic Rim as the district is spread across the whole LGA and not just Beaudesert.

There are some minor issues with the districts of Brisbane north and south of the river but those can be left for now.

Condamine should shift slightly south so that its border with Southern Downs aligns with the Condamine River.

These changes better reflect better Col and would set Queensland up for a much fairer redistribution as well as making it easier to redistribute at the next occasion.

From: [Benjamin Close](#)
To: [QRC Submissions](#)
Subject: Re: QRC Submission
Date: Friday, 3 April 2026 9:38:44 AM

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I would also like to add to my submission in regards to the naming of the District of Traeger to Flinders that not only does Flinders already exist as a name in the South Australian parliament but also at a federal level in Victoria. And due to the reason the commission should reconsider the name of Flinders. My arguments for the seat to take on the name of Gregory should be considered.

From: qrcsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au <qrcsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 3:31 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: QRC Submission

Dear Benjamin,

Thank you for your submission to the Queensland Redistribution Commission.

Your submission will be considered by the Commission as part of the current State electoral redistribution. Your submission ID is **O-00482**. Please quote this number in any future correspondence to the Commission regarding your submission.

Under the *Electoral Act 1992*, all submissions made to the Commission must be made publicly available. Your submission will therefore be published on the Commission's website after the completion of consultation. Please refer to [publication guidelines](#) for further information about how your submission will be managed.

Kind regards,

Queensland Redistribution Commission ECQ



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