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Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Aspley

Submission:

I write to formally object to the proposed redistribution that would divide the suburb of Geebung, including the removal of areas east of Newman Road from the Aspley electorate.

This proposal represents a clear departure from the principle of maintaining cohesive communities of interest. Geebung is a well-established, functionally integrated suburb, and the proposed boundary introduces an artificial division that does not reflect the lived reality of its residents.

The suburb operates as a single, interconnected community across social, economic, and service dimensions. Residents rely on shared infrastructure, including schools, early learning centres, local businesses, transport hubs, and community organisations that serve Geebung as a whole. The proposed boundary cuts directly through these networks without regard to how they function in practice.

The division would separate residents who access the same services and participate in the same community life into different electorates. This is not a minor administrative adjustment; it materially weakens the integrity of local networks and undermines coordinated representation of community needs. A single representative is better placed to understand, advocate for, and respond to issues affecting a unified suburb.

The proposed boundary also fails to reflect established patterns of movement and access. Newman Road does not operate as a meaningful dividing line in the daily lives of residents. People move freely across the suburb for work, education, shopping, and social connection. The boundary, as proposed, imposes a distinction that does not exist in practice.

Further, the proposal creates unnecessary complexity and confusion in representation. Splitting a single suburb between electorates risks diluting advocacy, fragmenting local priorities, and creating ambiguity for residents about where responsibility lies. This outcome is avoidable and does not serve the interests of effective representation.

Geebung has a clearly recognised identity as a suburb, supported by community institutions, local networks, and shared use of services. Electoral boundaries should align with these recognised geographic and social units wherever possible. Dividing Geebung disregards this principle without providing a compelling justification.

While I acknowledge the need to balance enrolment requirements and other statutory considerations, there is no evident reason why these objectives cannot be achieved without splitting Geebung. The proposal appears to prioritise boundary convenience over community coherence, which is inconsistent with the intent of fair and effective representation.

In summary, the proposed redistribution:

Disrupts a coherent and established community of interest
Fragments access to shared services and institutions

Imposes an artificial boundary that does not reflect lived patterns

Weakens clarity and effectiveness of representation

Undermines the recognised identity of Geebung as a unified suburb

I strongly urge the Commission to revise this aspect of the proposal and adopt an alternative boundary configuration that keeps Geebung intact within a single electorate.

This is a reasonable and achievable adjustment that would better align with the principles guiding electoral redistributions and ensure that community integrity is preserved.

Thank you for considering this submission.