

Submission ID: CS-0069
Date Received: 10/9/25, 11:12 am
Name: Cr Liz Schmidt
Organisation Name: Charters Towers Regional Council
Submission Topic: Electorate Boundaries
Electoral District: Traeger
Related Submissions: S077, S095, S100, S101, S108, S110, S114

Submission:

See below

Submission Attachments

ECM_5110068_v2_01 Queensland Redistribution Commission_CTRC.pdf



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR | Liz Schmidt

10 September 2025

Our Ref: 5110068
File Ref: 10/COU/04
Enquiries: Liz Schmidt

The Commissioners
Queensland Redistribution Commission
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Commissioners

Re: Response to Suggestions – Realignment of Charters Towers LGA with Burdekin Electorate

I write in response to the submissions made to the Queensland Redistribution Commission regarding the redistribution of electoral boundaries as they relate to the Charters Towers Local Government Area (LGA).

In my original submission dated 7 August 2025, I requested no increase be made to the size of the Traeger electorate but did not address the possibility of transferring the Charters Towers Regional Council area to the Burdekin electorate. Upon further reflection, I wish to provide further commentary on this matter.

With regard to submissions S-00077, S-00100, S-00101, S-00114, and others advocating for an expansion of the Traeger Electorate, Charters Towers Regional Council remains firmly opposed. The reasons for this opposition were outlined in my initial submission and remain unchanged.

Submission S-00095 proposes an expansion of the Hill electorate. However, this suggestion fails to consider the Burdekin catchment as a natural alignment and overlooks the significant disparities in community characteristics and the extensive distances involved in such a change.

Charters Towers has limited geographic, economic, and social alignment with the other LGAs currently within the Traeger electorate. The Traeger electorate is vast and predominantly remote, with Mount Isa as its central hub; located over 750 kilometres west of Charters Towers. This considerable distance presents significant challenges for effective community representation, service delivery, and the alignment of regional priorities.

As highlighted in submissions S-00108, and S-00110, Charters Towers shares a stronger geographic and functional connection with the Burdekin region. The Burdekin River catchment, which spans both LGAs, represents a natural and economic linkage that would be better managed within a single electorate. Realigning Charters Towers with Burdekin would consolidate this catchment area, facilitating more cohesive regional planning and representation.

Additionally, Charters Towers Regional Council maintains strong partnerships with coastal North Queensland councils through active involvement in key regional bodies.

PO Box 189 Charters Towers Qld 4820

ADMINISTRATION: 12 Mosman Street Charters Towers Qld 4820 Australia

PH. (07) 4761 5300 | **F.** (07) 4761 5344 | **E.** mail@charters Towers.qld.gov.au | **ABN.** 67 731 313 583

www.charters Towers.qld.gov.au





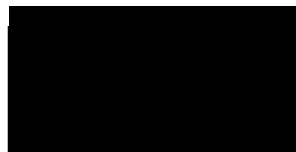
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR | Liz Schmidt

These include the North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (NQROC), which I currently chair, as well as Townsville Enterprise, Townsville Hospital and Health Service, the North Queensland Regional Roads and Transport Group and North Queensland Dry Tropics. Council are also a member of Reef Guardian Councils program, auspiced by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. These close affiliations underscore our strong alignment with coastal councils, in contrast to the limited engagement with councils within the Treager electorate.

This proposed change is consistent with the community of interest principles outlined in Section 46 of the *Electoral Act 1992*, particularly regarding regional connectivity, economic integration, and accessibility. It would ensure the electorate boundaries more accurately reflect the lived experiences and shared interests of the communities they represent.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Yours faithfully



ER Schmidt
Mayor

