

**Submission ID:** O-0678  
**Date Received:** 9/4/26, 8:18 am  
**Name:** Mark Ansell  
**Submission Topic:** Electorate Names  
**Electoral District:** Inala; Mount Ommaney; Springfield (New)

**Submission:**

See below

**Submission Attachments**

Email - Mark Ansell - Objection to Proposed New Boundary Name  
Springfield.pdf  
Email - Mark Ansell - Objection Darra to Inala Electorate.pdf

**Mark Ansell**  
**Springfield QLD 4300**



**Queensland Redistribution Commission,**  
**GPO Box 1393**  
**Brisbane QLD 4001**

[QRCSUBMISSIONS@ECQ.QLD.GOV.AU](mailto:QRCSUBMISSIONS@ECQ.QLD.GOV.AU)

**9 April 2026**

**To the Electoral Commission,**

**Re: Electoral Boundary Redistribution Proposed New Electorate Name – Springfield**

I wish to lodge an objection to the proposed name for the new Springfield electorate. I respectfully submit that the electorate should instead be named **Woogaroo**, a name that carries deep historical, cultural, and environmental significance for the region and its people.

### **1. Recognition of Enduring Local Heritage**

“Woogaroo” is one of the oldest recorded place-names in the district. The name is well known to long-term residents and reflects a geographical identity that predates modern development. Naming the electorate Woogaroo would anchor the new division in the genuine heritage of the area, rather than adopting a name without equivalent historical depth or community resonance.

### **2. Honouring Indigenous History and Language**

“Woogaroo” is derived from an Indigenous name historically used to describe the creek and surrounding lands. Selecting this name would acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of the region, recognising their enduring connection to Country and ensuring that local Indigenous heritage is visible within the state’s electorate framework. Place names are powerful symbols, and adopting Woogaroo would help preserve an important Indigenous word in everyday civic use.

### **3. Preserving the Legacy of Woogaroo Forest**

Woogaroo Forest—one of the last substantial remnant forests in the area—has long been recognised by residents as an important ecological and culturally significant landscape. If the forest is lost to ongoing development pressures, naming the electorate Woogaroo ensures the memory and identity of this landscape are not erased. It provides

a lasting tribute to an environmental feature that has shaped the character and history of Springfield and its surrounds.

#### **4. Strong Community Connection**

Local residents continue to use the name Woogaroo in describing the creek, the forest, and the area's natural heritage. The name carries meaning, familiarity, and pride. An electorate name should reflect the identity of the people it represents, and Woogaroo is a far more authentic reflection of community sentiment than the proposed name.

#### **Conclusion**

For these reasons, the historical relevance, cultural significance, environmental legacy, and deep community connection I strongly object to the proposed electorate name and recommend that the new Springfield electorate be formally named **Woogaroo**.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Yours Sincerely,

*Mark Ansell*

**Mark Ansell**  
**Springfield QLD 4300**

**Queensland Redistribution Commission,**  
**GPO Box 1393**  
**Brisbane QLD 4001**

[QRCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto:QRCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au)

**9 April 2026**

**To the Electoral Commission,**

**Re: Proposed Transfer of Darra into Inala Electorate Boundary**

I write to lodge a formal objection to the proposed redistribution which would transfer the suburb of **Darra** from the electoral district of **Mount Ommaney** into the electorate of **Inala**. As a recently long term former resident of Darra with family connections remaining there, I am concerned that the social and business identity of this suburb is not disturbed.

My objection is based primarily on the significant geographic disconnect created by the Ipswich Motorway, and the resulting erosion of Darra's established community of interest, cultural identity, and historical ties to the Mount Ommaney electorate.

### **Geographic Barriers and Connectivity**

The Ipswich Motorway represents a substantial physical and psychological barrier between Darra and the Inala electorate. It is a major transport corridor with limited safe crossing points and acts as a clear dividing line between communities. Residents of Darra do not naturally or easily integrate with Inala across this infrastructure, nor do they access services, schools, or community facilities in that direction as a matter of course.

In contrast, Darra maintains strong connectivity to suburbs within the Mount Ommaney electorate. Transport routes, pedestrian access, and daily commuting patterns overwhelmingly orient Darra eastward and southward rather than across the Ipswich Motorway. Darra would be much better served by retaining its state representative's office at its core rather than afar and across the dividing motorway corridor.

Queensland's redistribution principles rightly recognise that major roads and transport corridors should be respected as boundaries where they divide communities, and in this case the Ipswich Motorway clearly does so.

### **Community of Interest and Cultural Identity**

Darra's cultural, historical, and social identity is long-established within the Mount Ommaney electorate. The suburb shares community networks, sporting clubs, religious institutions, schools, and local organisations that align with Mount Ommaney rather than Inala.

Darra has developed a distinct multicultural identity with roots that pre-date the current proposal and which has evolved alongside neighbouring suburbs within Mount Ommaney. These ties are not merely historical, but actively lived through shared events, advocacy, and civic engagement.

Reassigning Darra to Inala would fragment this community of interest and reduce the ability of residents to engage effectively with an electorate which does not reflect their established associations or local identity.

### **Representation and Effective Advocacy**

Effective parliamentary representation depends on electorates that are cohesive and logical. The proposed redistribution risks diminishing effective representation for Darra residents by placing them in an electorate from which they are physically separated and to which they have limited natural affiliation.

Mount Ommaney has historically provided representation that reflects Darra's suburban character, infrastructure needs, and local priorities. These needs differ in nature from those of Inala, and combining them risks diluting advocacy and responsiveness.

### **Conclusion**

For these reasons, I respectfully submit that the proposed transfer of Darra into the Inala electorate should be reconsidered. Retaining Darra within the Mount Ommaney electorate better respects:

- Clear geographic boundaries
- Established communities of interest
- Cultural and historical continuity
- Effective and cohesive representation

I urge the Commission to maintain Darra's inclusion in the Mount Ommaney electorate in the final determination.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

**Yours sincerely,**

Mark Ansell