

**Submission ID:** O-0690  
**Date Received:** 9/4/26, 11:27 am  
**Name:** Colin Hegarty  
**Organisation Name:** Australian Labor Party (Queensland) - Hermit Park Branch  
**Submission Topic:** Electorate Boundaries  
**Electoral District:** Hinchinbrook; Mundingburra; Thuringowa; Townsville

**Submission:**

Dear Mr Koppenol,

RE: Objection to proposed electoral redistribution; Hinchinbrook, Mundingburra, Thuringowa and Townsville

The Hermit Park Branch of the Australian Labor Party wishes to formally record our objection to the proposed redistribution released by the Queensland Redistribution Commission, particularly within the City of Townsville.

The QRC's proposed boundaries demonstrate a flagrant disregard for local knowledge and the reality of the Townsville community. They split shared communities of interest at the same time as grouping together areas with little social, economic or geographic connection.

The current electoral district of Townsville reflects a genuine shared identity. Inner-city suburbs such as Hermit Park, Railway Estate, South Townsville and Hyde Park, alongside established pre-war suburbs including Rosslea, Currajong and Pimlico, form a cohesive community. They share infrastructure, services and long-standing community ties. Dividing these suburbs between Townsville and Mundingburra is illogical and inconsistent with how the city functions in practice.

The QRC's proposed treatment of the Northern Beaches is equally distorted. The inclusion of Burdell and Bushland Beach into Townsville, while excluding Mount Low, ignores the clear and well-understood community of interest that exists across those suburbs. The Bohle River and adjacent industrial area form a real and practical boundary between the Townsville and Hinchinbrook districts, affecting service delivery, transport patterns and community identity. These suburbs should be recognised as a distinct Northern Beaches community. They should either remain in Hinchinbrook or be incorporated into a reconfigured Thuringowa; not artificially attached to the CBD and its surrounding heritage suburbs.

A localised understanding of Townsville would recognise that high-growth, outer suburban communities have little in common with the established, historic suburbs of the inner city. The QRC's current proposal does not reflect this reality.

We acknowledge the importance of maintaining one-vote-one-value, a principle long championed by the labour movement and whose reintroduction

to Queensland was overseen by Labor Governments. However, fair representation is not achieved through electoral roll numbers alone. The proposed boundaries fail to properly account for shared communities of interest, resulting in divisions that are neither logical nor well-informed.

We urge the Commission to significantly revise the proposed boundaries to reflect the lived reality of Townsville's communities.

Yours sincerely

Hermit Park Branch  
Australian Labor Party (State of Queensland)