



Suggestion 12

Dr Mark Mulcair

29 pages

SUGGESTIONS FOR QUEENSLAND FEDERAL REDISTRIUBTION 2017

Please accept my Suggestions for the 2017 Queensland Federal Redistribution.

I am an independent person with a strong interest in the redistribution process, with no affiliation to any political party or organisation. While I am not a resident of Queensland, I have contributed to many state and federal redistributions over the past decade or so, including in Queensland.

At recent state and federal redistributions, a small group of independent contributors has emerged (Jeff Waddell, Darren McSweeney, Martin Gordon, Paul Blackman, and myself) who are not associated with any political party but have a strong interest in the redistribution process. While we often don't have the same ideas or approaches, we share the common ideal of drawing boundaries purely on merit and not to further any partisan agenda.

I hope my suggestion can be of benefit to the Committee.

Dr Mark D Mulcair

My General Strategy:

The majority of the Divisions are projected to be within tolerance, and those that are outside tolerance are only moderately so. There is no need to make radical alterations to any Division, and in general I am only proposing small changes.

The rural Divisions to the north of Brisbane are mostly towards the low end of quota, and there is general southward movement of all seats in this region. The Division of Longman bears the brunt of this movement, losing all of its rural territory and consolidating as an outer Brisbane seat. This also helps absorb the slight excess in Petrie, Lilley and Brisbane.

South of Brisbane, the main issue I have is with the Division of Wright, in particular the inclusion of the Gold Coast hinterland that has very little connection to the rest of the seat. I am proposing to redraw the three Gold Coast seats into a more east-west alignment, to incorporate all of the hinterland area with the coast. This in turn drags Forde southward, allowing it to shed electors in the north and west, topping up the under-quota Divisions in Brisbane's south.

The only other significant changes I propose is a redrawing of Capricornia to incorporate all of Rockhampton. This has some impact on Flynn, but both Divisions would retain their existing character and most of their electors.

Enrolment Figures

To be honest, the enrolment figures are quite surprising. Based on the state figures, I was expecting many more Divisions to be outside tolerance, and for significant changes to be necessary across the entire state. Instead, all of the Divisions are within a very narrow range at the projection time.

I am not going to second-guess the data, and we can only work with the numbers we are given. However, if the federal figures do end up aligning with the state figures, we will likely see several Divisions well outside tolerance in the near future. This will be something the AEC might need to keep a close eye on going forward.

Quota:

All of my proposed Divisions would fall within the required 10% tolerance at the present time. As some of my proposed boundaries do not match exactly with SA1s, there are a few Districts for which I have had to estimate the population. However, any small discrepancies would still leave all the Divisions well within tolerance.

I have made maximum possible use of the tolerance when drawing my Divisions, in order to achieve strong boundaries and improve community of interest. For example, my proposed Herbert is set at the top of tolerance in order to contain as much of the Townsville urban area as possible. In contrast, my proposed Flynn and Hinkler are set towards the bottom of tolerance, to prevent any adverse impacts on Bundaberg and Maryborough.

Boundaries:

I have tried to use strong and clear boundaries wherever possible. In rural areas, I have been guided by LGA and SA2 boundaries, or major natural features such as rivers and mountains. In urban areas, I have tried to follow major roads, freeways, suburb boundaries, or natural features wherever possible.

Suburb and LGA boundaries can make good electoral boundaries when they follow major natural or man-made features. However, I have tried as much as possible to avoid using suburb boundaries that run along minor back streets or split established areas.

As always, I have been prepared to make adjustments to 'tidy up' existing boundaries even when quota does not demand it, and even when a small number of electors is involved. For example, my proposed changes to Brisbane/Ryan involves only 100 or so electors, but improves and straightens this rather jagged boundary.

Political Implications:

There is no requirement for "political fairness", and I haven't made any detailed analysis of the partisan impact of my proposals.

At a glance, it is clear that Longman and Moreton (ALP), and Forde and Petrie (LNP) would become significantly safer for the sitting party. Beyond that, a few seats may see some impact in their margins, but most of the major changes are proposed to occur in safer seats.

It would seem to me that my proposed seat of Wright would improve One Nation's position in the seat, with a lot of the better One Nation parts of Blair and Forde added to the seat.

LEICHHARDT

Leichhardt continues to display strong growth, and is well over quota. As always, the only Division that it can lose electors to is Kennedy.

The starting point should be to unite the balance of Mareeba Shire by transferring Kuranda. While this area does have good links towards the coast, it also fits very well with the remainder of the Tablelands that are already in Kennedy.

This still leaves Leichhardt over quota, which unfortunately means that further parts of the Cairns urban area need to be removed. I suggest that the most logical solution is to transfer the entire suburb of Bentley Park. The creek, Roberts Road, and open space border Bentley Park to the north, which forms a fairly clear boundary in the area.

LEICHHARDT			
EXISTING		109,913	118,266
- Kuranda SA2 (balance)	To Kennedy	2720	2845
-Bentley Pk SA2 (balance)	To Kennedy	4769	5282
PROPOSED		102,424	110,139

KENNEDY

The gains from Leichhardt take the Division of Kennedy over quota, and a small loss is needed. Rather than make any major adjustments with Herbert, I suggest that the rural areas immediately south of Townsville should be returned to the Division of Dawson. This includes the small part of Burdekin Shire plus the Woodstock/Oak Valley area. This area was only included in Kennedy at the previous redistribution, and seems to fit better with the other semi-rural Townsville areas already in Dawson.

I also propose a very small adjustment in the Gumlow/Pinnacles area, which does not appear to have any direct connection to Kennedy and would fit much better in Herbert. This involves only 140 or so electors. Ideally, Alice River would be transferred as well, but this is not possible without more significant changes to Herbert and/or Dawson.

I would not recommend any more significant changes to Kennedy, such as removing Mount Isa, excising Charters Towers, or including Cape York. There have been plenty of submissions over the years from locals and Mr Bob Katter MP, highlighting why these sorts of proposals fail the community of interest. A small adjustment in both the north and south is all that is needed.

KENNEDY			
EXISTING		100,404	106,359
+ Kuranda SA2 (balance)	From Leichhardt	2720	2845
+ Bentley Pk SA2 (balance)	From Leichhardt	4769	5282
- Burdekin (balance)	To Dawson	128	128
- Townsville-South (balance)	To Dawson	1224	1282
- Wulguru-Roseneath (balance)	To Dawson	209	226
- Condon-Rasmussen (balance)	To Herbert	92	98
- Kelso (balance)	To Herbert	44	44
PROPOSED		106,196	112,708

HERBERT

Apart from the minor adjustment with Kennedy, I propose no changes to Herbert. While the Division would be at the top of tolerance, I think it is desirable for as much of the Townsville urban area as possible to remain within Herbert. The Ross River is also a very clear boundary in the area.

HERBERT			
EXISTING		105,077	113,235
+ Condon-Rasmussen (balance)	From Kennedy	92	98
+ Kelso (balance)	From Kennedy	44	44
PROPOSED		105,213	113,377

DAWSON

The gains from Kennedy leave Dawson within tolerance, and it could be left as is. However, I also suggest that it gain the balance of Whitsunday Council, including the town of Collinsville.

The Collinsville area is a somewhat awkward appendage to the Division of Capricornia; the existing boundary splits the hinterland from the coast, and forces Capricornia to wrap right around Mackay to the north-west. Transferring this area to Dawson allows Collinsville to be re-united with Bowen, with which it has good links and a strong community of interest.

Some southern parts of Mackay are forced to remain in Capricornia for quota purposes. Unfortunately, even a small transfer such as the Ooralea area would push Dawson outside tolerance.

DAWSON			
EXISTING		103,910	110,655
+ Burdekin (balance)	From Kennedy	128	128
+ Townsville-South (balance)	From Kennedy	1224	1282
+ Wulguru-Roseneath (balance)	From Kennedy	209	226
+ Collinsville (balance)	From Capricornia	1206	1301
PROPOSED		106,677	113,592

CAPRICORNIA

Already under quota, the loss of Collinsville leaves Capricornia needing to gain a significant number of electors. This is actually very desirable, as it allows more of the Rockhampton area to be united in Capricornia. Currently, much of Rockhampton's hinterland is split between Capricornia and Flynn, leaving rural and suburban areas cut off from the town itself.

There are a number of possible options, but the main factor in my decision making is to unite as much of Rockhampton in Capricornia as possible. The flow-on effects around Bundaberg and Maryborough further south (discussed below) are also important considerations.

Therefore, I suggest the most logical approach is to:

- Unite all of Rockhampton Council in Capricornia. This transfers all of Gracemere, Mount Morgan, and the remaining rural parts of Rockhampton from Flynn.
- Transfer most of Capricornia's remaining hinterland territory, including the towns of Clermont, Moranbah, Dysart, and Middlemount to Flynn.

These changes allow Capricornia to be consolidated as an almost entirely coastal Division, based clearly on Rockhampton and the Capricorn/Sarina coast. Mount Morgan and Gracemere have extremely strong links with central Rockhampton, while the hinterland mining towns have good links southwards to Blackall and Emerald currently in Flynn.

As mentioned above, Capricornia's awkward intrusion into southern Mackay remains, as it is not possible to transfer this area without major changes elsewhere.

CAPRICORNIA			
EXISTING		98,847	105,394
+ Gracemere (all)	From Flynn	7328	7954
+ Rockhampton West (balance)	From Flynn	2105	2286
+ Rockhampton City (balance)	From Flynn	64	68
+ Mount Morgan (all)	From Flynn	2076	2140
+ Bouldercombe (all)	From Flynn	1344	1401
- Collinsville (balance)	To Dawson	1206	1301
- Clermont (all)	To Flynn	2272	2446
- Moranbah (all)	To Flynn	4655	5215
- Broadsound-Nebo	To Flynn	2364	2622
(Dysart and Middlemount)			
PROPOSED		101,267	107,659

FLYNN

The exchanges with Capricornia leave Flynn slightly below tolerance, and needing to make gains. Practically, this can only be from Hinkler or Wide Bay, and it is here where a potential problem emerges.

Flynn's existing boundary with Hinkler runs very close to Bundaberg, so any change to this boundary would split the Bundaberg urban area between two Divisions. Also, Hinkler is under quota, and any further losses to Flynn would cause serious problems to the boundary with Wide Bay. Parts of urban Maryborough would likely have to be brought into Hinkler, again splitting the urban parts of this town between two Divisions.

To prevent these problems, I suggest that Flynn gain Wide Bay's share of South Burnett; *i.e.* Murgon and surrounds. This provides the right number of electors to bring Flynn within tolerance, reduces the number of Divisions into which South Burnett is split, and has no major flow on effects to neighbouring seats.

FLYNN			
EXISTING		100,236	107,483
+ Clermont (all)	From Capricornia	2272	2446
+ Moranbah (all)	From Capricornia	4655	5215
+ Broadsound-Nebo	From Capricornia	2364	2622
(Dysart and Middlemount)			
+ Kingaroy-North (part)	From Wide Bay	2752	2973
- Gracemere (all)	To Capricornia	7328	7954
- Rockhampton West (balance)	To Capricornia	2105	2286
- Rockhampton City (balance)	To Capricornia	64	68
- Mount Morgan (all)	To Capricornia	2076	2140
- Bouldercombe (all)	To Capricornia	1344	1401
PROPOSED		99,426	106,958

HINKLER

Assuming that the northern boundary with Flynn remains unchanged, Hinkler can be brought within tolerance by moving the boundary with Wide Bay to follow Mary River and Saltwater Creek. This transfers the balance of the 'Burrum-Fraser' area, including Aldershot, Dundathu, and Susan River. These areas have good links back towards Hervey Bay and its hinterland currently within Hinkler, and fit well in the Division.

By adopting these boundaries for Capricornia, Flynn, and Hinkler, it ensures that no part of Maryborough needs to be split off to a different Division. The river and Saltwater Creek form a fairly clear boundary between urban Maryborough and the more rural areas beyond.

HINKLER			
EXISTING		101,482	105,850
+ Burrum-Fraser (balance)	From Wide Bay	1002	1037
+ Booral-River Heads (balance)	From Wide Bay	125	138
PROPOSED		102,619	107,025

WIDE BAY

The losses to Hinkler and Flynn require Wide Bay to move southwards to gain electors. I suggest that a very logical gain is the remainder of the Peregian and Doonan areas.

The suburbs of Peregian Beach and Peregian Beach South are already in Wide Bay, so it seems very sensible to unite Peregian Springs with them. This also allows the parklands immediately south of Peregian Springs to be used as a very strong boundary between Wide Bay and Fairfax. Similarly, parts of Doonan are already in Wide Bay, and the suburb boundary runs mostly through parklands that would be clear boundaries.

There may be a small issue around Tall Gum Avenue, where the suburb boundary appears to isolate a few houses. I would simply extend the proposed boundary to include all of Tall Gum Avenue, Creek Drive, and Greenacre Road in Wide Bay. This would involve a very small number of electors from Verrierdale.

WIDE BAY			
EXISTING		103,780	108,219
+ Peregian (balance)	From Fairfax	4215	4466
+ Noosa Hinterland (balance)	From Fairfax	1944	2028
- Kingaroy North (part)	To Flynn	2752	2973
- Burrum-Fraser (balance)	To Hinkler	1002	1037
-Booral-River Heads (balance)	To Hinkler	125	138
PROPOSED		106,050	110,565

FAIRFAX

One issue at the previous redistribution was how the boundaries were drawn in the Sunshine Coast hinterland, especially around the Palmwoods area. There was some concern that part of this hinterland area was awkwardly split, and disconnected from its community of interest towards the coast.

Fairfax is left well within tolerance after the losses to Wide Bay, so could be left without further change. However, I suggest that the boundary through the hinterland should be tidied up by expanding Fairfax to the south-west and taking in the remainder of the Palmwoods area. This includes Montville, Chevallum, Eudlo, and the balance of Tanawha.

All of these areas have good links to the coast and/or back towards Palmwoods itself, and all seem to me to fit much better in Fairfax than in Fisher. The boundary in the area would also be very clear, running mostly through open space.

FARIFAX			
EXISTING		109,152	115,329
+ Palmwoods (balance)	From Fisher	3527	3693
+ Buderim South (balance)	From Fisher	201	210
+ Maroochy Hinterland (balance)	From Fisher	42	43
- Peregian (balance)	To Wide Bay	4215	4466
- Noosa Hinterland (balance)	To Wide Bay	1944	2028
PROPOSED		106,763	112,781

FISHER

Already under quota, the losses to Fairfax leave Fisher needing to gain a significant number of electors, and these realistically can only come from Longman in the south. I suggest the best approach is to take in all of the rural and suburban areas north and west of Caboolture. This includes the Woodford, D'Aguilar, Wamuran, and Elimbah areas.

At the state redistribution, the Committee proposed a very similar southern boundary for the Glass House based District. I personally was not very supportive about pushing a Sunshine Coast seat into Moreton Bay, but accepting in this case that it has to be done (there is nowhere else for Fisher to logically expand), then something similar to the state boundary is the best outcome available. The areas transferred are mostly rural or semi-rural, and the central part of Caboolture would remain intact in Longman. The Bruce Highway, the railway line, and Woodford-Beerburrum Road would provide good links to the remainder of Fisher.

FISHER			
EXISTING		99,528	104,427
+ Woodford-D'Aguilar (all)	From Longman	4719	5023
+ Elimbah (all)	From Longman	2744	2963
+ Wamuran (all)	From Longman	2742	2877
- Palmwoods (balance)	To Fairfax	3527	3693
- Buderim South (balance)	To Fairfax	201	210
- Maroochy Hinterland (balance)	To Fairfax	42	43
PROPOSED		106,164	111,554

RYAN

Ryan is well within tolerance, and has very strong boundaries to the north, west, and south. I recommend no significant changes to this Division.

The only slight adjustment I am proposing for Ryan is to the western boundary with Brisbane. The current boundary isolates a small number of electors on the east bank of Enoggera Creek, around Yoku Road and Woonga Drive. I recommend simply follow the creek as far as Ashgrove school, then directly to Waterworks Road, rather than make the deviation onto the series of side streets currently used as the boundary. This involves only 85 electors, but improves the boundary in this area.

RYAN			
EXISTING		104,543	111,324
- Ashgrove (part east Enoggera Ck)	To Brisbane	85	87
PROPOSED		104,458	111,237

BRISBANE

Brisbane is currently over quota and needs to lose electors. Assuming no major changes with Ryan, then the only Division that Brisbane can lose electors to is Lilley.

I suggest the obvious transfer is the balance of Stafford and Gordon Park, allowing Kedron Brook to be adopted as the new boundary. Part of Stafford is already in Lilley, and Gordon Park is also a logical addition. Kedron Brook is used as the boundary between Brisbane and Lilley for a large part of the way, and my proposal simply joins up the two existing parts to form a continuous boundary.

BRISBANE			
EXISTING		108,157	115,380
+ Ashgrove (part)	From Ryan	85	87
- Kedron-Gordon Park (balance)	To Lilley	2990	3216
- Stafford (balance)	To Lilley	1156	1297
- Everton Park (balance)	To Lilley	3	3
PROPOSED		104,093	110,951

LILLEY

Like Brisbane, the Division of Lilley was already over quota before it made additional gains, and now needs to lose around 10,000 electors. The boundary with Dickson is very clear and strong, following the Brisbane LGA boundary, so the most sensible option is to lose electors to Petrie.

At the previous redistribution, an attempt by the Committee to transfer the Brighton and Sandgate areas to Petrie was rejected by the locals. There are reasonable links from this area to the remainder of Petrie, and this arrangement would improve the "shape" of both Petrie and Lilley. However, given what happened last time, it seems pointless to propose doing the same thing again.

Instead, I propose returning part of the Aspley/McDowall area to Petrie. From the existing boundary at Aspley, I suggest following Gympie Road, the Aspley suburb boundary, Trouts Road, and Hamilton Road. This transfers the remainder of Bridgeman Downs, the western parts of Aspley, and a small part of McDowall. These areas were within Petrie before the last redistribution, and fit well in the Division. While Aspley and McDowall would be both split, the proposed boundary uses significant roads and a creek through open space.

Lilley remains a Division extending along the north-east coast of Brisbane, with its westward 'tail' somewhat reduced by the losses to Petrie.

LILLEY			
EXISTING		107,162	114,595
+ Kedron-Gordon Park (balance)	From Brisbane	2990	3216
+ Stafford (balance)	From Brisbane	1156	1297
+ Everton Park (balance)	From Brisbane	3	3
- Aspley (part west Gympie Road)	To Petrie	3984	4129
- Bridgeman Downs (all)	To Petrie	3881	4050
- McDowall (part nth Hamilton Rd)	To Petrie	1817	1920
PROPOSED		101,629	109,012

PETRIE

Petrie makes the above gains from Lilley, uniting Bridgeman Downs and returning parts of Aspley and McDowall that have previously been in the Division. This takes Petrie well over quota, and it needs to lose around 13,000 electors. Realistically, this change can only be made with Longman, as any transfers to Dickson would almost cut Petrie in half.

I suggest moving the boundary with Longman southwards from Burpengary Creek to Deception Bay Road. This transfers the balance of Burpengary East as well as the northern part of the suburb of Deception Bay. Splitting the suburb is not ideal, but the reality is that Deception Bay cannot be accommodated in its entirety in either Petrie or Longman. Deception Bay Road is a clear boundary, and part or all of the suburb has previously been placed within Longman, so I believe this proposal is reasonable. This change also helps reduce the extended north-south nature of Petrie to some extent.

PETRIE			
EXISTING		106,757	113,340
+ Aspley (part west Gympie Road)	From Lilley	3984	4129
+ Bridgeman Downs (all)	From Lilley	3881	4050
+ McDowall (part nth Hamilton Rd)	From Lilley	1817	1920
- Deception Bay (part nth Deception Bay Road)	To Longman	10444	10987
PROPOSED		105,995	112,452

LONGMAN

The exchanges with Fisher and Petrie result in Longman becoming more compact and urban, losing all of its rural territory and focussing more clearly on Caboolture, Burpengary, and Narangba. The changes also leave Longman slightly over quota, and the only remaining Division it can shed electors to is Dickson.

I suggest that the boundary with Dickson be moved to follow Plantation Road, Old Gympie Road, and the Freshwater Creek and parklands. This transfers a further ~3500 electors in Kallangur, which leaves both Longman and Dickson within tolerance. Unfortunately, quota does not permit all of Kallangur to be united in Dickson at this time, but my proposed boundaries make a neater split of the suburb.

LONGMAN			
EXISTING		106,098	112,971
+ Deception Bay	From Petrie	10444	10987
(part nth Deception Bay Road)			
- Woodford-D'Aguilar (all)	To Fisher	4719	5023
- Elimbah (all)	To Fisher	2744	2963
- Wamuran (all)	To Fisher	2742	2877
- Dakabin-Kallangur	To Dickson	3231	3565
(Sth Plantation Rd & Freshwater Creek)			
PROPOSED		103,106	109,530

DICKSON

Dickson remains within tolerance after the above gain, and I suggest no further changes.

DICKSON			
EXISTING		100,974	109,330
- Dakabin-Kallangur	To Dickson	3231	3565
(Sth Plantation Rd & Freshwater Creek)			
PROPOSED		104,205	112,895

McPHERSON

As I mentioned in the Introduction, one significant change I do propose is for all of the Gold Coast hinterland to be re-joined with the coast. This area has very limited connection with Wright, and the strongest communication links head back towards McPherson, Moncrieff or Fadden. I am proposing all three Gold Coast seats be re-drawn to link the coast and hinterland.

The first step in this process is to expand McPherson westwards to gain the balance of Mudgeeraba and Bonogin, plus all of the hinterland area generally south of Lake Advancetown: Austinville, Springbrook, Natural Bridge and the Numinbah Valley.

Mudgeeraba and Bonogin are mostly suburban areas, currently split awkwardly between two Divisions, and both are a much better fit in urban McPherson than in the mostly rural Wright. Likewise, the hinterland areas generally have better links with McPherson, with the Gold Coast-Springwood Road in particular being a major communication link back to Mudgeeraba and Robina.

These gains take McPherson over quota, but it can logically delete the remainder of Merrimac plus Clear Island Waters to Moncrieff. Both Marken Street and Mudgeeraba Creek would be strong boundaries in this area.

McPHERSON		104,405	110,478
EXISTING			
+ Mudgeeraba-Bonogin (balance)	From Wright	3996	4257
+ Guanaba-Springbrook (part generally sth Lake Advancetown)	From Wright	658	688
- Merrimac (balance)	To Moncrieff	3052	3261
- Clear Island Waters (all)	To Moncrieff	3002	3088
PROPOSED		103,005	109,074

MONCRIEFF

Like McPherson, the Division of Moncrieff can expand very naturally into its hinterland, gaining the remaining parts of Nerang, Mount Nathan, the Gilston area, and all of the semi-rural areas around Guanaba, Clagiraba, and Advancetown. Again, these areas all have a greater connection eastwards towards the coast than over the mountains into Wright. The Nerang-Beaudesert and Nerang-Murwillumbah Roads would be strong communication links in this part of the Division.

Combined with the gains from McPherson, this all takes Moncrieff well over quota, and it needs to lose electors in the north to Fadden. I suggest a very logical deletion is the entire suburb of Southport. This is a major centre for the northern Gold Coast, and would fit well with the suburbs to the north currently in Fadden. The Nerang River, Slatyer Avenue, and Wardoo Street would be strong boundaries in the area.

MONCRIEFF			
EXISTING		103,327	108,715
+ Merrimac (balance)	From McPherson	3052	3261
+ Clear Island Waters (all)	From McPherson	3002	3088
+ Worongary-Tallai (all)	From Wright	5425	5714
+ Nerang (balance)	From Wright	2960	3208
+ Guanaba-Springbrook	From Wright	2595	2769
(part generally nth Lake Advancetown)			
+ Highland Park (balance)	From Wright	62	66
- Southport (all)	To Fadden	18286	19188
PROPOSED		102,137	107,633

FADDEN

Fadden makes the above gain from Moncrieff, and I also suggest that it gain the remainder of Oxenford plus Maudsland. This completes the transfer of the Gold Coast hinterland from Wright, and unites the Maudsland area with Oxenford and Helensvale currently in Fadden. The Maudsville Road and Gaven Arterial would be major links within this part of Fadden.

These gains take Fadden over quota by around 25,000 electors, and a significant deletion is necessary.

The starting point should be to transfer everything north of the Coomera River to the Division of Forde. This includes all of Jacobs Well, Alberton, Pimpama, Coomera, and the remaining parts of Ormeau and Yatala. The existing Forde already contains parts of Gold Coast north of the river and west of the motorway, and my changes simply unite this with the areas east of the motorway.

Unfortunately, this still leaves Fadden over tolerance, so I recommend that Hope Island also be transferred. I acknowledge that Hope Island has much stronger links with Oxenford than across the river, and ideally would be a better fit in Fadden than in Forde. However, Hope Island is a somewhat independent area, and has often been linked with areas to its north in state or federal seats.

I believe that the significant improvements to the boundaries of McPherson, Moncrieff, Fadden, Forde and Wright outweigh any issues with Hope Island being removed from Fadden. Growth patterns should allow more of Oxenford to be placed in Forde at future redistributions.

FADDEN			
EXISTING		107, 071	114, 465
+ Southport (all)	From Moncrieff	18286	19188
+ Oxenford-Maudland (balance)	From Wright	3666	4056
+ Pacific Pines-Gaven (balance)	From Wright	405	477
- Jacobs Well-Alberton (all)	To Forde	2582	2772
- Ormeau-Yatala (all)	To Forde	4914	5428
- Pimpama (all)	To Forde	3543	3942
- Coomera (all)	To Forde	6552	7352
- Hope Island (all)	To Forde	7691	8190
PROPOSED		104,146	110,502

FORDE

The existing Forde takes in some disparate areas from Upper Coomera right around southern Logan almost as far as Greenbank. However, the previously described changes result in it becoming much more clearly focussed on Beenleigh and the northern Gold Coast based. These changes allow Forde to shed most of the territory in its western 'tail'.

I suggest that more rural part of this 'tail', including Park Ridge South, Munruben, Chambers Flat, Logan Reserve, Buccan, Bahrs Scrub, and Windaroo, be transferred to the Division of Wright. This area fits well with the more rural parts of Logan and Scenic Rim that are currently in Wright. These changes also make greater use of the Logan/Gold Coast LGA border as a clear boundary in the area.

The urban part of the 'tail', including Boronia Heights, Park Ridge, and Greenbank, can then be transferred to Rankin. This makes sense, as Rankin is an urban Division that already contains neighbouring suburbs such as Hillcrest and Regents Park.

Forde is still over quota after this transfer, so I also suggest that the suburb of Shailer Park be transferred to Rankin. Again, this area fits well with Daisy Hill, Springwood, and other areas east of the motorway that are currently part of Rankin.

FORDE			
EXISTING		100,120	108,502
+ Jacobs Well-Alberton (all)	From Fadden	2582	2772
+ Ormeau-Yatala (all)	From Fadden	4914	5428
+ Pimpama (all)	From Fadden	3543	3942
+ Coomera (all)	From Fadden	6552	7352
+ Hope Island (all)	From Fadden	7691	8190
+ Upper Coomera (balance)	From Wright	106	118
- Boronia Heights-Park Ridge (all)	To Rankin	7744	8246
- Shailer Park (all)	To Rankin	7881	8441
- Hillcrest and Greenbank (balance)	To Rankin	168	176
- Munruben-Park Ridge Sth (balance)	To Wright	2135	2296
- Chambers Flat-Logan Reserve (all)	To Wright	3253	3442
- Logan Village (balance)	To Wright	1248	1332
- Wolffdene-Bahrs Scrub (all)	To Wright	3945	4205
PROPOSED		99,134	108,166

WRIGHT

Wright in its current form is a very unsatisfactory Division. It contains three distinct regions; the Lockyer Valley, the rural areas of Logan and Scenic Rim, and the Gold Coast hinterland. None of these regions have particularly strong connections with each other; the Gold Coast hinterland is largely cut off from the rest of the Division by mountains and parklands, and the current boundaries leave only a small strip of territory to connect Scenic Rim and Lockyer.

The first problem has already been dealt with. All of the Gold Coast hinterland region is removed from Wright, and in exchange it gains the remaining rural and semi-rural parts of Logan from Forde. This still leaves Wright around 7,000 votes below tolerance, which allows the second part of the problem to be addressed.

I suggest that the semi-rural areas to the west and south-west of Ipswich be transferred from Blair to Wright. This includes Rosewood, Willow, and Walloon (essentially, all of the 'Rosewood SA2' south of the Warrego Highway). While these areas have strong links with Ipswich, they would also fit well with the Lockyer Valley and Scenic Rim communities. This change also expands the narrow connection between the two halves of Wright, with the railway and a number of major road links providing much stronger communication links throughout this part of the Division.

With these changes, Wright becomes more clearly focussed on the rural and semi-rural communities that look to either Ipswich, Logan, or Beaudesert as their community of interest.

WRIGHT			
EXISTING		102,234	109,551
+ (Semi-rural Logan)	From Forde	10749	11451
+ Rosewood	From Blair	7352	7790
(part south of Warrego Hwy)			
- (Gold Coast Hinterland)	To McPherson	4654	4945
- (Gold Coast Hinterland)	To Moncrieff	11042	11757
- (Gold Coast Hinterland)	To Fadden	4071	4533
- Upper Coomera (balance)	To Forde	106	118
PROPOSED		100,462	107,439

BLAIR

The enrolment projections surprisingly show Blair at the lower end of tolerance, and the losses to Wright means this Division needs to gain electors. Assuming my proposed boundaries for Fisher and Wright, the only remaining Division that Blair can gain from is Oxley.

A very neat gain can be made by gaining Redbank, Redbank Plains, and the remainder of Collingwood Park. This straightens the boundary along Redbank Plains Road and Kruger Parade, and makes use of commercial/industrial areas and open space for a large part of the boundary.

This brings Blair within tolerance (just), but I also suggest that Blair gain the balance of Springfield Lakes. This change unites this growing suburb, utilises the strong boundary of the Centenary Highway, and joins Springfield Lakes with the major commercial centre of Springfield Central.

BLAIR			
EXISTING		99,942	107,316
+ Springfield Lakes (balance)	From Oxley	5298	6088
+ Redbank Plains (all)	From Oxley	3867	4316
+ Collingwood Park-Redbank (balance)	From Oxley	2474	2682
- Rosewood (part south of Warrego Hwy)	To Wright	7352	7790
PROPOSED		104,229	112,612

RANKIN

Rankin needs to shed around 15,000-20,000 electors after the gains from Forde. I suggest that the most logical deletion is part of Rankin's City of Brisbane component. This area is cut off from the rest of Rankin by Karawatha Forest, and would ideally fit better in either Moreton or Oxley.

Unfortunately, quota does not allow all of the Brisbane Council area to be removed from Rankin. However, it is possible to transfer all of Algester, Calamvale, and Stretton to the Division of Moreton. Most of this area has previously been in Moreton, and has often been linked with areas such as Sunnybank and Runcorn at state and federal level over the years. The Drewvale area remains in Rankin, but growth patterns suggest that the small remaining part of the City of Brisbane should be able to be united in Moreton at future redistributions.

RANKIN			
EXISTING		102,349	111,658
+ Boronia Heights-Park Ridge (all)	From Forde	7744	8246
+ Shailer Park (all)	From Forde	7881	8441
+ Hillcrest and Greenbank (balance)	From Forde	168	176
- Algester (all)	To Moreton	5160	5563
- Calamvale-Stretton (all)	To Moreton	11777	12913
PROPOSED		101,205	110,045

BOWMAN

Bowman is within tolerance, and its boundaries coincide with those of Redlands Shire. I suggest this Division remain unchanged.

BOWMAN		
EXISTING	104,241	109,932

BONNER

Bonner is also within tolerance, and could be left unchanged. However, I suggest a small adjustment to unite all of Mount Gravatt in Bonner. This involves only 1500 or so electors, and allows the use of parklands and open space as a very clear boundary in the area.

BONNER			
EXISTING		100,770	107,808
+ Mount Gravatt (balance)	From Griffith	1403	1492
PROPOSED		102,173	109,300

GRIFFITH

Griffith continues to experience solid growth, and even the losses to Bonner leave it at the very top of tolerance. I suggest a further deletion, and this can realistically only be to the Division of Moreton.

A logical change is for the balance of Annerley and Tarragindi be transferred. This unites these two suburbs, and allows the use of the South Eastern Freeway as a very strong boundary between Griffith and Moreton. The freeway is already used as the eastern boundary of Moreton for most of the way, and my proposals simply extend it.

GRIFFITH			
EXISTING		106,999	115,269
- Mount Gravatt (balance)	To Bonner	1403	1492
- Annerely (balance)	To Moreton	3289	3789
- Tarragindi (balance)	To Moreton	1883	2038
PROPOSED		102,173	109,300

MORETON

The gains from Rankin and Griffith take Moreton well over quota, and it can now shed electors to compensate Oxley for the losses to Blair.

The clearest boundary in the area is Oxley Creek; it is surrounded by open space for most of its length, and there are only a few crossings of it. So I suggest that from the existing boundary along Blunder Creek, the new boundary follow Oxley Creek all the way to the Brisbane River. This transfers all of Gracemere, Chelmer, Sherwood, Corinda, Oxley, and the balance of Durack.

Suburbs like Oxley and Corinda were in the Division of Oxley before the previous redistribution, and areas like Sherwood and Chelmer would fit well with the Centenary Suburbs and other riverside areas in the northern part of Oxley. The railway line and Oxley Road would be strong north-south links in the area, and Oxley Creek to the east is a very strong boundary.

MORETON			
EXISTING		97,318	105,279
+ Algester (all)	From Rankin	5160	5563
+ Calamvale-Stretton (all)	From Rankin	11777	12913
+ Annerely (balance)	From Griffith	3289	3789
+ Tarragindi (balance)	From Griffith	1883	2038
- Oxley (all)	To Oxley	5125	5505
- Corinda (all)	To Oxley	3334	3520
- Sherwood (all)	To Oxley	3862	4135
- Chelmer-Graceville (all)	To Oxley	5163	5428
- Durack (balance)	To Oxley	209	219
PROPOSED		101,734	110,775

OXLEY

Oxley continues its slow movement away from Ipswich, consolidating more clearly on the Inala and Centenary Suburbs part of Brisbane City. The exchanges with both Blair and Moreton leave it within tolerance, and I recommend no further changes.

Given the slight discrepancy between northern and southern Brisbane, there may be some proposals to push Oxley (or Moreton) across the Brisbane River to take in suburbs on the northern bank. There are some good links across the river, there have been federal and state seats cross the river in the past, so this would be a ridiculous suggestion. However, I simply don't think such a major change is necessary at this time. Possibly this is something that will need to be addressed at future redistributions.

OXLEY			
EXISTING		96,148	104,943
+ Oxley (all)	From Moreton	5125	5505
+ Corinda (all)	From Moreton	3334	3520
+ Sherwood (all)	From Moreton	3862	4135
+ Chelmer-Graceville (all)	From Moreton	5163	5428
+ Durack (balance)	From Moreton	209	219
- Springfield Lakes (balance)	To Blair	5298	6088
- Redbank Plains (all)	To Blair	3867	4316
- Collingwood Park-Redbank (balance)	To Blair	2474	2682
PROPOSED		101,993	110,445

GROOM

Both Groom and Maranoa are within tolerance, and could be left unchanged. However, there is the option available of uniting more of Toowoomba City in Groom if the Committee desires. Either Millmerran or Clifton (but not both) could be transferred from Maranoa to Groom while leaving both Divisions within quota.

OPTION 1: Leave both Divisions unchanged.

GROOM		
EXISTING	102,009	108,463

OPTION 2: Transfer Clifton from Maranoa to Groom.

GROOM		
EXISTING	102,009	108,463
+ Clifton-Greenmount (balance)	2122	2208
PROPOSED	104,131	110,671

OPTION 3: Transfer Millmerran from Maranoa to Groom

GROOM		
EXISTING	102,009	108,463
+ Millmerran (all)	2154	2296
PROPOSED	104,163	110,759

MARANOA

Any of the 3 options listed above would still leave Maranoa within tolerance, although towards to low end. Given the Division's current size and diversity, I recommend no further changes.

Previous redistributions have specifically rejected any attempts to push Maranoa up towards Mount Isa and the Gulf, or further eastwards towards the coast. There is no need for major change in rural Queensland, so I don't recommend any radical redrawing of Maranoa or other rural seats.

OPTION 1: Leave both Divisions unchanged.

MARANOA		
EXISTING	103,151	109,197

OPTION 2: Transfer Clifton from Maranoa to Groom.

MARANOA		
EXISTING	103,151	109,197
- Clifton-Greenmount (balance)	2122	2208
PROPOSED	101,029	106,989

OPTION 3: Transfer Millmerran from Maranoa to Groom

MARANOA		
EXISTING	103,151	109,197
- Millmerran (all)	2154	2296
PROPOSED	100,997	106,901