



## Suggestion 35

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# **Independent Submission to the Australian Electoral Commission**

**Victorian Federal Redistribution - 2017** 

All Analysis, Data Management and Documentation Prepared and Written by

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### Independent Submission to the Australian Electoral Commission Victorian Federal Redistribution - 2017

#### Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the enormous effort the Redistribution Committee for Victoria has gone to provide the relevant data and information. We have limited this submission to a focus on Melbourne's East, Southeast, and Victoria's Southeast. The reasons for this our covered below. For this submission we have provided a full set of data to support our methodology and analysis. This includes maps (pre and post changes), SA1 code analysis, data reconciliations, and both a qualitative and quantitative analysis by seat. We hope this submission receives strong consideration by the Committee.

#### Introduction

This submission is written for the Victorian federal division redistribution in line with the public invitation. As Councillors in the City of Monash having a long association with the local southeast Melbourne community, we believe there are improvements that can be made to the current structure of the Federal divisions in the east and southeast of Melbourne and that is why we are putting forward this submission. We have set about this analysis and report with the following in factors weighing high in consideration.

- It is desirable to have federal seats which have boundaries that are aligned with major municipal, physical infrastructure and natural boundaries.
- Where possible, we should improve the alignment of seats with local government areas to improve accountability and responsibility for resolving local issues and lobbying for new initiatives.
- Where possible, realign seats which contain diverging issues. For instance, Isaac currently has a focus on bayside issues along with City of Greater Dandenong development issues. We see these of diverging and if possible, desirable to change boundaries.
- Provide a general southeasterly movement of divisions towards the growth areas.
- Use data, research and evidence from official non-partisan sources such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Australian Electoral Commission and provide a non-partisan analysis for our submission on a seat by seat basis across the eleven divisions in Group C (see below).

#### **Our Methodology**

We have reviewed the individual and groupings of seats in Victoria within the current boundaries. This review also includes the current and projected population movements. Our view is that there are three regional groups of seats that will need change to make the redistribution effective and logical. These regional groupings are:

- A. Create an extra seat in Melbourne metro's north and west to adjust for the fast growth in these areas, particularly the corridor that includes the seats of Wills, Calwell, Lalor, Gorton, and McEwan.
- B. A minor adjustment between the seats in the outer metropolitan east and country areas of Melbourne with their surrounding seats. These seats include Menzies, Deakin, Indi, Casey, and McFwan.
- C. The seats in Melbourne metro inner east and southeast which must expand towards the growth areas of the southeast (City of Casey, plus Flinders and McMillan divisions). The seats that make up this group include Aston, Bruce, Chisholm, Dunkley, Flinders, Holt,

Hotham, Isaac, LaTrobe, Kooyong, and McMillan. This group will expand the inner east seats towards the southeast.

While there may be other adjustments needed, we believe these three regional groupings will resolve the vast majority of quota issues. This analysis will focus on the re-division of Group C seats which we believe have a logical fit together. We believe Group B is relatively easy to reorganise and Group A is a substantially larger and a more complicated bit of analysis in territory that we are not as familiar with. We can leave this to others to make recommendations and resolutions.

This chart summarises the voter margin shortfall or overage of all Victorian seats. We have identified the three groupings of seats (A, B, C) outlined above to visually demonstrate how they fit together. As you can see, Group C seats reconcile to a low net difference, ensuring that their out of balances can be resolved within the group.

District	Projected	Margin vs	Seats in	Seats out of	E-SE Seats	E-NE Seats	W-N Seats
	Population	Proj avg.	Range	range	Group C	Group B	Group A
Bruce	97,129	-13,243		97,129	-13,243		
Aston	97,600	-12,772		97,600	-12,772		
Mallee	99,874	-10,498		99,874			-10,498
Wannon	100,062	-10,310		100,062			-10,310
Chisholm	100,333	-10,039		100,333	-10,039		
Menzies	100,436	-9,936		100,436		-9,936	
Deakin	102,467	-7,905		102,467		-7,905	
Hotham	102,745	-7,627		102,745	-7,627		
Kooyong	102,804	-7,568		102,804	-7,568		
Jagajaga	105,581	-4,791		105,581			-4,791
Murray	106,668	-3,704	106,668				-3,704
Gippsland	106,760	-3,612	106,760				No change
Indi	107,510	-2,862	107,510			-2,862	· ·
Casey	107,625	-2,747	107,625			-2,747	
Melbourne Ports	108,469	-1,903	108,469			•	No change
Dunkley	108,773	-1,599	108,773		x		G
Goldstein	108,916	-1,456	108,916				No change
Higgins	109,539	-833	109,539				No change
Isaacs	111,982	1,610	111,982		х		0
Corio	113,798	3,426	113,798				No change
Batman	114,669	4,297	•	114,669			4,297
Bendigo	114,847	4,475		114,847			4,475
Gellibrand	114,860	4,488		114,860			4,488
Calwell	115,471	5,099		115,471			5,099
La Trobe	116,587	6,215		116,587	6,215		2,555
Maribyrnong	116,597	6,225		116,597	0,213		6,225
Ballarat	117,272	6,900		117,272			6,900
Scullin	118,128	7,756		118,128			7,756
Corangamite	119,828	9,456		119,828			9,456
Wills	122,243	11,871		122,243			11,871
Flinders	122,834	12,462		122,834	12,462		11,071
Melbourne	124,147	13,775		124,147	12, .02		13,775
McMillan	125,461	15,089		125,461	15,089		23,773
Gorton	128,705	18,333		128,705	13,003		18,333
Holt	131,083	20,711		131,083	20,711		10,555
Lalor	141,199	30,827		141,199	20,711		30,827
McEwan	151,144	40,772		151,144		23,500	17,272
New Seat	131,11	-110372		101,17		23,300	-110372
Totals	4,194,146	0			3,228	49	1,095
Projected Seat Average	•	110,372					
Margin of Error (3.5%	)	106,509 to 114,2	235				

This reconciliation shows the starting balance of voters, movements in and out from the corresponding seats and the final total which is within the PQuota range.

2017	Federal Redivision												
South	neast Victorian Seats												
Data	Data Reconciliation	Federal Electoral Conference											
		Aston	Bruce	Chisholm	Dunkley	Flinders	Holt	Hotham	Isaac	Kooyong	LaTrobe	McMillan	
	Starts with	97,600	97,129	100,333	108,773	122,834	131,083	102,745	111,982	102,804	116,587	125,461	
	Transfers In and Out												
1	Aston		- 12,306										- 12,306
2	Bruce	12,306		21,015			- 24,097	4,310	- 27,999				- 14,465
3	Chisholm		- 21,015					3,634		7,621			- 9,760
4	Dunkley					- 27,252			27,637				385
5	Flinders				27,252							- 11,984	15,268
6	Holt		24,097								- 4,239		19,858
7	Hotham		- 4,310	- 3,634									- 7,944
8	Isaac		27,999		- 27,637								362
9	Kooyong			- 7,621									- 7,621
10	LaTrobe						4,239						4,239
11	McMillan					11,984							11,984
	Ends with	109,906	111,594	110,093	108,388	107,566	111,225	110,689	111,620	110,425	112,348	113,477	_

#### There are three parts to our analysis

- SA Code Analysis A detailed review of all SA codes from the spreadsheet provided by the
  AEC. This spreadsheet has one worksheet for each of the 11 divisions reviewed. We have
  identified all SA codes to be transferred out of the division. At the bottom of the list
  provided there is a list of all SA codes transferring into the division. This spreadsheet also
  contains the above data reconciliation to ensure accuracy.
- 2. The changes to boundaries due to SA code movements have been mapped onto the division maps provided by the AEC. A total of 29 maps covering the existing and proposed boundaries for the 11 divisions are provided. We have provided a set of maps for each division, which typically includes
  - a. The current division map
  - b. The new boundaries map
  - c. Additional maps depending on how complex the boundary changes are
- 3. This document which provides the Executive Summary, Explanatory Notes, and commentary on the changes for each division.

#### **Conclusion**

The findings in this submission are based on data. No Political Party advice or considerations have been made in putting forward our views and suggestions. Our proposed boundaries are based around communities of interest, natural, physical, and historical boundaries and associations. Using our local experience and understanding of the south east Melbourne community, we have put forward an evidence based report that can alleviate many of the current and future population challenges faced by the Committee.

#### Individual Seat Analysis and Movements in Group C

#### 1. Kooyong

#### Objective

Increase voters by the 7,568 shortfall vs Projected Quota (PQuota)

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- Mont Albert North is already split between Kooyong (1/3<sup>rd</sup>) and Chisholm (2/3<sup>rd</sup>). Mont Albert is within the Box Hill North SA Codes.
- Box Hill North SA Codes have 9,718 voters toward the PQuota.
- As these codes will put Kooyong over the PQuota, so we can find a cluster along the Southeast corner of Box Hill North that would remain in Chisholm. These will need to offset the ~2,150 voter overage. From Box Hill North, we believe it is appropriate for the following codes to remain in Chisholm. SA1 2116415, 2116416, 2116417, 2116418, 2116420, 2116421, and 2116422
- This makes the full adjustment from Chisholm to Kooyong from the City of Whitehorse/Box Hill North effectively moving Kooyong's boundary in its Northwest, encompassing most of Box Hill North.

#### Results in

- The addition of these voters from Box Hill does not change the makeup of Kooyong as it already has some voters from this region within Kooyong. Also, we do not cross the Yarra river, Eastern Freeway, or approach the seat of Higgins, which is in balance.
- Kooyong adds 7,621 voters and increases to PQuota.
- Chisholm now short by 7,621 voters plus original 10,039 shortfall vs PQuota. Total shortfall vs PQuota of 17,660.

#### 2. Hotham

#### Objective

 Increase voters by 7,627 to cover shortfall vs PQuota by moving the boundary north into the southern parts of Chisholm and east into west/central parts of Bruce. Both of these movements align suburbs together within the seat of Hotham, being Clayton (from Chisholm) and Springvale North (from Bruce)

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- Boundary moves east along Wellington Road from the Huntingdale train station. Continues east until it reaches Princes Highway. Continues south along Princes highway until it reaches the intersection with Westall Road. This substantially unifies the suburb of Clayton and area around the Clayton activity center into the seat of Hotham. Hotham also maintains and expands somewhat its industrial / commercial areas.
- The next boundary adjustment unifies the areas of Springvale North into the seat of Hotham, bringing Springvale and Springvale North and associated commercial areas into the same seat. The northern boundary of Chisholm moves along Princes Highway from Westall Road to Corrigan Road, then south along Corrigan road to the train line.

#### Results in

- These two boundary adjustment unify areas of Clayton and Springvale into Hotham, adding 7,944 voters on target towards the PQuota shortfall of 7,627.

- Chisholm now has a shortfall of 7,621 voters (lost to Kooyong) plus 3,634 voters (lost to Hotham, plus the original 10,039 shortfall vs PQuota. Total shortfall vs PQuota of 21,294
- Bruce now has a shortfall of 4,310 voters transferred to Hotham plus the shortfall vs
   PQuota of 13,243 leaving a total shortfall of 17,553

#### 3. Chisholm

#### Objective

- Chisholm now has a shortfall of 7,621 voters (lost to Kooyong) plus 3,634 voters (lost to Hotham), plus the original 10,039 shortfall vs PQuota. Total shortfall vs PQuota of 21,294
- Acquire northern and western areas of Glen Waverley from Bruce and link up the Monash Commercial areas of Mt Waverley, Notting Hill, and Mulgrave. Chisholm then brings together a large majority of the City of Monash, with its commercial districts, Monash University, and two major activity centers, Glen Waverley and Oakleigh.
- It is our view that there is a strong historical association of Chisholm in the community. This has been formed over a long period since 1948. Long stints of service by members of parliament from all persuasions has created a strong connection amongst local residents, community groups and other government bodies to the Chisholm name, geography and history. Therefore while the boundary of Chisholm is changing, the name should remain.
- In the event of the Redistribution Committee for Victoria deciding to alter the name of any division to that of "Monash", in recognition of Sir John Monash, we believe the area around the Monash City Council should be the appropriate geographic area. Therefore the current division of Chisholm is best suited to such as designation. There is no doubt Sir John Monash is well suited to the honour of having a division named in his honour. However, "Chisholm" remains the best name for Chisholm in line with history, tradition and the impact Caroline Chisholm continues to have to the present day.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- Move the entire suburb (SA areas) of Glen Waverley West into Chisholm. This brings in 11,641 voters towards the PQuota.
- Bring in parts of Clayton North that are North of Princes Highway and west of Springvale Road. This adds an additional 1,240 to Chisholm.
- Glen Waverley East is more problematic as the total voters from this suburb would put Chisholm over the quota. We resolve this by splitting the suburb between Chisholm, Aston (short 12,772 vs PQuota) and the remainder staying domiciled in Bruce.
- With Aston taking on a small easterly portion of Glen Waverley East that borders Dandenong Creek, along with the north and east portions of Wheelers Hill, Aston will be back up to a full quota. The part of Wheelers Hill that remains in Bruce is the traditional area of Mulgrave that changed its suburb name about a decade ago.

#### Results in

- This moves Chisholm to cover about 70% of the City of Monash and brings this seat to have a stronger focus on this city, encompassing the activity centers of Oakleigh, Glen Waverley, and Mt Waverley, along with Monash University, and much of the commercial areas of the City of Monash.
- Chisholm replaces the 7,621 voters lost in the north to Kooyong and the 3,634 in the south to lost to Hotham by moving into the northern areas of Bruce.

- Chisholm moves south and east from current boundaries but maintains its traditional focus on activity centers of Box Hill and now Glen Waverley
- The new boundary and SA code movements are substantial and are reconciled in the attachments

#### 4. Aston

#### Objective

- Increase voters by 12,772 to cover shortfall vs state average
- Aston's boundaries are significantly contiguous with the City of Knox. We therefore don't see it as desirable to substantially alter Aston's boundaries.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- Shift north and east areas of Wheelers Hill into Aston along with the easternmost portion of Glen Waverley
- This moves the older parts of Wheelers Hill and Glen Waverley, which were previously in the state seat of Scoresby (prior to 2013 re-division), into Aston. We see this as a good fit as it fully replaces Aston's shortfall, doesn't change its focus on the City of Knox, but picks up an area that has close associations, economically and geographically. People in this part of the City of Monash would frequently use services in Knox.

#### Results in

- Aston maintaining its focus on Knox, back up to state average voters.

#### 5. Bruce

#### Objective

- Increase voters by 13,243 to cover shortfall vs PQuota, plus 21,015 lost to Chisholm, plus 4,310 lost to Hotham, along with 12,306 lost to Aston. A total of 50,874 new voters needed. It is clear that Bruce will be a substantially new seat and consideration should be given to a name change. We see the seat of Bruce moving its focus to the City of Greater Dandenong and its surrounding suburbs and commercial areas. Currently, there are four seats serving Dandenong. We believe one seat having a focus on this city will improve outcomes and accountabilities.
- Since Bruce has lost most of its northern areas, it will have to absorb the northern parts of Holt, increasing its focus on the City of Greater Dandenong and City of Casey as it no longer holds a large part of the City of Monash (only the suburb of Mulgrave). We also see it acquiring the northeast parts of Isaac (which are in the City of Greater Dandenong). Again, this allows Bruce to focus on outcomes in one particular city demographic.
- We also believe the area of Endeavour Hills is appropriate to be in the new Bruce as this is already a settled suburb, and many people in this suburb would be working in the Greater Dandenong area.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- Northern Boundary is now Ferntree Gully Road and Wellington Road
- Northwestern boundary is Springvale Road
- Bruce to now take in the northern areas of Holt including Endeavour Hills and Doveton (24,097 pop), and parts of Isaac including Dandenong, Noble Park, and Keysborough with a population of 27,999. These adjustments create a seat centered on the City of Greater Dandenong including its commercial and industrial areas.

#### Results in

- New Bruce boundaries includes City of Monash (Mulgrave), City of Greater Dandenong, and large northern sections of the City of Casey. But importantly, it is largely focused on City of Greater Dandenong and includes complete and contiguous suburbs of Noble Park, Noble Park North, Dandenong, Dandenong North, Mulgrave, Doveton, and Endeavour Hills.
- Bruce moves substantially south and east from its current boundary.

#### 6. Holt

#### Objective

- Increase voters by 24,097 lost to Bruce in the northern areas of Holt, adjusted by its 20,711 overage vs the PQuota. Net, Holt needs 3,386 to get back to the PQuota voter target. These voters can easily be sourced from LaTrobe, which has a 6,215 overage vs the PQuota.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- The shortfall can be completely sourced from two SA1 codes of 2130107 and 2130310. These SA1 areas increase the Holt landmass significantly, replacing the area of Endeavour Hills lost in the north.

#### 7. LaTrobe

#### Objective

- LaTrobe started with 6,215 extra voters but lost 4,239 to Holt. So LaTrobe is now back within the PQuota range objective and no further changes are needed.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- The transfer to Holt is completely sourced from two SA1 codes of 2130107 and 2130310.

#### 8. Isaac

#### Objective

- Isaac does not have a shortfall vs the PQuota, however it is a seat which we view as having split and diverging activities, Bayside vs Dandenong industrial areas. We see it as desirable (if possible) to alter this dynamic
- Isaac lost 27,999 voters to Bruce, which is now a seat focused on Dandenong.
- We believe expanding Isaac along the bayside areas is consistent with its existing demographic.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- Suburbs of Keysborough, Dandenong, and Noble Park are removed from Isaac and transferred to Bruce. This removes the area surrounding Dandenong.
- Expand Isaac boundary south along the bayside to include Seaford, Frankston North, and Skye-Sandhurst.

#### Results in

- Addition of 27,637 voters bringing Isaac back up to PQuota.
- Isaac having a contiguous boundary around bayside or near bayside suburbs

#### 9. Dunkley

#### Objective

- Dunkley has a small shortfall vs PQuota but still within the Range. It has lost 27,637 voters to Isaac.
- Dunkley is a seat focused on the bayside areas of Frankston, Mt Eliza, and Mornington, while also taking in near bayside areas of Langwarrin and a small part of Somerville.
- We see this seat expanding south and southeast into Mt Martha and Somerville to replace the voters lost to Isaac
- These changes ensure that the activity of Dunkley remains Mornington peninsula and bayside focused.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

- Northern boundary changes due to loss of Seaford and Frankston North.
- Western bayside boundary extends down through Mt Martha.
- Southeast boundary extends to suburb of Somerville all the way through to the north of Western Port Bay.

#### Results in

Dunkley back to PQuota with acquisition of Mt Martha and Somerville.

#### 10. Flinders

#### Objective

- Flinders has a surplus vs PQuota of 12,462 and a loss of voters to Dunkley of 27,252. Net, Flinders need to gain about 12-15,000 voters to reach PQuota.
- Flinders already covers a large geographical area stretching from the tip of the Mornington peninsula, around Western Port Bay and through to Philip Island.

#### **Boundary Adjustments**

We see a logical extension of this seat to be further down the coast, acquiring the suburbs of Wonthaggi / Inverloch and its 11,984 voters.

#### Results in

- Loss of voters in Mt Martha/Somerville to Dunkley replaced by acquisition of Wonthaggi/Inverloch bringing Flinders back to within its PQuota range.

#### 11. McMillan

#### Objective

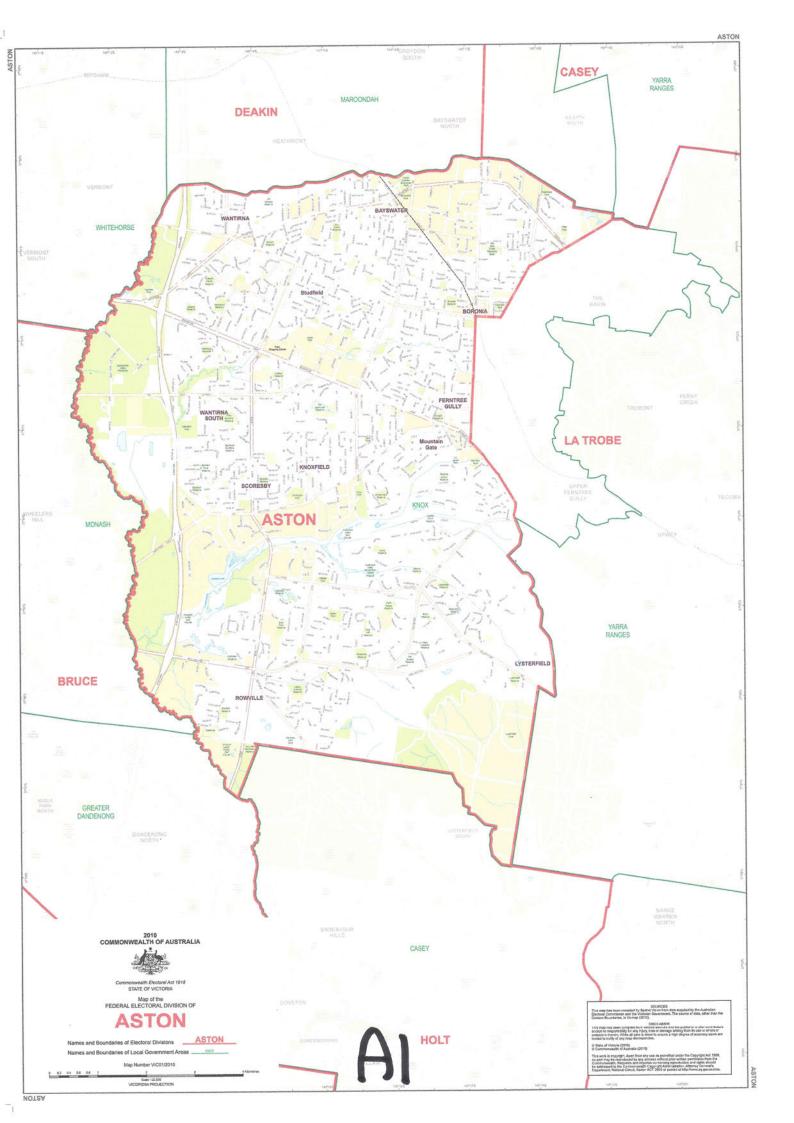
- McMillan is 15,000 voters above the PQuota. It loses 11,984 voters to Flinders with the Wonthaggi / Inverloch transfer.

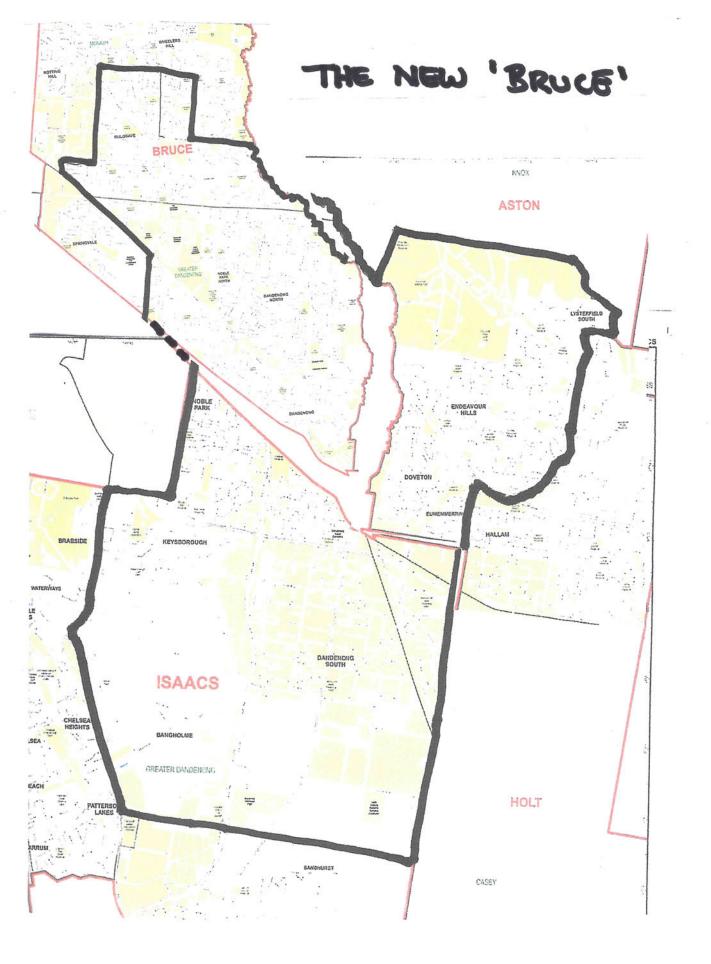
#### **Boundary Adjustments**

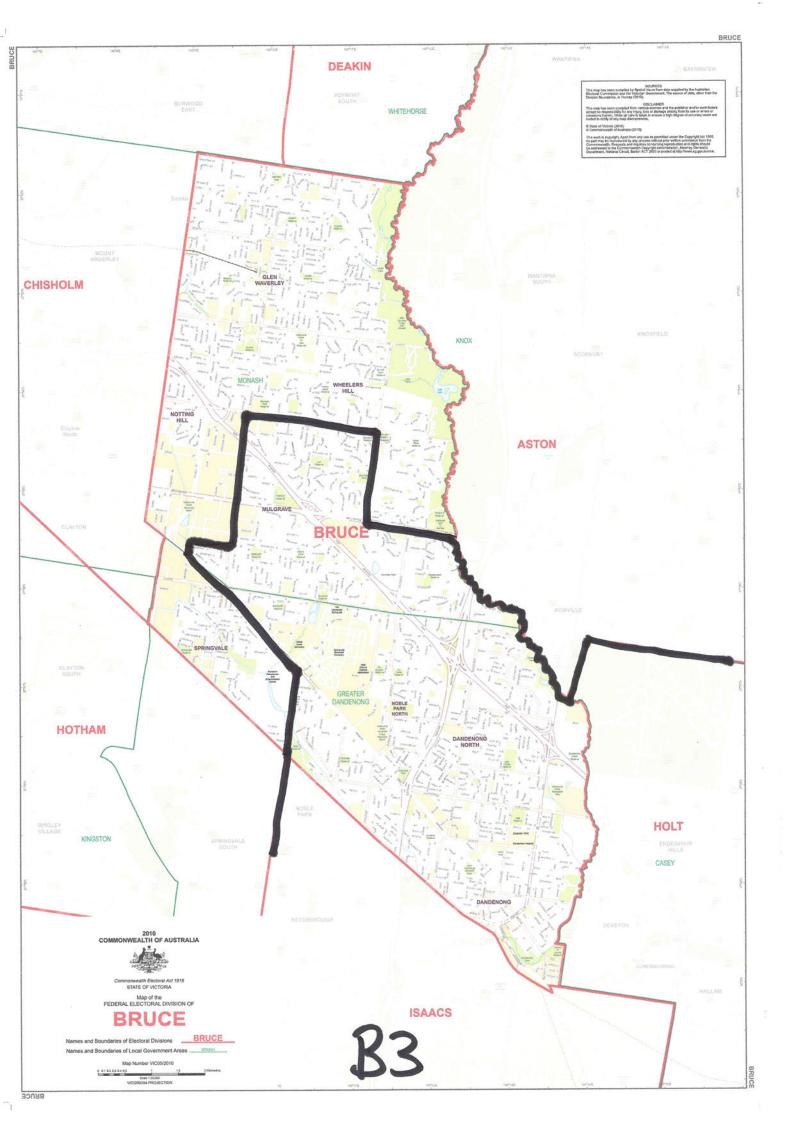
 The boundary of McMillan in the Southwest pushes further to the east with the transfer of Wonthaggi and Inverloch areas.

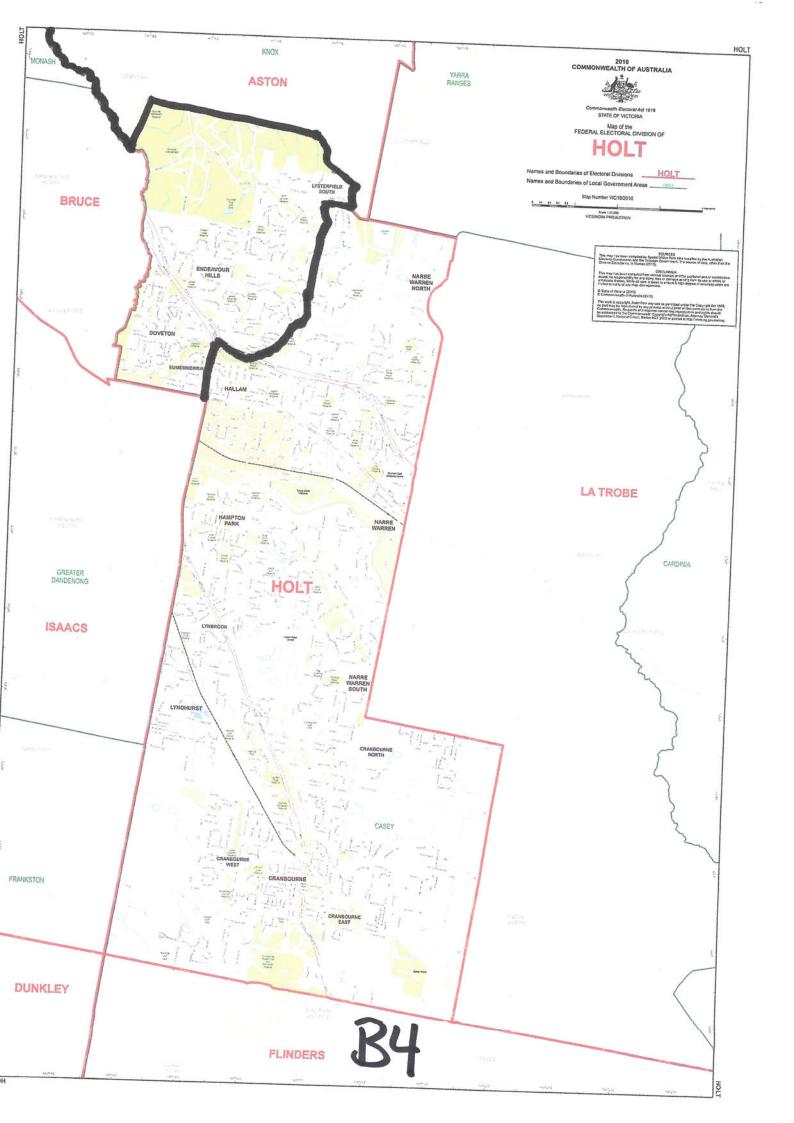
#### Results in

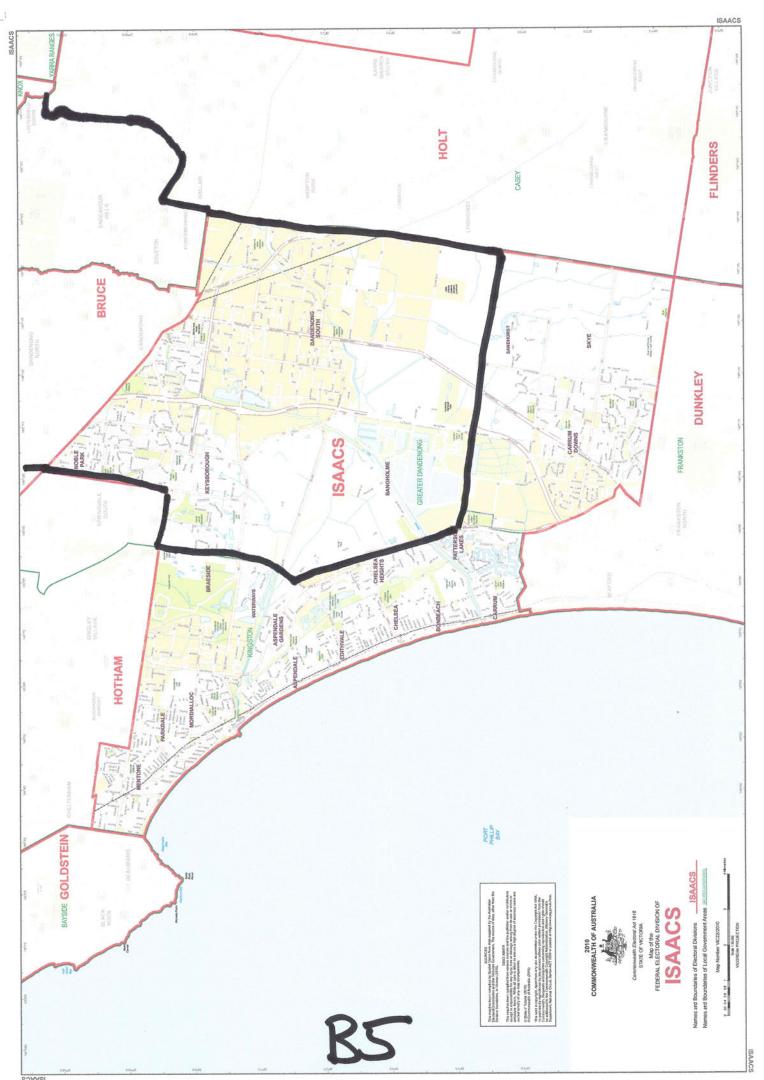
- This brings McMillan back to within the PQuota range

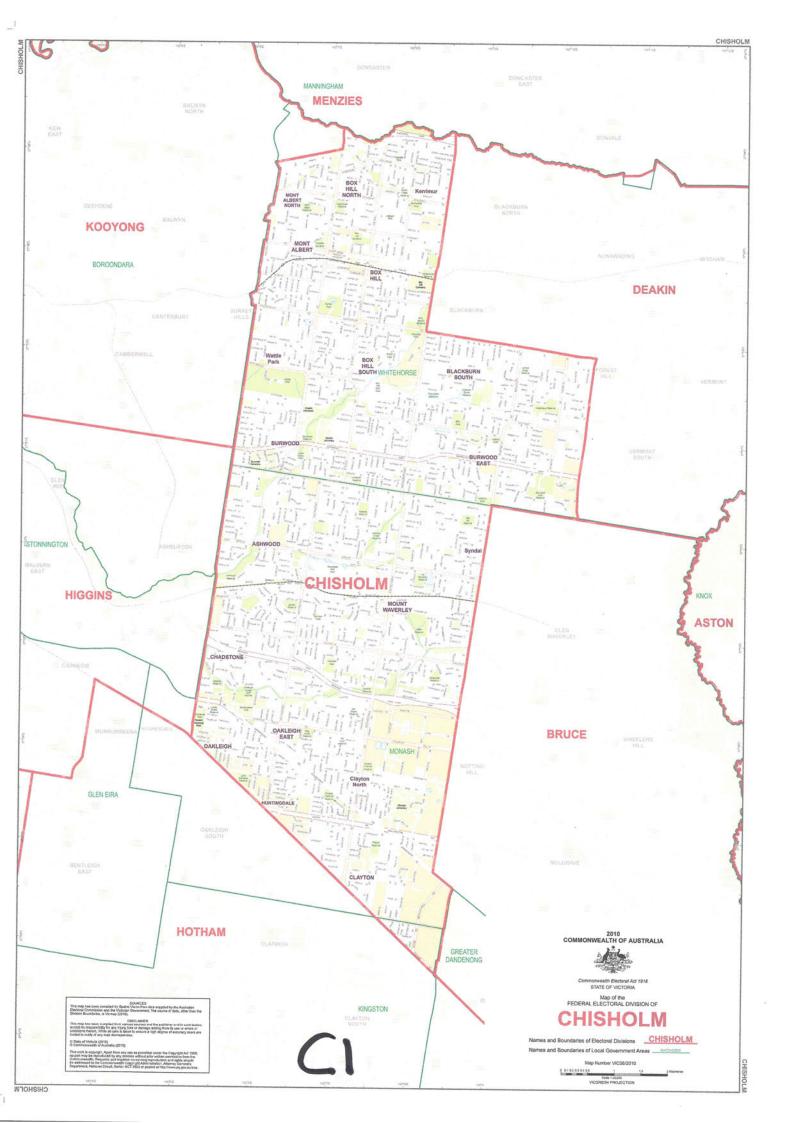












MANNINGHAM **MENZIES** KOOYONG BOROONDARA **DEAKIN** STONNINGTON CHISHOLM HIGGINS **ASTON** BRUCE MONASH / GLEN EIRA **HOTHAM** 2010 COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA GREATER DANDENONG Map of the FEDERAL ELECTORAL DIVISION OF KINGSTON **CHISHOLM** es and Boundaries of Electoral Divisions CHISHOLM СНІЗНОГИ

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