



THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
QUEENSLAND

# Comment on objection number 4

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4 pages

Redistribution Committee for Queensland  
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Dear Redistribution Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments on the objections to your proposed redistribution.

The small number of objections you have received confirms that your draft redistribution is a commendable proposal.

The limited scope of the objections confirms that you need not make significant changes to your draft redistribution proposal.

Most of the objections relate to two matters:

**1. The transfer of Karana Downs SA2 from Ryan to Blair.**

Eight objections reject the transfer of the Karana Downs SA2, in various ways.

It is agreed that this transfer can be achieved in a more nuanced way, by minimising the transfer of electors, by finding an alternate boundary that utilises locality boundaries or major roads, and preferably one that follows more of the Brisbane River.

A boundary utilising Lake Manchester Road and Mt Crosby Road would be able to accommodate some of the objections to the transfer of the locality of Mt Crosby, such as OB2 and (partially) OB13 and OB22.

Transferring the Lake Manchester – England Creek SA2 is also recommended as a first alternative, in line with the suggestions in OB6 and OB12.

There does not appear to be any specific objections to the transfer of the locality of Kholo Creek.

Objections relating to the transfer of the locality of Karana Downs, like OB3, OB7, OB13, OB22 and OB23 are more difficult to accommodate because of the statistical pressure to transfer electors from Ryan to Blair.

One objection, OB11, goes further than the others by finding an alternative that fits into a workable statewide solution. That objection is commendable and is broadly supported, as discussed further below, however it is still considered that some transfer from Ryan to Blair will be necessary to make both Ryan and Blair closer to quota and better achieve the principle of “one vote, one value”. Trying to retain both localities of Mount Crosby and Karana Downs within Ryan, for instance, pushes both Blair and Ryan significantly away from quota.

**2. The transfer of some of Ashgrove SA2 (Dorrington) from Brisbane to Ryan and the alternative transfer of Stafford SA2 from Brisbane into Lilley.**

Seven objections relate to the transfer of part of Dorrington in the Ashgrove SA2 and three support reuniting Stafford together in Lilley.

The objection OB11 is correct in identifying that the large transfer from Ryan to Blair can be reduced if the transfer from Brisbane to Ryan is also minimised, as discussed on the previous page.

The preferable alternative for Brisbane to lose some of its excess electors to Lilley has been correctly identified in OB11 and this has some community support in terms of reuniting Stafford in Lilley, in OB11 and OB18.

Regarding the specific proposal in OB11, it seems preferable to reunite all of Stafford, not just the parts that are west of Webster Rd, given the committee's stated preference for keeping localities together in a single division. Nonetheless that is an option available to the committee, in a balancing act between keeping localities intact versus minimising the transfer of electors. On balance, probably all of Stafford SA2 should be within Lilley.

It is also strongly recommended that the committee transfers that part of Everton Park from Brisbane into Lilley. It involves only 3 electors and is in line with the committee's clearly stated preference for keeping localities together in a single division, wherever possible. This is a very similar rationale to that used by the committee in its proposed transfer of 3 Ferny Hills residents from Ryan into Dickson.

Between Ryan and Brisbane, two alternatives are suggested, for Wardell Street to be utilised as a boundary either starting from Lone Pine Street or starting from Lloyd Street. Either way, the result is broadly achieved of avoiding an unnecessary transfer of electors. For community interest reasons, the main objective is to avoid dividing the Dorrington community in half by using Wardell as a boundary into Ashgrove, and there is significant support for that objective expressed in OB14, OB15, OB16, OB17 and OB20.

The objection OB8 recognises the difficulty of "isolating" "a small area north of Enoggera Creek", which is a reference Dorrington, but it prescribes a solution that involves transferring additional electors. It is easier, and more in keeping with the committee's approach, to resolve the problem by transferring fewer electors, not more electors. Similar reasoning applies to the suggestion in OB12, which is not ideal because it would transfer more electors unnecessarily plus divide Ashgrove along its main road shopping strip.

There are two objections (OB5 and OB6) suggesting that 85 electors in Ashgrove be transferred from Ryan to Brisbane by reuniting two halves of an SA1 area. That proposal would run counter to the need for electors to be transferred broadly in the reverse direction. However, while it does not assist to meet the statistical requirements, it is not particularly significant in the scheme of the statewide redistribution. It makes a difference of only 85 additional electors being transferred, and has the additional benefit of using the creek as a more consistent and stronger boundary. On balance, therefore, this has been included in the list of suggestions below.

Lastly, it is notable that only one single objection has been lodged by a major political party, at OB9. That submission does not appear to make comment on the actual changes proposed in the draft redistribution, instead it focuses on some aspects of its original submission which were not adopted by the committee, so no comments are offered on that, positive or negative.

The other objections (OB1, OB4, OB10 and OB21) relate to a variety of other matters and no comments are offered on them.

In conclusion, it appears that making the following minor tweaks to the committee's draft redistribution would satisfy the vast majority of the objections received:

<b>Change to consider:</b>	<b>Objections at least partially satisfied:</b>
Transfer Lake Manchester – England Creek SA2 from Ryan to Blair (involves only 3 electors)	OB6, OB12 and OB19
Minimise the transfer of electors from Ryan to Blair, by retaining at least most of the residents of Mt Crosby in Ryan (suggest something like Ryan retains SA1s 3129004, 3129006, 3129015, and the part of 3129010 - and possibly the part of 3129011 too – that is east of Lake Manchester Road)	OB2, OB11, OB12 and OB19
Minimise the transfer of electors from Brisbane to Ryan, by retaining at least the 2 SA1s that are part of Dorrington (31133224 and 31133225) and also considering the Enoggera SA1 3109808	OB11, OB14, OB15, OB16, OB17, OB19, OB20 and OB21
Consider reuniting the Ashgrove SA1 3113214 in Brisbane, although this is not considered essential	OB5 and OB6
Reunite the Everton Park SA1 3102516 in Lilley (only 3 electors)	OB11 and OB19
Reunite Stafford SA2 in Lilley by transferring SA1s 3103201-2, 3103206-7, 3103209 and 3103217-8 from Brisbane	OB11, OB18 and OB19

So, as shown above, making these minor changes would positively and substantially satisfy the concerns or sentiments expressed in around 12 of the 23 objections.

It would partially satisfy a further 5 objections such as OB13 and OB22 which have called for no transfer of electors from Ryan to Blair, by minimising the transfer, but these sentiments are very difficult to entirely accommodate because of the populations and statistical pressure between Ryan and Blair.

The remaining 5 objections, OB1, OB4, OB9, OB10 and OB21 are not addressed in these comments.

Taken together, these changes would:

- reduce, even further, the number of electors to be transferred between divisions by about 615 electors;
- reduce the number of suburbs being split between divisions – by keeping together Everton Park, Stafford and Dorrington;
- make divisions that are closer to quota at the projection date: Blair from 1.66% to 0.72%, Ryan from -0.50% to -0.02%, Brisbane from 2.16% to 1.94% and Lilley from 0.38% to 1.73. Three of these four divisions would be closer to the quota in their own right, and on average the four go from 1.175% away from quota on average to 1.102% away on average;
- make more contiguous divisions, and utilise stronger boundaries between Ryan and Blair, Ryan and Brisbane, and Brisbane and Lilley; and
- Reduce "dog-legs" created by some proposed boundaries, notably for the division of Ryan.

It is hoped that the Redistribution Committee is able to take advantage of these comments as a thoughtful and considered alternative.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Townsend

