

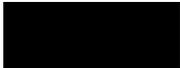


THE FEDERAL  
REDISTRIBUTION  
TASMANIA

# Comment on public suggestion number 7

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4 pages



## Introduction

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Of the 21 suggestions lodged, 12 refer to changes to the division boundaries. A further eight suggestions discuss only the name of Denison, with one suggestion indirectly referring to the name of Denison among other comments that are out of scope for this redistribution.

In my comments, I will approach the changes to the boundaries initially, and then provide some commentary on the division names.

## Braddon & Lyons

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Most suggestions seem to agree that moving the balance of Latrobe LGA from Lyons to Braddon is the most logical and sensible idea. Indeed it is only the submissions from the Liberal Party and Mr Hart – choosing Kentish LGA and the area around Ouse respectively – that do not suggest Latrobe as the most logical solution. The Labor Party add to this with an additional part of Kentish LGA unnecessarily splitting the LGA.

The most straightforward, logical solution is the simple transfer of the balance of the Latrobe LGA from Lyons to Braddon.

## Bass & Lyons

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The submissions of Mr Jago, Mr Walker, the Greens, Labor and Liberal Parties do not mention Bass at all, or if they do, they suggest no change. Of those that suggest changing the boundaries of Bass, all six advocate for transferring West Tamar LGA into Bass. The submissions are then varied as to compensate for this change, with Dorset & Flinders or the balance of Meander Valley making up the suggestions. I would suggest that the Committee certainly consider this change, especially combined with the changes to Braddon. Leaving West Tamar as an odd appendage in Lyons would certainly fail the community of interest grounds.

In my submission, I suggested transferring Dorset and Flinders to Lyon and I note that several other submissions support this. I would not, however oppose keeping this area within Bass in exchange for the balance of the Meander Valley. Both suggestions are meritorious.

## Denison, Franklin and Lyons

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There are varying compositions within the Greater Hobart area. Some of these serve to address the "Franklin problem." Should the Committee wish to adopt a more conservative approach and retain the split-Franklin, I suggest that transferring Old Beach and the balance of Brighton LGA to Lyons is the cleanest and most logical solution. Splitting Clarence LGA to return Richmond to Lyons is more difficult and ignores the fact that this area is one contiguous area and one LGA.

However, as demonstrated in the submissions, there is certainly an air of change to fix the split in Franklin, and I would advocate for a change in this area. While my original suggestion did not propose a change to solve this, I note there are several worthy considerations.

Mr Waddell has again completed a thoroughly researched and detailed suggestion, and as it seems his ideas and thought process is most similar to mine. I would suggest that the submission put forward by him be considered strongly. Mr Gordon again has delivered a well-considered and similar solution, and I would recommend that his proposal be considered also. Mr Hart's suggestion appears to go down the same path, however his "Option 1" only partially moves Glenorchy.

My original idea, which never matured was to split Hobart, Glenorchy and Clarence, with each added to one Division. The Clarence division would then incorporate Sorell and Tasmania, then span the east coast to Break O'Day, Dorset and Flinders. This would join all east-coast LGAs into one Division. Hobart would join with Kingsborough and Huon to create a new southern division, with Glenorchy and Brighton joining the balance of the state in Lyons. I believe the numbers would be sufficient, with some splitting of the Northern and Southern Midlands between the east-coast division and Lyons.

However, as I never proposed these changes in my original submission, I would like to advocate and suggest that the significant transfers in this area occur in line with either Mr Waddell's or Mr Gordon's submission: with Huon Valley, Kingsborough and Hobart LGAs being combined into a single Division. The remaining areas of Denison and Franklin – comprising Glenorchy and part of Clarence LGA with part of Brighton – are then combined into another Division spanning the Derwent River.

As these changes would be rather significant, I propose that both Hobart Divisions be re-named.

## Names of Divisions

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I did not make mention of any name changes within my original suggestion, however I was certain that there would be another campaign for Andrew Inglis Clark to be honoured. Noting that the position of the Australian Electoral Commission is to retain Federation Division names, as well as honouring every Prime Minister, I read with interest the material provided on the [aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) website regarding Tasmania's Federation Division status at <http://www.aec.gov.au/Electorates/Redistributions/2016/tas/essential.htm#history>

I am of the opinion that it may not always be possible to retain Federation Division names, and that the geographic names (e.g. Parramatta; Fremantle; Corio; Wide Bay) particularly, should be considered for renaming if a more appropriate name is suggested. With more Prime Ministers to be honoured, there will always be a reason to rename an existing Division.

In this case, both the Division of Franklin and Denison are historic, but were not original Division names at the time of Federation. While these divisions retain their current form in some regard, then I believe they should not be renamed.

However, should the Committee decide that a significant realignment of the divisions in Hobart is warranted, I would suggest that both division names be retired and two prominent Australians be honoured instead of the current colonial and pioneering representatives.

Andrew Inglis Clark is certainly a well deserving and prominent candidate to be honoured with a Tasmanian division named after him. I will not repeat the extensive research and supporting arguments already provided in a number of suggestions, however I will add that I would strongly support naming a significantly altered Hobart division as *Clark*.

I do note that some submissions advocated for the name *Inglis Clark* (or even *Clarke* in one case) however, adding the name *Inglis* is not entirely appropriate, as it was his middle name, and does not form part of his surname.

The other Division could then be named for another prominent Tasmanian, and I would suggest that the honour should be bestowed upon either a female or indigenous Tasmanian (or both). Some suggestions, considered on merit of their achievements, and independently of their politics include:

- "Aunty" Ida West AM – Aboriginal campaigner
- Amelia Martha "Millie" Best – first of two women elected to Parliament.
- Lucy Beeton – Aboriginal activist
- William "King Billy" Lanne – Aboriginal activist
- Margaret Edgeworth McIntyre – First woman elected to Tasmanian Parliament
- Phyllis Benjamin – Longest serving woman in any State Parliament, first woman leader of upper house.
- Mary Phyllis Guy – Councillor, disability campaigner

I am not prepared to suggest any one of these names over another, as I have not researched any person significantly enough to decide the most worthy candidates.

I would suggest that should the Committee take the approach to realign the "Franklin Problem", then a new name of the Committee's choosing would be appropriate for the Clarence- or Derwent-based division.

## Conclusion

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Overall, there are not many changes necessary. The Committee has the choice to opt for a conservative, minimalist approach, which would be two simple transfers in Latrobe and Brighton, however, I would suggest that the Committee take this opportunity to correct one of the most significant errors of any electoral division in the country, and ensure that the people of Tasmania are better served by their local member of Parliament.

I look forward to seeing the results in due course.