



Objection 109

Kevin and Jenny Blake

3 pages

From: Jenny Blake
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Electorate redistribution submission
Date: Tuesday, 24 April 2018 11:41:33 AM
Attachments: [Electoral Submission from K & J Blake.docx](#)
Importance: High

Please acknowledge receipt of this submission

Regards jen blake

Submission from K & J Blake, [REDACTED]

Proposed redistribution of Victoria into electoral divisions April 2018 :-
With consideration of Portions of Golden Plains Shire being reallocated from Corangamite to the
Electoralates of Wannon and Cox but more particularly to the electorate of Wannon where
community of interest for those affected electors is totally lacking.

We write to you with the greatest respect but with experience as a former Mayor of Golden Plains
[Jenny] and Shire President of the former Leigh Shire [Kevin] in relation to the proposed changes to
the Federal Electorate boundaries.

The current proposal will see Golden Plains split from our communities of interest. Those areas
moving to Wannon will be totally removed from the communities of interest while at the Northern
end are mostly based in Ballarat and from the middle and South to Geelong.

As per the Victorian register of geographic names that was negotiated by Golden Plains council in
about 2011 localities were carefully named to ensure that each locality had a community of interest
that reflected the resident's work, health, education, sporting affiliation, road management etc.
needs and requirements.

We wish to stress that our comments are not made with any party-political consideration but purely
looking at the long-term future of Golden Plains residents in mind.

We humbly suggest that all possible action be undertaken to ensure a more acceptable outcome is
achieved.

Initially we suggest that if Golden Plains is to be split between electoralates, utilising the Victorian
register of geographic names would provide those locality boundaries to form the electorate
boundaries would be a logical and defensible process that should provide a more accurate
reflection of community of interest for electors.

Thus, we suggest that the localities of Barunah Park, Barunah Plains, Hesse, Inverleigh, Lethbridge,
Maude, Murgheboluc, Shelford, Stone haven, Sutherlands Creek, Teesdale, Wingeel be incorporated
in an electorate/electorates that relate to Geelong as this is where most, if not all, residents living in
these areas will attend work, major hospitals, secondary schools, utilise business commitments and
are members of sporting clubs with affiliation to Geelong based sporting associations. All residents
in these locations will have a close association with Bannockburn which has grown from a village to a
large town in the past fifteen years. These people do not have a regular community of interest with
the proposed electorate of Wannon or the major business centres of Hamilton or Warrnambool and
would rarely visit these areas other than for a social visit. The locality of Barunah park, where we
live, has a low resident population of approximately twenty electors and would have no great impact
on the overall electorate numbers but will be totally disenfranchised should it end up in the
electorate of Wannon.

In relation to this immediate Barunah Park Locality we would like to inform the commissioners that
the original Barunah Park Soldier Settlement was settled in the mid 1950's. When the school bus
routes for secondary students were established, traditionally children from Barunah Park attended
[and still currently do] Geelong schools whilst those in the adjoining locality of Rokewood and
further north attended schools in Ballarat. This simple alignment meant that families did business

and attended health services etc. utilised services in these cities and this continues today. To place residents in the electorate of Wannon will totally disenfranchise electors from their community of interest.

We humbly submit that in relation to page 14 - Proposed redistribution of Victoria into electoral divisions April 2018: -

" The Redistribution Committee also gave due consideration to the requirements of paragraph 66(3)(b) of the Electoral Act

:i. community of interests within the proposed electoral division, including economic, social and regional interests,

ii. means of communication and travel within the proposed electoral division,"

that - no consideration has been given to i – the community of interests, social and regional interests and ii the means of communication and travel within the proposed electoral division.

Travel to Geelong from our property at Barunah Park is a ¾ hour trip of approximately sixty kilometres whilst travel to Hamilton is a minimum 2.5-hour trip of over 185 Kilometres or Warrnambool is a 2.15-hour trip over 151 kilometres _ we have community of interests, social, economic & regional with and electorate relating to Geelong NOT Wannon.

Golden Plains Residents, especially those living at Barunah Park, have absolutely nothing in common with Wannon other than it would create a large rural electorate. We relate to Geelong. Janet [Jenny] works in Geelong, we both have medical practitioners, specialists and allied health practitioners in Geelong, our children were educated in Geelong, our sporting and cultural interests focus in Geelong [Jenny is a previous Board member of the Geelong Performing Arts Centre and Director of G21].

We will be totally disenfranchised in the Wannon electorate, an electorate that has no connection to Geelong and we object in the strongest terms. To be allocated to Wannon we will totally lose all ability to influence those decisions that affect our community of interest and that we find the greatest injustice that could manifested on the people of Barunah Park.