



# Objection 478

Matthew Kirwan

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## **Submission by Matthew Kirwan**

**I support these changes that would better reflect communities of interest in south-east Melbourne.**

### **HOTHAM**

- The electorate of Hotham has now become even more problematic in terms of community of interest. It goes across 5 LGAs.
- In particular, Malvern East and Noble Park would be some of the most dissimilar suburbs in Melbourne in terms of cultural diversity and disadvantage. There is also little commonality in terms of their access to services or community infrastructure - a resident of East Malvern would generally access facilities and services in the inner eastern suburbs whereas Noble Park access facilities and services in the south-east.
- That is why including all of Malvern East in the electorate of Kooyong makes more sense. This small revision would mean that Hotham would include one less LGA.
- The loss of population if that change were made could be rectified by incorporating further parts of Noble Park and Noble Park in Hotham.
- In particular, the inclusion of the part of Noble Park, namely the area between Heatherton Rd, Eastlink and the Dandenong Railway line in Isaacs as proposed in this redistribution is putting a neighbourhood that is, due to being north of the railway line, is orientated towards Noble Park North (Hotham) not the bay! The core community of interest of Isaacs is as an outer bayside electorate. This neighbourhood of Noble Park should be retained in Hotham.

### **BRUCE/ISAACS BOUNDARY**

- The Hotham/Isaacs boundary is problematic. Eastlink makes a more defined boundary between Bruce and Hotham than Jacksons Rd.
- Dandenong is a major activity centre of the south-east. It is the seat of local government for the City of Greater Dandenong and has had its own state electorate since 1904. Splitting Dandenong between multiple Federal electorates never made sense but the proposed redistribution makes it worse.
- South Dandenong being in Isaacs was a problem in the previous structure but at least South Dandenong was a discrete neighbourhood south of the centre of Dandenong. The proposed inclusion of Dandenong West, a neighbourhood strongly connected to the Dandenong Activity Centre, in Isaacs, makes no sense. The core community of interest of Isaacs is as an outer bayside electorate.
- This submission proposed putting all of the residential part of Dandenong in Bruce rather than fragment Dandenong further. While having an electorate where Dandenong was grouped with all of the suburbs of the City of Greater Dandenong would be ideal, the next best thing is to link Dandenong with suburbs in Casey like Dandenong and Hallam where migrants move from Dandenong as a place of first settlement to live in Casey.

### **BRUCE/LA TROBE BOUNDARY**

The current Bruce/La Trobe boundary works well in terms of a community of interest as those living in the eastern parts of Berwick are too far from Dandenong for Bruce to be relevant. Also and in particular, the part of Berwick east of Lyall and Clyde Rds have more in common with Beaconsfield.