



# Suggestion 23

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# Submission to AEC Victorian boundaries review

My submission addresses the south-east of Melbourne where I live and where there is likely to be a loss of one electorate.

I recommend that the seat of Bruce be moved inward/ west to better align with the boundaries of Greater Dandenong Council. This would bring Noble Park and Springvale into the seat – areas which have a lot more in common with Dandenong than with Oakleigh and Clayton that they are currently in Hotham with.

I would also like to see the small section of Mulgrave around Mulgrave PS moved out of Bruce as the sole slice of the City of Monash in the seat. Dandenong South should also be brought into Bruce to again align with communities of interest – there is little overlap between Dandenong South and the rest of Isaacs demographically.

I would finally note that if a seat in the area needs to be abolished Hotham is a better option than Chisholm. Chisholm contains to loci of the Melbourne Chinese community (Glen Waverley and Box Hill) and I strongly believe that it is important for democracy to have a seat where politicians need to pay attention to the Chinese community. It also has a history as a marginal seat suggesting that it is doing a good job of reflecting diverse community concerns at the ballot box. Hotham by contrast is not a good example of a community of interest seat. It ranges from affluent generally white voters in East Bentleigh, through to highly multicultural and low SES communities in Springvale and Noble Park, via a range of extremely highly educated ethnically diverse voters around Monash University. People from East Bentleigh and Noble Park would struggle to put each other's suburb on a map let alone have anything much in common. Therefore I see the seat as a strong contender for abolition.