



THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
TASMANIA

Submission OB95

Anonymous 8

To the Augmented Electoral Commission for Tasmania,

Thank you for receiving this submission of objection. In the first round of submissions, I authored submission S23.

Firstly, the Redistribution Committee should be applauded for taking a creative and forward-thinking approach to the redrawing of Tasmania's five electoral divisions.

Regarding Northern Tasmania, I am in support of the proposed boundaries for **Bass** and **Braddon**.

However, I would like to object to the proposal for the Greater Hobart area, notably the proposed inclusion of Glenorchy Council in **Lyons**.

This is a decision that would diminished outcomes for both the residents of Greater Hobart – now split over 3 divisions instead of 2 – and of Tasmania's regional areas which have long been represented by a **Lyons** with limited urban footprint.

Recalibrating **Franklin** as a division fully east of the Derwent is a desirable goal however this should remain subordinate to community of interest concerns. There are reasonable arguments to retain a division split across the Derwent if ensure that divisions can retain a stronger focus on urban or regional concerns.

The proposal to include Glenorchy Council in **Lyons** means that this highly urban area – bordering and linked to Hobart Council – will now be paired with regional towns in the Northern Tasmania councils of Kentish and Meander Valley. At the same time, both **Clark** and **Franklin** will be taking in regional areas in the Huon Valley and East Coast but still retaining a significant urban core. An arrangement of two urban divisions and one regional division has now become three hybrid urban-regional divisions containing parts of central Hobart with far-flung small towns.

For many years, **Lyons** has represented the needs of Regional Tasmania, particularly Central and Eastern Tasmania. Including Glenorchy Council would mean that the division is now 50% Hobart-based. Additionally, former **Lyons** voters now paired with Clarence Council in **Franklin** will also have their interests overlooked in favour of urban concerns.

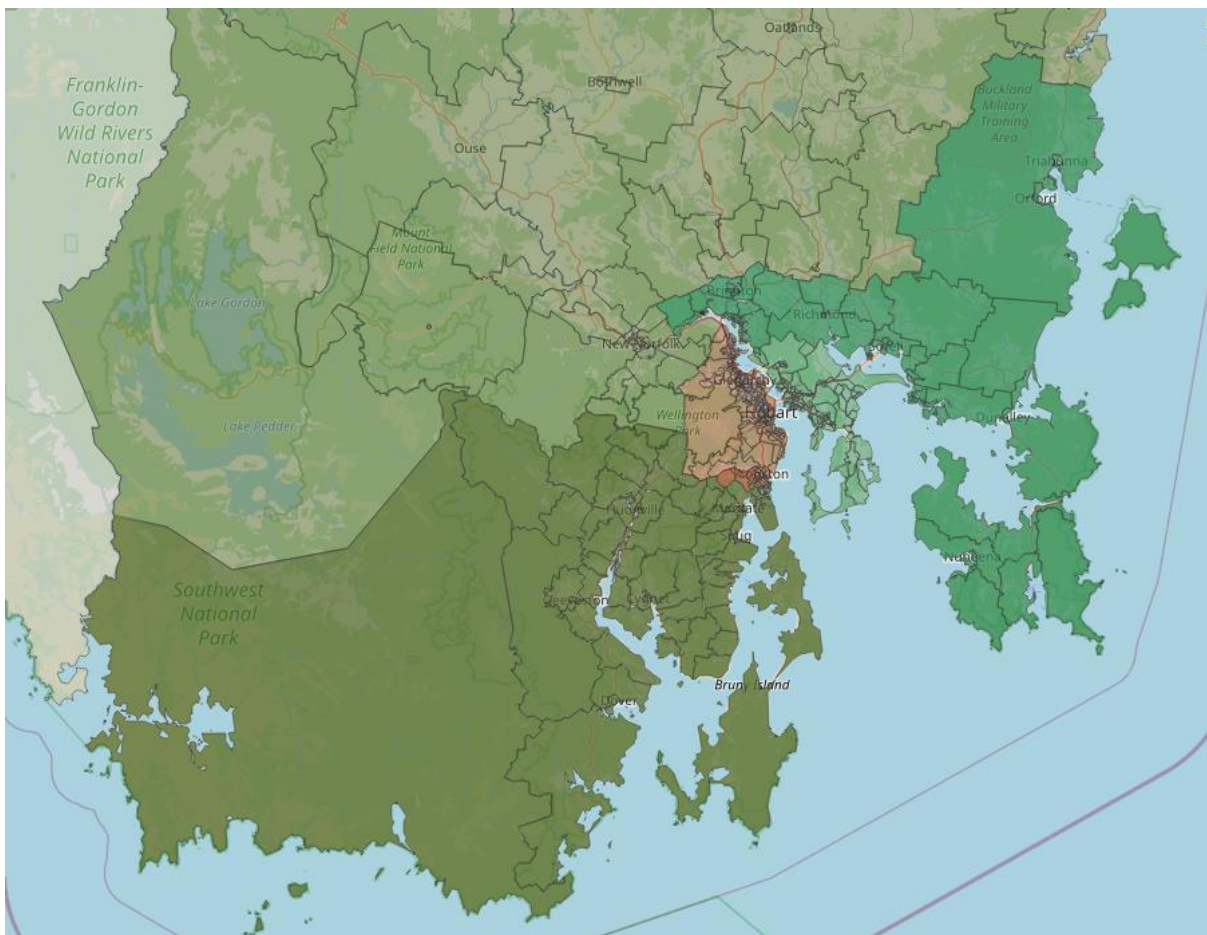
It should be obvious that the needs of electors in the state's capital and those of rural and regional areas are different. While numerical constraints often mean that voters from these differing areas need to be combined, we should aim to maximise the number of divisions with a strong identity and demographic focus.

On the following pages, I would like to share 4 alternative arrangements which I believe would better maintain communities of interest and which would result in the transfer of fewer electors.

ALTERNATIVE 1: RETAIN GLENORCHY IN CLARK – LYONS GAINS WESTERN FRANKLIN

In the interest of keeping **Clark** with a strong urban focus, **Lyons** with a strong regional focus, and consolidating **Franklin** east of the River Derwent, the following proposal would be most optimal:

- Transfer Kingston and Kingston Beach from **Franklin** to **Clark**
- Transfer the remainder of Kingborough Council and Huon Valley Council from **Franklin** to **Lyons**
- Transfer Brighton Council, Clarence Council, Sorell Council and Tasman Council from **Lyons** to **Franklin**
- Additionally, transfer the lower half of Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council from **Lyons** to **Franklin** or retain Bruny Island in **Franklin**



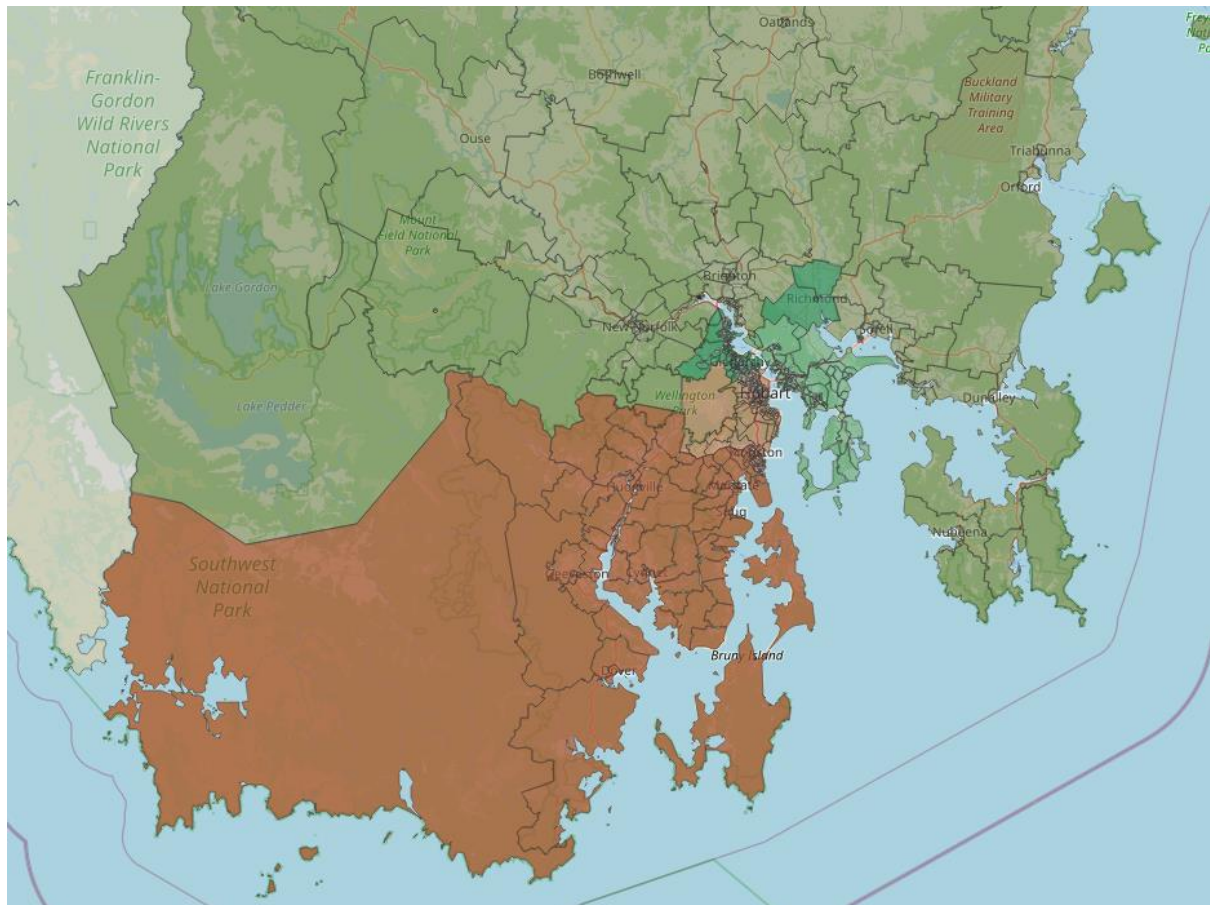
I believe this to be the best alternative as it presents the following benefits:

- Preserves **Clark** as the core of Greater Hobart, with the strong direct linkage between Glenorchy Council and Hobart Council maintained
- Fully consolidates **Franklin** east of the River Derwent almost exactly as proposed
- Maintains **Lyons'** focus on representation for regional and rural areas of Tasmania and avoids the addition of large numbers of urban voters with dissimilar political needs
- Results in the transfer of fewer electors (78,141 or 18.91% of the total)

ALTERNATIVE 2: FRANKLIN BECOMES CLARENCE PLUS GLENORCHY

This alternative would remove **Franklin's** discontinuity and maintain the proposal for **Clark** but ensures that the remaining core areas of Greater Hobart are kept together in **Franklin** (although separated by the River Derwent):

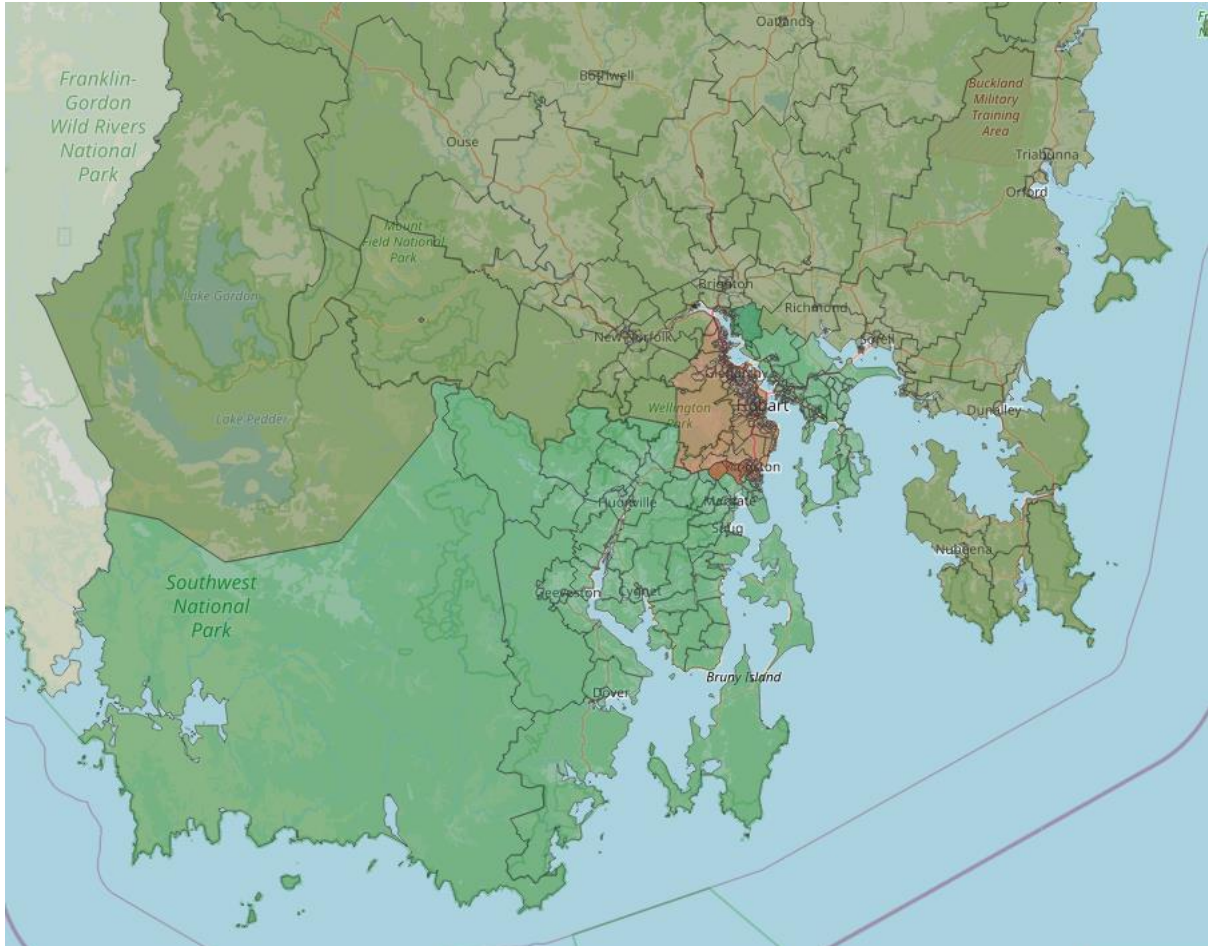
- Transfer the remainder of Kingborough Council and Huon Valley Council from **Franklin** to **Clark**
- Transfer Glenorchy Council from **Clark** to **Franklin**
- Transfer the remainder of Clarence Council from **Lyons** to **Franklin**



ALTERNATIVE 3: MINIMALIST – MAINTAIN CURRENT ARRANGEMENT OF FRANKLIN

With no options that don't introduce some form of discontinuity, it may just be better to maintain the status quo and simply make incremental changes at this point in time:

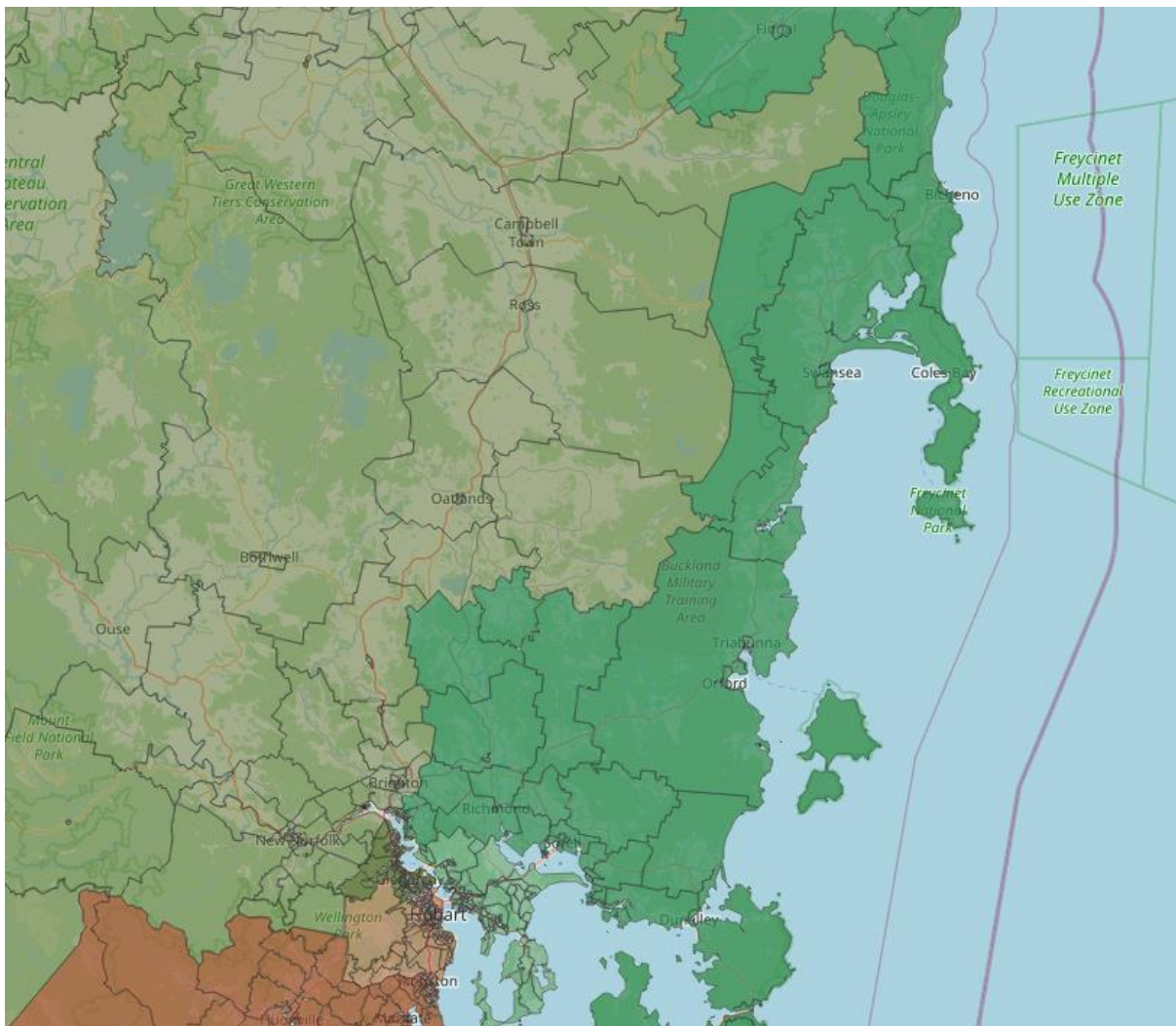
- Transfer Kingston and Kingston Beach from **Franklin** to **Clark**
- Transfer Gagebrook, Herdsmans Cove, Old Beach and Otago from **Lyons** to **Franklin**



ALTERNATIVE 4: AS PER PROPOSAL – WITH SMALL TERRITORY SWAP

If the Commission does conclude that the proposed overall arrangement is suitable, it would be possible to improve communities of interest by a territory swap between **Franklin** and **Lyons**:

- Retain the western part of Brighton Council (Boyer, Bridgewater, Brighton, Dromedary, Pontville) in **Lyons**
- Transfer Break O’Day Council from **Lyons** to **Franklin**
- Transfer the part of Southern Midlands Council along the Coal River (Baden, Campania, Colebrook, Levendale, Rhyndaston, Runnymede, Tea Tree, Tunnack, Woodsdale) from **Lyons** to **Franklin**



This would ensure that **Lyons** is fully contiguous along the Midland Highway rather than being cut by the inclusion of Bridgewater and Brighton in **Franklin**. The inclusion of Break O’Day Council along with Glamorgan-Spring Bay in **Franklin** would ensure that all of the East Coast is in a single division and would also consolidate **Lyons** as a smaller and inland-focused division. The inclusion of parts of Southern Midlands Council in **Franklin** is driven by numerical constraints but would also ensure that these communities that have a stronger connection southward towards Richmond and Sorell are better represented.