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# Conway, Ryan - Redistribution TAS - My idea on the proposed Tasmanian redistribution

## Personal details

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## Idea details

**Idea:** Names and Boundaries

**Details:** The proposed boundary changes seem very likely to affect those in Hobart and Glenorchy in particular. While there is a significant similarity in population between the two council areas, a large proportion of those with a residential address in Glenorchy will work in Hobart, particularly for higher-class jobs or those stereotypically seen as higher class. It concerns me that with this redistribution, many people will vote for one electorate but spend a significant proportion of their life affected by the neighbouring electorate in which they have no say, in the strictest manner. I acknowledge that this is also the case for many in the Clarence area who work in Hobart, but from what population statistics I could find, the proportion of Glenorchy residents working in Hobart is lesser than the proportion of Clarence residents working in Hobart. This redistribution would also significantly change the urban demographics of each division. The formerly inner-metropolitan Clark would not be so with the Huon Valley council area included, and Lyons similarly would become an area where roughly half the population is inner-metropolitan with Glenorchy, rather than being a rural division. It is known that different urban demographics often skew their voting in similar ways, and I fear this shift would skew these divisions quite significantly, particularly

for Clark and Franklin where a very large proportion of the population of these divisions will end up in another one after the shift, while Lyons also faces similar change to their population demographics. Thirdly, I feel the lives of many members of parliament will be greatly affected, as a very great number of politicians will find themselves in a different electorate than the one they were elected under. I don't immediately recall the process for when a MP's address becomes part of a different electorate than they were voted in for, but I can imagine with every MP affected by this, there will be a very major overhaul of our representatives, particularly in Tasmanian State Parliament. Overall, the proposed redistribution seems to incredibly shift the manner in which Tasmania will vote, and I don't agree with the attempt to separate Glenorchy and Hobart by electorate. I would also disagree with the proposed change to include the Huon Valley in Clark as part of the same electorate as Hobart, particularly as these regions have vastly different people, needs, and ideals. This change seems to be quite extreme, perhaps too hasty, and would alter the voting population of the affected divisions far too greatly. I am not aware of the elector populations of each council, but I can find some appreciation for each council being part of one electorate, rather than the way Clarence and Kingborough are split between two. The separation of Franklin by the Derwent River and the electorate of Clark is also notably a problem, and my alternative to these issues would be to investigate the possibility of including the whole of Kingborough into Clark, combining the Huon Valley, Derwent Valley, and other Central regions into one of Lyons or Franklin, while the other maintains a presence over the East Coast, including Clarence and Sorell council areas. This would keep each of the divisions whole, not separated as Franklin currently is, and would keep the council separations in line with division borders as well, allowing for somewhat easier understanding of where electorates are. It would also largely maintain the current urban demographics, rather than putting inner-metropolitan areas in the same electorate as rural areas. However, I do acknowledge that the current population metrics of these areas aren't necessarily going to work out as simply, and it would create a large electorate containing Huon Valley on the Southern end and Kentish in the North, whose geographic interests are less aligned than those of, say, Hobart and Huon Valley, as is in the proposed redistribution. However, I believe the geographic interests are of less concern than the urban demographic interests, otherwise many mainland divisions would be at a great disadvantage, such as the WA division of O'Connor, roughly twice the land area of Tasmania as a whole.