



**THE FEDERAL
REDISTRIBUTION
TASMANIA**

Submission OB78

Felix Pike

SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION FOR TASMANIA

Proposed Redistribution of Tasmania's Electoral Divisions by:

Felix Pike [REDACTED]

March 2026

Introduction

This submission responds to the Redistribution Committee for Tasmania's proposed redistribution released in February 2026. It addresses the proposed boundaries of the electorates of Franklin, Clark and Lyons, and proposes names for the electorates of Franklin and Clark. The submitter supports the Committee's broad objective of resolving the non-contiguous boundaries of Franklin and achieving projected enrolment compliance across all five electorates, but proposes a materially different configuration for southern Tasmania that better serves communities of interest and long-term boundary sustainability.

Part 1: Proposed Boundary Modifications

1.1 Electorate of Clark — Support with Modification

This submission supports the Committee's proposal that Clark gain the Huon Valley and Kingborough local government areas from the current electorate of Franklin. This is a geographically coherent outcome: Kingston serves as the primary service centre for both Kingborough and the Huon Valley, and residents of those areas orient their travel, commerce and services toward Hobart. Extending Clark southward reflects how communities actually connect and move across the region.

However, this submission opposes the proposed transfer of the Glenorchy City local government area from Clark to Lyons. The Committee's reasoning — that Glenorchy would provide Lyons with an urban centre — does not overcome the fundamental geographic and community-of-interest problems this transfer creates. Glenorchy is located approximately 7 kilometres north of the Hobart CBD, bounded by Hobart City to its south-east and the Derwent River to its north and east. Its residents share urban infrastructure, services, transport corridors and economic networks with central Hobart, not with the rural and regional communities of the Derwent Valley, the Central Highlands and northern midlands that constitute the remainder of Lyons.

Retaining Glenorchy within Clark — or alternatively, incorporating it into a reconfigured Franklin as proposed below — would better respect these communities of interest and produce more sustainable boundaries.

1.2 Electorate of Franklin — Oppose and Propose Alternative Configuration

This submission opposes the Committee's proposed south-east coast configuration for Franklin, which would comprise the Clarence, Brighton, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Sorell and Tasman local government areas. While the submission acknowledges the Committee's effort to resolve Franklin's non-

contiguity, the proposed configuration assembles communities with limited shared identity. In particular, placing Glamorgan Spring Bay and Tasman — remote east coast communities — in the same electorate as Brighton and Bridgewater creates an electorate of convenience rather than one reflecting genuine community connections.

Alternative proposed configuration

This submission proposes that Franklin be reconfigured as an electorate encompassing the Glenorchy City and City of Clarence local government areas. This approach offers the following advantages:

- It resolves Franklin’s non-contiguity by placing both LGAs on either side of the Derwent River in the greater Hobart metropolitan area, united by the Bowen and Tasman bridges as primary transport connections.
- Glenorchy and Clarence share a metropolitan, urban character distinct from either the rural Lyons hinterland or the inner-city Hobart character of Clark.
- The River Derwent, rather than functioning as a barrier between electorates, becomes the connecting thread of this metropolitan electorate — reflecting how Hobart’s eastern and western shores interact economically and socially.
- The augmented Electoral Commission is invited to test this configuration against the redistribution quota and projected enrolment quota, noting that the combined enrolments of Glenorchy (33,369 electors as at 12 August 2025) and Clarence (drawn from the retained Franklin electors) would require precise calibration.

1.3 Electorate of Lyons — Modification Required

If the above configurations for Clark and Franklin are adopted, Lyons would need to compensate for the loss of Glenorchy and the east coast local government areas. This submission proposes that Lyons achieve its required projected enrolment by:

- Retaining the Brighton local government area, which the Committee proposed transferring to Franklin. Brighton’s communities — including Bridgewater and Gagebrook — share the Derwent Valley corridor and have stronger social and transport connections northward toward New Norfolk and the Derwent Valley local government area, which is already in Lyons, than eastward toward Clarence.
- Retaining the Derwent Valley local government area wholly within Lyons, reinforcing the valley corridor as the spine of the electorate.

This configuration would give Lyons a logical north-south structure from the Derwent Valley through the Central Highlands, the northern midlands and the north-east — an electorate shaped by inland Tasmania’s river valleys and agricultural communities, with a consistent logic of rural and regional representation.

Part 2: Proposed Electorate Names

2.1 Electorate of Franklin — Proposed Renaming to ‘Chauncy’

The Redistribution Committee has specifically invited name suggestions for the reconfigured electorate of Franklin, noting that it was not persuaded by names submitted to date. This submission endorses renaming the reconfigured Franklin electorate and proposes the name Chauncy.

Nan Chauncy (1900–1970) was one of Australia’s most celebrated children’s authors, who lived and wrote at Chauncy Vale in Bagdad, in the Brighton local government area — within the proposed electorate. She was the first Australian recipient of the Hans Christian Andersen Diploma of Merit for children’s literature. Her home and creative legacy are directly and specifically rooted in the geography of this electorate, providing the strong connection between name and place that the AEC’s naming guidelines require.

The submission notes that Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary, the property where she lived and drew her inspiration, is a treasured conservation reserve that remains part of the local landscape today. Naming the electorate in her honour would recognise a significant contribution to Australian cultural life while anchoring the name in a precise and meaningful geographic connection to the electorate’s territory.

2.2 Electorate of Clark — Retain Current Name

This submission supports retaining the name Clark for the reconfigured electorate. Andrew Inglis Clark’s contributions to Federation — drafting key provisions of the Australian Constitution, establishing the High Court, and introducing the Hare-Clark proportional representation system — are of profound and enduring national significance. The proposed electorate remains anchored to the Hobart CBD where Clark lived and practised law, and the name was adopted only in 2017 with strong public support at that redistribution. Boundary changes alone are insufficient reason to abandon a name of such constitutional and democratic significance.

2.3 Electorate of Lyons — Retain Current Name

This submission supports retaining the name Lyons, honouring both Prime Minister Joseph Lyons and Dame Enid Lyons, the first woman elected to the Australian House of Representatives. Both figures had deep Tasmanian roots and the name carries strong bipartisan historical significance. No change is proposed.

Conclusion

This submission respectfully urges the augmented Electoral Commission to consider an alternative southern Tasmanian configuration in which Franklin becomes a metropolitan Glenorchy–Clarence electorate, Clark extends south to include Huon Valley and Kingborough, and Lyons is anchored by the Derwent Valley corridor and Brighton. This configuration resolves Franklin’s non-contiguity, respects the geographic logic of the Derwent River as a unifying rather than dividing feature, keeps urban Glenorchy within its natural community orbit, and produces boundaries more likely to remain sustainable over the longer term.

The submission further proposes renaming the reconfigured Franklin electorate Chauncy, in honour of Nan Chauncy, whose home and legacy are rooted in the specific geography of the electorate. The names Clark and Lyons are proposed to be retained.