



Submission S20

Liberal Party of Australia
(Tasmanian Division)

7 November 2025

The Redistribution Committee for Tasmania
Australian Electoral Commission
Locked Bag 4007
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: FedRedistribution-tas@aec.gov.au

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the Liberal Party of Australia (Tasmanian Division), I am pleased to submit this suggestion to the Redistribution Committee for Tasmania.

We have carefully considered the requirements of the Electoral Act that necessitate a boundary change for federal electoral divisions in Tasmania and present this submission for the Committee's consideration.

Should the Committee require any additional information or wish to discuss this submission further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Sam McQuestin
State Director
Liberal Party of Australia (Tasmanian Division)



The Liberal Party of Australia (Tasmanian Division) welcomes the opportunity to make a suggestion to the Redistribution Committee for Tasmania regarding the redistribution of federal electoral divisions in Tasmania.

The need for change

Projections provided by the Australian Electoral Commission¹ show there are three divisions that will require adjustment to remain within the $\pm 3.5\%$ projected enrolment tolerance:

1. **Bass** is projected to fall -4.42% below the projected enrolment quota, requiring a gain of at least 780 electors.
2. **Clark** is projected to fall -10.49% below the projected enrolment quota, requiring a gain of at least 5,909 electors.
3. **Lyons** is projected to exceed the projected enrolment quota by $+9.98\%$, requiring a loss of at least 5,479 electors.

The augmented Electoral Commission must endeavour to ensure that the number of electors remains within these projected tolerances.² However, Tasmania's existing boundaries present a challenging scenario which may be difficult to address without radical shifts that misalign communities of interest.

Provisions in section 24 of the Australian Constitution provides Tasmania five members in the House of Representatives.³ However, the current number of electors in Tasmanian divisions is almost 50% smaller (on average) than those in other states. The Australian Electoral Commission's elector count by division shows an average division size in Tasmania of 82,527 electors, while the average in divisions outside Tasmania is 121,954 electors (as at 30 September 2025).⁴

Proposed boundary adjustments

The Liberal Party suggests a conservative approach that limits adjustments only to divisions that require changes to meet the projected enrolment tolerances. This requires a distribution of electors from Lyons to bordering areas of Bass and Clark, while avoiding unnecessary disruption in other areas of the state.

¹ Redistribution and projected enrolment quotas for Tasmania, Australian Electoral Commission, <https://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2024/tas/quota.html>

² Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 s 73, http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/cea1918233/s73.html

³ Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act s 24 https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Senate/Practice_and_Procedure/Constitution/chapter1/Part_III_-_The_House_of_Representatives#chapter-01_part-03_24

⁴ Elector count by division, age group and gender, Australian Electoral Commission, https://www.aec.gov.au/enrolling_to_vote/enrolment_stats/elector_count/index.htm

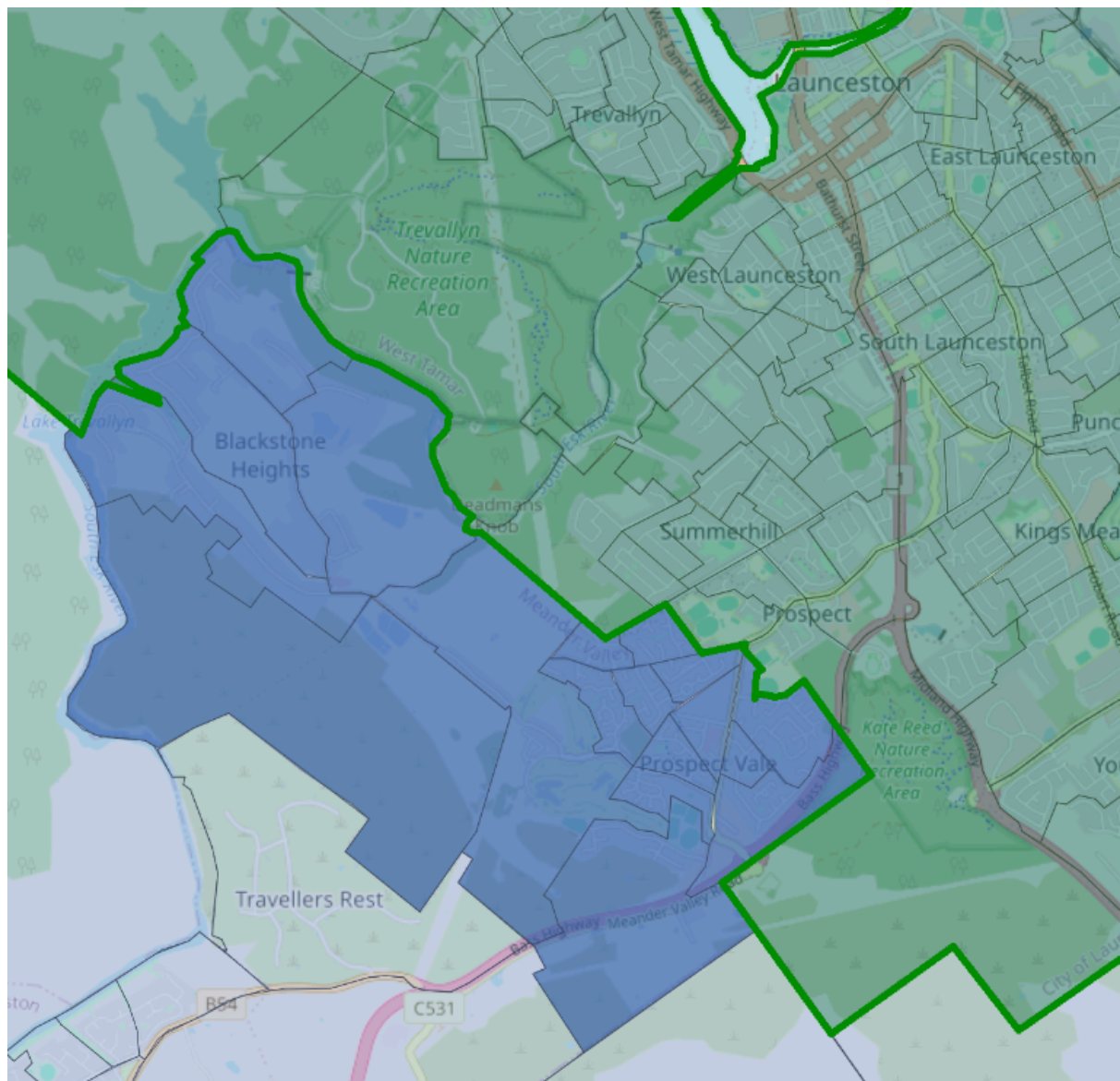
Bass

Transfer peri-urban northern population from Lyons (i.e. Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights) to Bass. This addresses Bass's deficit and rectifies the community of interest misalignment created during the previous redistribution.

This is expected to put Bass approximately 2% over the projected enrolment quota.

The following SA1s could move from Lyons to Bass:

60201104401, 60201104402, 60201104403, 60201104404, 60201104405,
60201104406, 60201104407, 60201104408, 60201104409, 60201104410,
60201104411, 60201104412, 60201104413, 60201104414, 60201104415,
60201104416, 60201104417, 60201104418



Existing Bass boundaries shown in green, proposed additions shown in blue

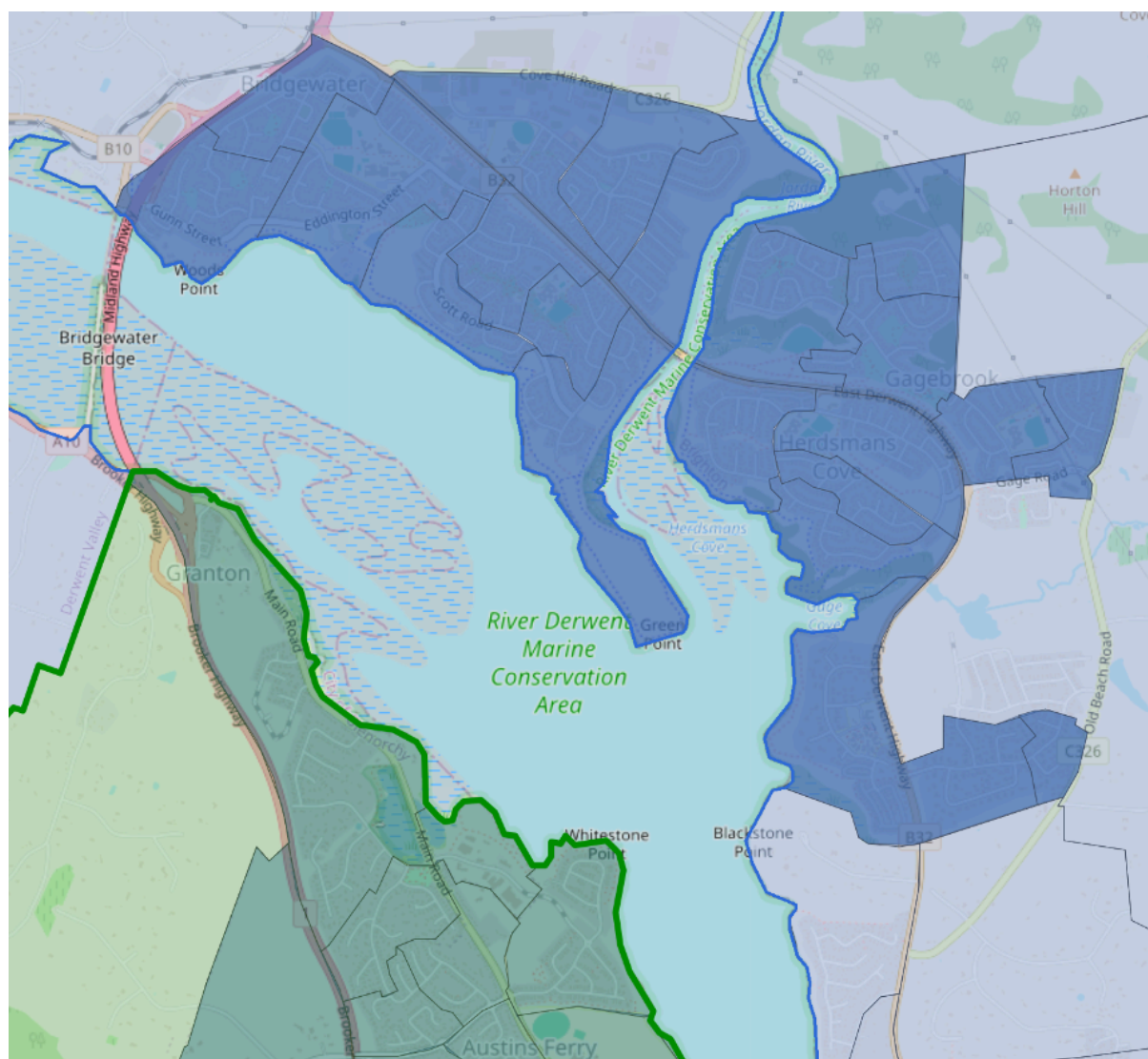
Clark

Transfer metropolitan fringe population from Lyons (i.e. Bridgewater, Gagebrook, Herdsmans Cove and parts of Old Beach) to Clark. This addresses Clark's deficit by incorporating fast-growing, highly integrated Hobart suburbs.

This is expected to put Clark approximately 3.7% under the projected enrolment quota. To meet the required $\pm 3.5\%$ projected enrolment tolerance, Clark could partly extend into the 60101100312 SA1, with Old Beach Rd/Briggs Rd as the boundary.

The following SA1s could move from Lyons to Clark:

60101100101, 60101100102, 60101100103, 60101100104, 60101100105,
60101100108, 60101100109, 60101100110, 60101100111, 60101100112,
60101100113, 60101100114, 60101100115, 60101100116, 60101100117,
60101100118, 60101100119, 60101100120, 60101100121, 60101100306,
60101100313



Existing Clark boundaries shown in green, proposed additions shown in blue

Lyons

The proposed changes outlined above would remove electors from Lyons, without any further changes required.

This is expected to put Lyons approximately 3% under the projected enrolment quota.

Naming of divisions

The Liberal Party does not recommend any changes to the names of existing electoral divisions: Bass, Braddon, Clark, Franklin and Lyons.

Rationale

Tasmania's regions have strong community identities, and established patterns of economic and transport activity that should be respected in any boundary adjustments.

Minimising changes to the current boundaries will result in less voter confusion at future elections. This is particularly important in Tasmania as a result of its relative stability in boundaries. Unlike mainland states, redistributions occur infrequently and when they have occurred in recent years they have involved minimal change.

The division boundaries set by the Australian Electoral Commission are also used for the multi-member electorates at a state level. Tasmanian voters have a heightened level of awareness of their respective division.

The proposed changes to **Bass** would reintroduce areas in Meader Valley which share a postcode and close community ties, including major sporting facilities, with the city of Launceston. Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights are established outer suburbs of Launceston with direct transport links. There are also strong economic ties, with residents commonly working and accessing services in the Launceston area.

The proposed changes to **Clark** would introduce areas across the River Derwent which are highly interconnected due to the completion of the new Bridgewater Bridge – the largest transport infrastructure project in the state's history. These areas also have strong public transport links into the Glenorchy Central Business District.

While these suggestions would see both Clark and Lyons close to the lower tolerance on projected enrolment, we feel there is substantial potential for growth within the proposed boundaries.

Clark will see new greenfield developments at the Tivoli Green Estate in Old Beach, and continued in-fill developments in the Hobart and Glenorchy municipalities. Further development can be expected in light of the Tasmanian Liberal Government's commitment to building the Macquarie Point stadium.

Lyons has continued potential to host significant green-field development, with Sorell-Richmond and Brighton-Pontville among the fastest growing SA2s in the State.⁵

Adjusting Lyons in a way that removes areas close to Hobart and Launceston will also provide a more serviceable electorate, allowing a Lyons representative to focus primarily on the issues in rural and regional Tasmania.

We trust that the Committee will give due consideration to these suggestions, which aim to uphold community interests and ensure effective representation in Tasmania. We believe these suggestions offer a balanced and practical approach to addressing the required changes and look forward to reviewing the Committee's proposed report.

Thank you for considering this submission.

⁵ Regional Population, 2023-24 financial year, Australian Bureau of Statistics,
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/regional-population/latest-release#tasmania>