



Submission S24

Paul Taranto

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Australian Electoral Commission
Tasmanian Redistribution Committee

Subject: Tasmanian Federal Electoral Redistribution – Focus on Division of Clark

Dear Redistribution Committee for Tasmania,

I am Paul Taranto, a resident of Hobart, Tasmania, and have lived in the Division of Clark for over 50 years. I am submitting these suggestions under section 64 of the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 regarding the redistribution of Tasmania's federal electoral divisions. My focus is on the Division of Clark, which faces a significant enrolment shortfall, and I propose boundary adjustments to incorporate the entirety of the Hobart, Glenorchy, and Kingborough local government areas (LGAs), maintaining Clark's identity on the western shore of Hobart without extending onto the eastern shore or disconnected rural regions.

Current Enrolment Shortfall in Clark

According to the Australian Electoral Commission enrolment data as at 12 August 2025, Clark has 74,449 enrolled electors, which is 9.91% below the redistribution quota of 82,635. The projected enrolment by 8 April 2030 is 75,689, 10.49% below the projected quota of 84,557. This shortfall necessitates boundary expansion to meet the required enrolment ranges ($\pm 10\%$ for current enrolment and $\pm 3.5\%$ for projected). Lyons and Franklin currently have enrolment surpluses; transferring all of Kingborough LGA from Franklin to Clark balances statewide enrolments with minimal disruption.

Opposition to Northern and Eastern Expansions

Northern expansions to rural areas or eastern expansions across the Derwent River that include parts of the Brighton LGA risk fragmenting communities and diluting Clark's cohesive urban character. Such expansions disconnect Hobart's western shore communities from their natural metropolitan and transport connections.

Proposed Boundary Adjustments

To resolve Clark's enrolment shortfall, I propose Clark fully encompass Hobart, Glenorchy, and all of Kingborough LGA (not partial). Kingborough's growing suburban areas including Kingston and Blackmans Bay are strongly connected to Hobart along the Channel Highway and Southern Outlet corridors, with common employment, education, and service catchments. I regularly commute between my home and the Kingston area and find this a logical extension to address Clark's quota shortfall.

Incorporating the entire Kingborough LGA would:

- Bring Clark's enrolments within the legally required quotas.
- Unite entire municipalities preserving community and administrative cohesion.
- Allow Franklin to consolidate remaining regions and maintain community identity.
- Provide a logical and easily communicated boundary that aligns with well-recognised municipal divisions and major transport routes.

Alignment with Redistribution Criteria

This proposal aligns with legal redistribution requirements by:

- Equalising enrolment to ensure fair and effective representation.
- Retaining communities with shared economic, social, and regional interests.
- Respecting physical boundaries, with the Derwent River remaining Clark's eastern border.
- Facilitating travel and communication by leveraging major transport routes like the Channel Highway.
- Minimising elector disruption by avoiding municipality splits.

Impact on Neighbouring Electorates

This boundary amendment allows Lyons and Franklin to maintain their existing community identities and geographic coherence without significant expansion or disruption.

Community Engagement

My submission reflects longstanding community values about preserving municipal integrity and fair representation, grounded in lived experience and commitment to the Clark electorate.

I urge the Committee to adopt the proposed boundaries incorporating all of Hobart, Glenorchy, and Kingborough LGAs into Clark. This will resolve enrolment disparities, maintain community coherence, and meet statutory redistribution criteria, ensuring Clark remains a unified and practical division into the future.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my suggestion.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Taranto