



Submission S8

Matt

To: The Redistribution Committee for South Australia

Date: 5 November 2025

Subject: Submission for the 2025 SA Federal Redistribution – Divisions of Mayo and Boothby

1. Introduction

This submission proposes a modification to the electoral boundary between the Division of Mayo and the Division of Boothby.

Specifically, it is proposed that the suburbs of Hawthorndene, Coromandel Valley, and Craighburn Farm be moved from the Division of Mayo into the Division of Boothby.

This change is proposed on the basis that it comprehensively satisfies multiple factors required by the *Electoral Act*, most significantly:

1. It unites a clear **community of interest** currently split by the federal boundary (s 66(3)(b)(i)).
2. It aligns the federal boundary with existing, logical **state and local government boundaries**.
3. It addresses the significant projected **enrolment quota** deviations in both electorates, as identified in the AEC's own data (s 66(3)(a)).

2. Justification based on Factors for Consideration

A. Community of Interest (s 66(3)(b)(i))

The primary justification for this proposal is to unite a distinct and cohesive "community of interest."

- **The "Mitcham Hills" Community:** The suburbs of Hawthorndene, Coromandel Valley, and Craighburn Farm are geographically, socially, and economically part of the "Mitcham Hills" community. The primary service and community hub for this area is the major town of **Blackwood**, which is already located in the Division of Boothby.
- **Shared Services and Identity:** Residents of these three suburbs naturally travel to Blackwood (and nearby Belair and Eden Hills, also in Boothby) for shopping, schools (such as Blackwood High School), medical services, and community activities. The current federal boundary artificially splits these suburbs from their community's service centre.
- **Evidence 1: Local Government Area:** All suburbs in this proposal—Hawthorndene, Coromandel Valley, and Craighburn Farm—are located within the **City of Mitcham**. The

vast majority of the City of Mitcham is already contained within the Division of Boothby. Furthermore, these suburbs are grouped into the "Craigburn" and "The Park" wards of Mitcham Council, which they share with Boothby suburbs like Blackwood, Belair, and Eden Hills. This demonstrates a clear, existing administrative and community grouping that the current federal boundary ignores.

- **Evidence 2: State Electorate:** The most compelling evidence is the boundary of the **State Electorate of Waite**. This single state district unites all the suburbs in question: Hawthorndene, Coromandel Valley, Craigburn Farm, Blackwood, Belair, and Eden Hills. This is a clear acknowledgement by the state's boundaries commission that these suburbs form a single, unified community.

B. Means of Communication and Travel (s 66(3)(b)(ii))

Travel and communication patterns reinforce this shared community. The Belair train line, a primary transport artery, physically connects this entire community, with stations at Coromandel, Blackwood, Glenalta (for Hawthorndene), and Eden Hills, linking them together and to the rest of Boothby.

Conversely, the community links for these suburbs are not with the rest of the Division of Mayo, which is a distinct regional and rural electorate covering the Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, and the wider Adelaide Hills.

C. Enrolment Quotas (s 66(3)(a))

This community-based proposal is strongly supported by the AEC's own enrolment data (as at 12 August 2025) and, most critically, the projection data (8 April 2030).

1. Division of Mayo (Over-Quota):

- **Projected Electors:** 147,436
- **Deviation:** +8.14%
- **Analysis:** Mayo is projected to be significantly over the permissible +3.5% limit (141,104 electors). The Committee is therefore *required* to move a substantial number of electors out of Mayo.

2. Division of Boothby (Under-Quota):

- **Projected Electors:** 133,351
- **Deviation:** -2.19%
- **Analysis:** Boothby is projected to be under the quota and is well within the permissible range (131,562 to 141,104). It can comfortably absorb several thousand

additional electors.

This proposal provides a logical, common-sense solution to this numerical imbalance. It moves a whole, cohesive community *en bloc* from the over-quota electorate (Mayo) to its natural "community of interest" neighbour (Boothby), helping to bring both divisions closer to the quota.

3. Conclusion

Moving Hawthorndene, Coromandel Valley, and Craighburn Farm from Mayo to Boothby is a logical and necessary change.

It rectifies an anomalous boundary that splits a clear community of interest, it aligns the federal division with existing state and local government boundaries, and it directly assists the Committee in achieving its primary numerical objective of correcting the significant over-enrolment in the Division of Mayo.