



# Objection 412

Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch)
<sup>25 page</sup>





4 May 2018

Redistribution Secretariat for Victoria, Australian Electoral Commission GPO Box 768 Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear members of the Augmented Electoral Commission

Thank you for the opportunity to provide objections to proposed divisional boundaries and names in Victoria.

Please find attached the objections of the Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch) to the Redistribution Committee's proposals.

Our objections have also been recorded on MapInfo and the relevant files are being sent separately.

Yours sincerely,

Samuel Rae
State Secretary
Australian Labor Party (Victorian Branch)



# AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY OBJECTIONS TO REDISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL FOR VICTORIA

The ALP's objections are summarised as follows:

- 1. Cox/Wannon-Unite all of Colac- Otway Shire in Wannon and all of Golden Plains Shire in Cox. Under the AEC proposal, Cox is a Division where two thirds of electors are drawn from Geelong and Queenscliff Councils. Wannon is a Division drawing two thirds of its electors from coastal based Shires, (Glenelg; Moyne; Warrnambool; Corangamite and part Colac-Otway). Whether any or no objections to Wannon or Cox succeed, the fundamental characteristics of both Divisions won't change but it does make sense, particularly in rural areas to keep local government areas together. The Redistribution Committee has unnecessarily divided both the Shires of Golden Plains and Colac-Otway between the two Divisions. Golden Plains Shire adjoins Geelong but Colac-Otway is separated by Surf Coast Shire.
- 2. Bruce/Hotham/Isaacs- Restores Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill to Bruce, which have continuously been in that Division since its creation in 1955. Restores the Cranbourne-Pakenham Line boundary between Bruce and both Isaacs and Hotham. The northern section of Bruce would therefore have similar boundaries as the State Electoral District of Mulgrave. The AEC proposed Bruce has barely a third (34.5%) of its electors drawn from the existing Division of Bruce. The ALP's objection would result in Bruce containing 61.3% of electors drawn from the existing Bruce. Similarly, the proposed Hotham only has 42.8% of electors coming from the existing Hotham. The ALP would raise this to 69.5%. For Isaacs the numbers are AEC 68.3% and ALP 83.6%. The ALP objection allows the Augmented Electoral Commission to adopt boundaries which better reflect the existing boundaries criteria of the Commonwealth Electoral Act.
- **3. Hotham/Higgins/Kooyong/Chisholm-** Transfers from Higgins to Hotham the suburbs of Murrumbeena and Hughesdale; Higgins gains Camberwell from Kooyong; Kooyong gains Box Hill North and Box Hill from Chisholm; Hotham loses west of Stephenson Road and north of the Princess Highway to Chisholm.
- 4. McEwen/Calwell/Gorton/Fraser/Scullin/Wills/Maribyrnong/Gellibrand- Transfers SA2's of Sunbury and Sunbury South from McEwen and Gorton, (Diggers Rest), to Calwell; Moves from Calwell to McEwen all of SA2 Craigieburn-Mickleham; Restores the suburb of Yarrambat to Scullin from McEwen; Transfers the suburb of Keilor from Fraser to Calwell; Retains Braybrook in Maribyrnong; Retains Strathmore Heights in Wills.

The ALP believes it is a mistake to transfer part of Nillumbik Shire into the Manningham Council based Division of Menzies. A much better arrangement would have been to add the Nillumbik surplus to the Yarra Ranges Shire based Division of Casey, thereby keeping Interface Council areas together. We express our supporting arguments within a separate section of our objection. Further details of our objections, including transfers are provided later in our submission.

#### **DIVISION NAMES**

The ALP congratulates the Redistribution Committee for its decision to honour three Victorian women for Division names, partially addressing the current gross imbalance between male and female names adopted for Divisions. We support the adoption of the names of Cox, Macnamara and Nicholls.

However, we note that Melbourne Ports is a Federation Division and has always contained the suburbs of Port Melbourne and South Wharf. It is therefore incorrect to state in paragraph 105 of the Redistribution Committee Report that Melbourne Ports "is a geographical feature, although this geographical feature no longer retains a connection to the proposed electoral division."

We would like to express our gratitude towards the Committee for adopting our recommendation that the Division of McMillan be renamed Monash.

The ALP has deep reservations about the decision to retain the name of Batman, which is not a Federation Division and is a name that is no longer appropriate for the times. We request that the Augmented Electoral Commission reconsider the retention of the name of Batman.

#### IF UPHELD, WOULD THE ALP OBJECTIONS WARRANT A THIRD ROUND?

For several years the Augmented Electoral Commission has more liberally interpreted the meaning of significant differences between its determination and the Redistribution Committee's proposal. It is true that there was a third round adopted at the last Federal Redistribution for Victoria but that resulted from a decision to abandon the proposed abolition of the Division of Murray. This time such circumstances will not arise.

Of all the measurements the Augmented Electoral Commission might take to determine whether its changes are significantly different, the best, in our view would be to examine the differences between the numbers of electors transferred to another Division, under the proposal, 19.5% and the final number transferred by the Augmented Electoral Commission,

In this respect, the NSW Redistribution of 2014-16, (when NSW lost a seat), might provide the best reference point.

At that Redistribution, 18 of the proposed 47 Divisional boundaries were altered. Some of the changes were minorand others necessarily significant. The biggest change was between the divisions of McMahon and Fowler, where nearly 30,000 electors were moved each way between these Divisions. Other significant alterations were adopted between Reid and Grayndler and Barton and Grayndler. Totalling up the movements, well over 100,000 electors were moved from proposed to final Divisions.

But in most cases the movement of electors resulted in more electors being retained within their existing Division. Clearly, the members of the Augmented Electoral Commission felt that although the changes they made were substantial, these were determined as not statistically significant because the changes made better adopted the existing boundaries criteria of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* whilst also meeting the other criteria.

We commend that approach as made by the members of the last NSW Augmented Electoral Commission.

#### IMPLICATIONS OF A ONE-TERM REDISTRIBUTION

Victoria is well on track to gain an additional Division when the State's entitlement is determined 12 months after the day of the first House of Representatives sitting following the next election.

Since the latest determination there have been three quarterly demographic statistics released and these show that Victoria's annual population growth of 2.4% is 50% greater than the Australian average. Victoria's representational entitlement is now 38.1 quotas and fast growing.

The perimeter of non-metropolitan Divisions has been properly set by the Redistribution Committee with the biggest change being the uniting of Bass Coast Shire within Monash, which allows that Division to become more truly rural by shedding Pakenham to La Trobe.

For the mostly peri-urban and Interface Council based Divisions, there are two significant differences between the ALP suggestions and the Redistribution Committee. Lalor's surplus has been spilled into Gellibrand. We understand that consequently Fraser is able to be drawn as a mainly Brimbank Council based Division. Whilst we don't change our principles we also accept the proposal.

The second difference is that the northern surplus, represented by part of Nillumbik Shire is necessary to be transferred south to keep enrolments balanced. See below a further explanation.

#### NORTHERN METROPOLITAN SURPLUS OF PART NILLUMBIK SHIRE

The creation of the new Division of Fraser in Melbourne's western suburbs still left a surplus of around 21,000 electors on the northern side of the Yarra River, within Nillumbik Shire, to be transferred south in order to balance the enrolment of Divisions.

The ALP had suggested that the transfer of parts of Nillumbik Shire be facilitated through the Yarra Ranges Shire based Division of Casey, which would keep similar areas together. Until 2013 McEwen had straddled both sides of the Yarra River, covering parts of both Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges Shires. At the State level, the Yarra is crossed twice in the north east. The Electoral District of Warrandyte also includes the suburb of Warrandyte North, (in Nillumbik Shire). The seat of Eildon straddles the Yarra River, taking in parts of Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges Shires.

Somewhat surprisingly, the AEC proposal makes the Nillumbik transfer into the Division of Menzies. A 39th Victorian Division will almost certainly be established at the next federal redistribution in two years' time. There will continue a Division in the north east which straddles both sides of the Yarra River. We can be reasonably certain that that Division will be based on parts of Whittlesea C and Nillumbik S but also including parts of Melbourne's east.

To undo the AEC proposal would require an objection which would result in changing the boundaries of not less than 10 Divisions: McEwen; Jagajaga; Scullin; Menzies; Deakin; Casey; La Trobe; Bruce; Hotham and Chisholm.

In paragraph 198 of its report, the Redistribution Committee for Victoria stated:

"While the Redistribution Committee recognised that the transfer of Nillumbik Shire Council into Casey could assist in balancing enrolment in divisions either side of the Yarra River divide, it concluded that the limited transport and communication connections between the areas made this connection undesirable and sought to address the imbalance elsewhere."

The Committee has denied itself the opportunity of quarantining most of the eastern and southern metropolitan Divisions from substantial changes due when a 39th division is established during the life of the next Parliament. Let's examine each of these matters:

The Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, a significant tourist road, comfortably connects the Yarra Ranges with parts of Nillumbik Shire, a fact recognised at the State level with the District of Eildon and at the Federal level with the former boundaries of McEwen which until 2013 straddled both Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges Shires.

Both Yarra Ranges and Nillumbik Shires are part of the peri-urban Interface group of Councils with similar issues. There are significant sporting, cultural, schooling and economic issues shared by these Shires.

The Shires of Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges are interface municipalities that form the Yarra Valley and Ranges Regional Tourism Board.

Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges economically have more in common than Nillumbik and Manningham, primarily due to Tourism and Primary production, especially horticulture and viticulture. It should be noted that the City of Manningham is not a designated interface municipality so has different needs and priorities to both Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges.

For produce, (for instance vegetables, fruit and flowers), sourced from the Yarra Ranges, the major market is located at Epping which is a journey of about 46 minutes and 42kms from Yarra Glen. There is no similar market in Manningham Council.

There is no doubt that uniting of the geographic wine region of the Yarra Valley into a single division would provide economic benefits to communities within the Shires of Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges. The western boundary of this wine region is the Plenty River.

Other examples of the communities of interest between Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges are obvious in the Education sector.

All the small rural schools in Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges are in the same school network and share a sporting competition as well as mutual support.

Many of these schools in both Nillumbik and Yarra Ranges were fire affected and even 10 years on, there are more fire affected students in schools now than there were at the time of Black Saturday.

Many secondary school students in the eastern rural part of Nillumbik attend their nearest secondary school in Yarra Ranges.

Historically the Yarra River has acted as a natural boundary as well as a community boundary. There was no bridge crossing connecting Eltham to Templestowe until 1961 and the bridge wasn't duplicated until 1991. This bridge is the sole thread that links Eltham to Templestowe and Doncaster.

There is a distance of 6km between the town centre of Eltham to the town centre of Templestowe and it is nearly 10km between Eltham and Doncaster. Warrandyte, the only other river crossing in the proposed boundaries of Menzies, is 12km from Eltham.

It is clear why there is very little geographic connection between Eltham and Templestowe as well as an almost no community of interest between the two suburbs. Westerfolds Park is a 140.9 ha site that creates an additional geographic and social boundary between the two communities. Eltham Lower Park, consisting of two ovals, the Diamond Valley Miniature Railway, Eltham Pony Club, Hohnes Rd Playhouse among other facilities, are situated where the Diamond Creek meets the Yarra River, and also provide a substantial additional natural boundary between Eltham and suburbs south of the Yarra River.

Before then Premier Kennett's local government reforms, Eltham belonged to the former Shire of Eltham, adjacent to the former Shire of Diamond Valley. When municipal councils were amalgamated parts of these two shires were joined together to create the Shire of Nillumbik. The southern part of the Shire of Eltham, Montmorency and Briar Hill, were joined to the City of Banyule. Living "north of the Yarra" has dominated the movement of community in the suburb of Eltham. It is uncommon for students to attend schools over the river and this extends to sporting participation. Furthermore, patterns of migration into Eltham are such that there are strong family links between Eltham and suburbs to its west and south west, including Greensborough, Watsonia, Macleod, Rosanna and Heidelberg.

The Diamond Valley Football League merged to become the Northern Football League (now the Northern Football Netball League) in 2007. The DVFL was created in 1922, with four clubs continuing to play in the NFNL. In recognising the community of interest of the north east, the NFNL does not cross the Yarra River, but spreads across the north east as far as Epping. For successful clubs such as the Eltham Football Club and the Eltham Junior Football Club, with around 2,000 players and members, their connection to community is in the North East, not across the river in the east.

The Montmorency Eltham RSL is an example of the interconnectedness of Eltham to its western neighbours, rather than those to its east. This is a close relationship linking the two communities, with an ANZAC Day Dawn Service held in Eltham every year, along with a march through Montmorency at 11am.

Public transport focuses on the Hurstbridge Line, linking the communities of Eltham, Montmorency and Greensborough together.

Local schools in Eltham and adjacent parts of Nillumbik Shire belong to a north eastern network and have very little connection or relationship with schools across the Yarra River in the seat of Menzies.

The Austin Hospital in Jagajaga is the first choice of locals when it comes to health care, not the Box Hill Hospital located in Chisholm.

#### FUTURE EFFECT OF PLACING THE NILLUMBIK SURPLUS INTO MENZIES

The quota for the current redistribution was struck on 4th September, 2017, seven years and seven months since the quota was struck for the 2010/11 redistribution. But the AEC anticipates, due to Victoria's much greater population growth than in the rest of Australia, that Victoria will be entitled to a 39th Division in less than three years.

Let us now examine growth within the Melbourne Metropolitan area. The AEC has projected that Victoria's enrolments will grow by 3.2% in the two years between the commencement and projected dates of the Redistribution.

Of the 12 Divisions proposed in the northern and western suburbs of Melbourne, all but three will have growth in enrolments much greater than the State average. Most of Melbourne's growth will be within these Divisions.

Of the 16 Metropolitan Divisions on the southern side of the Yarra, we find that there are only two Divisions, Holt and La Trobe which are growing at a rate significantly in excess of the State average. Nonetheless, the lower quota occasioned from an extra seat next time will mean that the southern side of the Yarra will still need to transfer Nillumbik and more to the north.

Had the Redistribution Committee placed the Nillumbik excess into Casey, it then could have quarantined Melbourne's eastern and southern based suburbs from any dramatic effects flowing from the next redistribution.

That should have been accomplished by shifting Bruce further east, (to make up for the numbers not gained by Menzies from Nillumbik), and by parking sufficient electors from Yarra Ranges Shire within La Trobe. In that way, the future surplus from both La Trobe and Holt could have allowed a La Trobe to Casey transfer of its Yarra Ranges component.

#### **OBJECTION 1: COX/WANNON**

Effect of ALP Objection: Unites all of Golden Plains Shire Council within the Division of Cox and unites all of the Shire of Colac-Otway within Wannon. Both Shires are proposed by the Committee to be split between these Divisions.

#### **Reason for ALP's Objection:**

- 1. Under the AEC proposal, Cox is a Division where two thirds of electors are drawn from Geelong and Queenscliff Councils. Wannon is a Division drawing two thirds of its electors from coastal based local government areas: Glenelg; Moyne; Warrnambool C; Corangamite and part Colac-Otway.
- 2. Whether any or no objections to Wannon or Cox succeed, the fundamental characteristics of both Divisions won't change but it does make sense, particularly in rural areas to keep local government areas together.
- 3. The Redistribution Committee has unnecessarily divided both the Shires of Golden Plains and Colac-Otway between the two Divisions. Golden Plains Shire adjoins Geelong but Colac-Otway Shire is separated by Surf Coast Shire.
- **4.** The town of Bannockburn, within Golden Plains Shire is right next door to Geelong. Smythes Creek, 90 kilometres away is the farthest town within Golden Plains Shire from Geelong. In contrast, it is 148 kilometres from cape Otway to Geelong.
- **5.** Both Colac-Otway and the remainder of Wannon are located in rural settings and are heavily reliant on agriculture for both jobs and trade.
- **6.** Colac-Otway and Wannon rely on the same arterial link road-the Princes Highway and the Warrnambool rail line for freight, for commuting and access to services.
- 7. Both Golden Plains are members of the G21 Group but golden Plains has stronger links to Geelong, including educational, health and service needs due to its proximity.
- **8.** Colac-Otway is also via Apollo Bay strongly involved with the Great South Coast which includes the local government areas of Corangamite, Moyne, Southern Grampians and Warrnambool.
- **9.** Geographically, Colac-Otway and Wannon are similar in nature and incorporate the hinterland and lush farm land. There is much that is mutually shared and much that requires joint advocacy. A particular example is the issue regarding the Murray Goulburn Co-op and dairy farmers.
- 10. In contrast, most of Cox is less rural and more urban with several pockets of rapid population growth supported increasingly by greater access to services, education and health.
- **11.** The ALP also agrees with the proposal to include the Bellarine Peninsula within Cox which also results in concentrating the suburbs surrounding the centre of Geelong within Corio.
- 12. The Bellarine and its coastal towns have much in common with the towns on the Surf Coast and are better suited to be in Cox. For instance, there is a shared need for Infrastructure upgrades in roads, rail, support for growing populations and tourism industries along the Surf Coast and the Bellarine.

## Transfers (Based on the Commissioners Proposals)

•	4/9/17	25/8/19
cox	103 566	109 205
Less Colac Region	-1 164	<b>-1 176</b> To Wannon
Less Otway	-2 788	<b>-2 826</b> To Wannon
Plus Smythes Creek	+2 857	<b>+2 869</b> Ex Wannon
Plus Golden Plains South	+66	+67 Ex Wannon
Plus Golden Plains North	+1 226	<b>+1 254</b> Ex Wannon
(The latter three SA2's are in the curre	ent Division of Ballarat	<del>'</del> )
Plus Smythes Creek	+114	+114 Ex Wannon
Plus Golden Plains South	+751	+754 Ex Wannon
Plus Golden Plains North	+1 937	<b>+2 009</b> Ex Wannon
(The latter three SA2's are in the curre	ent Corangamite)	
TOTALS	<b>106 565</b> (-0.4)	<b>112 270</b> (1.7)
WANNON	112 296	112 757
Less Smythes Creek	-2 857	<b>-2 869</b> To Cox
Less Golden Plains South	-66	<b>-67</b> To Cox
Less Golden Plains North	-1 226	<b>-1 254</b> To Cox
(The latter three SA2's are in the curre	ent Division of Ballarat	t)
Less Symthes Creek	-114	<b>-114</b> To Cox
Less Golden Plains South	-751	<b>-754</b> To Cox
Less Golden Plains North	-1 937	<b>-2 009</b> To Cox
(The latter three SA2's are in the curre	ent Corangamite)	
Plus Colac Region	+1 164	<b>+1 176</b> Ex Cox
Plus Otway	+2 788	<b>+2 826</b> Ex Cox
TOTALS	<b>109 297</b> (2.2)	<b>109 692</b> (-0.6)

#### **OBJECTION 2: BRUCE/HOTHAM/ISAACS**

Effect of ALP Objections: Restores Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill to Bruce, which have continuously been in that Division since its creation in 1955. Restore the Cranbourne-Pakenham Line boundary between Bruce and both Isaacs and Hotham. The northern section of Bruce would thereby have similar boundaries as the State Electoral District of Mulgrave. The ALP objection allows the Augmented Electoral Commission to adopt boundaries which better reflect the existing boundaries criteria of the Commonwealth Electoral Act.

#### **Reasons for ALP Objections:**

- 1. The AEC proposed Bruce has barely a third (34.5%) of its electors drawn from the existing Division of Bruce. The ALP's objection results in Bruce containing 61.3% of electors drawn from the existing Bruce. Similarly, the proposed Hotham only has 42.8% of electors coming from the existing Hotham. The ALP raises this to 69.5%. For Isaacs the numbers are AEC 68.3% and ALP 83.6%.
- 2. The ALP agrees with the Redistribution Committee's proposal to unite all of Frankston Council within Dunkley which also has allowed Flinders to become entirely drawn from the Mornington Peninsula Shire. As referenced elsewhere in our objections, the Divisions of La Trobe and Holt are the only southern Melbourne Divisions with growth significantly greater than the State average. We also think that at least the Nillumbik addition to Menzies will have to be returned to the northern suburbs next time as part of a process of creating a 39th Victorian Division. In that context, Bruce will become the funnel for the growth in la Trobe and Holt. Should that be the case then significant numbers of electors would need to be added to Menzies. Those numbers will effectively be derived from the currently proposed Hotham. To allow that to occur, Bruce will have to return to Isaacs and Hotham most if not all of the parts it has gained south of the Pakenham Line. Why not do those changes now and thus avoid future significant changes to the boundaries of Isaacs and Holt?
- 3. The Pakenham Line has been the southern boundary of Bruce for decades. At the 1994 Redistribution, the Augmented Electoral Commission upheld an objection from the Liberal Party of Australia (Victorian Division) against the proposal to draw its boundary south of the line very similar to what's also proposed by this Redistribution Committee. As recently as its 2010 report, the Redistribution Committee referred to p. 36 "the solid boundary of the Pakenham-Cranbourne Railway Line."
- **4.** Police Road has been proposed as the border between Bruce and Hotham, adopting the administrative local government boundary between the municipalities of Monash and Greater Dandenong.

It is not however a boundary that defines the actual community of interests in this area, including economic, social or regional interests or local travel patterns. There are strong and long established links between residents, community facilities such as schools, as well as shops and businesses in Mulgrave, Dandenong North and Noble Park North (south of the major roads of Wellington Road and north of Princes Highway).

Using Police Road as an electorate boundary at this time is an unnecessary change, dividing these communities which have been located in the electorate of Bruce since 1994.

A focal point of these suburbs is the Waverley Gardens Shopping Centre, located on the corner of Police Road and Jacksons Road. Past community needs studies by local councils such as the Mulgrave Community Strengthening Action Plan 2012 have highlighted the fact that Mulgrave lacks a defined 'town centre'. In the absence of such a focal point, the major shopping centres play a particularly important role in providing a space for the community to connect as well as shop. Council staff however noted in this study that the Brandon Park Shopping Centre is more of a focus for many Mulgrave residents than Waverley Gardens Shopping Centre. In turn the reality is that the Waverley Gardens Shopping Centre is the main retail centre and an important community meeting place for residents of Dandenong North and Noble Park North.

This is confirmed by advice from the Waverley Gardens Shopping Centre Management that suburbs to the south of Mulgrave provide a critical mass of the primary and secondary trade areas. Primary trade areas attracting shoppers (foot traffic and sales) as advised are Mulgrave, Noble Park North and Springvale. Secondary trade areas include Dandenong North, Wheelers Hill and Noble Park.

The strong connections between these communities are also illustrated by local school enrolments in Mulgrave, for example:

- Wellington Secondary College (WSC): 74% of WSC students actually live in the City of Greater Dandenong as Police Road is not a community boundary. More than twice the number of students live in Dandenong / Dandenong North and Noble Park / Noble Park North than come from Mulgrave and Wheelers Hill combined. WSC is a high equity funding school, aligning socio-economically with the City of Greater Dandenong's demographic profile.
- Mulgrave Primary School: Primary Schools have localised catchments and 61% of students live in Mulgrave. Yet despite being located well above Police Road and the Freeway, 34% of the students live south of Police Road, significantly from Dandenong North and Noble Park North.
- Albany Rise Primary School: Primary Schools have localised catchments and 74% of students live in Mulgrave. Yet despite being located in the centre of Mulgrave, well above Police Road, over 25% of the students live south of Police Road, significantly from Dandenong North, Noble Park and Noble Park North.
- 5. The proposals to move Hotham's south eastern boundary from Corrigan Road to Springvale Road, and to move the seat's southern boundary north to exclude Springvale South and the surrounding suburbs, would split a number of communities of interest that are currently represented by one federal electorate, into three different federal electorates. We respectfully argue that the communities of Springvale South, Springvale and Noble Park, west of Corrigan Road, be replaced into the seat of Hotham. This is to maintain existing boundaries in this area, to ensure these constituents are not moved unnecessarily, and most importantly, to ensure the tight-knit communities of interest represented in these suburbs are preserved in one federal electorate.

There is a very large and significant Indo-Chinese community which stretches from Clarinda, into Westall, Clayton, Clayton South, Springvale and Springvale South. The vast majority of these constituents are now within the electorate of Hotham. Under the proposed boundaries, this community would be split across three Divisions. Over half of those who live in these suburbs were born overseas, predominantly from Vietnam, Cambodia, China and India. These communities share language, culture, heritage and religion. They share places of worship, schools, shopping areas and community hubs.

This community has two centres. One is the Clayton Road shops just south of the railway line, and another, larger and more significant, is the Springvale Road shopping area, mainly to the immediate south of Springvale train station. This shopping centre is very large, and seamlessly crosses both sides of Springvale Road. The community is well connected across Clayton and Springvale by bus routes, the railway, and road routes between these two main shopping strips and their surrounding areas.

**6.** Using Springvale Road and Heatherton Road as the boundaries, as is proposed by the draft maps, would split a shopping centre, a transport hub, and one contiguous community, right down the middle.

Communities of interest would be separated from their places of worship, schools, shopping centres and other community hubs. Schools such as Athol Road Primary School, Springvale Rise Primary School, Heatherhill Primary and Secondary, St Joseph's and Spring Parks, would see the children and families which use those schools split by the proposed boundaries. Under the draft boundaries, Christian churches, such as Springvale Church of Christ, St Joseph's Catholic Church and the local Anglican Church, would be located in one Division,

but many of their parishioners (who live on the eastern side of Springvale Road, or south of Heatherton Road) would be located in another.

This is also true of other religious and ethnic communities. Hotham currently contains the three main Cambodian Buddhist temples in South East Melbourne – the Wat Buddharangsi and the Wat Khmer in Springvale South, and the Wat Dhamaram in Springvale. The congregants are drawn from across Springvale South, Springvale, Westall, Clarinda, Clayton South, Clayton, and the surrounding suburbs. Under the draft boundaries, these temples would be separated into two electorates, then separated from their congregants and from other essential community facilities such as the Cambodian Association of Victoria, which is the home of Cambodian activism in Victoria, and in Springvale. For the Vietnamese community, the same applies. The main places of worship for this community are St Joseph's Parish in Springvale, St Anthony's in Corrigan Road, and the Hoa Nghiem Vietnamese Temple in Springvale Road, Springvale South. These places of worship, and organisations such as the Springvale Indo-Chinese Mutual Assistance Organisation, and the South East Melbourne Vietnamese Association Council, and the Vietnamese-Australian community of interest that they represent, would be split up across three different federal electorates.

- 7. Springvale, Springvale South and the western part of Noble Park, up to Corrigan Road, are clearly part of a community of interest which stretches across Westall, Clayton South, Clarinda and Clayton. These suburbs share shopping centres, schools, ethnic backgrounds, places of worship, seamlessly across these suburbs. Instead of being separated into three electorates, they should be reunited, in the seat of Hotham, to ensure these significant communities of interest are represented by a single Division, with the rest of the Indo-Chinese community in this area.
- 8. Residents of Noble Park and Keysborough have a substantial history in the Isaacs electorate and it would break the community of interest south of the Dandenong Train Line to move the Isaacs-Bruce boundary to Cheltenham Boad and Kirkham Boad.

The Redistribution Committee proposed change splits the Keysborough community in two, with the housing estates South of Cheltenham Road split from their key community centres of interest, such as Parkmore Shopping Centre, the Douglas Road Shops in Noble Park and places of worship and recreation, which are overwhelmingly in the more established parts of Keysborough and Noble Park, North of Cheltenham Road and South of the Dandenong Train Line.

- 9. Of particular concern is the proposal to use Kirkham Road in Dandenong South as the boundary between Bruce and Isaacs. It splits this community in two, putting into different Divisions Dandenong South Primary School and the Dandenong Thunder Football Club. It also splits a large Albanian-Australian community that lives in Dandenong South across two electorates, with the Albanian Mosque proposed to be in Bruce but most of this community proposed to remain in Isaacs. Kirkham Road is a very weak boundary as against the Dandenong Train Line. Dandenong South, has also been split, isolating half of this very tight-knit community from the other.
- 10. The proposal to move the Bruce-Isaacs boundary South from the hard and established boundary of the Dandenong Train Line to Cheltenham Road and Kirkham Road isolates those communities South of Kirkham Road and Cheltenham Road, communities that look to Parkmore Shopping Centre in Keysborough, to Douglas Street in Noble Park, and to various sporting and religious facilities between Cheltenham-Kirkham Road and the Dandenong Train Line.
- 11. In the interest of maintaining existing communities of interest, to reduce the number of residents unnecessarily redistributed and to maintain hard boundaries known to residents of Isaacs, we strongly suggest the restoration of the suburbs proposed to move from Isaacs to Bruce, back to Isaacs

#### **Transfers (Based on the Commissioners Proposals)**

	4/9/17	25/8/19
BRUCE	108 421	110 513
Less part Greater Dandenong C	-14 879	-15 408 To Isaacs
Less part Greater Dandenong C	-13 657	-13 850 To Hotham

No transfers are made to Bruce from either Hotham or Isaacs. The parts of the latter Divisions are returned exactly.

The other excision from Bruce is the remnant of the suburb of Springvale that the AEC proposed is retained in Bruce. Although not immediately obvious, the suburb boundary is quiet strong. There are no electors at its eastern end, (Springvale Botanical Cemetery and Sandown International Raceway). These electors are sent to Hotham.

TOTALS	<b>108 203</b> (1.2)	<b>109 858</b> (-0.5)
	+12 201	<b>+12 417</b> Ex Hotham
Plus part Mulgrave (all except SA1's 2132514;20-21;41 which are west of Springvale Roa		which are west of Springvale Road)
Plus part Wheelers Hill	<b>+14 268 +14 372</b> Ex Hotham	
Plus part Glen Waverley East	+2 441	<b>+2 443</b> Ex Hotham
Less part Springvale	-592	-629 To Hotham

	4/9/17	25/8/19
HOTHAM	107 960	110 473
Less part Glen Waverley East	-2 441	<b>-2 443</b> To Bruce
Less part Wheelers Hill	-14 268	<b>-14 372</b> To Bruce
Less part Mulgrave (all except SA1's	2132514;20-21;41 v	vhich are west of Springvale Road)

**-12 201 -12 417** To Bruce

That part of Greater Dandenong Council which the AEC has proposed be moved from Hotham to Bruce is cancelled by the ALP objection as follows:

Plus part Greater Dandenong C +13 657 +13 850 Ex Bruce

The remnant of the suburb of Springvale that the AEC proposed be retained in Bruce is sent to Hotham. Although not immediately obvious, the suburb boundary is quiet strong. There are no electors at its eastern end, (Springvale Botanical Cemetery and Sandown International Raceway). These electors are sent to Hotham.

Plus part Springvale +592 +629 Ex Bruce

With the above, Hotham is well under quota. The following SA2's, which are whole suburbs, are restored from Isaacs:

Plus Moorabbin-Heatherton +5 822 +6 053 Ex Isaacs
Plus Dingley Village +7 826 +7 893 Ex Isaacs

The final change for Hotham is that part of Springvale South the AEC puts in Isaacs. Its placement in Hotham enables all of the suburbs of Springvale and Springvale South to be combined in Hotham:

TOTALS	<b>109 641</b> (2.5)	<b>112 425</b> (1.9)
Plus Springvale South	+2 694	<b>+2 759</b> Ex Isaacs

	4/9/17	25/8/19
ISAACS	105 707	109 463
Plus part Greater Dandenong C	+14 879	+15 408 Ex Bruce
That then allows Isaacs to return to H	otham:	
Less Moorabbin-Heatherton	-5 822	<b>-6 053</b> To Hotham
Less Dingley Village	-7 826	-7 893 To Hotham
Less Springvale South	-2 694	<b>-2 759</b> To Hotham
TOTALS	<b>104 244</b> (-2.5)	<b>108 166</b> (-2.0)

#### **OBJECTION 3: HOTHAM/HIGGINS/KOOYONG/CHISHOLM**

Effect of ALP Objection: Transfers from Higgins to Hotham the suburbs of Murrumbeena and Hughesdale; Higgins gains Camberwell from Kooyong; Kooyong gains Box Hill North and Box Hill from Chisholm; Hotham loses west of Stephenson Road and north of the Princess Highway to Chisholm.

#### **Reasons for ALP Objection:**

- 1. The Divisions covering the established eastern suburbs of Melbourne are likely to require further expansion in the future
- 2. There is a community of interest along the Lilydale Line/Whitehorse road corridor. Ultimately Kooyong and Deakin should become the two divisions covering that corridor, taking in Maroondah, Whitehorse and the northern half of Boroondara.
- 3. If the above holds true then that would allow Higgins to expand into Camberwell and Hawthorn, rather than towards Hughesdale and Monash City Council.
- **4.** The suburbs around Chadstone shopping centre mark a natural starting point for Hotham and Chisholm.
- 5. Eventually, a clear community of interest argument will result in Chisholm becoming a Monash City Council Division.
- **6.** The ALP Objection enables the suburb of Mount Waverley united in a single Division. Residents of Mount Waverley strongly identify with the name of the suburb and see themselves as one community.

#### **Transfers (Based on the Commissioners Proposals)**

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	4/9/17	25/8/19
HOTHAM	107 960	110 473
Less Ashwood-Chadstone	-2 806	-2 870 To Chisholm
Less Mt Waverley South	-6 276	-6 480 To Chisholm
Less part Oakleigh East (west of Ste	ephenson road and n	orth of the princess Highw
	-3 903	-3 983 To Chisholm
Plus Hughesdale	+4 792	<b>+4 927</b> Ex Higgins
Plus Murrumbeena	+6 102	+6 251 Ex Higgins
TOTALS	<b>105 869</b> (-1.0)	<b>108 318</b> (-1.9)
	4/9/17	25/8/19
HIGGINS	108 550	111 855
Less Hughesdale	-4 792	<b>-4 927</b> To Hotham
Less Murrumbeena	-6 102	-6 251 To Hotham
Plus part Camberwell (south of Rive	rdale Road)	
	+12 694	<b>+12 963</b> Ex Kooyong
TOTALS	<b>110 350</b> (3.2)	<b>113 640</b> (3.0)

	4/0/47	05/0/40
	4/9/17	25/8/19
KOOYONG	110 227	112 477
Less part Camberwell (south of	Riverdale road)	
	-12 694	<b>-12 963</b> To Higgins
Plus Box Hill North	+7 251	+7 446 Ex Chisholm
Plus part Box Hill	+5 222	+5 466 Ex Chisholm
TOTALS	<b>110 006</b> (2.9)	<b>112 426</b> (1.9)
	4/9/17	25/8/19
CHISHOLM	106 672	109 131
Less Box Hill North	-7 251	<b>-7 446</b> To Kooyong
Less part Box Hill	-5 222	-5 466 To Kooyong
Plus Ashwood-Chadstone	+2 806	<b>+2 870</b> Ex Hotham
Plus Mt Waverley South	+6 276	+6 480 Ex Hotham
Plus part Oakleigh East (west of	Stephenson road and n	orth of the princess High
	+3 903	+3 983 Ex Hotham
TOTALS	<b>107 184</b> (0.2)	<b>109 552</b> (-0.7)

## OBJECTION 4: MCEWEN/CALWELL/GORTON/FRASER/SCULLIN/WILLS/MARIBYRNONG/GELLIBRAND

Effect of ALP Objection: Transfers SA2's of Sunbury and Sunbury South from McEwen and Gorton, (Diggers Rest), to Calwell; Moves from Calwell to McEwen all of SA2 Craigieburn-Mickleham; Restores the suburb of Yarrambat to Scullin from McEwen; Transfers the suburb of Keilor from Fraser to Calwell; Retains Braybrook in Maribyrnong; Retains Strathmore Heights in Wills

#### **Reason for ALP's Objection:**

- 1. Craigieburn is best united in a single Division in McEwen and not Calwell as the Redistribution Committee has proposed. Craigieburn is the commercial, educational and recreational hub for families in the urban growth area located directly north of the suburb, including the townships of Beverage, Wallan and Kilmore.
- 2. Economic Differentiation between Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park

Data from the 2016 Census and from Domain highlights the economic differentiation between Craigieburn and the residents in nearby Roxburgh Park. The major differentiations are in the number of homes sold, the stock available in the rental market, the percentage of adults engaged in full time employment.

Suburb	Median Weekly Household Income	In Full Time Employment	Homes Owned Outright	Homes Rented	Homes Sold YTD in 2018
Craigieburn	\$1504.00	58.4%	14.6%	27.4%	473
Roxburgh Park	\$1358.00	53.2%	18.2%	20.6%	159

As a whole Roxburgh Park is a far more established suburb than Craigieburn, with Craigieburn undergoing continuous growth.

Roxburgh Park was developed in the 1990s as a suburban area by the Victorian Government's Urban and Regional Land Corporation and while sections of Craigieburn have roots back to early settlement in the 1860s, the vast majority of development of the suburb occurred in the 1950s – 1980 (with pockets of development in the 1990s) and then post 2005, with much development still underway. The ongoing development in Craigieburn is reflected in house disposals of just under 500 year to date in Craigieburn compared to only 159 in Roxburgh Park during the same period.

While Craigieburn has a higher rate of full-time employment and household income with many homes having two working adults in order to meet the cost of new mortgages. By contrast Roxburgh Park has a lower household income but a higher rate of outright home ownership, reflecting the more settled and established nature of that suburb.

3. Social Differentiation between Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park

Data from the 2016 Census highlights the social differentiation between Craigieburn and the residents in nearby Roxburgh Park. The major differentiations are in languages other than English, countrys of birth, religion and ancestry.

Suburb	Top Languages Spoken at Home Other than English	Top Two Countries of Birth	Top Two Religions	Top Two Ancestry Responses
Craigieburn	Punjabi (7.8%)	Australia (53.0%) India (11.3%)	Catholic (28.4%) No Religion (15.5%)	Australian (14.5%) English (13.3%)
Roxburgh Park	India (11.3%)	Australia (45.9%) Iraq (17.1%)	Catholic (36.1%) Islam (28.3%)	Turkish (10.9%) Australian (9.5%)

The social differentiation between the two suburbs is significant with a high degree of disparity between the cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the residents.

Craigieburn is dominated by a relatively high rate of residents born in Australia and who speak English at home, followed by a growing subcontinental community who speak Punjabi at home.

Roxburgh Park has a relatively lower rate of residents born in Australia with a high rate of residents having been born in Iraq. As at the 2016 Census over 5.5% of all Australians identifying as having been born in Iraq lived in Roxburgh Park.

Roxburgh Park has a much higher rate of religious identification with just under 65% of the population identifying as either Catholic or Islamic, by contrast the second highest religious identification in Craigieburn is no religion.

This cultural disparity is borne out in local sporting and educational settings. There are no sporting competitions engaged in between the two suburbs and there is little cross border sharing of educational facilities.

This is in contrast to Craigieburn's educational and sporting ties into the outer north and outer north east. Craigieburn is home to Hume Anglican Grammar that has a wide catchment across the towns north of Craigieburn and The Kilmore International School draws students from Craigieburn.

The two suburbs do not share cultural or festival events with Craigieburn having a burgeoning Diwali Festival of Lights while Roxburgh being host to the Australian Multicultural Eid Festival.

4. Sunbury Community of Interest and Transport Links

The redistribution report creates an artificial boundary between the communities of Sunbury and the nearby townships of Bulla and Diggers Rest as well as Melbourne Airport and the broader City of Hume.

Sunbury acts as a hub for the community between the Airport and Sunbury and, as Josh Bull MP notes on his website, the airport is the major employer for Sunbury.

Indeed, the state seat of Sunbury runs between Sunbury and Tullamarine and would sit comfortably within the seat of Calwell should our proposal be agreed.

Some 14,000 people employed at Melbourne Airport and around 30% of that workforce live in the City of Hume, with the majority of those living in Sunbury and surrounds, indeed the section of Sunbury Road from Melbourne Airport to Bulla Road is becoming increasingly congested, carrying more than 20,000 vehicles per day. There is strong support in the community of Sunbury to duplicate Sunbury Road which will facilitate the development potential of Sunbury's growth areas. The additional capacity will help to better connect Sunbury residents to jobs at Melbourne Airport and within the Hume Corridor.

In terms of community services, Sunbury Health is part of the Western Health Network and doesn't share connection with Craigieburn Macedon Ranges Mitchell Shire or City of Whittlesea.

Public transport buses run from Sunbury to Tullamarine and Gladstone Park and the Calwell AEC office is currently located in the heart of Sunbury.

In addition to those factors, sporting clubs and leagues tend to work west or into Hume away from the rest of McEwen.

5. It should be noted that although Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park appear contiguous this is not the case. Roxburgh park and Craigieburn are geographically divided by a wide reserve which provides a physical separation between the suburbs. The reserve extends for 2.5 km from the Craigieburn railway line in the east to Aitken Boulevard in the west. The only vehicular access point across the reserve is at Bridgewater Road,

situated at the halfway point running east to west. In each suburb there are numerous streets and cul-de-sacs that end on the border of the reserve.

**6.** DIGGERS REST: Based on the recommended transfer of the suburb of Sunbury to the Division of Calwell it would also be advantageous to transfer the whole township of Diggers Rest to the Division of Calwell (from the Division of Gorton).

While Diggers Rest is currently divided between the divisions of Gorton and McEwen along the line of the Calder Freeway it would be advantageous to reunite the township in one electorate. It is clear to the local community that there is no division between the north and the south of the town and the residents represent an obvious community of interest.

As an effective satellite town of the suburb of Sunbury, Diggers Rest would be best placed in the division that covers greater Sunbury. While half of Diggers Rest lies within the Melton City Council the town has little practical relationship with the suburb of Melton.

The township of Diggers Rest is some 23km from Melton whereas it is some 8km from Sunbury. The residents of Diggers Rest utilise Sunbury for employment, educational institutions and sporting competitions. Sunbury football and cricket teams regularly play in Diggers Rest with Sunbury being the main source of players for the local sporting clubs in Diggers Rest.

Residents also utilise Sunbury for health and social services. Given the ease of access to Sunbury, residents utilise local doctors and pharmacies, Sunbury Community Health and the Sunbury Day Hospital.

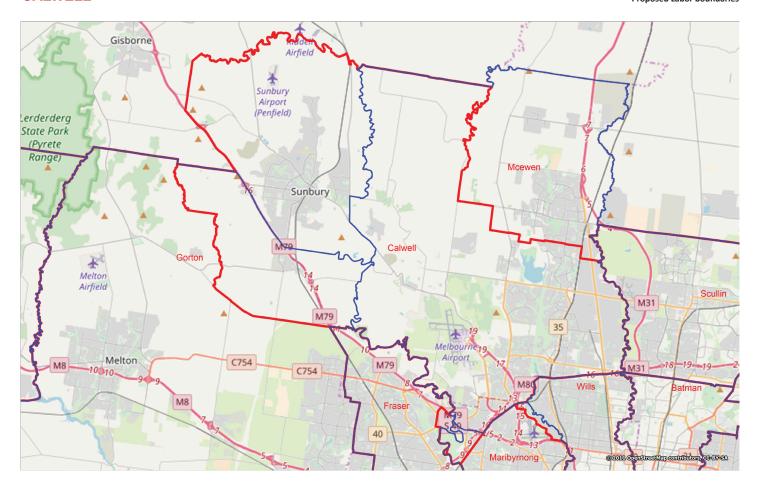
- 7. Consequential changes to allow for the swapping of Sunbury/Diggers Rest for Craigieburn between Calwell and McEwen including the return of the suburb of Yarrambat to Scullin, (the only change for that Division) and the uniting of the suburb of Sydenham within Fraser by moving the 745/751 electors of that suburb still in Gorton.
- 8. Braybrook can and should remain in the federal Division of Maribyrnong. This can be achieved by maintaining the boundaries of Duke Street, Sunshine Road, and Ashley Street. It would be particularly disruptive to the community if the current proposal was to take effect, as it would create an artificial barrier between the federal Division of Maribyrnong and the Maribyrnong LGA. Such a barrier would be detrimental to geographical cohesion of the area and for the electors of Braybrook.
- **9.** For several years the Maribyrnong Electorate Office has worked with over twelve community organisations based in Braybrook in a range of capacities and across many issues and projects. This work has included infrastructure project funding, providing tax assistance through the federal Tax Help program for community organisations and assisting with applications and allocation of community grants.
- 10. The return of Braybrook to Maribyrnong will mean that more electors from the existing Maribyrnong are kept in the same Division. The transfer into Maribyrnong requires that the Division loses some electors to keep within quota. This is accomplished by returning Strathmore Heights to Wills.

## **Transfers (Based on the Commissioners Proposals)**

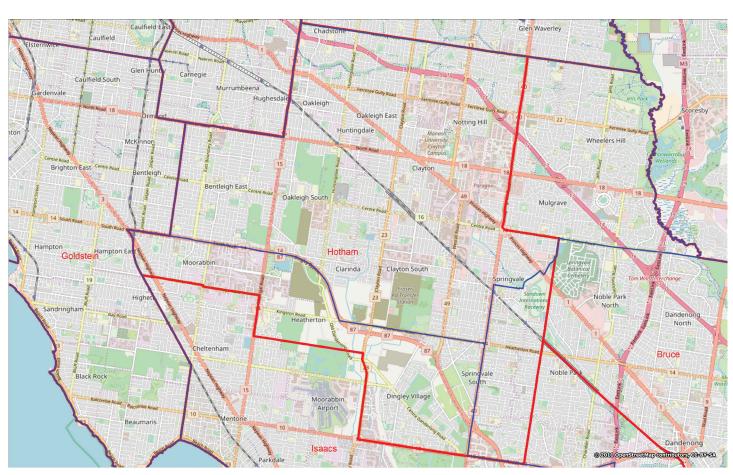
•	4/9/17	25/8/19			
CALWELL	103 751	110 464			
Less Craigieburn-Mickleham (that pa	Less Craigieburn-Mickleham (that part currently in McEwen but proposed to be transferred to Calwell,				
	-21 066	<b>-24 083</b> To McEwen			
Less Craigieburn-Mickelham (the ren	nainder of Craigiebu	rn-Mickleham )			
	-9 551	-10 386 To McEwen			
Plus Sunbury	+8 974	+9 060 Ex McEwen			
Plus Sunbury South	+17 456	+18 145 Ex McEwen			
Plus Sunbury South (electors propos	ed to be transferred	l from McEwen)			
	+344	+347 Ex Gorton			
Plus Sunbury South	+1 798	<b>+1 949</b> Ex Gorton			
Plus Keilor	+20	+19 Ex Maribyrnong			
Plus part Keilor (that part south and e	east of Green Gully I	Road. SA1's 2122812; 15-17;19)			
	+1 570	+1 577 Ex Fraser			
TOTALS	<b>103 296</b> (-3.4)	<b>107 092</b> (-3.0)			
	4/9/17	25/8/19			
MCEWEN	100 358	107 238			
Less Sunbury	-8 974	<b>-9 060</b> To Calwell			
Less Sunbury South	-17 456	<b>-18 145</b> To Calwell			
Less part Plenty-Yarrambat (the subu	ırb of Yarrambat. SA	A1's 2121320-25)			
	-1 250	<b>-1 294</b> To Scullin			
Plus Craigieburn-Mickleham (that pai	t currently in McEw	en but proposed to be transferred to Calwell)			
	+21 066	<b>+24 083</b> Ex Calwell			
Plus Craigieburn-Mickelham (the rem	ainder of Craigiebur	n-Mickleham )			
-	+9 551	+10 386 Ex Calwell			
TOTALS	<b>103 315</b> (-3.4)	<b>113 208</b> (2.6)			

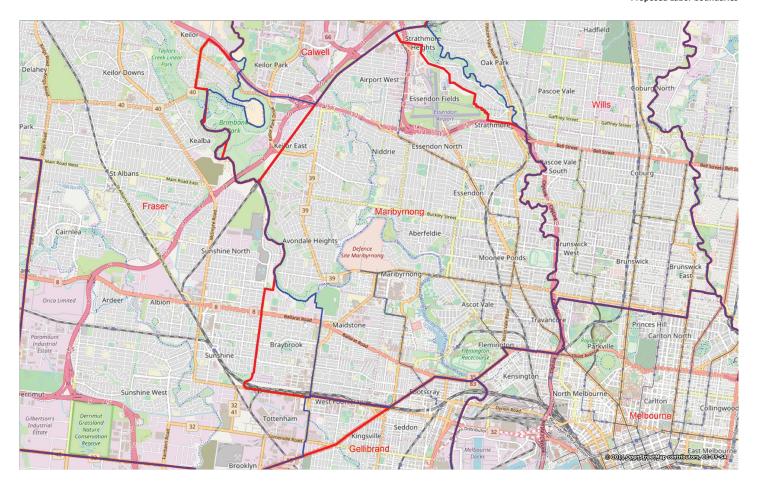
TOTALS	<b>101 155</b> (-5.4)	<b>107 965</b> (-2.2)
Less Sydenham	-745	-751 To Fraser
Less Sunbury South	-1 798	<b>-1 949</b> To Calwell
	-344	-347 To Calwell
Less Sunbury South (electors prop	osed to be transferre	d from McEwen)
GORTON	104 042	111 012
	4/9/17	25/8/19

	4/9/17	25/8/19
FRASER	109 127	111 482
Less Braybrook	-5 255	-5 473 To Maribyrnong
Less part Keilor (that part south and	d east of Green Gully	Road. SA1's 2122812; 15-1
	-1 570	-1 577 To Calwell
Plus West Footscray-Tottenham	+2 322	+2 434 Ex Gellibrand
Plus Sydenham	+745	+751 Ex Gorton
TOTALS	<b>105 369</b> (-1.5)	<b>107 617</b> (-2.5)
	4/9/17	25/8/19
SCULLIN	103 164	108 238
Plus part Plenty-Yarrambat (the sub		A1's 2121320-25)
	+1 250	+1 294 Ex McEwen
TOTALS	<b>104 414</b> (-2.4)	<b>109 532</b> (-0.8)
	4/9/17	25/8/19
MARIBYRNONG	108 119	111 765
_ess Strathmore (part proposed to	be transferred from V	Vills)
	-3 028	<b>-3 163</b> To Wills
Less Keilor	-20	-19 To Calwell
Plus Braybrook	+5 255	<b>+5 473</b> Ex Fraser
TOTALS	<b>110 296</b> (3.1)	<b>114 056</b> (3.3)
	4/9/17	25/8/19
WILLS	107 306	110 841
Plus Strathmore (part part proposed		•
	+3 028	+3 163
TOTALS	<b>110 334</b> (3.2)	<b>114 004</b> (3.3)
	4/9/17	25/8/19
GELLIBRAND	106 184	111 084
Less West Footscray-Tottenham	-2 322	-2 434 To Fraser
TOTALS	<b>103 862</b> (-2.9)	<b>108 650</b> (-1.6)



#### **HOTHAM**





#### **SCULLIN**

