



The Federal Redistribution 2009  
**QUEENSLAND**



---

**Public Suggestion Number      20**

**Paul Neville MP Member for Hinkler**

**16    pages**

---

**From:** Barwick, Kate (P. Neville, MP) [Kate.Barwick@aph.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Friday, 24 April 2009 5:14 PM  
**To:** QLD Redistribution  
**Cc:** Margaret  
**Subject:** Qld redistribution submission from Paul Neville MP  
**Attachments:** final written submission.pdf

Please find attached Mr Paul Neville MP's written suggestion into the Queensland Federal Redistribution, along with 3 accompanying maps to be used for illustrative purposes.

<<final written submission.pdf>>

**Kate Barwick**

**Media/Research**

Office of Paul Neville MP

Federal Member for Hinkler

Ph: 07 41520744

Mobile: 0408 072 809

Fax: 07 41531752

Email: [kate.barwick@aph.gov.au](mailto:kate.barwick@aph.gov.au)

**Paul Neville. Delivers.**

Written Suggestion  
into  
Queensland Federal Electoral Redistribution  
2009

by  
Paul Neville MP  
Federal Member for Hinkler

15 pages in total

April 24, 2009

Redistribution Committee for Queensland  
GPO Box 2590  
Brisbane Q 4001

Dear Committee Members

I respectfully make the following observations and suggestions in respect to the 2009 Queensland Redistribution. I support in principle the creation of a new seat in the South East corner of Queensland, but have confined my remarks largely to the ten (10) rural and coastal seats above the Sunshine Coast and west of the Great Dividing Range (behind Brisbane).

In other words my remarks centre, for the most part, outside the Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Brisbane and Brisbane hinterland where there will be twenty (20) seats.

The current figures and projections for these ten rural and coastal seats are as follows:

**TEN MAJOR RURAL SEATS**  
(outside the South East corner)

	Feb 2009	July 2012
Leichhardt	95,837	107,893
Kennedy	92,642	96,599
Flynn	88,843	94,606
Maranoa	87,784	90,878
Herbert	92,042	102,521
Dawson	88,498	96,160
Capricornia	93,691	100,090
Hinkler	91,929	104,200
Wide Bay	90,143	95,394
Groom	91,572	97,182
<b>Total</b>	<b>912,981</b>	<b>985,523</b>
<b>Average per seat</b>	<b>91,298</b>	<b>98,552</b>

It can be seen that the average of these ten seats falls well within the upper and lower limits at February 2009 and July 2012 and that most adjustments within the general area of the ten seats could be made without radical border changes.

However, internally, there's an exception. Leichhardt will need to shrink on to the Cairns/Douglas area creating almost a seat in its own right (even without the Atherton Tableland). This has flow-on effects for a geographically different Kennedy.

I've tried to keep my figures as close to the average (and within the upper and lower limits) but have allowed for more growth in Cairns (Leichhardt) keeping it towards the lower end of the July 2012 limit (95,701).

Having said that, I concede there may need to be adjustments, perhaps north east of Toowoomba, around the South Burnett and out to the northern end of the Sunshine Coast - as the ripple effect of the new seat goes up the coast or around the north west of Brisbane.

I believe for realistic rural seats in Queensland, the starting points are Leichhardt and Kennedy (and in the future even more so Kennedy). It is important then that these are in balance.

I have therefore commenced my argument at this point.

### LEICHHARDT

The SLAs of Cairns are as follows:

	LEICHHARDT	
	February 2009	July 2012
Cairns Barron	13,174	15,592
Cairns Central Suburbs	12,145	12,467
Cairns City	4,145	4,487
Cairns Douglas	6,382	6,724
Cairns Mount Whitfield	7,954	8,229
Cairns Northern Suburbs	10,194	11,893
Cairns Trinity	17,651	22,999
Cairns Western Suburbs	8,517	9,169
<b>Total</b>	<b>80,362</b>	<b>91,560</b>
<u>Add: Cairns Trinity</u>	3,785	4,141
<b>Proposed Divisional Total</b>	<b>84,147</b>	<b>95,701</b>

There are two Cairns SLAs in the current Kennedy. By adding one (ie Cairns-Trinity), the new upper and lower limits are well met. It could also be met by Cairns Part B from Kennedy (3,167 and 3,310 respectively) or even both, though the addition of two SLAs would take the division closer to the July 2012 limit (99,011).

**KENNEDY**

Kennedy will need to take up the excess of Cape York Peninsula and the Torres Strait region. At the same time the current eastern boundary from Innisfail to Charters Towers can be retained to minimise disruption.

By retaining Burke Shire, Doomadgee and Mornington Island in Kennedy, the above changes create a totally relevant community-of-interest division of Peninsula and Gulf of Carpentaria communities along with the Torres Strait islands which have similar interests of enterprise, culture and social expectation – from the Northern Territory border to Cape York.

**Mount Isa, Cloncurry and Boulia would therefore move into Maranoa.**

	KENNEDY	
	Feb 2009	July 2012
Current Kennedy projections	92,642	96,599
<u>Add:</u>		
*Torres and Torres Strait Islands	4,238	4,301
<u>Add:</u>		
*Peninsula and Cape Indigenous communities	4,585	4,843
<u>Add:</u>		
*Peninsula Shires and Towns Cook, Tablelands-Mareeba Weipa	6,749	7,188
<b>Add Sub-total</b>	<b>15,572</b>	<b>16,332</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>108,214</b>	<b>112,931</b>
<u>Delete:</u>		
Cairns-Trinity	3,785	4,141
<u>Delete:</u>		
Mount Isa, Cloncurry Boulia	12,493	12,762
<b>Delete Sub-total</b>	<b>16,278</b>	<b>16,903</b>
<b>Proposed Divisional Total</b>	<b>91,936</b>	<b>96,028</b>

*\*For the purpose of this exercise and for sub-regional clarity, I have consolidated the indigenous, Torres Strait and Islander communities and the remaining Shires into these three sub-groups.*

## MARANOA

Maranoa is well under all the other State's divisions in population and needs to pick up approximately 6,000 votes. In addition, to create a seat of Peninsula and Gulf interests in Kennedy (while maintaining most of its current southern and eastern boundaries of the old seat), it is logical that Mount Isa, Cloncurry and Boulia move into Maranoa.

	MARANOA			
		Feb 2009		July 2012
Current Maranoa projections:		87,784		90,878
<u>Add:</u>				
Mount Isa	10,581		10,888	
Cloncurry	1,628		1,598	
Boulia	284		276	
<b>Add Sub-total</b>	<b>12,493</b>		<b>12,762</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>100,277</b>		<b>103,640</b>
Delete:				
Kingaroy	8,431	8,431	9,022	9,022
<b>Proposed Divisional Total</b>		<b>91,846</b>		<b>94,618</b>

As the populations of Mount Isa, Cloncurry and Boulia of 12,493 (February 2009) and 12,762 (July 2012) are well over the 6,354 shortfall required, the Committee may consider moving Kingaroy, thus fitting well within the upper and lower limits.

Using part of the South Burnett to balance Maranoa has the advantage of allowing the Committee to accommodate any ripple from the new seat, or allows Wide Bay to move west into former traditional Wide Bay territory.

Some might consider an 'L'-shaped seat to be unusual, but we can already see this in place in the New South Wales seat of Farrer which extends from the Great Divide (at the Snowy Mountains). It follows the State's southern boundary along the Murray to the mining city of Broken Hill.

The proposed Maranoa would start west of the Great Divide or at Groom's western boundary and would cover the remainder of southern Queensland along the border and form an 'L' shape to pick up the mining city of Mount Isa.

## HINKLER

If the object is to cause minimum change and to retain a seat around the marine entity of Hervey Bay, then the simplest way to reduce the excess numbers in Hinkler is to remove the suburb of North Bundaberg.

Although this is not the ideal solution – to remove part of a city – it does have some justification in that Flynn has the whole of the northern rural environs of Bundaberg – Burnett Part B (except the 8 CCDs as outlined below).

### NORTH BUNDABERG CCDs

		Feb 2009	July 2012
Bundaberg – Bundaberg (North of Burnett River)			
Bundaberg-Bundaberg CCDs	<i>3-07-16-01</i>	503	511
	<i>3-07-16-02</i>	558	568
	<i>3-07-16-03</i>	366	386
	<i>3-07-16-04</i>	305	330
	<i>3-07-16-05</i>	694	817
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>2,426</b>	<b>2,612</b>
CCDs	<i>3-07-16-12</i>	419	464
	<i>3-07-16-13</i>	485	580
	<i>3-07-16-14</i>	563	702
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>1,467</b>	<b>1,746</b>
<b>Total of both sets</b>		<b>3,893</b>	<b>4,358</b>

### HINKLER

Current Hinkler projections:	91,929	104,200
<u>Delete:</u> Bundaberg-Bundaberg (8 CCDs as above)	3,893	4,358

<b>Proposed Divisional Total</b>	<b>88,036</b>	<b>99,842</b>
----------------------------------	---------------	---------------

Some would argue that the Burnett River is a natural boundary and that many of the businesses of urban North Bundaberg service the adjoining rural areas. These include regional shopping centres, Post Office, hotels, rural and produce agencies.

This urban area was included in Capricornia on a number of redistributions (prior to the 1984 enlargement of the Parliament). It is not without precedent.



**CAPRICORNIA**

Capricornia needs to shed approximately 5,000 votes. Sections of western and south-western areas of Rockhampton ie Rockhampton-Fitzroy B, have already been transferred into Flynn. Adjoining CCDs in the Gracemere area would still be consistent with the already excised community of interest. To offset these numbers in Flynn approximately 3,300 voters are then removed from South Burnett-Wondai.

	Feb 09	July 2012
Current Capricornia projections:	93,691	100,090
<u>Delete:</u>		
Rockhampton-Fitzroy Part A		
CCDs		
3-06-13-01	716	820
3-06-13-02	849	1,028
3-06-13-04	471	550
3-06-13-07	466	669
3-06-14-04A&B	214	211
3-06-14-10A&B	386	479
<b>Delete Sub-total</b>	<b>3,102</b>	<b>3,757</b>
<b>Proposed Division Total</b>	<b>90,589</b>	<b>96,333</b>

**FLYNN**

Flynn is slightly short of numbers and the North Bundaberg urban option provides part of that solution. In addition, Capricornia needs to shed 3,000-4,000 votes. I would suggest the above-mentioned CCDs in the Gracemere area.

	FLYNN		Feb 2009	July 2012
Current Flynn projections:			88,843	94,606
<u>Add:</u>				
Bundaberg-Bundaberg (8 CCDs, see Hinkler)	3,893		4,358	
<u>Add:</u>				
Rockhampton-Fitzroy Part A CCDs (see Capricornia)	3,102		3,757	
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>6,995</b>		<b>8,115</b>
<b>Add Sub-total</b>		<b>95,838</b>		<b>102,721</b>
<u>Delete:</u>				
South Burnett-Wondai	3,200	3,200	3,427	3,427
<b>Proposed Divisional Total</b>		<b>92,638</b>		<b>99,294</b>

In short, Hinkler's excess and part of Flynn's shortfall cancel each other out, while the 6 CCDs of Rockhampton-Fitzroy (Part A and B) almost cancel out South Burnett-Wondai which is removed. The above CCDs have common boundaries with existing CCDs of Flynn in the outer Rockhampton area around Gracemere, and southerly, towards Bouldercombe. This scenario, in placing Flynn's upper limit slightly on the high side, allows for the decline in some western Shires into the future.

#### HERBERT/DAWSON

Herbert will need to shed approximately 4,000 voters while Dawson could accept 2,000 voters. I am not sufficiently adept at the communities of interest in Townsville to give a definitive suburb or street-by-street analysis. Hence I will confine my remarks to broad principles. Their effect, however, would fall within the upper and lower limits for Herbert, Dawson and Kennedy.

Broadly, I'd suggest 2,000 voters be transferred to Dawson, probably from the Wulguru area, bringing Dawson up to approximately 90,500 (Feb 09) and 98,250 (July 2012).

I suggest the other 2,000 of Herbert's excess be transferred to the northern beaches area of the current Kennedy. The combined effect of these two transfers would bring Herbert down to 88,000 (Feb 09) and 98,500 (July 2012).

As there are a number of Townsville options I have not altered my Kennedy scenario, but there would be scope based on this scenario of 91,936 (Feb 09) and 96,028 (July 2012) to transfer between 2,000 and 3,000 voters into Kennedy and still be between 2,500 and 1,500 under Kennedy's July 2012 upper limits.

#### WIDE BAY

If the Committee decides in favour of minimal change, I would recommend that Wide Bay stay in its current configuration. Its current numbers are well within quota.

Having said that, the excess in Sunshine Coast seats may cause a ripple effect which would, in turn, impact on the south-east of the current Wide Bay division. Following the changes to Flynn and Maranoa, all the SLAs of the South Burnett are available to go into either Wide Bay in an east-west configuration or the ripple effect of a seat coming in behind Brisbane. In other words, there would be a greater east/west configuration of Wide Bay into traditional Wide Bay territory.

Alternatively, the ripple effect from a seat to the south and west of Brisbane coming behind the Sunshine Coast may also need to take one or other of the South Burnett Shires.

**PLEASE CONSIDER THIS IN THE EVENT  
OF A MAJOR REDRAW OF BOUNDARIES**

I have premised my submission, thus far, on the basis that the Committee will be seeking where possible to retain communities of interest and maintain boundaries as closely as possible. It also presumes a new seat will be created somewhere in the area to the south and south west of Brisbane, at the northern end of the Gold Coast moving across to the Great Divide.

If, however, the Committee decided on a major redraw or decided to put the new seat in the Moreton/Somerset/Sunshine Coast Regional Council area, this would recognise the growth in Dickson 3.8%, Longman 12.3%, Fisher 4.9%, Fairfax 10.1%, and Hinkler 7.2%. It would create a totally new dynamic for the coastal and near hinterland seats from Rockhampton to Redcliffe.

Assuming current growth patterns, Hinkler presents some dilemmas. Firstly, Hervey Bay is growing at 19.7%, Bundaberg-Burnett 16.7% and Bundaberg City 6.4%. In Bundaberg's case, the city (Bundaberg-Bundaberg) is surrounded by the old Burnett Shire (Bundaberg-Bundaberg Part A and Part B) in a doughnut configuration. Other than the piece of Bundaberg Part B north of the Burnett River, it is hard to separate them.

What is not well known is that, immediately prior to the amalgamation of local authorities, the Burnett Shire had a larger population than the City of Maryborough. If you add the immediately adjoining Isis and Kolan areas, the Bundaberg basin alone represents 65% (ie Feb 09 – 59,905) or 67% (July '12 – 65,038) of a full seat. That means in future years (or in a major redraw) a smaller component than is currently the case will need to be added to Bundaberg to make up a conforming and community-relevant Hinkler division.

On that basis, I outline below – for illustrative purposes – the combination of this Bundaberg basin with the Burnett hinterland:

**THEORETICAL HINKLER (a)**

	Feb 2009	July 2012
Bundaberg – Bundaberg	32,485	34,557
Bundaberg – Burnett Part A (ex Hinkler)	9,950	11,613
Bundaberg Burnett Part B (ex Hinkler)	2,899	3,266
Bundaberg – Burnett Part A (ex Flynn)	491	518
Bundaberg – Burnett Part B (ex Flynn)	6,190	6,690
Bundaberg – Isis	4,739	5,124
Bundaberg – Kolan	3,151	3,315
Gladstone – Miriam Vale	3,679	4,029
North Burnett – Biggenden (In Hinkler)	1,141	1,165
North Burnett – Remainder	5,933	5,925
South Burnett – All (excluding Kilkivan – ex various including Cherbourg)	20,866	22,120
<b>Theoretical Divisional Total</b>	<b>91,524</b>	<b>98,322</b>

Similarly, if the remaining area of the Wide Bay Statistical Region was incorporated in an essentially southern Wide Bay Statistical Region, the new Wide Bay could look like:

**THEORETICAL WIDE BAY (a)**

	Feb 2009	July 2012
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay Part A	36,543	43,624
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay Part B	2,845	3,280
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay (Fraser Is)	62	73
Fraser Coast – Maryborough	18,263	18,776
Fraser Coast – Woocoo – Tiaro	3,569	3,934
Fraser Coast – Woocoo – Tiaro (ex Hinkler)	1,417	1,571
Gympie – Cooloola	15,410	16,699
Gympie – Gympie	12,010	13,047
Gympie – Kilkivan	2,515	2,688

<b>Theoretical Divisional Total</b>	<b>92,544</b>	<b>103,692*</b>
-------------------------------------	---------------	-----------------

I have left these figures in their raw state to illustrate the point that there are almost exactly two Federal divisions in the Wide Bay Statistical Region.

However, to get the two seats into balance, within the upper and lower limits, approximately 4,000 voters need to be moved from this theoretical Wide Bay.

This could be achieved in one of two ways. The first would be to move 4,000 voters from the south of Wide Bay into a Sunshine Coast division. Where would depend on the new mix of Fairfax, Fisher, Longman and Dickson.

Probably the simplest solution would be to move around 4,000 voters from the areas of Howard, Torbanlea and Burrum Heads to the seat of Hinkler along its southern Bundaberg-Isis boundary. The recent State redistribution did something similar and in exactly the same area to balance the differential between Hervey Bay and Maryborough.

This would represent 3,974 voters (Feb 09) and 4,587 voters (July 2012) and would bring Wide Bay within the quota limits.

To rebalance this move into Hinkler, the Gladstone-Miriam Vale SLA of 3,679 voters (Feb 09) 4,029 voters (July 2012) could remain part of Flynn. Though Miriam Vale is officially part of the Wide Bay Burnett Statistical Region, it has, since the recent Local Government amalgamations, been considered part of the Gladstone sphere of influence.

Therefore finetuning the theoretical Hinkler and Wide Bay divisions would then create two balanced and relevant seats as follows:

**THEORETICAL HINKLER (b)**

	Feb 2009	July 2012
Bundaberg-Bundaberg	32,485	34,557
Bundaberg-Burnett Part A	9,950	11,613
Bundaberg-Burnett Part B (ex Hinkler)	2,899	3,266
Bundaberg-Burnett Part A (ex-Flynn)	491	518
Bundaberg-Burnett Part B	6,190	6,690
Bundaberg-Isis	4,739	5,124
Bundaberg-Kolan	3,151	3,315
North Burnett-Biggenden	1,141	1,165
Remainder North Burnett	5,933	5,925
South Burnett All (excluding Kilkivan but including Cherbourg)	20,866	22,120
Howard, Torbanlea, Toogoom, Burrum Heads	3,974	4,587
<b>Theoretical Divisional Total</b>	<b>91,819</b>	<b>98,880</b>

**THEORETICAL WIDE BAY (b)**

	Feb 2009	July 2012
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay Part A	36,543	43,624
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay Part B	2,845	3,280
Fraser Coast – Hervey Bay (Fraser Is)	62	73
Fraser Coast – Maryborough	18,263	18,776
Fraser Coast – Woocoo – Tiaro	3,569	3,934
Fraser Coast – Woocoo – Tiaro (ex Hinkler)	1,417	1,571
Gympie – Cooloola	15,410	16,699
Gympie – Gympie	12,010	13,047
Gympie – Kilkivan	2,515	2,688
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>92,544</b>	<b>103,692</b>
<b>Delete:</b>		
Howard, Torbanlea, Toogoom, Burrum Heads	3,974	4,587
<b>Theoretical Divisional Total</b>	<b>88,570</b>	<b>99,105</b>

At present the Wide Bay Burnett Statistical Region is in four Federal Divisions, whereas the above gives two seats each with a strong community of interest, road systems and agricultural bases. For example, the configuration of Hinkler has roads radiating out from Bundaberg and Wide Bay's from Maryborough and Gympie.

This Hinkler would have almost the entire Burnett, Kolan and Barambah river basin and Wide Bay the Mary/Cooloola river basin.

Each has its own distinctive agricultural profile. For instance, Hinkler would have sugar, small crops, tree crops (including citrus), cattle, peanuts and navy beans within its boundary, while Wide Bay also has distinctive industries – tourism, rail manufacture, and in Gympie and Maryborough, well developed heritage profiles.

This would return stability to the two seats that have changed dramatically over the last six redistributions providing little certainty when dealing with community-of-interest issues.

In asking the Committee to examine this in the event of a major redraw, it is conceded that it would require Central Queensland alterations as well.

I hope the above is helpful.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Neville'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'P' and 'N'.

Paul Neville  
Federal Member for Hinkler

**PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO FLYNN/CAPRICORNIA BOUNDARY**

**LEGEND**

- Existing Boundary
- - - Proposed Alteration
- Locality



PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO LEICHHARDT/KENNEDY/MARANOA BOUNDARIES

LEGEND

 Boundary





**THEORETICAL HINKLER/WIDE BAY (a) and (b)**

- Legend
- Hinkler ————
  - Wide Bay ————
  - Transferable Hervey Bay - - - -
  - Transferable Miriam Vale - - - -

