



# Submission FOB216

Liberal Party of Australia (Tasmanian Division)

20 July 2026

Tasmanian Redistribution  
Australian Electoral Commission  
Locked Bag 4007  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: [FedRedistribution-tas@aec.gov.au](mailto:FedRedistribution-tas@aec.gov.au)

Dear Committee Members,

The Tasmanian Division of the Liberal Party of Australia welcomes the opportunity to submit further feedback on the proposed redistribution of Tasmania's federal electorates. We acknowledge the considerable work undertaken by the Electoral Commission and the Redistribution Committee in managing the complex demographic and geographic considerations involved in this process, particularly in relation to the proposed changes to Lyons, Franklin and Clark.

As outlined in our previous submission, we support the proposal to **leave the electorate of Braddon unchanged**.

We are supportive of Blackstone Heights and Prospect Vale being added to Bass and understand the community of interest claim for **Break O'Day to be included in Bass**.

We wish to raise significant **concerns regarding the proposal to rename the reconfigured electorate of Franklin** to "Tongerlongeter" for the following reasons:

#### Absence of established case for change

The Commission has not established a clear or compelling case for why the name change is being proposed. In the absence of demonstrated community demand, significant demographic shifts necessitating rebranding, or other substantive justification for disrupting established electoral identity, the Tasmanian Division submits that the Commission has failed to articulate a rationale that would warrant overturning long-standing electoral continuity.

#### Voter confusion

Electorate name changes create substantial confusion amongst voters. Voters develop long-standing familiarity with electorate names that often span generations. Sudden changes disrupt this familiarity, potentially leading to ballot paper confusion,



enrolment difficulties, and reduced electoral participation, particularly amongst older voters and those in rural and remote communities who may be less engaged with the administrative processes of the Australian Electoral Commission.

### Historical electoral significance

The electorate of Franklin was established in 1903 in the first redistribution after Federation, making it one of the original electorates in the Commonwealth of Australia. While the Commission has sought to recognise Indigenous heritage through the proposed name, the Tasmanian Division submits that "Tongerlongeter" carries less historical electoral significance than alternative options that have been proposed or considered. The name Franklin has served Tasmanian voters for over 120 years and represents a continuous thread of democratic representation in the state's south since the very inception of the Australian Parliament. Electorate names should ideally reflect both historical continuity and community recognition. The proposed name does not satisfy these criteria as effectively as other possibilities.

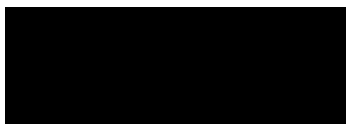
### Inadequate consultation timeframe

The Tasmanian Division notes with concern the compressed timeframe allowed for further submissions on this matter. Meaningful consultation with affected communities, local government bodies, and stakeholders requires adequate time for consideration, discussion, and feedback. The current schedule does not permit the thorough engagement that such a significant change warrants. It also appears that the Tasmanian Aboriginal community have not been consulted in a meaningful way about this proposed change.

In light of the above concerns, and consistent with our original submission, we strongly oppose the proposed name change, and **recommend that the name Franklin be kept for the reconfigured electorate.** The name has served the Tasmanian community effectively since 1903 and avoids the unnecessary voter confusion that accompanies name changes.

We thank the Commission for its consideration of this submission and welcome the opportunity to discuss these matters further should the Committee wish to seek clarification or additional information.

Yours sincerely,



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

