

23 February 2017

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I make the following points in relation to the proposed changes to Legislative Council boundaries.

As mayor of a Council with significant rural coverage, it is my strong belief that that the members of the community we represent should have reasonable and fair access to the elected members of other houses of parliament.

I note the "rationale document" explaining the proposed redistribution states:

"The Redistribution Criteria

In accordance with the Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995 the Redistribution Committee must take into account the following priorities–

- The first priority is to ensure, as far as practicable, that the number of electors in each Council division would not, (in four and a half years time) vary more than $\pm 10\%$ of the average Council division enrolment.
- The second priority is to take into account community of interest within each Council division.

After taking into account the priorities specified above, the Redistribution Committee **must consider the following matters** in the case of each electoral division–

- The means of communication and travel within the division; - the physical features and area of the division; - existing electoral boundaries; - distinct natural boundaries."

Every effort should be made to ensure that community members have reasonable access to their Legislative Council member. While it is inevitable that members in metropolitan areas will have significant less geographic area to cover, every effort should be made to ensure

that the tyranny of distance in rural areas is not unnecessarily exacerbated. I would suggest that the second element of the redistribution criteria seems to have been ignored. Therefore:

- Apsley should be made smaller
- Western Tiers should not be doubled in size

Specific to the proposed McIntyre electorate, one would expect the member should make every effort to regularly visit or make themselves available across the total area they are elected to represent. No other electorate has such widespread population disbursement and therefore, excessive travel within the division.

Even before considering Flinders Island, a quick "google map" of the travel times between major population areas of the proposed McIntyre electorate shows:

St Helens to Railton:	2 h 51 min
St Helens to Deloraine:	2 h 45 min
Scottsdale to Deloraine:	1 h 30 min
Bridport to Railton:	1 h 56min

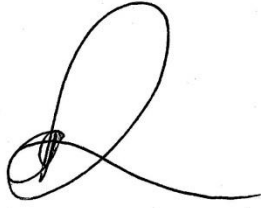
I note that Greg Hall MLC has given some thought to overcoming this, and it would seem a far more logical arrangement.

Division	Current		Proposed		Greg Hall Scenario	
	Electors	Km2	Electors	Km2	Electors	Km2
Apsley	23702	19204			26346	14169
Prosser			22577	8549		
Derwent	26664	8760	25208	12157	24549	8629
Elwick	25576	103				
Hobart	25066	50				
Huon	26302	6640				
Launceston	24174	52				
Mersey	24285	2372				
Montgomery	24262	1445				
Murchison	24228	19675			26746	19125
Nelson	23485	87				
Pembroke	25690	54				
Rosevears	25435	799				
Rumney	27535	1516				
Western Tiers	24914	9,849			24344	13116
McIntyre			26631	15208		
Windermere	23651	816				

Whilst the Greg Hall proposal still creates a larger Western Tiers, the natural travel behaviour of the members is from north to south as they travel between their electoral area and parliament house.

Finally, I also believe the community of interest test is flawed, poorly defined and nor justified. I would suggest that the Greg Hall proposal creates a more logical 'community of interest' electorate throughout the northern and mid northern rural region

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Perkins', with a large loop at the top and a horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Craig Perkins
MAYOR