



LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGE COMMISSION

2015

REDIVISION OF ELECTORAL DIVISIONS WITHIN CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL

FINAL DETERMINATION

OCTOBER 2015



LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGE COMMISSION

2015 REDIVISION OF ELECTORAL DIVISIONS WITHIN CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL FINAL DETERMINATION

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Electoral Commission of Queensland
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FOREWORD

This report outlines the Final Determination for the redivision of electoral divisions within Cairns Regional Council.

The *Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)* (the Act) provides for a Local Government Change Commission (the Change Commission) to conduct the assessment phase of the boundary change process. The Act also provides for the Change Commission to be the appointed independent assessment body for boundary changes within Cairns Regional Council.

The Change Commission is made up of the Electoral Commissioner or a combination of the Electoral Commissioner, the Deputy Electoral Commissioner and a casual Commissioner. The Change Commission for this review is made up of:

- Mr Walter van der Merwe, Electoral Commissioner; and
- Mr Gregory Rowe, casual Commissioner (appointed on 13 November 2015 for three years by the Governor in Council).

On 2 April 2015 a reference was made to the Change Commission by the Minister responsible for Local Government (see Appendix B).

For electoral purposes Cairns Regional Council is divided into nine electoral divisions. This report outlines the Change Commission's Final Determination for the boundaries of the divisions. It also sets out the reasons for the Change Commission's determination. The Change Commission's proposal was adopted unanimously at a meeting held on Tuesday 13 October 2015, both Commissioners were present.

Chapter 1 of this report provides an introduction to the Change Commission's requirements for undertaking an assessment of the internal boundaries. Chapter 2 presents a summary of the review process that was undertaken. A more detailed outline of the Final Determination appears in Chapter 3. Maps of the final boundary changes are in Appendix F.

In accordance with the Act the Change Commission may conduct the review in any way that it considers appropriate. To this end, the Change Commission provided data on the current boundaries and enrolment statistics as sourced from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) as at 23 February 2015. The Change Commission called for both suggestions and objections to the proposed boundary changes. Two suggestions and 23 objections were received.

The Cairns Regional Council provided a written submission and maps on 28 May 2015. The Change Commission is appreciative of the Council for its correspondence.

The Commissioners acknowledge the valuable assistance and expertise provided by the executive, mapping and support staff of the Electoral Commission Queensland (ECQ) including Dermot Tiernan, Zonka Petrusevska, Kurt Bonair, Moira McNeil, Yan Liu, Lesley Trost and Elise Arklay, and extend their thanks to the Queensland Treasury for the population projection figures.

Walter van der Merwe and Gregory Rowe

Change Commission

CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION

TERMS OF REFERENCE

On 2 April 2015 the Change Commission received a reference to review the electoral arrangements of the Cairns Regional Council from the Honourable Jackie Trad MP, Minister responsible for Local Government (see Appendix B).

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

The Cairns Regional Council has 94,887 electors (as at 23 February 2015). The Council is divided into nine electoral divisions. Each division elects one Councillor while the Mayor is elected by all voters in the local government area. Elections are set by date to be held every four years as prescribed by the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*. The next Cairns Regional Council election is scheduled for 19 March 2016.

The *Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)* (the Act) allows for changes to divisions in local government areas to ensure that each division has a reasonable proportion of electors. Pursuant to Section 22 of the Act, the Change Commission for this review was constituted by the Electoral Commissioner and the casual Commissioner.

Section 15 of the Act requires the Cairns Regional Council to review whether each of the divisions has a reasonable proportion of electors and give the Electoral Commissioner and the Minister a written notice of the results of the review no later than 1 March in the year that is one year before the year of the quadrennial elections. The date referred to in this report is known as the information date. The Council reported that Division 9 did not meet the reasonable proportion of elector's requirements on 28 May 2015.

Under the provisions of the Section 19 of the Act, in reviewing the division of a local government area the Change Commission is required to consider:

- 1) The Change Commission is responsible for assessing whether a proposed local government change is in the public interest;
- 2) In doing so, the Change Commission must consider:
 - a. whether the proposed local government change is consistent with a Local Government Act; and
 - b. the views of the Minister about the proposed local government change; and
 - c. any other matters prescribed under a regulation.

The Change Commission is required to release the outcomes of its assessment to the public and the reasoning behind the results, by publishing its findings in a newspaper circulating generally in the local government area, in the Government Gazette and on the Electoral Commission's website. The Change Commission must also give the results of its assessment to the Minister for Local Government for implementation. The method of implementation is by way of regulation by the Governor in Council.

A decision of the Change Commission is not subject to appeal.

DETERMINING THE QUOTA

The Act specifies binding quota requirements. A quota is determined by dividing the total number of electors in the local government area by the number of councillors (other than the mayor), plus or minus:

- for a council with more than 10,000 electors – 10%; or
- for any other council – 20%.

Section 15 of the Act allows for a margin of 10 per cent for Cairns Regional Council to be adopted in relation to determining a reasonable proportion of electors. For ease of understanding the proportion of electors and the margin will be referred to in this document as “quota”.

The Change Commission, when formulating its proposals must ensure that each division complies with the quota as near as practicable to the election date. There is no latitude allowed for the Change Commission to determine electoral boundaries that do not comply with these requirements.

Technical Process

Key to the redivision is elector count information sourced from the electoral roll organised around the smallest unit for the release of Census data known as a Statistical Area (SA1) utilised by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The AEC, which maintains the electoral roll for Queensland pursuant to a joint roll agreement, provided statistics from the roll on numbers of electors in each SA1 in the area of the Cairns Regional Council on 23 February 2015. Projections of population movement were then applied to the SA1s using data provided by Queensland Treasury. Future dates for projections were set at 31 March 2016 (just after the next quadrennial election) and 28 February 2019 (the last opportunity before the information date preceding the March 2020 election).

Table 1 – Enrolment, Projections and Averages

	23 February 2015	31 March 2016	28 February 2019
Number of divisions	9	9	9
Enrolment	94,887	96,731	101,828
Average electors per division	10,543	10,748	11,314
Permitted Maximum Number (+10%) per division	11,597	11,823	12,446
Permitted Minimum Number (-10%) per division	9,489	9,673	10,183

CHAPTER 2 – THE REVIEW PROCESS

The Cairns Regional Council is divided into nine single-member divisions. By letter dated 3 March 2015, the Council advised the Minister that Division 9 was out of tolerance.

Based on 23 February 2015 enrolment data, the Change Commission calculated a quota (average enrolment) of 10,543, with a minimum of 9,489 (-10%) and an upper limit of 11,597 (+10%) electors permissible in each district.

On 28 May 2015, the Cairns Regional Council lodged a proposed solution that involved changes to Divisions 8 and 9. Relevant correspondence is attached at Appendix B.

In accordance with Section 19(4) of the Act, a public notice was published on 15 May 2015 inviting suggestions from interested persons. The advertisement (see Appendix C) noted that received submissions would be made available for public inspection. Suggestions closed on 5 June 2015. Two suggestions were received.

A second phase of consultation began on the 4 September 2015 following an advertised call for objections to the Change Commission's Proposed Determination (see Appendix E). Objections closed on the 18 September 2015. 23 comments were received.

In reaching its Final Determination the Change Commission took public feedback into account, as well as the projected future changes in electoral numbers provided by the Queensland Treasury.

Wherever possible, the Change Commission endeavours to devise boundaries that not only meet current quota requirements but are sustainable for at least two quadrennial elections and are in the public interest. The nature and extent of population growth or decline may render this impossible in some cases and the Change Commission recognises the possibility that boundaries may need to be reviewed again in readiness for the 2020 quadrennial elections.

CHAPTER 3 – FINAL DETERMINATION

CURRENT ENROLMENT

The Cairns Regional Council has a total of 94,887 enrolled electors spread across nine divisions, with an average number of 10,543 electors per division. Applying the plus or minus tolerance of 10 per cent allowed by the Act, the minimum number of electors required for each division is 9,489, with a maximum of 11,597.

As can be observed in Table 2, Division 9 is well out of quota, with growth expected to continue in the future. The Change Commission noted that Division 4 is also predicted to fall outside the acceptable quota requirements before the 2020 election. To address this imbalance, the Change Commission needed to alter the divisional boundaries to stabilise elector numbers across all nine divisions. As part of its decision making process, the Change Commission has attempted to cater for future demographic trends, while maintaining communities of interest, thereby keeping all divisions within the Cairns Regional Council in quota in the lead up to the 2020 quadrennial election.

Table 2 – Summary of Enrolments for the Current Electoral Divisions

Division Name	Enrolment as at 23/02/2015	(%) Deviation from Quota	Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016	(%) Deviation from Quota	Projected Enrolment as at 28/02/2019	(%) Deviation from Quota
Division 1	9,948	-5.64	10,165	-5.42	11,274	-0.36
Division 2	10,000	-5.15	10,108	-5.95	10,546	-6.79
Division 3	9,540	-9.51	9,724	-9.53	10,231	-9.57
Division 4	9,634	-8.62	9,754	-9.25	10,048	-11.19
Division 5	10,663	+1.14	10,799	+0.48	11,165	-1.32
Division 6	10,343	-1.9	10,510	-2.21	10,892	-3.73
Division 7	11,179	+6.03	11,287	+5.02	11,614	+2.65
Division 8	9,719	-7.82	9,954	-7.39	10,572	-6.56
Division 9	13,861	+31.47	14,430	+34.26	15,486	+36.87

PROPOSED DETERMINATION

The Change Commission received two public responses to its call for suggestions in May 2015. The Cairns Regional Council also put forward a submission, however the proposal did not adequately meet the requirements of the Act, neither addressing immediate concerns to bring Division 9 into quota, nor ensuring all divisions remain in quota for two elections.

Mr Waverley Canendo requested the Change Commission consider changing the Council name, replacing the word Regional with City. This matter is outside the scope of the internal boundary review process and as such, it was unable to be accommodated.

The second suggestion came from Mr Bob Richardson and included a detailed submission to alter all of the Council's divisional boundaries, distributing electors south throughout the Council. The Change Commission made a few alterations to Mr Richardson's proposal and from his suggestion, formulated its Proposed Determination report.

The Change Commission was satisfied that its Proposed Determination addressed the quota requirements, offering divisional boundaries that better balance electors across the Council (see Appendix D).

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED DETERMINATION

The Change Commission received 25 signatures on 23 submissions to its Proposed Determination report. The key theme in almost all the commentary was opposition to the proposed separation of Stratford and Freshwater. The main argument was that both localities should remain together, preferably in Division 8, or if change is required, that they should both be moved into Division 6. One comment suggested Division 5 would also be suitable.

The key arguments for keeping these suburbs together were as follows:

- Strong administrative and community ties;
- Shared boundaries, services, drainage and water issues;
- Shared geography on the northern side of Mount Whitfield, as well as sharing Lumley Hill slopes and the Barron Delta; and
- Representational concerns.

The concerns regarding Stratford and Freshwater were extensively considered by the Change Commission, however due to the quota requirements and the levels of future growth for Division 9, it was impossible to keep the two localities together in Division 8. To satisfy both the divisional quota, along with community of interest requirements, the Change Commission agreed that both localities be moved into Division 6.

Three alternative proposals were raised; one from a former Councillor, Ms Margaret Cochrane, who suggested Division 5 include Aeroglen and not Stratford. Ms Cochrane suggested the eastern boundary of Division 6 be adjusted to Freshwater Creek so as to leave Freshwater and Stratford together in Division 8, suggesting that further redivision then take place for Divisions 6 and 9. The Change Commission agreed that Aeroglen is more compatible with Division 5, but was unable to accommodate the rest of her suggestion.

A second proposal from Mr Barry Daniels proposed Division 5 be taken north to incorporate Holloways Beach and Machans Beach, while Division 8 move north to take in Trinity Beach and perhaps more from Division 9. The Change Commission noted this proposal, but

determined that the Holloways and Machans Beach localities do not share much commonality of interest with neighbouring Division 5.

Ms Leslie Francis and Ms Hazel Lees proposed Freshwater and Stratford be included in Division 6, while returning Kamerunga to Division 8. The respondents made it clear however that this option was less desirable than retaining Freshwater and Stratford in Division 8. The Change Commission agreed with the proposal to shift Freshwater and Stratford to Division 6, however as Division 8 has already gained a significant portion of electors from Division 9, and Division 5 has lost electors to Division 6, electors needed to be moved from further south in Division 6 rather than from the Kamerunga locality.

Both Ms Margaret Cochrane and Ms Angela Hoyle endorsed the re-establishment of a tenth division. The Change Commission was unable to accommodate this suggestion as it is outside the purview of this internal boundary review and requires a separate review into Council's electoral arrangements.

Mr Bob Richardson supported the proposed boundaries in full.

CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED DETERMINATION

The Change Commission was persuaded by the community of interest arguments and determined to keep the Stratford and Freshwater localities together. Due to the large numbers of electors within these two suburbs and the need to meet the quota requirement for each division, it was impossible to retain them in Division 8. Three boundary changes affecting Divisions 5, 6 and 7 were required to adequately balance electors as a result of this change.

The Change Commission agreed with the majority of the commentary which suggested Division 6 would be a suitable alternative to Division 8. Therefore, both Stratford and Freshwater will be moved into Division 6. The new northern boundary of Division 6 will follow the Barron and Stratford locality boundaries, heading south along the Captain Cook Highway before meeting with the Stratford locality boundary once more.

To balance the 829 Stratford electors moved out of the proposed Division 5 and into Division 6, it was necessary for the Change Commission to move electors out of Division 6. It was determined that part of the Brinsmead locality, including 1,093 electors be moved into Division 7. Veering west off the Whitfield locality boundary, the new boundary follows the back of the properties of Longden Street, then south along the back of the properties of Butland Street meeting with Longden Street and heading west to meet Loridan Drive. From Loridan Drive, the boundary will head southwards along Brinsmead Road and eastwards along Reservoir Road until meeting with the locality boundary of Brinsmead.

As a result of the aforementioned changes to Divisions 6 and 7, change was also required for Division 5. Division 7 has gained electors from Brinsmead (formerly Division 6), which enabled the Change Commission to transfer electors from Division 7 into Division 5. A total of 703 electors from part of the Manunda locality will be moved into Division 5, with the new boundary coming off the Manunda locality boundary and heading north along Fearnley Street. The boundary then heads west along Anderson Street before moving north along MacNamara Street, east along Greenslopes Street before meeting the Lily Creek.

FINAL DETERMINATION

The Change Commission was generally satisfied that its proposal was well-reasoned and fulfilled the need to bring the divisions of the Cairns Regional Council into quota. Due to concerns raised during the public consultation period, the Change Commission has made three changes to the boundaries outlined in its Proposed Determination report. These changes were enacted to create boundaries that better respect communities of interest and balance elector numbers across the Council's nine divisions.

The Change Commission recommends that its Proposed Determination, with additional changes to Divisions 5, 6 and 7 are to be the new divisional boundaries. Projected growth figures suggest these changes are likely to keep all divisions within quota and are expected to prevent the need for future boundary changes prior to the 2020 local government elections.

The Change Commission's final recommendation to the Governor in Council is as follows:

- ***That for the purposes of the 2016 local government elections, the Cairns Regional Council be redivided into nine divisions as shown on the maps contained in Appendix F of this report.***

The Change Commission notes that implementation of this recommendation will give rise to the following divisional elector numbers:

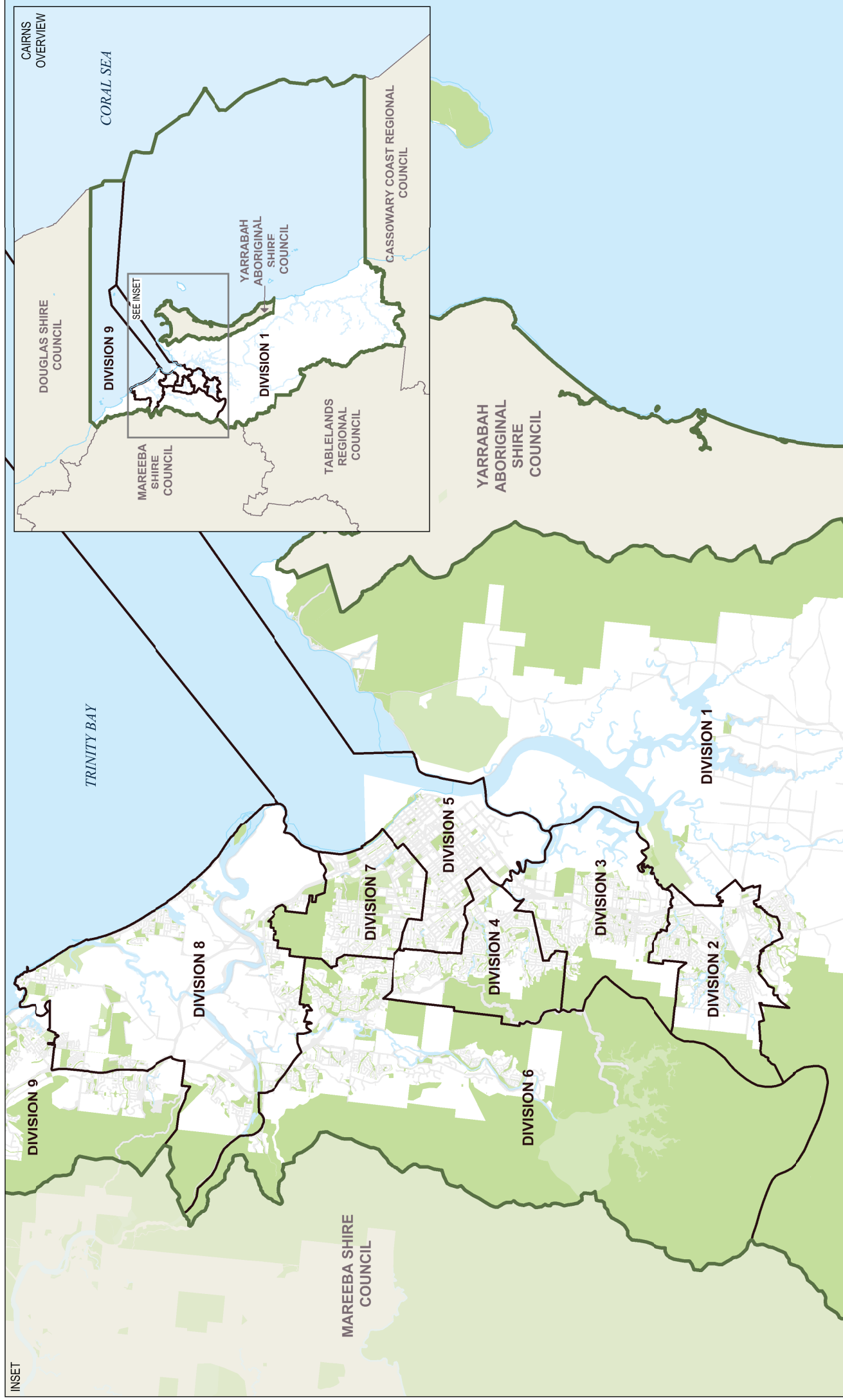
Table 3 – Summary of Enrolments for the Final Electoral Divisions

Division Name	Enrolment as at 23/02/2015	(%) Deviation from Quota	Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016	(%) Deviation from Quota	Projected Enrolment as at 28/02/2019	(%) Deviation from Quota
Division 1	10,155	-3.68	10,376	-3.46	11,501	+1.65
Division 2	10,757	+2.03	10,877	+1.2	11,354	+0.35
Division 3	10,940	+3.77	11,124	+3.5	11,578	+2.33
Division 4	10,242	-2.85	10,402	-3.22	10,869	-3.93
Division 5	10,427	-1.1	10,548	-1.86	10,907	-3.6
Division 6	10,803	+2.47	11,020	+2.53	11,505	+1.69
Division 7	10,961	+3.96	11,037	+2.69	11,222	-0.81
Division 8	10,224	-3.03	10,616	-1.23	11,529	+1.9
Division 9	10,378	-1.57	10,730	-0.17	11,362	+0.42

APPENDIX A

Previous Electoral Divisions

EXISTING ELECTORAL DIVISIONS



APPENDIX B

**Minister's Referral
Council's Submission**



Hon Jackie Trad MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade

Our ref: MBN15/49

- 2 APR 2015

Mr Walter van der Merwe
Electoral Commissioner
Electoral Commission Queensland
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr van der Merwe

I am writing to you in relation to local government electoral reviews which have been undertaken in preparation for the 2016 local government elections.

I have recently received proposals from 14 local governments seeking a review of their existing electoral arrangements.

The proposals include submissions in relation to the internal divisional boundary distributions where it has been determined that the divisional boundaries are out-of-quota. In addition, four of those local governments have submitted additional proposals for voluntary changes to their existing arrangements.

I note that, under section 19 of *the Local Government Act 2009* (the Act), the Commission must consider whether the local government change is consistent with the Act and must consider my views on any proposed changes.

Having examined each of their proposals, I consider it appropriate to refer each matter to you for independent assessment and determination by the Local Government Change Commission.

For your reference, I have enclosed a summary of each divided local government's quota review, a copy of each proposal referred to you for review and additional supporting information to assist with your review.

Level 12 Executive Building
100 George Street Brisbane
PO Box 15009 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7100
Email deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Max Barrie, Director, Program Implementation and Review on (07) 3452 6704 or max.barrie@dlgcr.qld.gov.au, who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely



JACKIE TRAD MP
DEPUTY PREMIER

**Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure,
Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade**

Enc (15)

DIVIDED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS – QUOTAS AND PROPOSED VOLUNTARY CHANGES

<u>Local Government</u>	<u>Results of Review</u>	<u>No. of Divisions Out of Quota</u>	<u>Referral to Local Government Change Commission</u>
Banana Shire Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer quota review
Bundaberg Regional Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quota review • proposal to abolish divisions • proposal to incorporate unallocated area into local government area
Cairns Regional Council	Out-of-quota	1	Refer quota review
Cassowary Coast Regional Council	In quota	0	No referral required
Fraser Coast Regional Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer quota review
Gold Coast City Council	In quota	0	No referral required
Gympie Regional Council	In quota	0	No referral required
Ipswich City Council	Out-of-quota	5	Refer quota review
Isaac Regional Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer quota review
Logan City Council	Out-of-quota	1	Refer quota review
Moreton Bay Regional Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer quota review
North Burnett Regional Council	In quota	0	No referral required
Redland City Council	Out-of-quota	1 (out) and 1 (predicted)	Refer both quota reviews
Rockhampton Regional Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quota review • proposal to renumber divisions
Scenic Rim Regional Council	Out-of-quota	1 (out) and 1 (predicted)	Refer both quota reviews
South Burnett Regional Council	In quota	0	No referral required
Sunshine Coast Regional Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer quota review
Tablelands Regional Council	Out-of-quota	3	Internal boundary review plus additional voluntary change proposal to increase councillor numbers already referred to Change Commission on 16 December 2014.
Townsville City Council	Out-of-quota	2	Refer quota review
Whitsunday Regional Council	Out-of-quota	1	Refer quota review



ENQUIRIES: Christine Posgate
PHONE: 4044 3299
YOUR REF: WR15/9050
OUR REF: #4654493 1/35/6-01

03 March 2015

Mr Max Barrie
Director, Program Implementation and Review
Department of Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience
Level 17, 41 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
max.barrie@dlgcr.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Barrie

RE: CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Council is in receipt of the letter dated 06 February 2015 (Ref: DGBN 15/69) wherein the Department welcomes Council to make suggestions about how any future divisional boundaries may be established.

At Council's Ordinary Meeting held on the 25 February 2015, Council resolved to advise the Department of the inconsistencies in the electoral quota across the Cairns Regional Council electoral Divisions. In particular, that Division 9 is outside the acceptable 10% variation.

Council received the Enrolment Statistics from the Electoral Commission of Queensland on the 25 February 2015. Council wishes to consider the data in order to review elector numbers and other aspects of boundaries and therefore seeks an extension from the Department in order to consider the data and submit a more detailed recommendations and options for the Change Commissioner's consideration.

Should you have any further enquiries or require additional information, please contact Council's General Manager Human Resources and Organisational Change, Christine Posgate, on the above phone number.

Yours sincerely

Peter Tabulo
Chief Executive Officer



ENQUIRIES: Christine Posgate
PHONE: 4044 3299
YOUR REF: WR15/9050
OUR REF: #4653122 1/35/6-01

28 May 2015

Electoral Commissioner
Electoral Commission Queensland
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001
ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Electoral Commissioner,

RE: CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Council is in receipt of a letter received from the Deputy Premier, Hon Jackie Trad, (Ref: MBN15/49) wherein the Department advises Council that under section 18 of the *Local Government Act 2009* the matter of the review of electoral arrangements for Cairns Regional Council has been referred to the Local Government Change Commission for assessment.

At Council's Ordinary Meeting held on the 25 February 2015, Council resolved to advise the Department of the inconsistencies in the electoral quota across the Cairns Regional Council electoral Divisions. In particular, that Division 9 is outside the acceptable 10% variation.

In addition, Council resolved to suggest that the boundary for Smithfield and Trinity Park be adjusted in accordance with the suburb boundaries which better reflects the situation and takes into account distribution of electors per division.

Council suggests the following boundary realignments (Attachment 1):

- The entire suburb of Smithfield is adjusted into Division 8. Currently properties located on the western side of the Captain Cook Highway are part of Division 9, while properties located on the eastern side are part of Division 8. It is suggested that with the new alignment the western side of Smithfield be moved into Division 8 in accordance to suburb boundaries.
- Move the small section of Trinity Park which is in Division 8 to Division 9 where the rest of Trinity Park is currently allocated. Currently from Kingsborough Pass, Trinity Park back to Montalbion Avenue, Trinity Park is assigned to Division 8, with the remaining suburb of Trinity Park assigned to Division 9. It is suggested

Post: PO Box 359 Cairns Q 4870
Council Chambers: 119-145 Spence Street, Cairns Q 4870
Web: www.cairns.qld.gov.au **Email:** council@cairns.qld.gov.au
Phone: 07 4044 3044 **Fax:** 07 4044 3022

ABN: 24 310 025 910

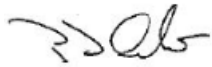


 Small steps can make a world of difference. 100% recycled.

that this section of Trinity Park be realigned to form part of Division 9 in accordance with suburb boundaries.

Should you have any further enquiries or require additional information, please contact Council's General Manager Human Resources & Organisational Change, Christine Posgate, on the above phone number.

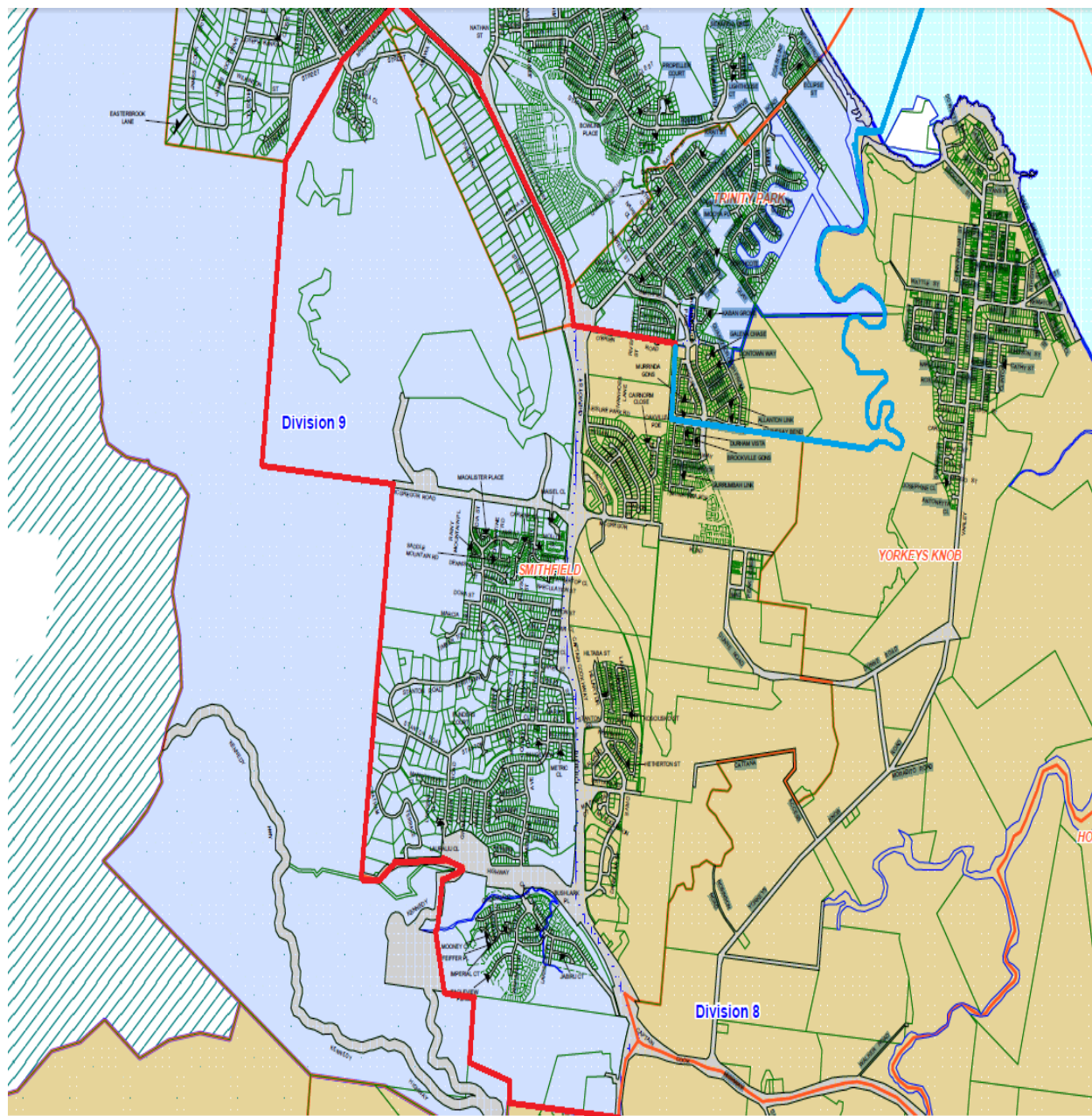
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Tabulo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Tabulo
Chief Executive Officer

enc

Attachment 1 – Proposed Boundary Realignment



Legend:

Red Border is the proposed Division 8 boundary
Light Blue Border is the proposed Division 9 boundary

APPENDIX C

**Invitation for Written Submissions
Written Submissions**

QUEENSLAND CHANGE COMMISSION CAIRNS REGIONAL, LOGAN CITY, ISAAC REGIONAL, REDLAND CITY & WHITSUNDAY REGIONAL COUNCILS

INVITATION FOR SUBMISSIONS

The local government areas of **Cairns Regional, Logan City, Isaac Regional, Redland City and Whitsunday Regional Councils** have advised that their electoral divisions no longer meet the quota requirements set down in the Local Government Act. The Minister responsible for Local Government has in turn referred the matter to the Change Commission for independent assessment.

The Commission invites written suggestions from interested persons and bodies relating to these council's electoral division to be lodged on or before **5.00 pm Friday 5 June 2015**.

Section 15 of the Act requires the Commission to ensure that the number of enrolled electors in all divisions does not differ from the average by $\pm 10\%$. The Commission has determined the average enrolment, along with the minimum and maximum number of electors based on the specified level of tolerance of 10% in the table below for each council currently reviewing.

Council	Electors	Average	Minimum	Maximum
Cairns Regional	94,887	10,543	9,489	11,597
Logan City	173,385	14,449	13,004	15,894
Isaac Regional	11,384	1,423	1,281	1,565
Redland City	99,635	9,964	8,967	10,960
Whitsunday Regional	20,377	3,396	3,057	3,736

(These figures are as at 23 February 2015 and may need to be readjusted slightly depending upon population growth between now and the Local Government elections scheduled for March 2016.)

Further information about the review process and advice on formulating suggestions may be found on the Electoral Commission of Queensland website under Local Government Reviews.

Suggestions should be marked with the name of the Council e.g. LOGAN CITY and be lodged as follows:

- by posting to
Change Commissioner, Local Government Change Commission, GPO Box 1393, BRISBANE, QLD 4001
- by personal delivery, between the hours of 9.00 am and 5.00 pm to:
Electoral Commission of Queensland, Level 6, Forestry House, 160 Mary Street, Brisbane
- by email to
cairnsregionalcouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au or
logancitycouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au or
isaacregionalcouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au or
redlandcitycouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au or
whitsundayregionalcouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au.
- online form

It would assist the Commission if anyone intending to submit maps with written suggestions could do so by using maps of the present divisions which are available on the Commission's website, or by contacting the Commission on 1300 881 665 for assistance.

If you wish to lodge a submission, please note that all submissions will be published in their entirety (including name and address details) on the Commission's website.

Walter van der Merwe
Change Commissioner
Electoral Commission of Queensland

Blaze066835

From: Waverley Canendo
Sent: Monday, 10 August 2015 7:17 AM
To: Cairns Regional Council Review
Subject: re: Cairns Regional Council boundary review

I just wanted to give my feedback:

This maybe going off the track a little but -

- **How about you get Cairns Regional Council to change their name back to Cairns City Council? The Douglas Shire has been re-born, there is no need for Cairns Regional Council to continue with this title. As we all are aware: Cairns Regional Council was created through the merger of Cairns City Council and Douglas Shire Council. That merger has been reversed with Cairns Regional Council currently presiding over its former Cairns City Council local government area which in a fashion defeats the purpose of it being a regional council.**

Thank you for your time.

kind regards

Waverley Canendo

Bob Richardson
GORDONVALE 4865

Monday 1st June, 2015

Mr. Walter van der Merwe
Change Commissioner
Electoral Commission of Queensland
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001.

Dear Sir

I refer to your advertisement in the Cairns Post on Saturday 16th May 2015, advising of a redistribution of Divisional Boundaries of the Cairns Regional Council and calling for written suggestions.

I here by submit the following suggestions.

Number of Councillors;-

I believe that the number of Councillors should be an even number, in this case 8 or 10, so when the Mayor is included there is a odd number, thus avoiding the number of occasions that the Mayor has to use his/her casting vote, in effect having two votes.

There were 10 Councillors in the Cairns Regional Council plus the Mayor until the de amalgamation of the Douglas Shire.

It has not been as issue in the current Council, however in an evenly divided Council it could be.

The Tablelands Regional Council has had this issue since the de amalgamation of the Mareeba Shire, thus the request for 6 Councillors in that area.

I did bring this matter to the attention of the Minister for Local Government Office, but it was 'passed off', so time will tell if it becomes an issue in the Cairns Regional Council.

Quota:-

Division 9 is in excess of 30% above quota as a result of absorbing that part of Division 10 that remained in the Cairns Regional Council after the de amalgamation of the Douglas Shire.

This 30% above the quota and the requirement to bring all divisions within a variance of 10% of the quota has had a 'flow on' effect to all Divisions with the possible exception of Division 1.

Boundaries:-

Where I have suggested boundary changes I have tried to use 'landmarks' that the residents can relate to such as:-

- Rivers, example Barron River
- Creeks, example Chinaman Creek
- Main Roads, example Reservoir Road
- Suburban boundaries

As a taxi driver I find that people have very little idea where there residence is in relation to cross streets, example 340 Sheridan Street is between Smith and Lily Streets, but they do know the suburb that they live in, in this example, Cairns North.

Division 1

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 9,948

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 94.36%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,165

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 94.58%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,155

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 96.32

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,376

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 96.54%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be as at 31/03/2016.

There are no 'flow on' effects from other divisions being 'out of' quota.

Therefore the only changes to Division 1 I suggest are a bit of 'house keeping', tidying up the boundary between Collinson Creek and Skelton Creek in the Edmonton area.

I suggest that the boundary follow the Bruce Highway between those creeks.

This would include 207 electors (211 projected as at 31/03/2106) on the Eastern side of the Bruce Highway and the North Coast Railway in Division.

The suggested change would also involve the transferring the South Cairns Industrial Estate (old Queerah meatworks site) to Division 1.

There are no electors (or projected electors as at 31/03/2015) in this area.

My suggested change gives a 'clear boundary' in this area, the Bruce Highway.

Towns and localities in the existing and suggested Division include Mirriwinni, Babinda, Aloomba, Gordonvale, Green Hills, East Trinity and a part of Edmonton.

My suggested division also includes Fitzroy and the Franklin group of Islands and any other off shore islands in the existing Division 1.

Suggested Divisional Boundary:-

Commencing at the boundary of Cairns Regional Council with the Cassowary Coast Regional Council at Cooper Point, follow that boundary in a generally westerly/northerly and easterly direction to where the existing boundary (Collinson Creek) meets the Bruce Highway in Edmonton, hence by the Bruce Highway in a generally northerly direction to Skelton Creek, by that creek downstream to the existing boundary, by the existing boundary in a generally north easterly, then southerly direction to the point of commencement .

The suggested and the existing boundary borders, but excludes the area of the Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council.

Division 2

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,000

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 94.85%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,108

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 94.05%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,757

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 102.03%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,877

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 102.2%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be, as at 31/03/2016, however it is affected by the 'flow on' effect from Division 9 being out of quota in excess of 30%.

It is necessary to absorb some of the area from the existing Division 3 so that division will be within the required quota.

I suggest that the divisional boundary between Divisions 2 and 3 be moved northwards to Foster Road in the suburb of Mt. Sheridan.

This would involve transferring 964 electors (980 projected) into Division 3.

This suggested boundary is the existing boundary between the State Electorates of Cairns and Mulgrave.

Foster Road is the main entrance to the Mt. Sheridan shopping Plaza.

Coupled with the suggested transfer of an area in Edmonton to my suggested Division 1 it will mean a net increase in the enrolment of my suggested division of 757 (projected 769).

The suggested division will include part of the town of Edmonton, the suburb of Bentley Park, and part of the Suburb of Mt. Sheridan.

I have suggested all of SA's 3115001 and 311307 in the calculations for this division however I suggest to the Change Commission only part of these SA's be included in this division as outlined in my boundary description, the remainder be in Division 3.

There are no electors in either of these SA's and none in the projected enrolments.

Suggested Divisional Boundary:-

Commencing where the Bruce Highway meets Collinson Creek in Edmonton, in the south easterly portion of the suggested division, follow the Bruce Highway to Foster Road, by that road in a westerly direction and a line from that road (same alignment as the road) to the existing boundary of Divisions 3 and 6 in the Freshwater Creek State Forest, by that existing Division 6 boundary in a generally southerly direction to the existing boundary, by that boundary in a generally south westerly and then easterly direction to the point of commencement.

Division 3

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 9,540

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 90.49%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 9,724

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 90.47%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,940

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 103.77%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 11,124

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 103.5%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be, as at 31/03/2016, however it is affected by the 'flow on' effect from Division 9 being out of quota in excess of 30%.

I suggest that this division include that those parts of the Suburbs of Bayview Heights and Woree that are in the existing Division 4.

This would involve transferring 2,364 electors (2,380 projected) to my suggested Division.

Coupled with the transfer of an area in Mt Sheridan to my suggested Division 2, it will mean a net increase in the enrolment of my suggested Division of 1,400, also 1400 projected.

The suggested division will include all of the suburbs of White Rock, Bayview Heights, Woree, and a part of Mt. Sheridan.

It will include the Cannon Park Racecourse.

I have suggested all of SA's 3115001 and 311307 in the calculations for Division 2 however I suggest to the Change Commission only part of these SA's be included in that division and as outlined in my boundary description, the remainder be in Division 3.

There are no electors in either of these SA's and none in the projected enrolments.

Suggested Divisional Boundary:-

Commencing at the corner of the Bruce Highway and Foster Road, follow Foster Road in a westerly direction, by a line from that road (same alignment as the road) to the existing boundary of Divisions 3 and 6 in the Freshwater Creek State Forest, by the eastern boundary of the existing Division 6 in a generally north direction until it meet the northern boundary of the suburb of Bayview Heights, by that boundary and the northern boundary of the suburb of Woree, in a generally easterly, northerly, south easterly, northerly, and easterly direction to Chinaman Creek, by that creek downstream to the existing boundary, by that boundary in a generally easterly, southerly, and westerly direction to the point of commencement.

The northern boundary of the suburbs of Bayview Heights and Woree follows in part Clarke Creek (twice) the Mulgrave Mill tramway Mulgrave Road and the western and northern boundaries of Cannon Park Racecourse.

Division 4

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 9,634

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 91.38%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 9,754

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 90.75%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,242

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 97.15%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,403

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 96.79%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be, as at 31/03/2016, however it is affected by the 'flow on' effect from Division 9 being out of quota in excess of 30%.

My suggested division:-

- Gains from Division 5 parts of suburbs of Mooroolbool, Manoora, and Manunda.
- Looses to Division 3 that parts of the suburbs of Bayview Heights and Woree in the existing Division 4
- Looses that part of Bungalow in the existing Division 4 to Division 5. This is just a bit of 'house keeping' to keep the entire suburb of Bungalow in the one division.
- Has a net gain of 902 electors (944 projected)

The suggested Division will include the suburbs of Earlville, and Kanimbla, most of Mooroolbool, and parts of Manunda and Manoora.

Suggested Divisional Boundary:-

Commencing where the northern boundary of the suburb of Bayview Heights meets the eastern boundary of the existing Division 6, by that northern boundary of the suburb of Bayview Heights, and the northern boundary of the suburb of Woree, in a generally easterly, northerly, south easterly, northerly and easterly direction, to Chinaman Creek, by that creek upstream to Mulgrave Road, by that road towards the city until it meets McCoombe Street, by that street, McCormack, Alfred, Pease Streets, and Reservoir Road, in a generally north westerly and westerly direction until it meets the existing boundary, by that boundary in a generally westerly, then southerly direction to the point of commencement.

Division 5**Existing Division**

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,663

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 101.14%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,799

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 100.47%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 11,092

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 105.21%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 11,229

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 104.76%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be, as at 31/03/2016, however it is affected by the 'flow on' effect from Division 9 being out of quota in excess of 30%.

My suggested Division 5 has probably the most changes of any of my suggested division, with the exception of Division 9, which is in excess of 30% over quota.

I have included the airport in this suggested division.

I believe that if numerably possible the business sector, both commercial and industrial, should be in the same division, as well as the air and sea ports, all represented by the one divisional councillor.

My suggested Division 5 does this.

Mu suggested division:-

- Gains from Division 7 that part of the suburb of Cairns North in the existing Division 7.
- Gains the suburbs of Aeroglen (including the airport) and Stratford from Division 8.
- Gains a part of the suburb of Bungalow from Division 4.
- Looses parts of the suburbs of Mooroolool, Manoora, and Manunda to Division 4.

It gains a total of 3,695 electors from other divisions (3,754 projected) and loses 3,266 (3,324 projected).

A net gain of 429 (430 projected)

The suggested division includes the Cairns Business District, Portsmith, Bungalow, Westcourt, Aeroglen, Stratford, Cairns North, and parts of Parramatta Park, Manunda and Mooroolool.

The suggested Division also included Green Island which is in the existing Division 5.

While I have included all of SA 3114007 in Division 5 I suggest the boundary between Division 5 and 6 be the Stratford/Freshwater suburban boundary (a drain adjacent to Primo Street), so I suggest to the Change Commission that this SA be split with that part in the suburb of Freshwater be included in Division 6.

My suggested Divisions 5 and 6 allow plenty of scope for this minor change to occur without affecting the quota.

Suggested Divisional Boundary:

Commencing at the mouth of Chinaman Creek at Smith's Creek, in the southeast corner of the existing division, by Chinaman Creek upstream to Mulgrave Road, by that road towards the city until it meets McCoombe Street, via that street, McCormack and Alfred Streets in a generally north westerly direction until it meets the intersection of Hoare, Moody, Alfred and Pease Streets, by Hoare street in a generally easterly direction to Gatton Street, via that street in a generally north easterly direction, to the southern boundary of the suburb of Cairns North (Lily Creek), by that boundary in a generally north westerly direction to the southern boundaries of the suburbs of Aeroglen and Stratford, by those boundaries in generally westerly direction to the eastern boundary of the suburb of Freshwater, via that boundary, including a drain adjacent to Primo Street, and the Kuranda Railway line, in a northerly and the easterly direction to the northern boundary of the suburb of Stratford (Barron River), by that boundary and the northern boundary of the suburb of Aeroglen (also the Barron River) in a generally easterly direction, hence the eastern boundary of that suburb and Cairns North to the existing boundary, by that boundary including Green Island to the point of commencement at the mouth of Chinaman Creek at Smith's Creek.

Division 6

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,343

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 98.1%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,510

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 97.79%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 11,066

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 104.96%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 11,269

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 104.85%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be, as at 31/03/2016, however it is affected by the 'flow on' effect from Division 9 being out of quota in excess of 30%.

My suggestion division:-

- Gains Freshwater and a part of Barron and Kamerunga from existing Division 8.
- Looses part of Whitfield to Division 7

It gains a total of 1,876 electors (1913 projected) from the existing Division 8, and loses 1,153 (1,154 projected) to my suggested Division 7.

A net gain 723 (759 projected).

The suggested division includes Freshwater, Brinsmead, Redlynch, Kamerunga, and a part of Barron.

While I have included all of SA 3114007 in Division 5 I suggest the boundary between Division 5 and 6 be the Stratford/Freshwater suburban boundary (a drain adjacent to Primo Street), so I suggest to the Change Commission that this SA be split with that part in the suburb of Freshwater be included in Division 6.

My suggested Divisions 5 and 6 allow plenty of scope for this minor change to occur without affecting the quota.

Suggested Divisional boundary:-

Commencing where the Barron River meets the Mareeba Shire Council boundary (existing boundary) by that river downstream to where the western boundary of the suburb of Stratford meets the Barron River, by that boundary in a generally southerly and easterly direction to the eastern boundary of the suburb of Brinsmead, by that boundary in a generally southerly direction to where that suburban boundary meets the existing boundary on Reservoir road, by the existing boundary to the point of commencement on the Barron River.

Division 7

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 11,179

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 106.03%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 11,287

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 105.01%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,033

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 95.16%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,107

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 94.04%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be, as at 31/03/2016, however it is affected by the 'flow on' effect from Division 9 being out of quota in excess of 30%.

My suggested division:-

- Gains that part of Whitfield that is in the existing Division 6.
- Loses that part of Cairns North that is in the existing division.

It gains 1,153 electors (1,154 projected) and loses 2,299 (2,334 projected).

A net loss of electors of 1,146 (1,180 projected).

The suggested division includes Edge Hill, Whitfield, and parts of Manoora, Manunda, and Parramatta Park.

Suggested Divisional Boundary:-

Commencing at the mouth of Lily Creek into Saltwater Creek, via Lily Creek upstream to Gatton Street (existing boundary) via the existing boundary in a generally south westerly, southerly, northerly and westerly direction to the intersection of Reservoir Road and McManus Street, hence continues along Reservoir Road until it reaches the corner of the southern and western boundaries of the suburb of Whitfield, by the western boundary of that suburb in a generally northerly direction until it meets the existing boundary, west of Nolan Street, by the existing boundary to the point of commencement.

Division 8

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 9,719

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 92.18%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 9,954

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 92.61%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,066

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 95.48%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,438

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 97.12%

This division is within quota as at 23/02/2015 and is projected to be, as at 31/03/2016, however it is affected by the 'flow on' effect from Division 9 being out of quota in excess of 30%.

My suggested Division:-

- Gains that part of Smithfield in the existing Division 9 and Trinity Park also from the existing Division 9.
- It loses Aeroglen and Stratford to Division 5 and Freshwater and a part of Barron to Division 6.

It gains a total of 3,325 electors (3522 projected) and loses a total of 2978 electors (3038 projected)

A net gain of 347 electors (484 projected).

This suggested Division includes Smithfield, Trinity Park, Yorkeys Knob, Holloways Beach, Machans Beach, Caravonica, and a part of Barron.

My suggested Division includes all of SA 3113922 in Division 8 however I suggest to the Change Commission that this SA be split with the northern portion remaining in Division 9.

There are no electors or projected electors in this SA so the suggested change will have no effect on the quota of either division.

Suggested Divisional Boundary:-

Commencing on the shoreline at the mouth of the Barron River, hence by that shoreline in a generally northerly direction to the northern boundary of the suburb of Trinity Park, by that northern boundary in a generally south westerly direction to the Captain Cook Highway, by that highway towards the city to the Reed Road round about, hence in a generally westerly direction along the northern boundary of the suburb of Smithfield to the corner with the western boundary of that suburb, hence by a line westwards in the Kuranda State Forest (Macalister Range) to the boundary of the Cairns Regional Council and the Mareeba Shire Council, by that boundary in a generally southerly direction to the existing boundary, by that boundary to the Barron River, by that river downstream to the point of commencement.

Division 9

Existing Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 13,861

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 131.47%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 14,430

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 134.26%

Suggested Division

Existing Enrolment as at 23/02/2015:- 10,536

Quota: - 10,543

% of Quota: - 99.93%

Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2016:- 10,908

Quota: - 10,748

% of Quota: - 101.49%

This division is 31.47% over quota and is projected to be 34.26% over quota at 31/03/2016, so has to loose a considerable number of electors to come within the 10% variance of the quota.

My suggested Division:-

- Gains no additional voters.
- Looses that part of Smithfield in the existing division, and Trinity Park.

It looses a total of 3,325 electors (3522 projected).

My suggested Division includes all of SA 3113922 in Division 8 however I suggest to the Change Commission that this SA be split with the northern portion remaining in Division 9.

There are no electors or projected electors in this SA so the suggested change will have no effect on the quota of either division.

Suggested Divisional Boundary

Commencing on the shoreline at the northern boundary of the suburb of Trinity Park, by that northern boundary in a generally south westerly direction to the Captain Cook Highway, by that highway towards the city to the Reed Road round about, hence in a generally westerly direction along the northern boundary of the suburb of Smithfield to the corner with the western boundary of that suburb, hence by a line westwards in the Kuranda State Forest (Macalister Range) to the boundary of the Cairns Regional Council and the Mareeba Shire Council, which is the existing boundary, by the existing boundary to the point of commencement.

My suggested division includes all off shore islands in the existing Division 9, including Double Island.

Conclusion:-

Please find enclosed the calculations and maps for my suggested boundaries.

Should you have any queries please contact me on the above phone numbers.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. J. Richardson', written in a cursive style.

R. J. Richardson

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL

PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Summary

How constituted

	Existing Division		Suggested Division		Existing Division		Suggested Division	
	Actual enrolment		Actual Enrolment		Projected Enrolment		Projected enrolment	
	23/02/2015	% of quota	23/02/2015	% of quota	31/03/2016	% of quota	31/03/2016	% of quota
Division 1	9,948	94.35	10,155	96.32	10,165	94.58	10,376	96.54
Division 2	10,000	94.84	10,757	102.03	10,108	94.05	10,877	102.2
Division 3	9,540	90.49	10,940	103.77	9,724	90.47	11,124	103.5
Division 4	9,634	91.38	10,242	97.15	9,754	90.75	10,403	96.79
Division 5	10,663	101.14	11,092	105.21	10,799	100.47	11,229	104.76
Division 6	10,343	98.1	11,066	104.96	10,510	97.79	11,269	104.85
Division 7	11,179	106.03	10,033	95.16	11,287	105.01	10,107	94.04
Division 8	9,719	92.18	10,066	95.48	9,954	92.61	10,438	97.12
Division 9	13,861	131.47	10,536	99.93	14,430	134.26	10,908	101.49
Total	94,887		94,887		96,731		96,731	

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division1

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	9,948	10,165
plus		
from existing Division 2		
SA's		
3114719	207	211
Total Suggested Division	10,155	10,376
Quota	10,543	10,748
% of Quota	96.32%	96.54%

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 2

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	10,000	10,108
plus		
from existing Division 3		
SA's		
3115001	0	0
3115307	0	0
3115310	327	329
3115311	200	202
3115312	314	323
3115313	123	126
Total from existing Division 3	964	980
Total including existing Division 2	10,964	11,088
less		
	10,964	
to suggested Division 1		
SA's		
3114719	207	211
Total suggested Division	10,757	10,877
Quota	10,543	10,748
% of Quota	102.03	102.2

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 3

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	9,540	9,724
plus		
from existing Division 4		
SA's		
3114601	356	357
3114613	320	321
3114614	171	171
3114616	420	421
3114617	356	357
3115706	178	181
3115707	209	212
3115710	0	0
3115711	353	359
3115712	1	1
Total from existing Division 4	2,364	2,380
Total including existing Division	11,904	12,104

less

to suggested Division 2

SA's

3115001	0	0
3115307	0	0
3115311	200	202
3115310	327	329
3115313	314	323
3115312	123	126
Total to suggested Division 2	964	980
Total Suggested Division	10,940	11,124
Quota	10,543	10,748
% of Quota	103.77%	103.50%

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 4

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	9,634	9,754
plus		
from existing Division 5		
SA's		
3114915	281	291
3114916	157	163
3114919	387	395
3114920	252	256
3114921	221	228
3114922	224	227
3114923	246	248
3115105	349	354
3115106	265	268
3115107	124	124
3115108	193	195
3115109	269	273
3115110	163	164
3115206	135	138
total from existing Division 5	3,266	3,324
Total including existing Division	12,900	13,078

less

to suggested Division 3

SA's

209	212
178	181
353	359
356	357
356	357
420	421
320	321
171	171
0	0
1	1

Total to suggested Division 3

2,364

2,380

to suggested Division 5

SA

3115415

294

295

Total to other suggested Divisions

2,658

2,675

Total suggested Division

10,242

10,403

Quota

10,543

10,748

%of Quota

97.15%

96.79%

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 5

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	10,663	10,799
plus		
from existing Division 4		
SA		
3115415	294	295
from existing Division 7		
SA's		
3114502	432	438
3114507	60	61
2114508	68	71
3114509	104	106
3114510	221	224
3114511	228	230
3114512	217	222
3114513	413	417
3114514	383	390
3114521	173	175
Total from existing Division 7	2,299	2,334

From existing Division 8

SA's

3114007	401	412
3114008	429	436
3114009	259	264
3114004	13	13
Total from existing Division 8	1,102	1,125
Total for other existing Divisions	3,695	3,754
Total including existing Division	14,358	14,553

less

to suggested Division 4

SA's

3115105	349	354
3115106	265	268
3115110	163	164
3115104	269	273
3115107	124	124
3115108	193	195
3114923	246	248
3114916	157	163
3114922	224	227
3114915	281	291
3115206	135	138
3114919	387	395
3114920	252	256
3114921	221	228
Total to suggested Division 4	3,266	3,324
Total Suggested Division	11,092	11,229
Quota	10,543	10,748
% of Quota	105.21%	104.76%

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 6

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2105	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2015
Existing Division	10,343	10,510
plus		
from existing Division 8		
SA's		
3114112	125	130
3114101	258	269
3114001	341	347
3114002	213	215
3114003	324	328
3114005	182	185
3114006	433	439
Total from existing Division 8	1,876	1,913
Total including existing Division	12,219	12,423

less

to suggested Division 7

SA's

3115620	215	215
3115621	391	392
3115617	363	363
3115616	184	184
Total to suggested Division 7	1,153	1,154
Total suggested Division	11,066	11,269
Quota	10,543	10,748
% of Quota	104.96%	104.85%

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 7

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	11,179	11,287
plus		
from existing Division 6		
SA's		
3115616	184	184
3115617	363	363
3115620	215	215
3115621	391	392
Total from existing Division 6	1,153	1,154
Total including existing Division	12,332	12,441

lees

to suggested Division 5

SA's

3114514	383	390
3114502	432	438
3114512	217	222
3114511	228	230
3114521	173	175
3114510	221	224
3114513	413	417
3114507	60	61
3114508	68	71
3114509	104	106
Total to suggested Division 5	2,299	2,334
Total suggested Division	10,033	10,107
Quota	10,543	10,748
% of Quota	95.16%	94.04%

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 8

How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	9,719	9,954
plus		
from existing Division 9		
SA's		
3114227	198	237
3114206	326	330
3114207	231	248
3114213	171	190
3114205	193	205
3114210	202	219
3114208	319	343
3114209	245	249
3114219	55	59
3114211	518	558
3114201	383	387
3114203	484	497
3114222	0	0
Total from existing Division 9	3,325	3522
Total including existing Division	13,044	13,476

less

to suggested Division 5

SA's

3114007	401	412
3114008	429	436
3114009	259	264
3114004	13	13

Total to suggested Division 5	1,102	1,125
-------------------------------	-------	-------

to suggested Division 6

SA's

3114112	125	130
3114101	258	269
3114001	341	347
3114002	213	215
3114003	324	328
3114005	182	185
3114006	433	439

Total to suggested Division 6	1,876	1,913
-------------------------------	-------	-------

Total to suggested other Divisions	2,978	3,038
------------------------------------	-------	-------

Total Suggested Division	10,066	10,438
---------------------------------	---------------	---------------

Quota	10,543	10,748
--------------	---------------	---------------

% of Quota	95.48%	97.12%
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CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

2015

SUGGESTIONS

Division 9

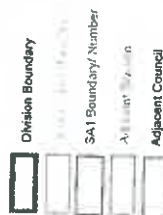
How constituted	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected Enrolment 31/03/2016
Existing Division	13,861	14,430
plus	nil	nil
less		
to suggested Division 8		
SA's		
3114227	198	237
3114206	326	330
3114207	231	248
3114213	171	190
3114205	193	205
3114210	202	219
3114208	319	343
3114209	245	249
3114219	55	59
3114211	518	558
3114201	383	387
3114203	484	497
3114222	0	0
Total to suggested Division 8	3,325	3,522
Total suggested Division	10,536	10,908
Quota	10,543	10,748
% of Quota	99.93%	101.49%



SA1 Map
CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
DIVISION 1

23 February 2015
Total Enrolment: 9,948
Average Enrolment: 10,543
Lower Limit: 9,489
Upper Limit: 11,597
Quota Variation: -5.64%
Status: In Quota

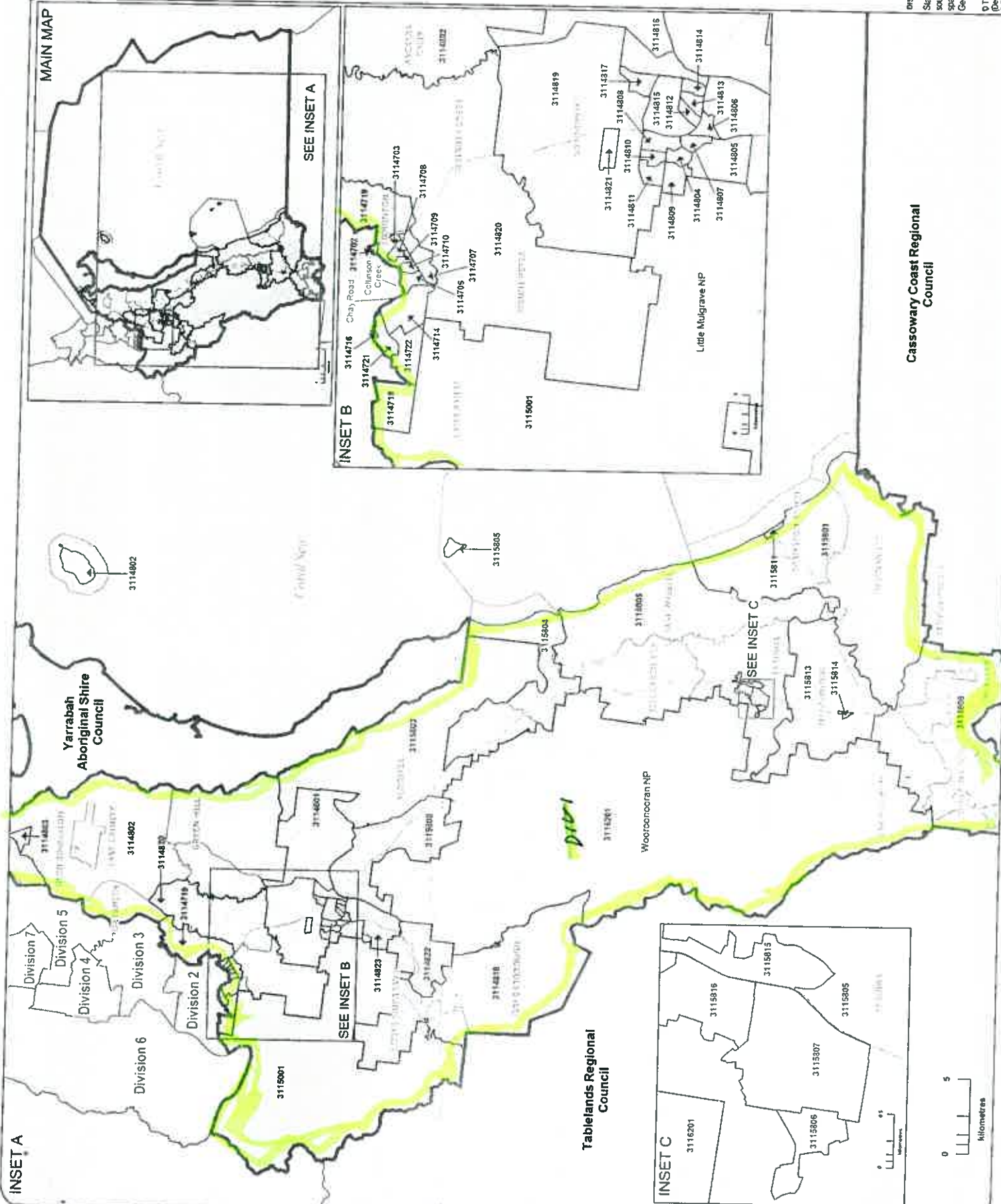
DIVISION 1 - Locality Map



DISCLAIMER

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SA1 Map
CAIRNS REGIONAL
COUNCIL
DIVISION 2

23 February 2015
Total Enrolment: 10,000
Average Enrolment: 10,543
Lower Limit: 9,489
Upper Limit: 11,597
Quota Variation: -5.15%
Status: In Quota

DIVISION 2 - Locality Map



- Division Boundary
- SA1 Boundary Number
- Adjacent Division
- Adjacent Council
- Reserve, Parkland
- Waterbody
- Railway
- Main Road
- Welland

DISCLAIMER

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Division 3

Division 6

Division 1





23 February 2015	
Total Enrollment:	9,540
Average Enrollment:	10,543
Lower Limit:	9,489
Upper Limit:	11,597
Quota Variation:	-9.51%
Status:	In Quota

DIVISION 3 - Locality Map

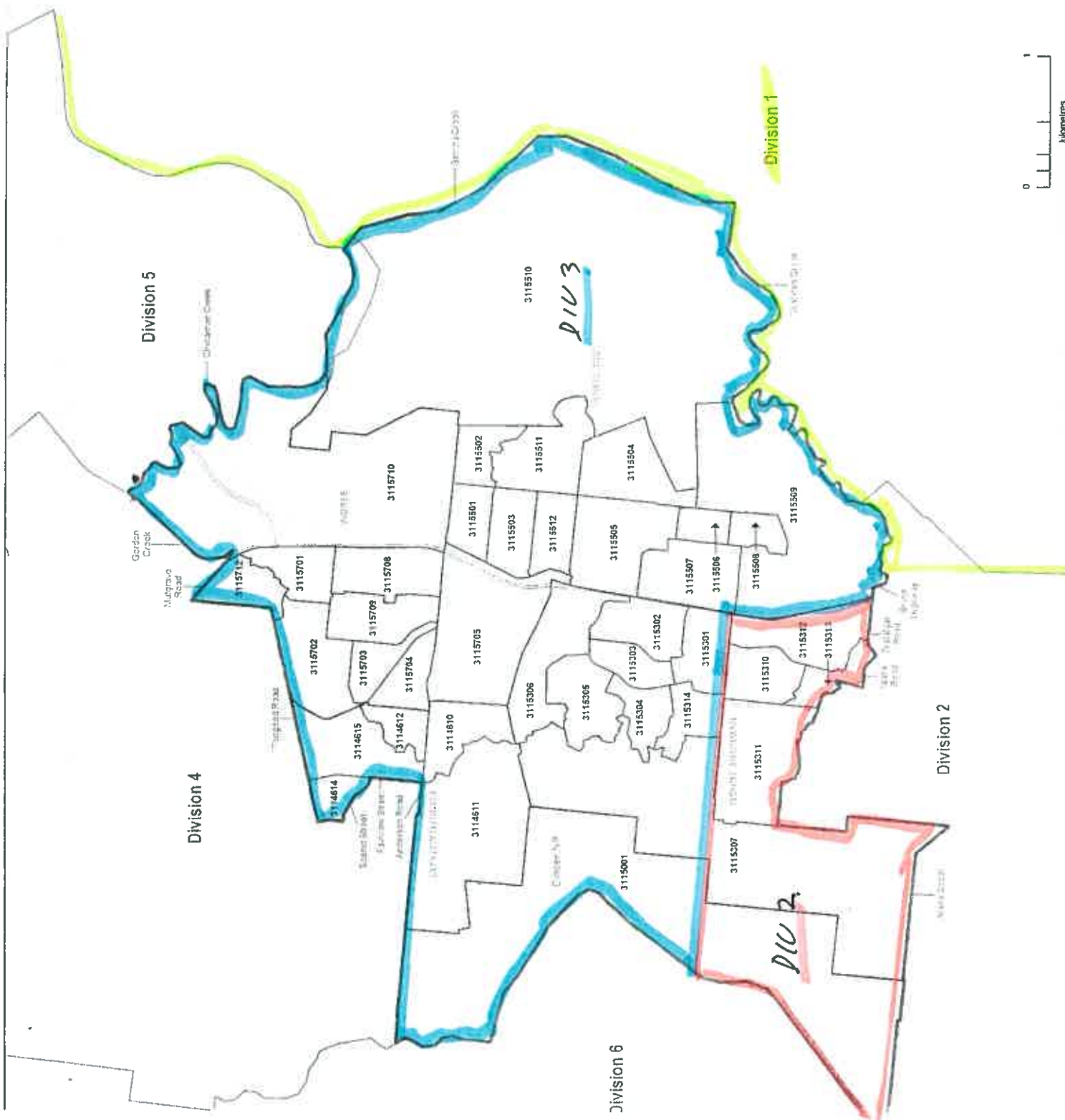


- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Division Boundary | SA1 Boundary Number |
| Reserve, Parkland | Adjacent Council |
| Waterbody | |
| Railway | |
| Main Road | |
| Wetland | |

DISCLAIMER

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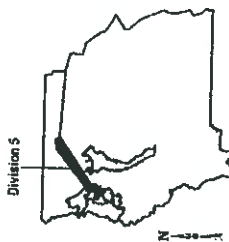




SA1 Map
CARNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
DIVISION 5

23 February 2015
Total Enrolment: 10,683
Average Enrolment: 10,543
Lower Limit: 9,489
Upper Limit: 11,597
Quota Variation: 1.14%
Status: In Quota

DIVISION 5 - Locality Map



- Division Boundary
- SA1 Boundary Number
- Adjacent Boundary
- Adjacent Council
- Reserve, Parkland
- Waterbody
- Railway
- Main Road
- Welland

DISCLAIMER

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Division 7

Division 1

DIV 5

DIV 4

Division 3

Division 4

MAIN MAP

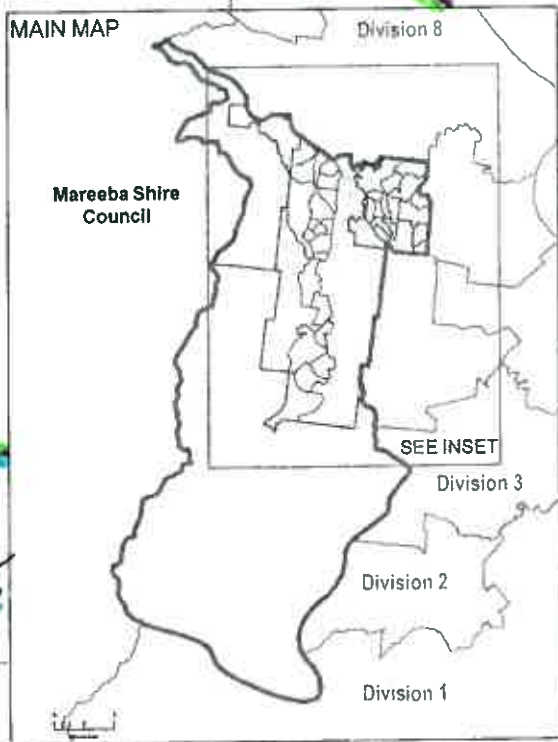
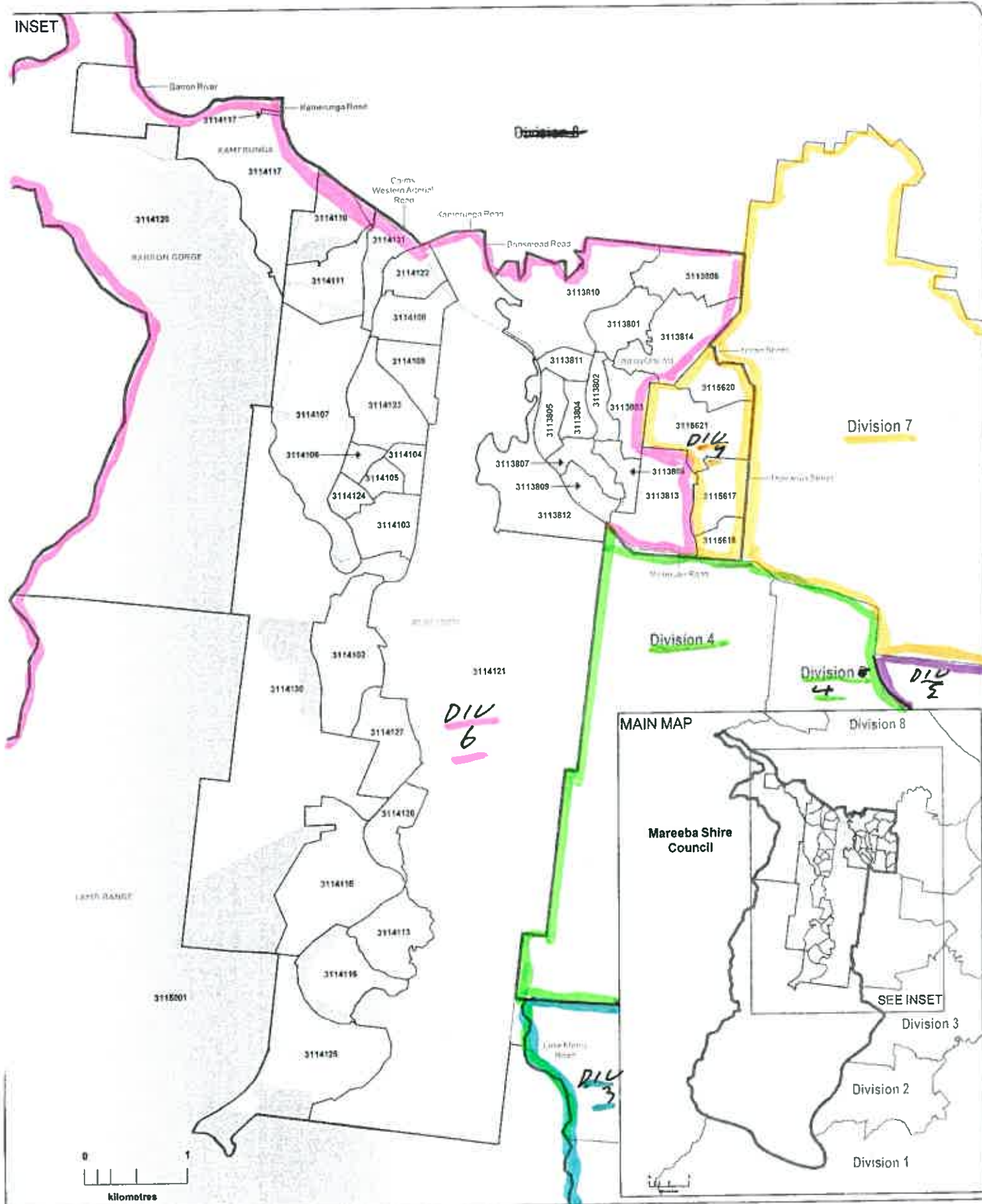
SEE INSET



INSET

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

INSET



**SA1 Map
CAIRNS REGIONAL
COUNCIL
DIVISION 6**

DIVISION 6 - Locality Map



23 February 2015

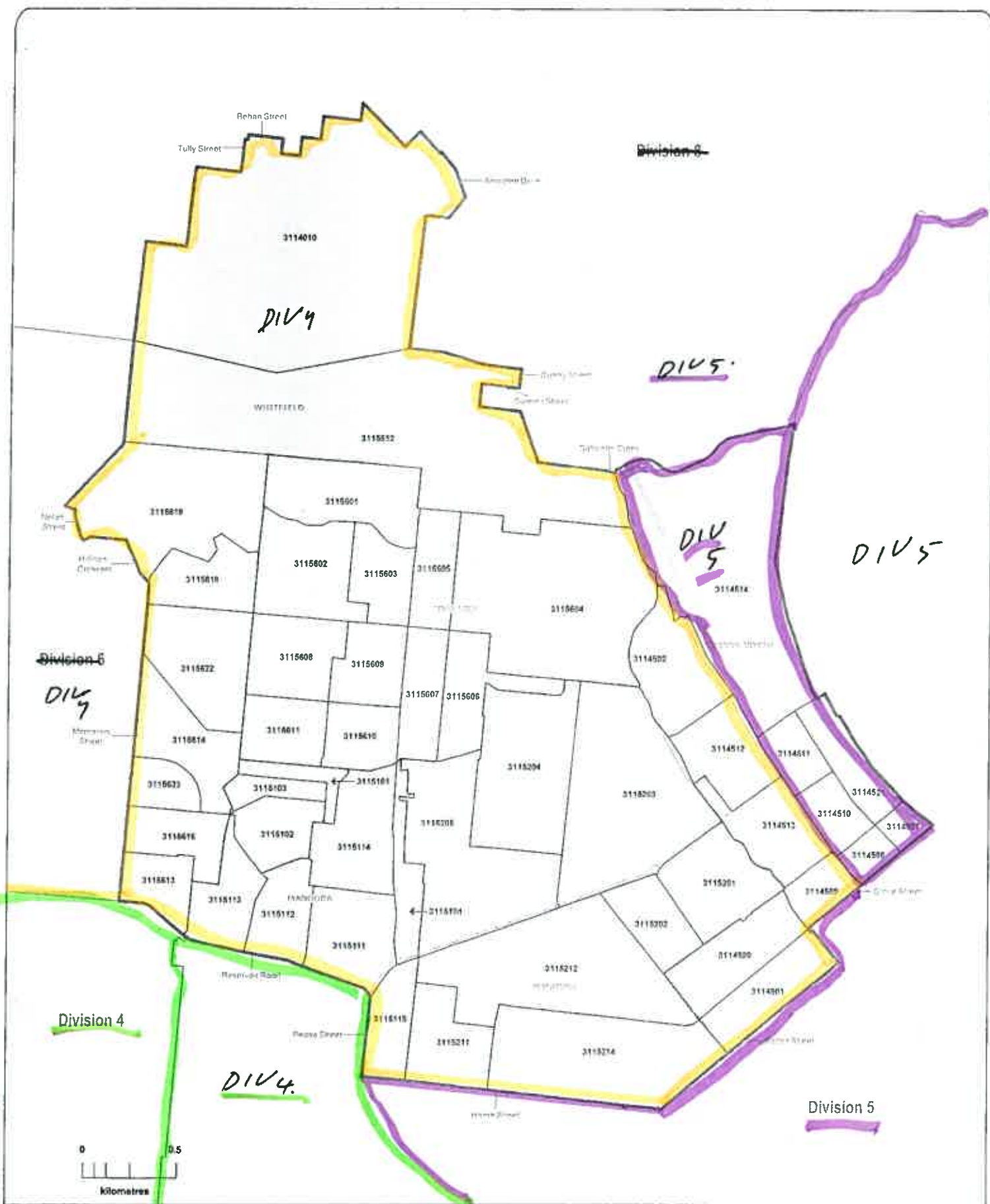
Total Enrolment:	10,343
Average Enrolment:	10,543
Lower Limit:	9,489
Upper Limit:	11,597
Quota Variation:	-1.9%
Status:	In Quota

	Division Boundary		Reserve, Parkland
	SA1 Boundary Number		Waterbody
	Adjacent Council		Railway
			Main Road
			Welland

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SA1 Map
CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL

DIVISION 7 - Locality Map



23 February 2015
Total Enrolment: 11,179
Average Enrolment: 10,543
Lower Limit: 9,489
Upper Limit: 11,597
Quota Variation: 6.03%
Status: In Quota

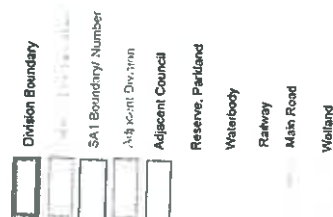
	Division Boundary		Reserve, Parkland
	SA1 Boundary Number		Waterbody
	Adjacent Council		Railway
			Main Road
			Wetland

DISCLAIMER
Statistical Local Area (SA1) data used during compilation sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. SA1 are local units defined in the ASGS (Australian Statistical Geography Standard).



23 February 2015	
Total Enrollment:	9,719
Average Enrollment:	10,543
Lower Limit:	9,489
Upper Limit:	11,597
Quota Variation:	-7.82%
Status:	In Quota

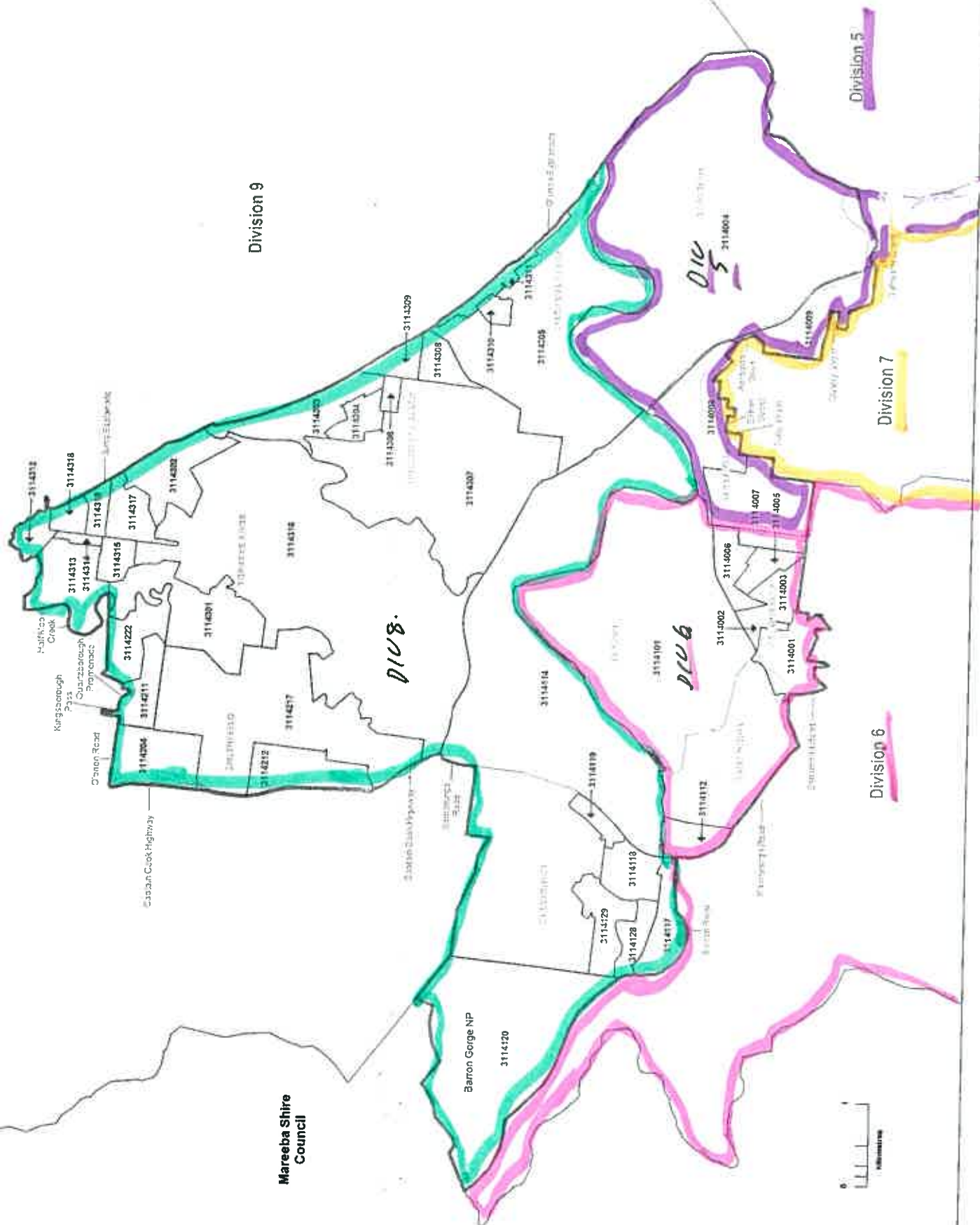
DIVISION 8 - Locality Map



DISCLAIMER

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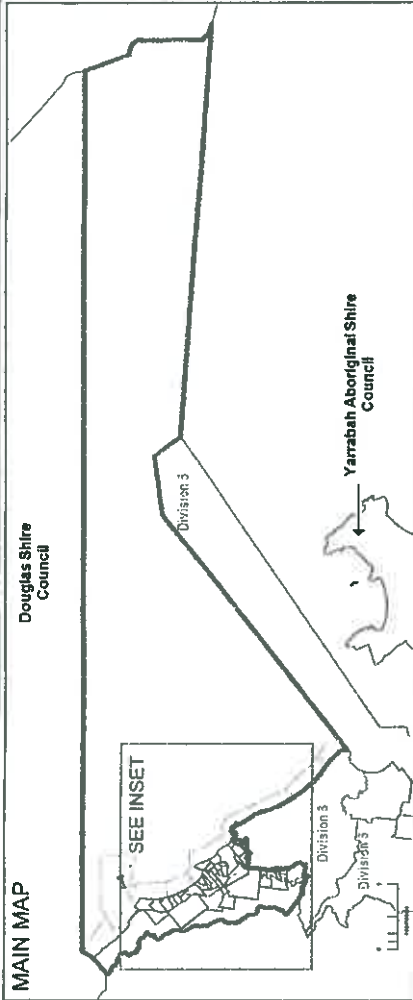
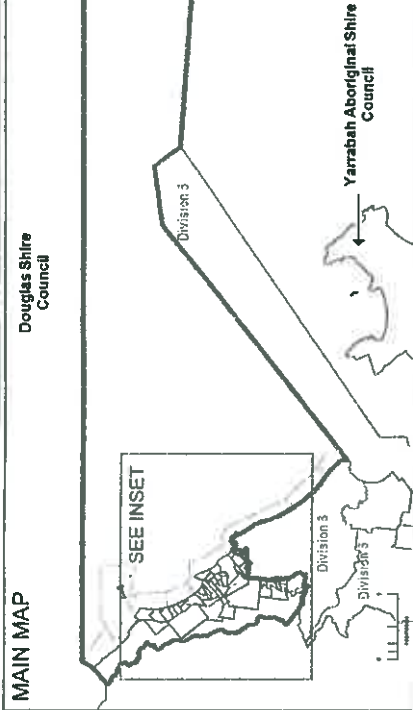
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Department of Natural Resources and Mines)
© Electoral Commission of Queensland 2014



INSET

MAIN MAP

Douglas Shire Council



23 February 2015
 Total Enrolment: 13,861
 Average Enrolment: 10,543
 Lower Limit: 9,489
 Upper Limit: 11,597
 Quota Variation: 31.47%
 Status: Out of Quota

DIVISION 9 - Locality Map



Mareeba Shire Council

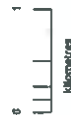


Division 8

DISCLAIMER

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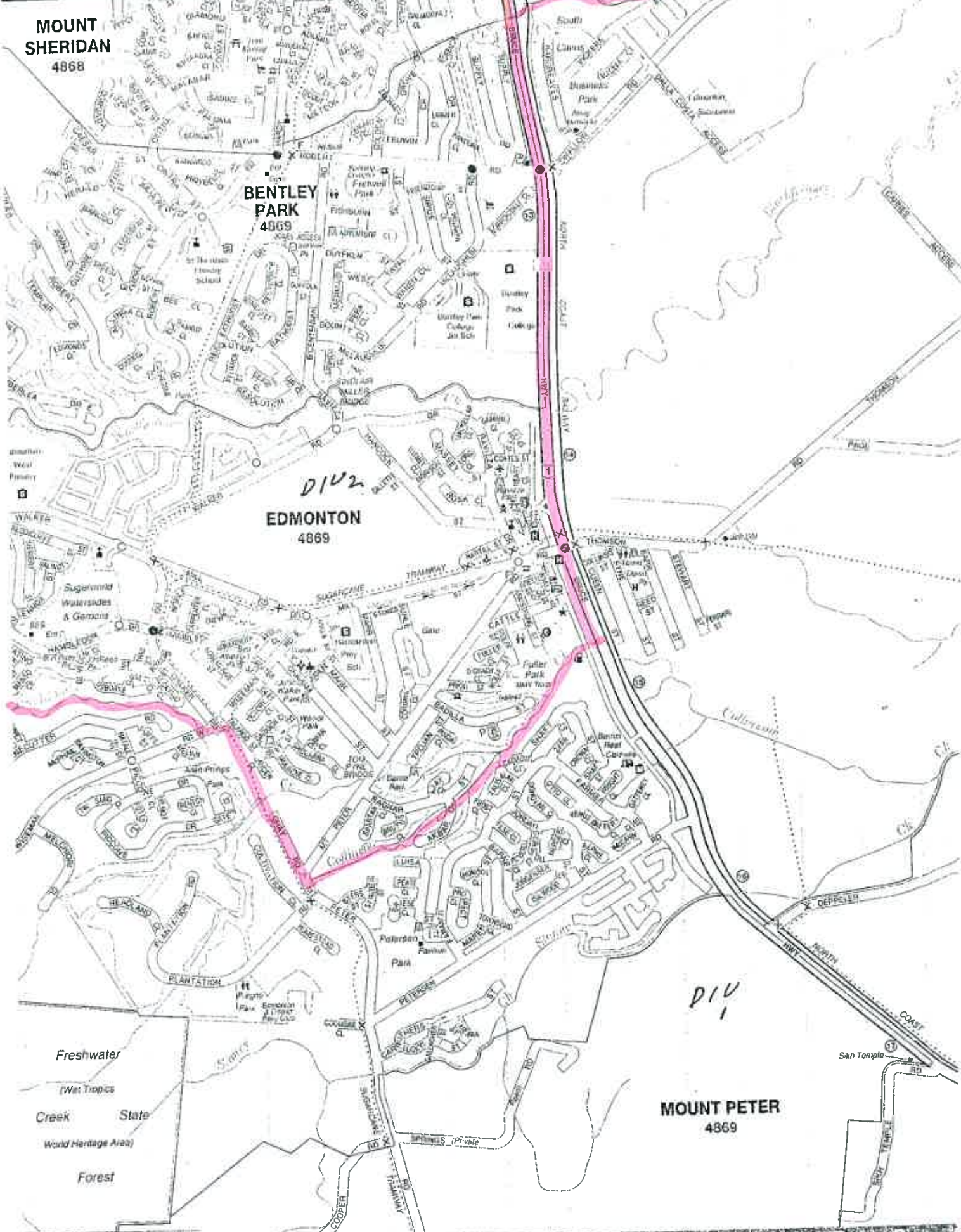


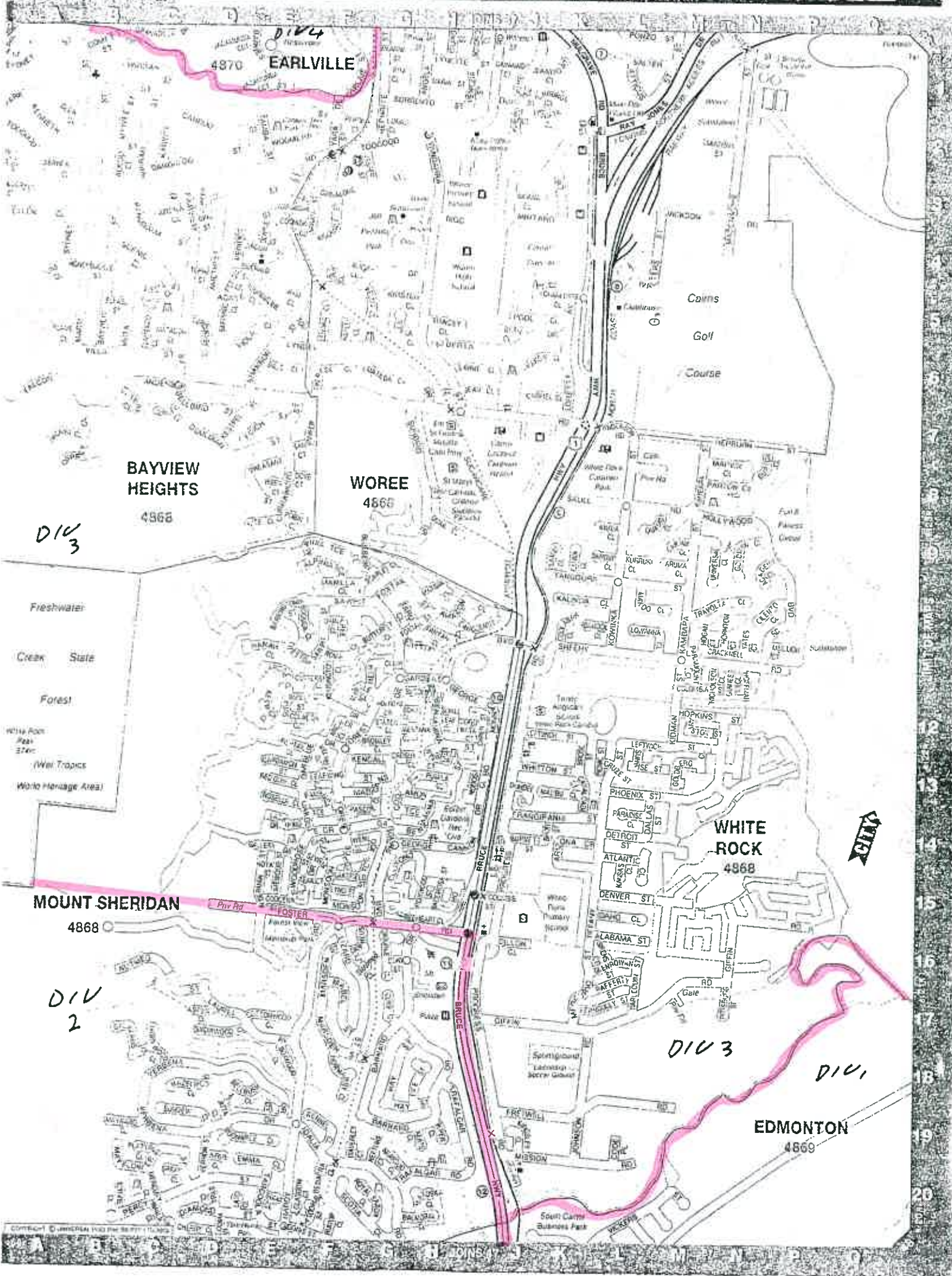
MOUNT SHERIDAN
 4868

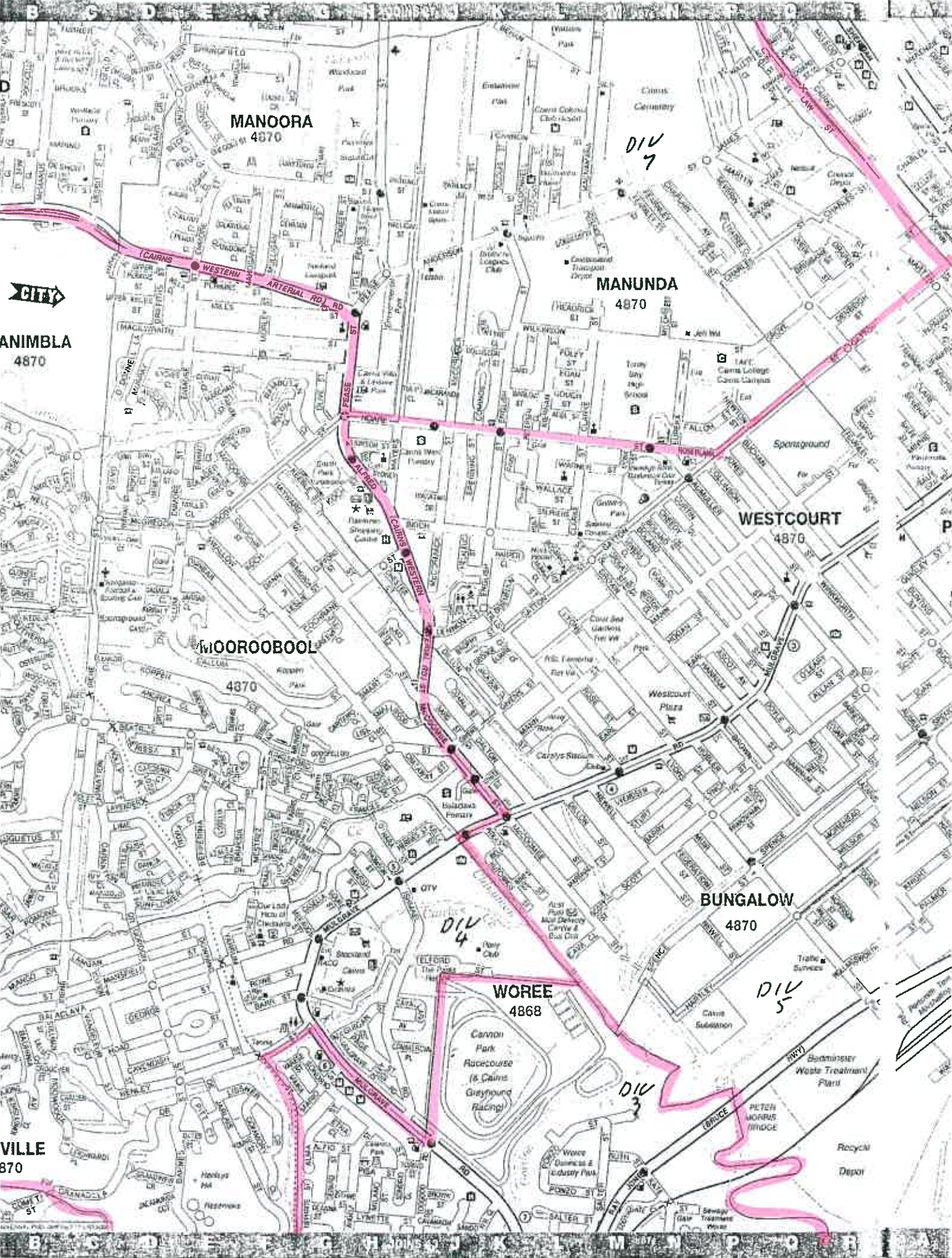
BENTLEY PARK
 4869

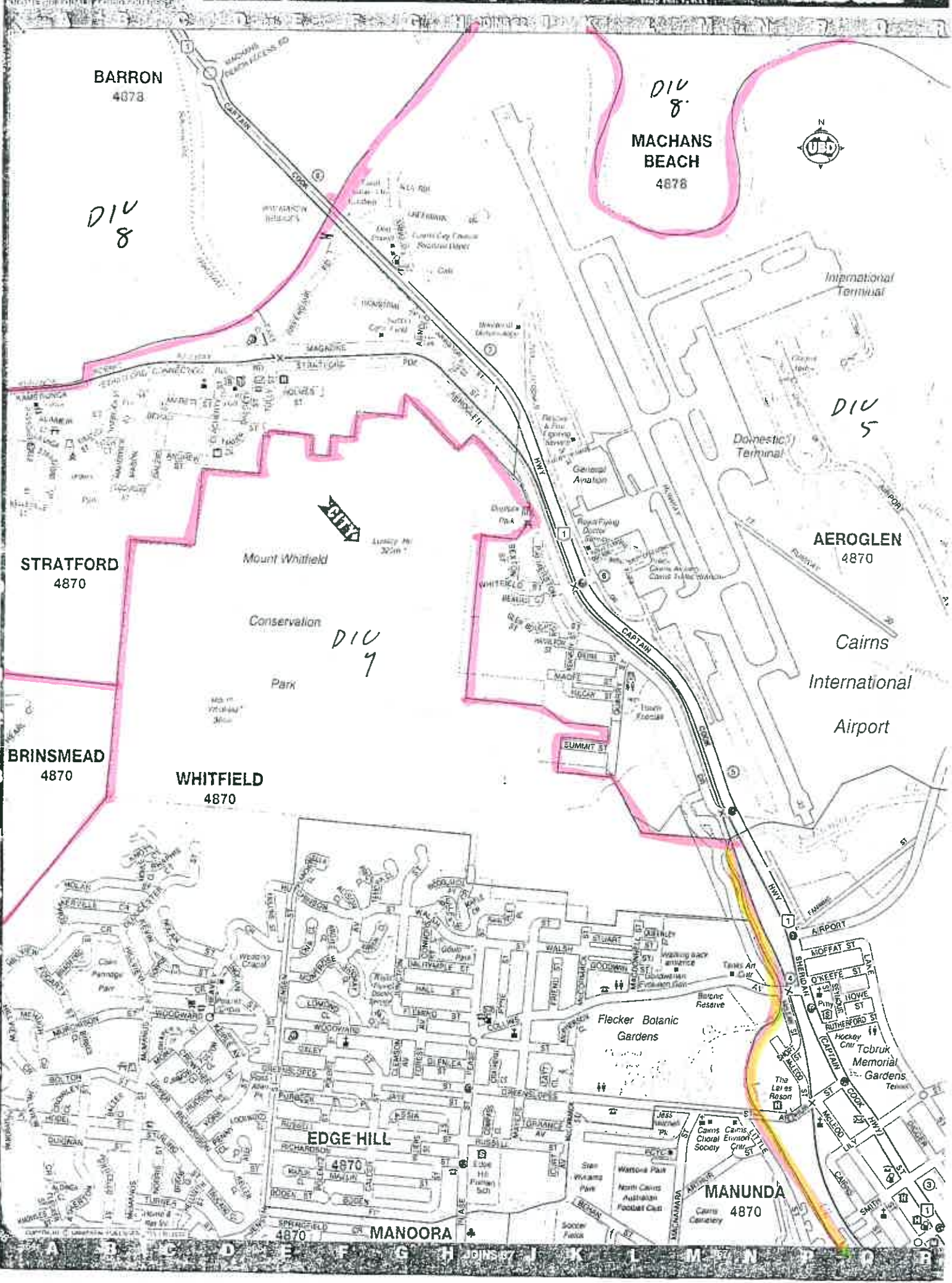
EDMONTON
 4869

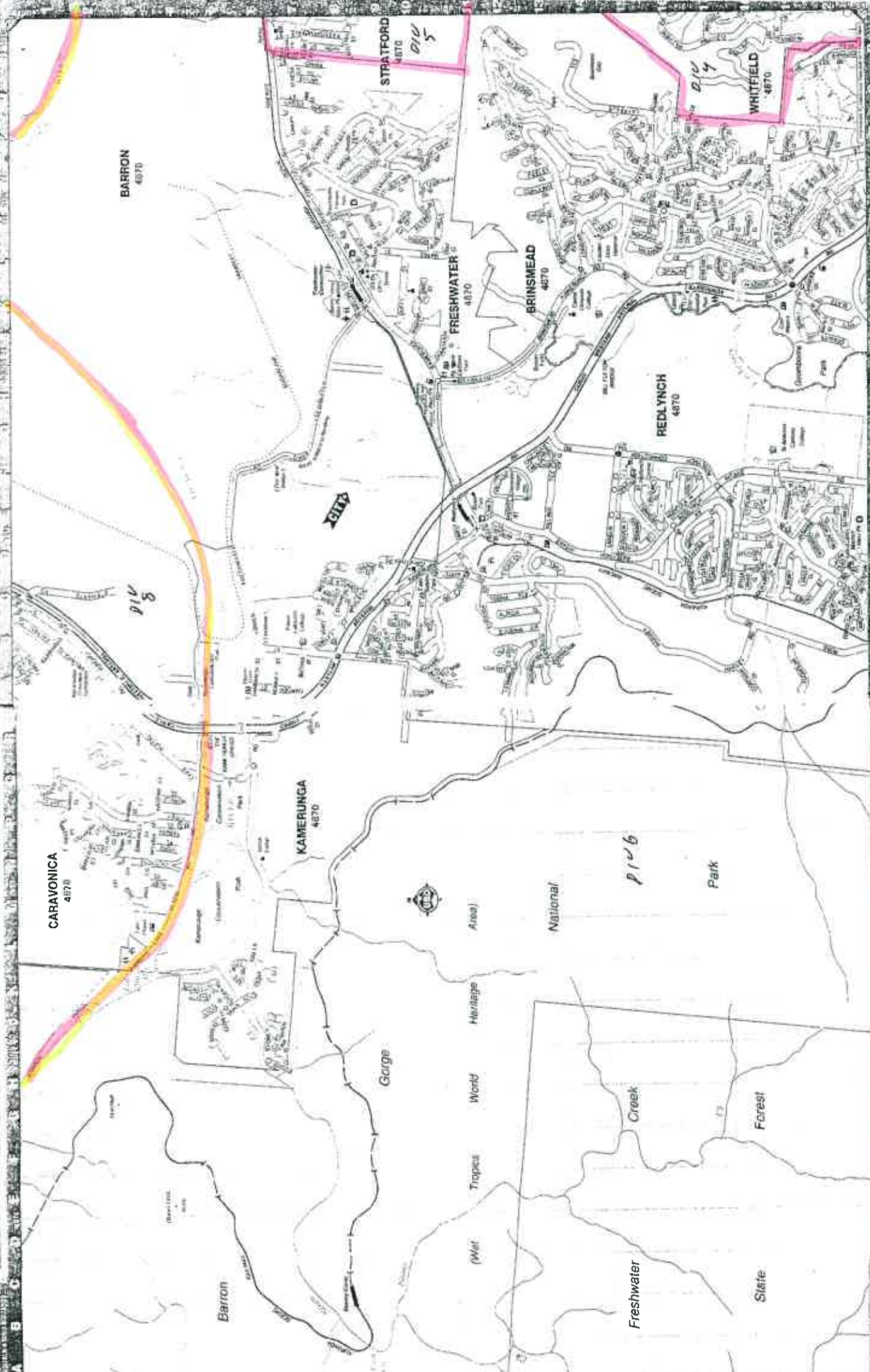
MOUNT PETER
 4869











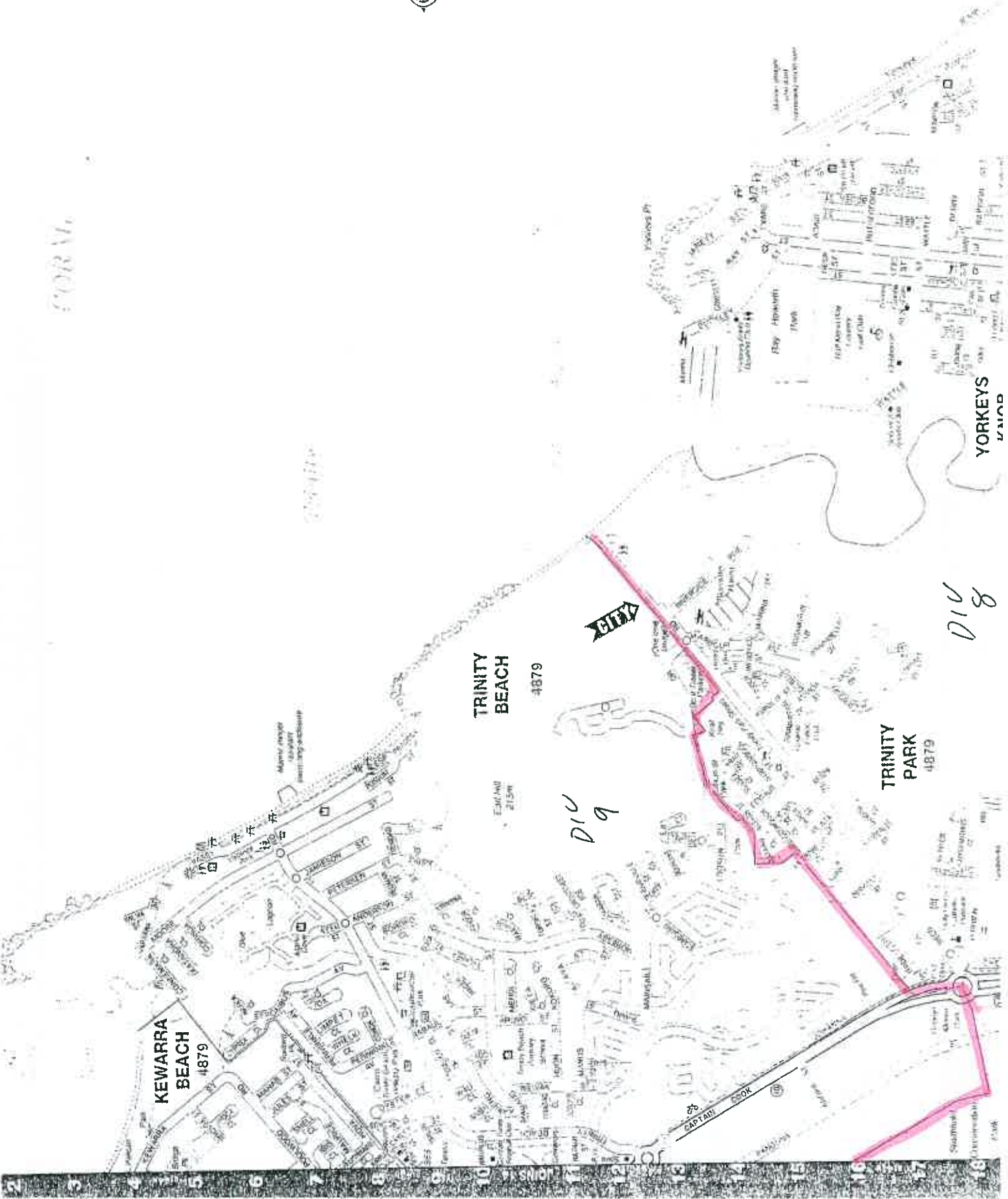


Em

YORK



CORVA



KEWARRA
BEACH
4879

TRINITY
BEACH
4879

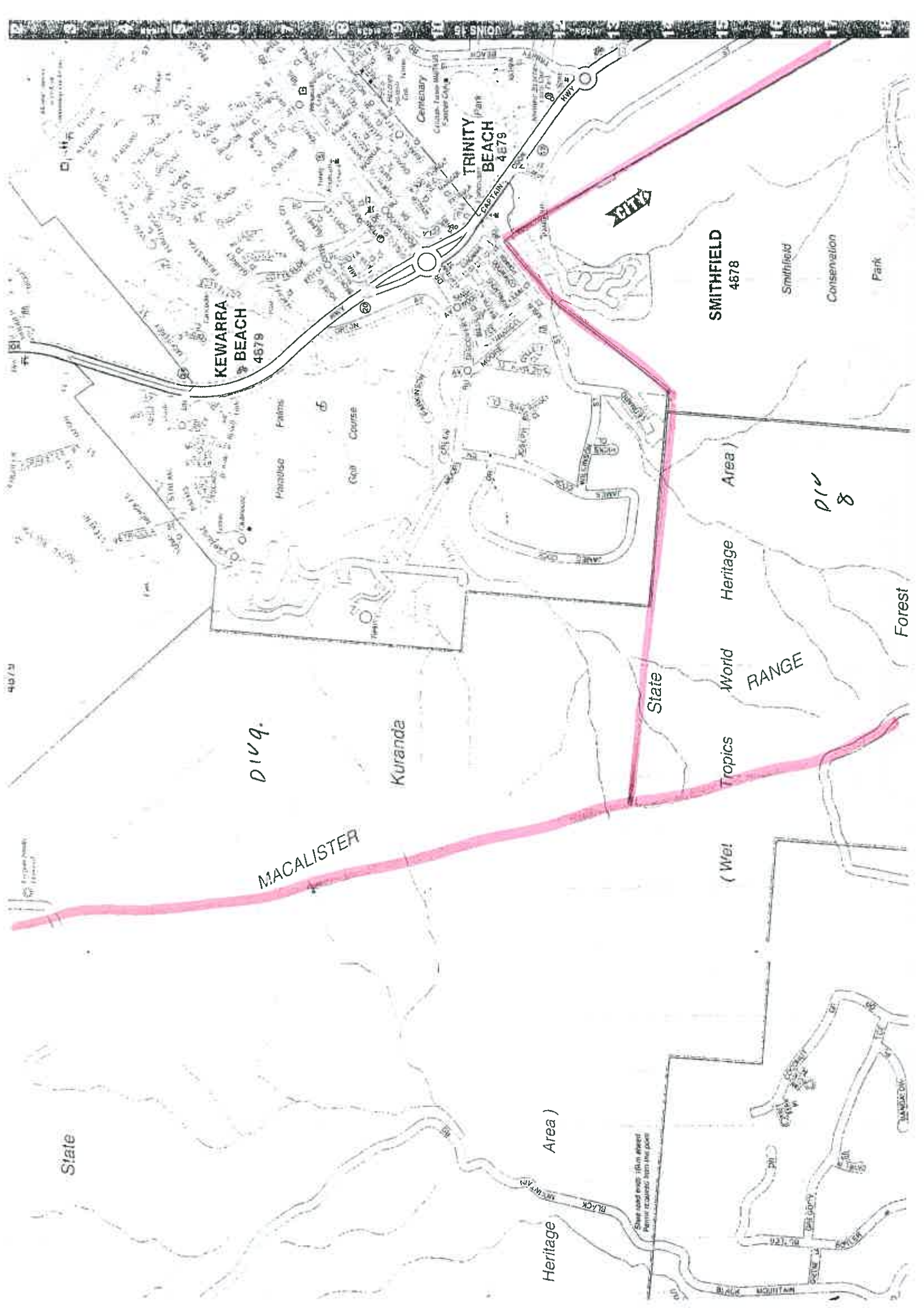
TRINITY
PARK
4879

YORKEYS
ROAD

D19

D18





Kewarra Beach
4879

Trinity Beach
4879

Smithfield
4878

DIV 8

Kuranda

MACALISTER

State

Heritage

World

RANGE

Tropics

Forest

Heritage Area

(We)

State

Heritage

Black Mountain

Black Mountain

Black Mountain

APPENDIX D

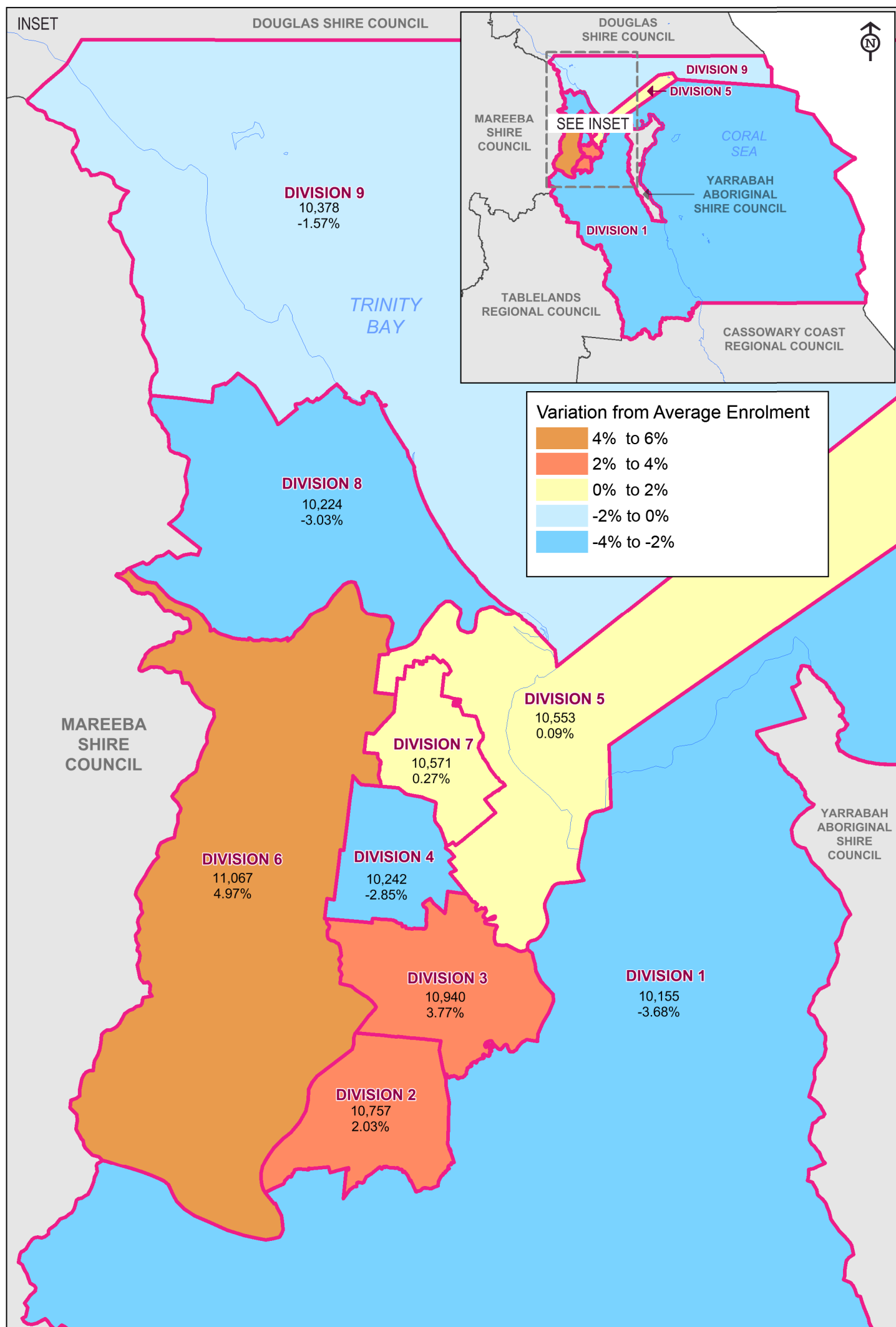
Change Commission's Proposed Determination

Summary Report of Proposed Division's Enrolment Figures

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL

Proposed Division	Actual			Projected - 2016			Projected - 2019		
	Enrolment (23 February 2015)	Quota Variation (%)	Quota Status	Enrolment (31 March 2016)	Quota Variation (%)	Quota Status	Enrolment (28 February 2019)	Quota Variation (%)	Quota Status
DIVISION 1	10,155	-3.68	In	10,376	-3.46	In	11,501	1.65	In
DIVISION 2	10,757	2.03	In	10,877	1.2	In	11,354	0.35	In
DIVISION 3	10,940	3.77	In	11,124	3.5	In	11,578	2.33	In
DIVISION 4	10,242	-2.85	In	10,403	-3.21	In	10,868	-3.94	In
DIVISION 5	10,553	0.09	In	10,681	-0.62	In	11,049	-2.34	In
DIVISION 6	11,067	4.97	In	11,270	4.86	In	11,732	3.69	In
DIVISION 7	10,571	0.27	In	10,654	-0.87	In	10,854	-4.07	In
DIVISION 8	10,224	-3.03	In	10,616	-1.23	In	11,529	1.9	In
DIVISION 9	10,378	-1.57	In	10,730	-0.17	In	11,362	0.42	In
Actual Total	94,887		Projected Total	96,731		Projected Total	101,827		
Actual Average	10,543		Projected Average	10,748		Projected Average	11,314		
Actual Lower Limit	9,489		Projected Lower Limit	9,673		Projected Lower Limit	10,183		
Actual Upper Limit	11,597		Projected Upper Limit	11,823		Projected Upper Limit	12,446		

CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED DIVISION BOUNDARIES



2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

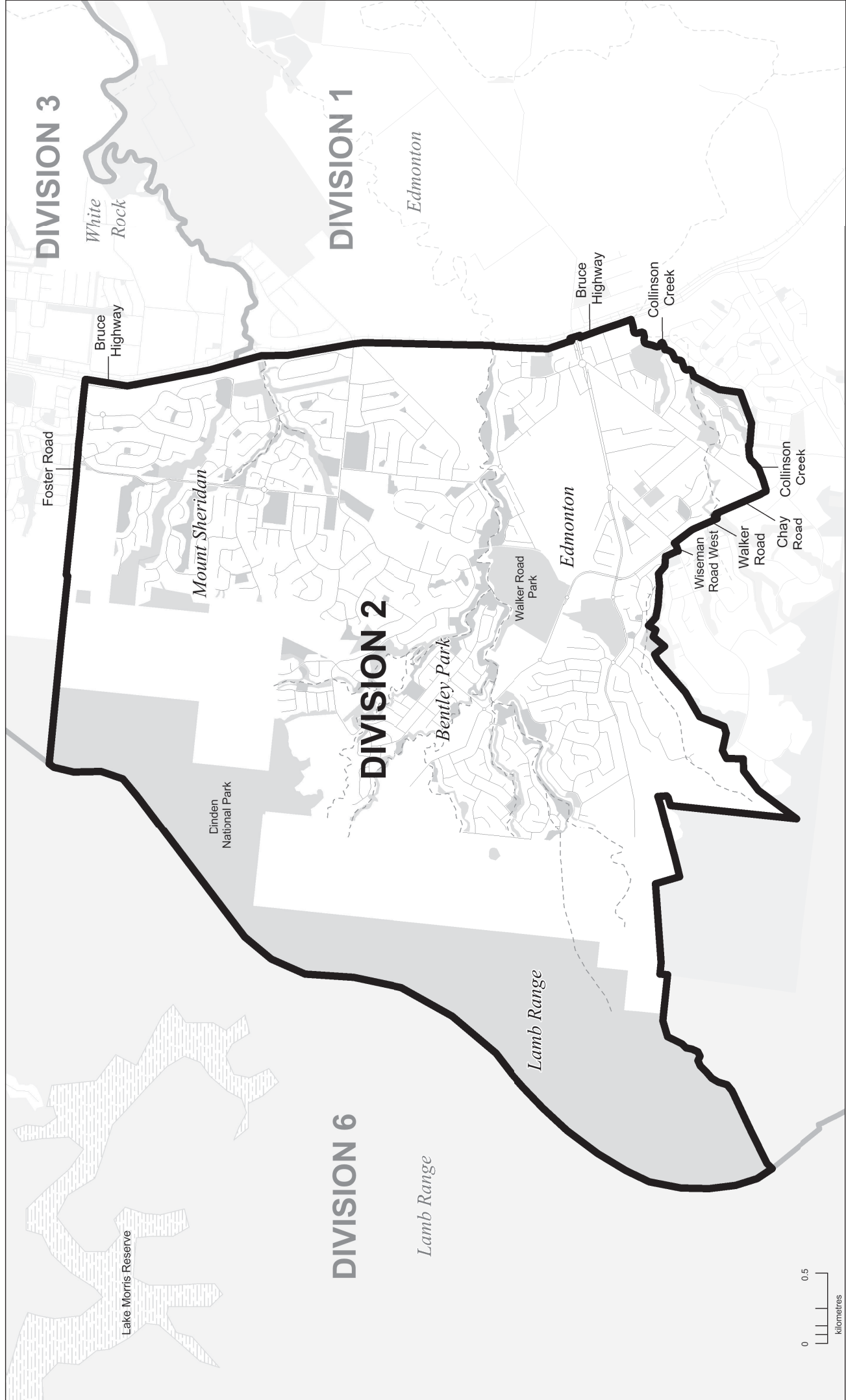
DIVISION 1



Proposed Division Boundary
 Proposed Adjacent Division Boundary
 Road
 Railway
 Watercourse
 Waterbody
 Park / Reserve

2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 2



- Proposed Division Boundary
- Proposed Adjacent Division Boundary
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Park / Reserve

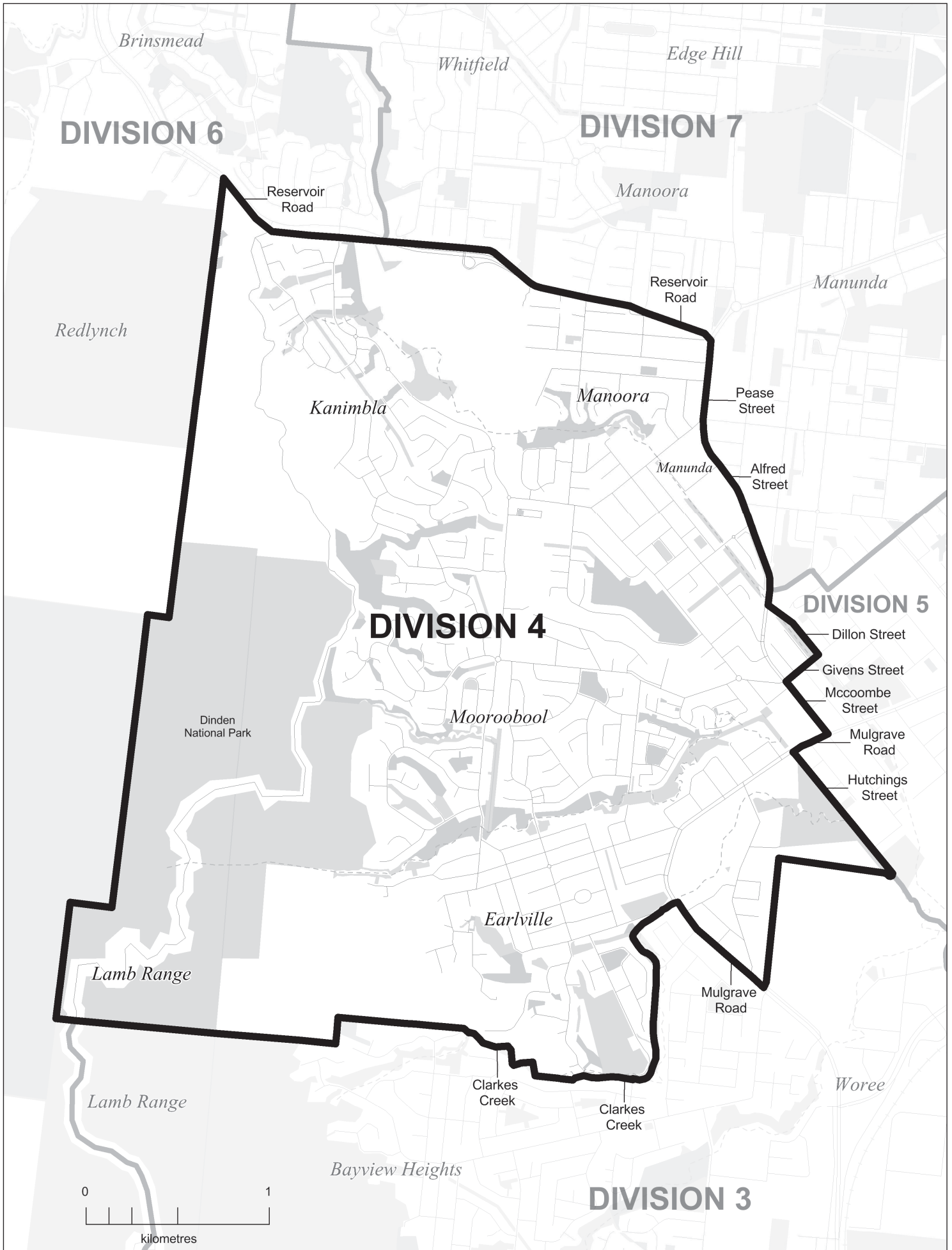
2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 3



2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

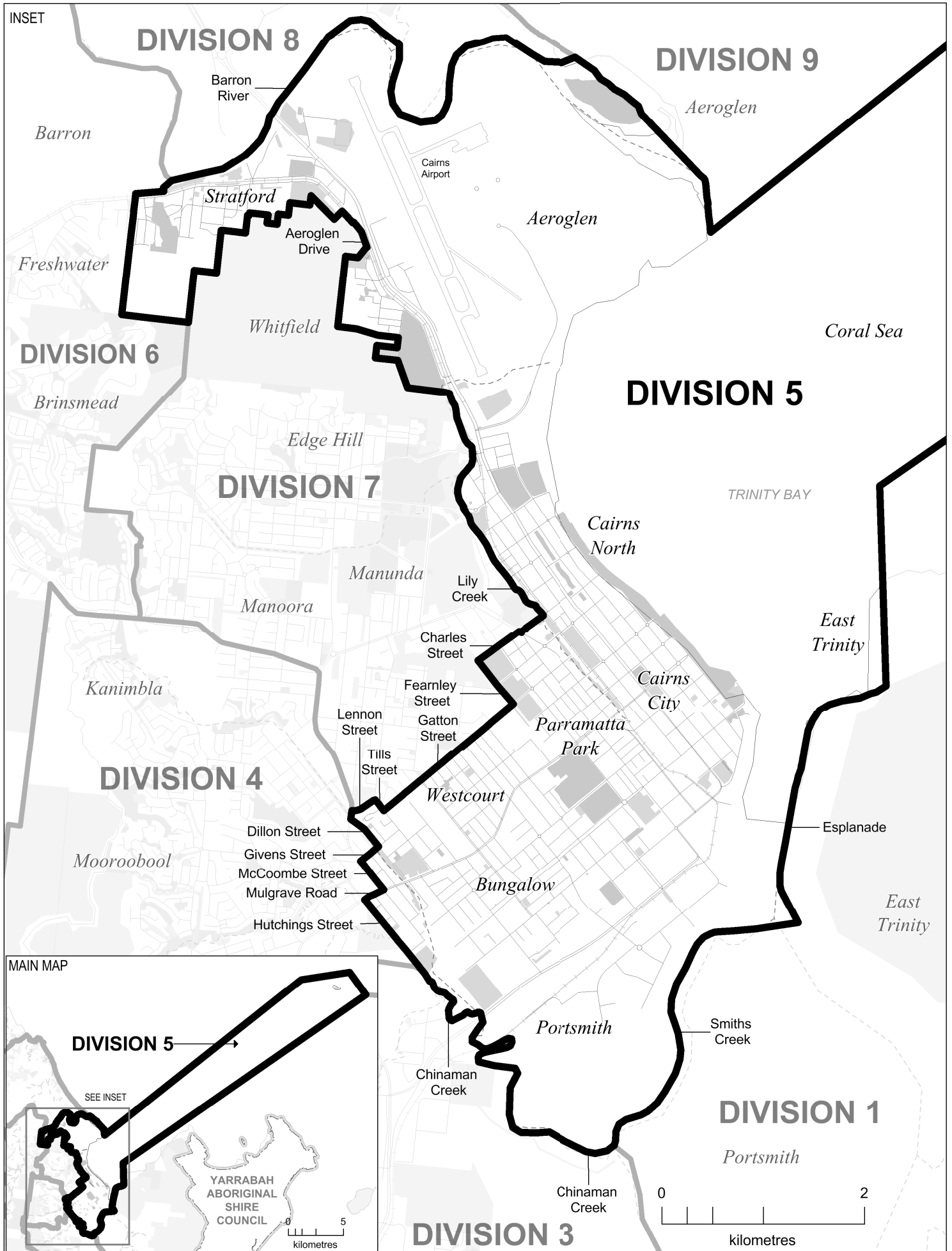
DIVISION 4



 Proposed Division Boundary	 Proposed Adjacent Division Boundary	 Road Railway	 Watercourse Waterbody	 Park / Reserve
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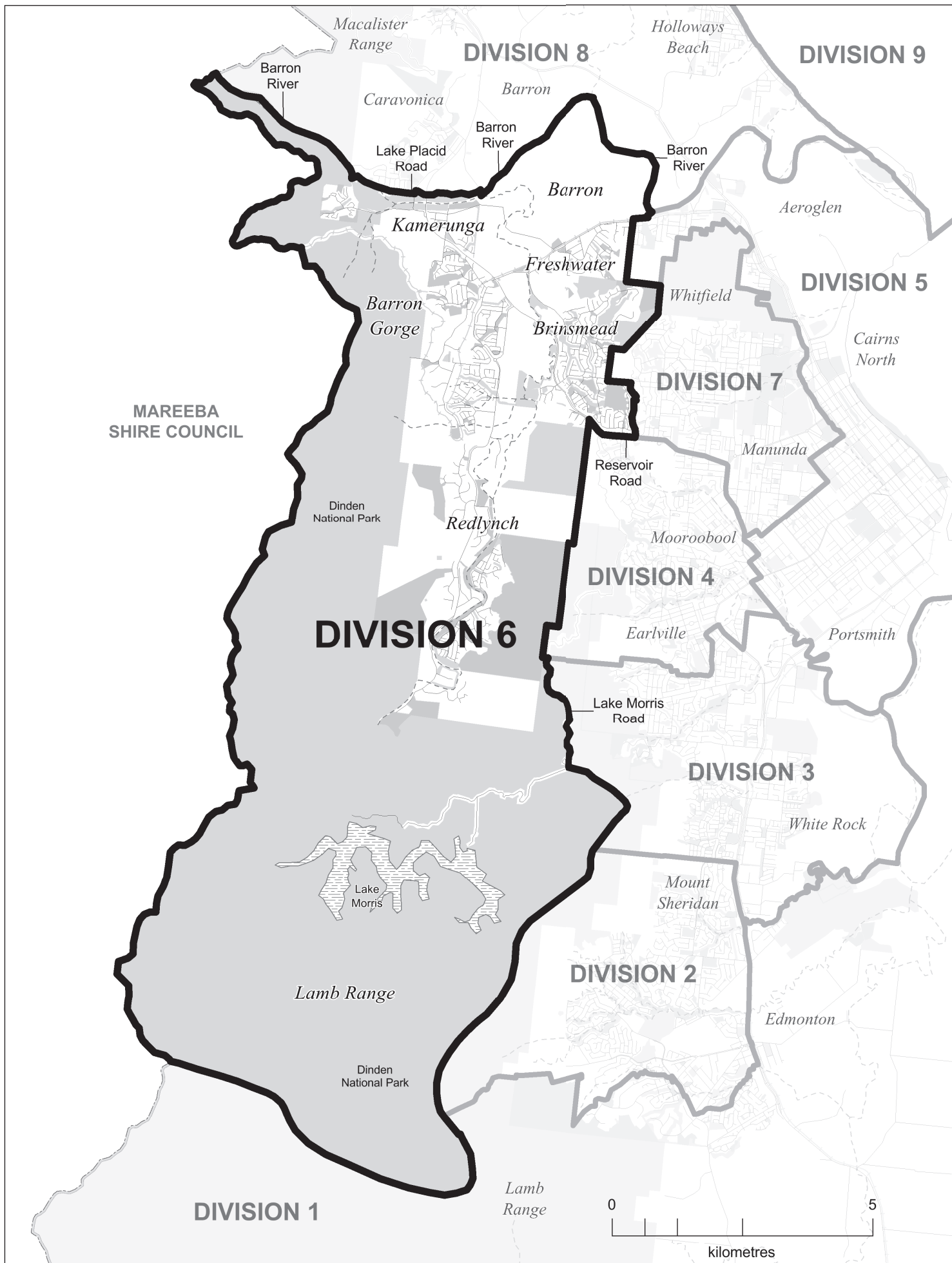
2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 5



2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

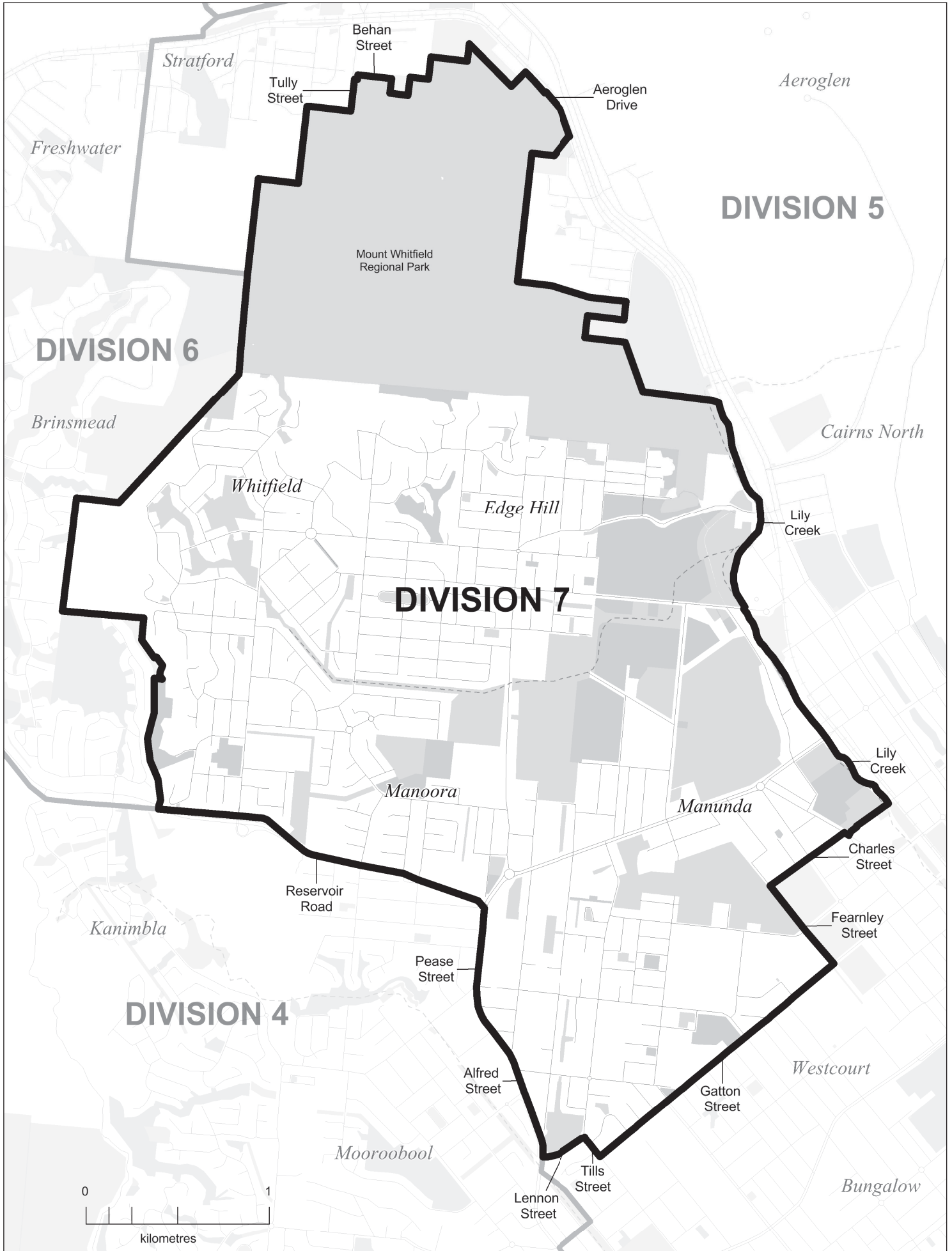
DIVISION 6



Proposed Division Boundary
 Proposed Adjacent Division Boundary
 Road
 Railway
 Watercourse
 Waterbody
 Park / Reserve

2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

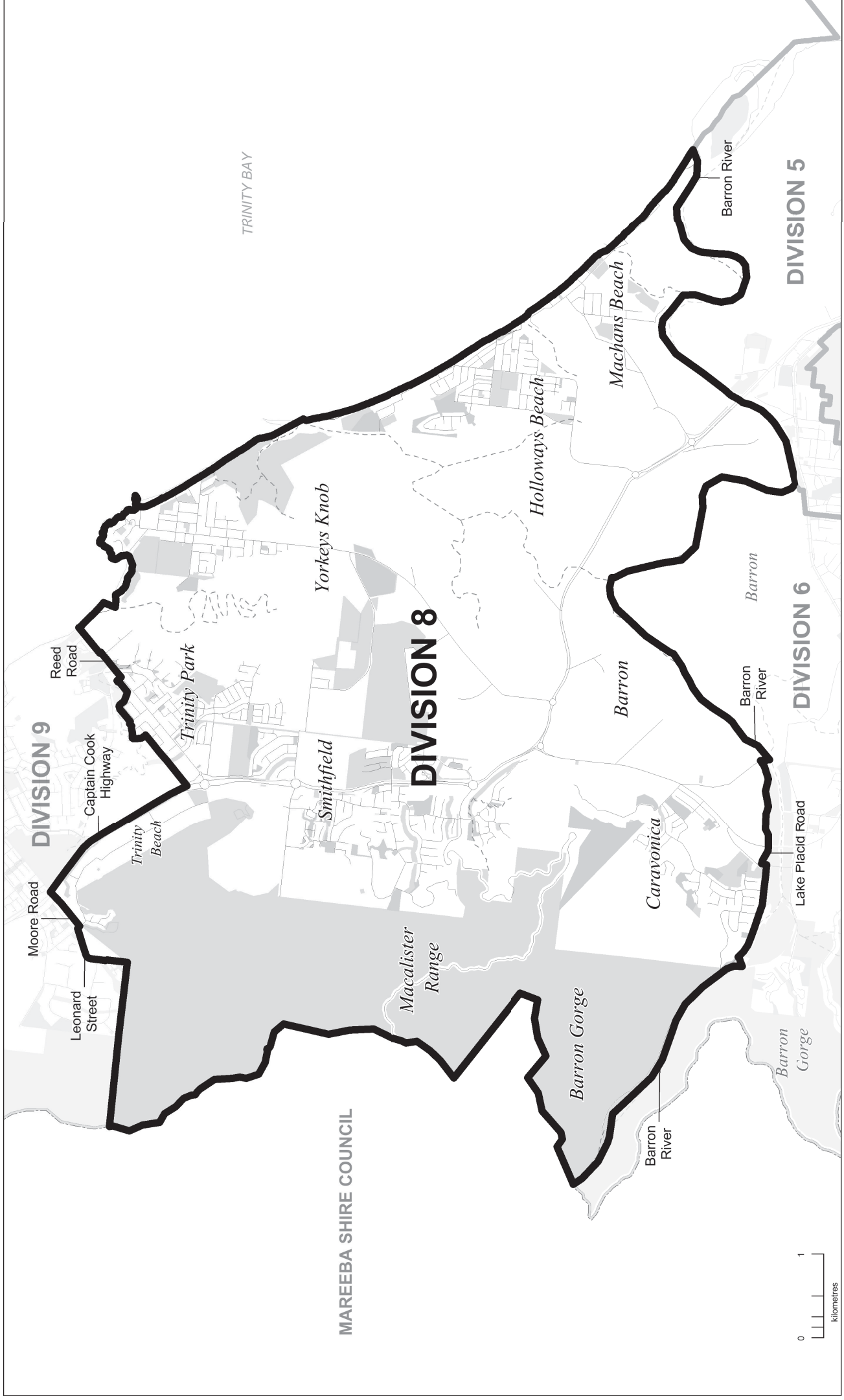
DIVISION 7



Proposed Division Boundary
 Proposed Adjacent Division Boundary
 Road
 Railway
 Watercourse
 Waterbody
 Park / Reserve

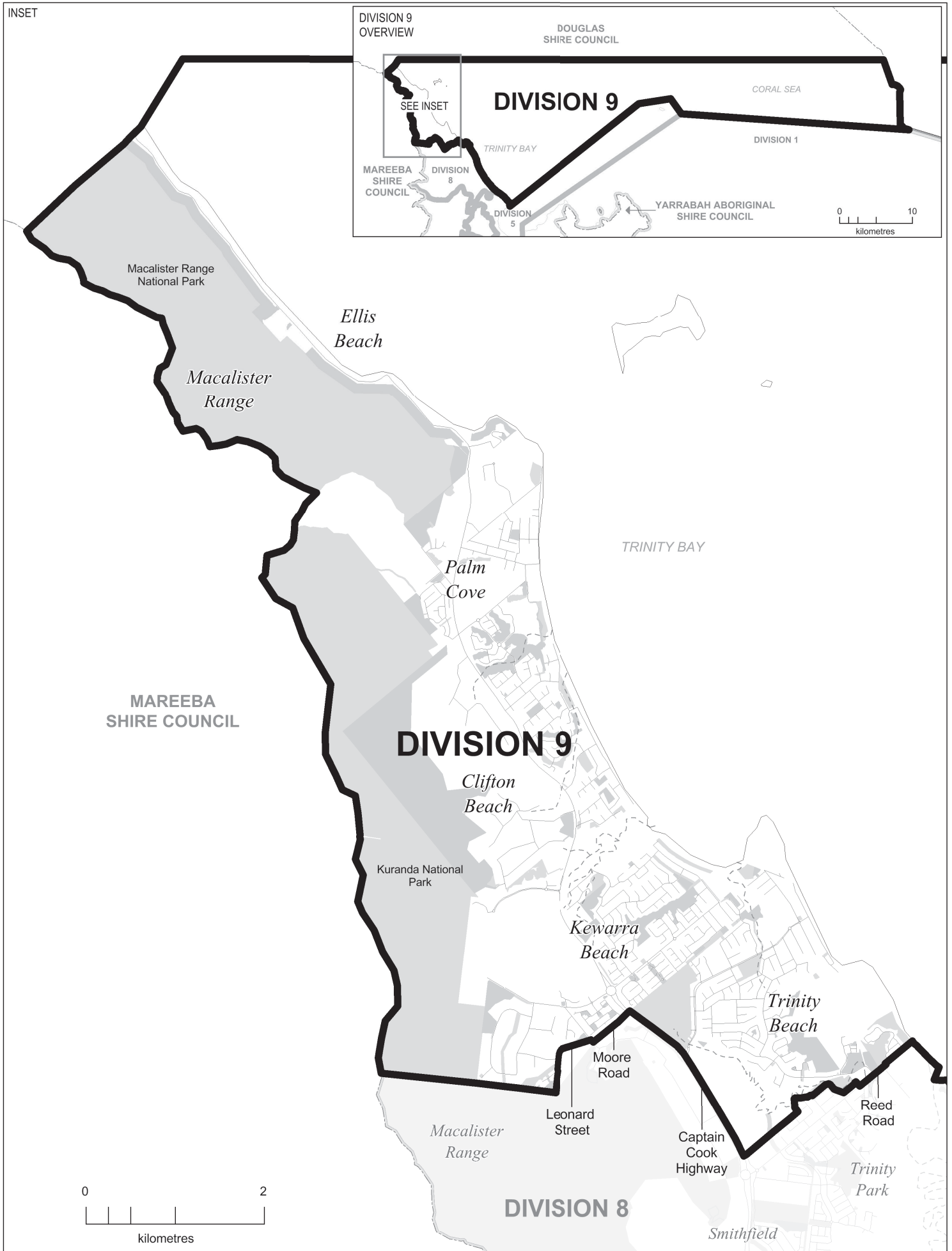
2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 8



2015 PROPOSED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 9



- Proposed Division Boundary
- Proposed Adjacent Division Boundary
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Park / Reserve

APPENDIX E

**Invitation for Objections to the Proposal
Comments to the Proposed Determination**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGE COMMISSION CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL

INVITATIONS FOR OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL

The Change Commission has forwarded to the Minister for Local Government its final recommendation in relation to the Cairns Regional Council. The Cairns Regional Council has advised that its electoral divisions no longer meet the quota requirements set down in the *Local Government Act 2009 (Act)*. The Minister responsible for Local Government has in turn referred the matter to the Local Government Change Commission for an independent assessment.

The Commission now invites written objections from interested persons and bodies' relating to the council's proposed nine electoral divisions, to be lodged on or **before 5.00pm Friday 18 September 2015**.

For this phase of the review, the enrolment for Cairns Regional Council as at 23 February 2015 is being used. The total enrolment was 94,887. The Commission has determined that 10,543 is the reasonable proportion of electors for an electoral division. Section 17 of the Act requires the Commission to ensure that the number of enrolled electors in all divisions does not differ from this reasonable proportion by $\pm 10\%$. In order to meet the enrolment criteria set out in the Act, the number of electors in each division must be within the minimum of 9,489 and the maximum of 11,597. Furthermore, the Act requires that the reasonable proportion of electors must be worked out as near as practicable to the time when the change is to happen to ensure demographic representation for each division of Cairns Regional Council. Projected enrolment for March 2016 and February 2019 has been used to assist with this requirement.

Further information about the review process, reference material, maps, guidelines and advice on preparing objections to the proposal may be found on the Electoral Commission Queensland (ECQ) website (www.ecq.qld.gov.au); under ELECTORAL DISTRICTS then LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS then LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEWS then click Cairns Regional.

Anyone interested in lodging an objection should note that all objections will be published on the Commission's website in their entirety and in a publication.

Objections should be marked CAIRNS REGIONAL and may be:

- posted to:
Local Government Change Commission, GPO Box 1393, BRISBANE QLD 4001 or
- personally delivered to:
Electoral Commission Queensland, Level 6, Forestry House,
160 Mary Street, Brisbane, between the hours of 9.00 am and 5.00 pm or
- lodged by email to: cairnsregionalcouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au or
- lodged via online form:
Which can be found on the ECQ website (www.ecq.qld.gov.au) under ELECTORAL DISTRICTS then LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS then LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEWS then click on Cairns Regional and scroll to the bottom of the Proposed Determination section.

It would assist the Commission if anyone intending to submit objections accompanies them with the electronic mapping data if this has been prepared, preferably in MapInfo and/or KML format in projection GDA94 – Longitude/Latitude (Australia GDA94).

For any assistance related to the review matter please refer to the Commission's website, or contact the Commission on 1300 881 665 for assistance.

Walter van der Merwe
Change Commissioner
Electoral Commission of Queensland

Blaze075475

Bob Richardson
GORDONVALE 4865

Tuesday, 15th September, 2015

Mr. Walter van der Merwe
Change Commissioner
Electoral Commission of Queensland
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001.

Cairns Regional Council

Objection to proposed internal divisional boundaries

Advertisement: - Cairns Post

Saturday, 5th September, 2015

Dear Sir

I commend the Change Commission for the proposed internal boundaries of the Cairns Regional Council as advertised in 'The Cairns Post' on Saturday, 5th September, 2015, and in detail on the Commission's website.

This letter is:-

- To support the Commission's proposals rather than object to them.
- To make comments on the submissions to the Commission re these boundaries as there is no provision in the current process for 'Comments' as there is in State and Federal Redistributions.



Comments:-

Submission by Mr. Canendo:-

I understand Mr. Canendo's view about the 'Cairns City' versus 'Cairns Regional'.

I accept that this matter is 'outside the scope of the review process'.

If it had not been, I would have opposed any change on the grounds of cost of changing stationery, signage, etc.

I believe that the money that this change would incur would be better spent elsewhere.

Submission by Cairns Regional Council:-

For an organisation such as the Cairns Regional Council to make a submission that is invalid, in that it does not comply with the requirements of the 'Act', and then to decline to alter it when given the opportunity, borders on contempt of the Change Commission.

This is an indictment on the ability of the Council's Chief Executive Officer to give 'frank and fearless advice' to the elected representatives and guide them to act within the legislative requirements, not only on this submission, but on matters generally.

My submission:-

Proposed changes to my submission:-

Divisions 5 & 7:-

I support both these changes as they follow suburban boundaries and as stated by the Change Commission, bring Division 7 'within quota for two quadrennial events'.

Divisions 8 &9:-

I thought long and hard about whether the suburban boundary or the Captain Cook Highway should be the boundary in that particular area.

Not being aware that the suburban boundary would isolate a small number of residents I chose the suburban boundary.

Now I am aware of this I support Change Commission decision.

Conclusion:-

As the 'hard work' has been done by the Change Commission and there was very little interest shown by the community and for that matter the Cairns Regional Council and its Councillors, I believe now is not the time in the redistribution process to make 'wholesale changes'.

Unless some anomalies, such as the one the Change Commission pointed out in my proposed boundary between Divisions 8 & 9 are uncovered, I believe that the boundaries, as proposed by the Change Commission and shown on their website, should be the final boundaries.

I thank the Electoral Commission staff for their assistance throughout this process.

Yours sincerely



R. J. Richardson

From: [Gwenda Gray](#)
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: Electoral Re-Distribution - Cairns Regional Council
Date: Thursday, 17 September 2015 11:42:48 AM
Attachments: [Letter to LG Change Commission re boundary changes Sept 2015.docx](#)
[Objects of Stratford & Freshwater Community Association Inc.docx](#)

Please find attached objections, from the Stratford and Freshwater Community Association Inc. (SAFCA), to the proposed re-distribution of the Cairns suburbs, Stratford and Freshwater to different divisions, within the Cairns Regional Council. In support of these objections I also include a copy of the "objects" of the Association, which has been in existence for 30 years.

Yours sincerely,

Gwenda Gray,

Secretary,

Stratford and Freshwater Community Association.

Gwenda Gray



Incorporation No: IA 34026

**Stratford & Freshwater
Community Association**

**PO Box 120
Stratford Qld 4870**

17th September 2015

Change Commission – Cairns Regional Council Re-division
GPO Box 1393
Brisbane Qld 4001
cairnsregionalcouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Sirs

The Stratford and Freshwater Community Association Inc. (SAFCa) strongly objects to the proposed boundary changes for Divisions 5, 6 and 8, in the Cairns Regional Council electoral re-distribution. The proposal to excise Freshwater and Stratford from Division 8 and allocate each to separate divisions, Freshwater to Division 6 and Stratford to Division 5, is totally unacceptable to residents of both suburbs, who share many commonalities:

- Both suburbs share a common history, being older suburbs of Cairns, containing homes, some of which are over one hundred years old.
- Freshwater State School is shared by both suburbs and is at the heart of the community. Also shared are the Stratford Bowls Club, Barron Valley Gymnasium, Freshwater Pony Club, Stratford Soccer Club, Freshwater Tennis Club, Freshwater Country Women's Association, Stratford Community Hall and the Stratford Library.
- SAFCa is an incorporated community association which has represented the two neighbouring communities for 30 years. It has been a strong voice in maintaining the values and aesthetics of the area concerned.
- Residents, with the assistance of SAFCa, have collectively had Character Precincts and Heritage Trails established in these neighbouring suburbs, demonstrating their parallel histories.
- Enclosed by the lower slopes of the Mt Whitfield Conservation Park to the south and with the historic Kuranda Railway as a northern boundary, these two suburbs exist seamlessly and contain many examples of old 'Queensland' style homes and are isolated geographically, from other suburbs, which they do not resemble. They are part of the 'historic scenery' used by the Kuranda Tourist Railway in their travelling commentary and admired by tourists on the Kuranda Tourist Train, as they pass through the suburbs each day.

- The confines of the location mean that there can be little further expansion of either suburb, due to topography of the area restricting development. The proposed changes would move each suburb to areas with differing community needs and views, as to proposed and future developments and may lead to divisions within the local community.
- By placing Freshwater in Division 6, it becomes part of a division mainly concerned with new housing developments and modern suburban areas. The concerns of Freshwater residents, with regard to heritage values and sympathetic re-design of existing infrastructure, will be incompatible with the needs of those in newer suburbs and will, in all likelihood be overlooked, due to the small number of residents involved.
- Stratford's removal to Division 5 places it in the same divisional area as the Cairns CBD, the Cairns International Airport, and sea port, industrial and commercial precincts. While this area contains a few remnant heritage buildings, especially in North Cairns, it has recently been re-zoned and height restrictions have been lifted to allow for multi-storey developments. This type of development is incompatible with the Stratford area and its heritage. Residents fear, if multi-storey development is allowed in areas of Division 5, it will spread to Stratford. This may lead to the loss of Stratford's unique heritage, which SAFCa has fought to maintain and its residents enjoy.
- Changes to the divisional boundaries, separating the two suburbs have been tried previously and were reversed as they clearly did not work, demographically or logistically. Two councillors representing the one locale meant sometimes conflicting ideas with regard to the area. Priorities on providing council funding, works and maintenance were not equally distributed, as each division had different requirements, addressed by each Councillor, according to perceived need. As two, small, isolated communities, separated into different divisions with greater priorities, the needs of local residents will carry less weight with Council and their representatives, than as a joint community in one division, with identical requirements and therefore a greater voice.
- Clearly, using the population as a basis for electoral re-distribution does not work in this instance. There are social and cultural reasons why these two suburbs should remain in the same electoral division.

I attach the Objects of our incorporated association, which support our argument above.

The Local Government Change Commission, acting under the *Local Government Regulation 2012 Qld.* states that "...boundaries should have regard to communities of interest' and further "...should generally reflect local communities, the geographical pattern of human activities and the linkages between local communities".

The separating of these two suburbs with such a clear unity of purpose would appear to go against the above regulation's stated aims. SAFCa therefore requests further investigation into this matter, which has been previously demonstrated to be not in the best interest of either suburb, before changes are made and the area suffers as a result.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G Gray". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Gwenda Gray
Secretary
Stratford & Freshwater Community Association Inc

OBJECTS OF STRATFORD & FRESHWATER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC
(as set out in the Rules)

- (1) To promote and advance the amenity of Stratford and Freshwater and the interests thereof and of the residents of these suburbs.
- (2) To preserve the forested hillslopes and waterways of Mt Whitfield which form the backdrop to Stratford and Freshwater, and to preserve the rural outlook across the Barron River delta.
- (3) To preserve the established character of Stratford, being older Queenslander-style detached housing, relatively narrow streets and pockets of vegetation along numerous gullies.
- (4) Similarly, to preserve the existing character of Freshwater with its remaining areas of older Queenslander-style housing, relatively narrow streets and primarily detached dwellings, and to support the reduction of existing higher density areas.
- (5) To encourage the preservation of the flood plain and rural or community use of land bordering Freshwater Creek and the Barron River.
- (6) To promote community cohesiveness and cooperation and the discrete village atmosphere of both suburbs.
- (7) To ensure the preservation and presentation of sites with historical and heritage values.
- (8) To promote existing and future recreational and cultural facilities and opportunities for the residents of Stratford and Freshwater.
- (9) To promote the involvement of all levels of government to achieve the objectives of the Association.
- (10) To hold and conduct activities for the purpose of advancing the objectives of the Association.
- (11) To raise funds to further the objectives of the Association.

18 September 2015

Change Commission – Cairns Regional Council Redivision
GPO Box 1393
Brisbane Qld 4001
cairnsregionalcouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr van der Merwe and Mr Rowe,

Objection

I live in Division 8, and have strong objection to the Commission's intention to separate Stratford and Freshwater by moving Stratford into Division 5 and Freshwater into Division 6. It appears that the Commission has largely adopted the recommendations contained in Mr Bob Richardson's submission and that these recommendations are based on elector quotas rather than criteria contained in the *Local Government Regulation 2012 Qld*. As stated on page 5 of the Proposed Determination, the boundaries should:

Have regard to communities of interest, eg –

- Reflect local communities, the geographical pattern of human activities and the linkages between local communities; and
- Ensure effective elected representation.

Reasons for my objection include:

- The residential areas of Stratford and Freshwater share a common boundary, but are physically removed from their neighbouring suburbs. They are located on the north and north-western foothills of Mt Whitfield, with the mountain providing a natural geographical barrier to other parts of Divisions 5 and 6.
- Both suburbs were established in the early 1880s, and have celebrated this joint history by establishing Heritage Trails. Both communities have worked with successive councils to establish Character Precincts for Stratford and Freshwater.
- There is a strong sense of community in our suburbs, which contain a state primary school, council library, community hall, gym, soccer club, bowls club, tennis club, CWA, post offices, locally-owned petrol station, hotel, as well as our respective village shopping centres.
- We have an active community association which was formed in 1985 to further the joint interests of our suburbs. Throughout its life, the association has had regular contact and good relations with our divisional representatives.
- Over the years the Stratford and Freshwater Community Association has formed close links with similar associations in Machans Beach, Holloways Beach and Yorkeys Knob and the groups share information and work together when Division 8 matters arise which affect all our communities.
- Pages 11 & 12 of the Proposed Determination state that the suggested significant boundary change for Division 5 "*was justified as it unites industrial and commercial business areas, including the air and sea ports under the representation of a single*

councillor". While this may be true for the rest of proposed Division 5, Stratford as a discrete residential area at the far western end of the proposed division and on the far side of Mt Whitfield, has no natural link with these activities or Cairns City's increasingly high density living.

- Likewise under the proposal, Freshwater find itself just inside the north east border of Division 6 which, with the exception of a small original section of Redlynch, mainly comprises new expanding suburbs. There is little common linkage between those suburbs and Freshwater. However, if Stratford and Freshwater are to be removed from Division 8 I consider they should both be added to Division 6 as this would be a better fit. I note also that SA 3114007 crosses the existing boundary between the two suburbs.
- My strong first preference would be for Stratford and Freshwater to remain in Division 8. Failing that, they should be kept together and both be moved into Division 6.

Suggestion for consideration

I would like the Commissioners to give consideration to re-establishing Division 10. I recall that when the Mulgrave Shire Council and Cairns City Council amalgamated, there were 12 divisional councillors for the combined populations. When Douglas Shire Council was amalgamated with Cairns City Council, the new Cairns Regional Council comprised 10 divisions. Division 10 was abolished upon de-amalgamation with the Douglas Shire. Rapid population/elector growth in the Cairns Regional Council area delivers the opportunity to create an additional division.

The current Division 9 will be out of quota for the 2016 local government election and the Commission's projected elector figures for 2019 show the percentage above quota to be even higher for that year.

Considerable expansion is occurring, and is expected to continue, in the Smithfield and northern beaches areas and I believe that this is where the significant boundary adjustments should be made. The boundary between Divisions 8 and 9 to the east of the Captain Cook Highway could follow a line starting near the mouth of Moon River and meet the highway between the roundabouts at Yorkeys Knob and Caravonica. This would allow the whole of Smithfield northwards to be in Divisions 9 and 10. Making the main adjustments in the area of need should allow most of the other divisional boundaries to remain relatively unchanged. If the formula of dividing the number of electors by the number of divisions is used, it may be that the creation of Division 10 at this time could require some adjustment to all the divisional boundaries.

If the divisional boundaries were left more or less as they currently are, I realise that Division 10 (or Divisions 9 & 10 if a more even split of Division 9 electors was made) would be considerably below quota for a few years, but the extra capacity would allow for the expected development in the area.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Hoyle



18 September 2015

Local Government Change Commission – Cairns Regional Council Redivision
GPO BOX 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Cairns Regional Council boundary review

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on ECQ's proposed redistribution of electoral divisions within Cairns Regional Council (CRC). The proposed divisional boundary changes were developed in preparation for the 2016 local government elections.

We note that you have already conducted an initial review¹ seeking suggestions and that three submissions were received in this process.

We also note that CRC's initial submission to you did not comply with quota specifications in s15 of the Act². You approached CRC to see if they were prepared to prepare a further submission (p9 of initial review). CRC declined your offer to submit a compliant submission on behalf of the people of Cairns.

Connect Cairns recommends the following matters and procedures be taken into consideration regarding final boundary re-alignments:

1. Section 9 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012 Qld* which stipulates that boundaries should have regard to communities of interest and local communities, the geographical pattern of human activities, and the linkages between local communities, ensure effective elected representation, and have a centre(s) of administration and service easily accessible to its population.
2. All of the issues raised by the residents of Stratford and Freshwater who are very concerned that the proposed boundary redistribution would result in Stratford included in Division 5 and Freshwater in Division 6. Residents in these suburbs have worked together for many decades to achieve many benefits for the area including Heritage Trails³ and Character Precincts in both suburbs. These communities share geographical patterns of human activity, face similar issues such as drainage from the same catchment, speak through a combined body (Stratford and Freshwater Community Association) and would be best served represented by the same Councillor.

¹ http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/31635/2015-PROPOSED-DETERMINATION-Cairns-Regional-Council.pdf

² *The Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)* (the Act) allows for changes to divisions in local government areas to ensure that each division has a reasonable proportion of electors. The Act defines "a reasonable proportion of electors" as the number of electors in Cairns Regional Council divided by the number of Councillors (excluding Mayor) plus or minus 10 per cent

³ <http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/region/heritage/drives,-trails-and-walks>

3. Recognition that future population growth in the Cairns region over the next four years has been planned for in the Mount Peter Area (Division 1), Trinity Park (Division 8/9) and Redlynch Valley (Division 6). Quota suggestions (based on enrolments) should be at the lower tolerance limits set out in the Act to ensure only very minor redistributions, if any, are required for the 2020 elections.

Please contact me at jim@connectcairns.com.au if you require additional information.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of overlapping, curved strokes that form a stylized representation of the name 'Jim Brooks'.

Jim Brooks

**Mayoral Candidate
on behalf of Connect Cairns Team**

cc. The Hon Jackie Trad MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning

Objection to Electoral changes – Angela Murphy, Freshwater, Cairns, 4870.

I wish to object to the proposal to divide the Cairns' suburbs of Freshwater and Stratford with an electoral boundary, and to put them in separate divisions.

The geographical and community connection between these neighbouring suburbs has been there since they were first established.

Historically, Stratford and Freshwater have been linked since the early 1880s when bullock trains and prospectors travelled along the route that is now Kamerunga Road, through these two suburbs and down Lower Freshwater Road to the gold fields and beyond.

When section one of the historic Kuranda train line was constructed in 1887 these suburbs were further connected via rail, and railway stations were constructed at Stratford, Freshwater and Redlynch.

The Freshwater School opened in 1923 and drew students from neighbouring Stratford as well as Freshwater. Today Stratford remains an integral part of the Freshwater State School catchment area.

Stratford and Freshwater Community Association (SAFCA) has been in existence for many years, and addresses the concerns and needs of this community. The association meets once a month and is an active supporter of locals and local issues that impact on these shared communities.

In May 2015 the Northern Cycleway Project began, and with 90 percent complete, it is now a new and visible link between the two suburbs. It provides a safe and very popular corridor for young families, school children, dog walkers, joggers and cyclists and has further cemented the community connection between these two suburbs.

The facilities these two suburbs have, complement, rather than duplicate each other, and ensure human activity is constant between the suburbs.

Stratford has a Cairns Regional Council Library with meeting rooms, a petrol station, gymnastics club, soccer club, bowls club, hotel, restaurants and shops.

Freshwater, as the adjoining suburb, has a State Primary School, tennis courts, plant nursery, Freshwater Connection train station, coffee shops, a patisserie, mini-mart, CWA Hall and restaurants.

People involved in these community facilities know and engage with each other on a regular basis because of the close links these suburbs have always shared. To separate them now will divide a close community of people whose connections began more than 130 years ago.

If boundary changes have to occur both Freshwater and Stratford should move together to Division 6.

From: [Jukka, Clare](#)
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: objection to changes freshwater/Stratford boundaries
Date: Saturday, 19 September 2015 10:55:44 AM

Objection to Electoral changes – .

I wish to object to the proposal to divide the Cairns' suburbs of Freshwater and Stratford with an electoral boundary, and to put them in separate divisions. The geographical and community connection between these neighbouring suburbs has been there since they were first established.

Dr Clare Jukka

[Stratford](#)
[Cairns 4870](#)

From: no-reply@ecq.qld.gov.au
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: Feedback Form Received from Barry Daniels
Date: Friday, 18 September 2015 12:14:08 PM
Attachments: [council boundaries.rtf](#)

Name: Barry Daniels

Council: Cairns Regional

Additional Information: It is ridiculous to consider SPLITTING Stratford/ Freshwater when there are other options, any changes should be viewed in a longitude way and I can see a balance of enrolment can be achieved.

Stratford Freshwater have no similar comparisons to Div5.

Div5 should be taken north to take in Holloways beach and Machans beach

Div8 should move north to take in Trinity Beach and maybe further.

Div9 has already a higher enrolment than others and could easily be taken into Div8.

From: [Margaret Cochrane](#)
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: Submission regarding Boundary reviews
Date: Friday, 18 September 2015 12:43:57 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to submit an objection to the proposed Boundary Changes for the Cairns Regional Council.

I am particularly interested in the Div 5, 6 and 8 changes.

I had the honour of representing Div 8, and, as it was formally Div 10, from 2000 to 2012.

During this time there has been boundary changes which are disturbing for the electorate.

Including Stratford as part of Div 5 and dividing Freshwater off to Div 6 appears to be detrimental to the community.

Stratford and Freshwater have many things in common, including community character, are communities of interest, have strong community groups interested in the activity of the area and have common grounds with history.

Including Stratford into the City division does not show commonality of community.

Prior to the amalgamation of Cairns City and Mulgrave Shire, Aeroglen was, in fact, part of Cairns City. This small community are more compatible with the continuity of Div 5 along the Esplanade, Cairns north, Airport and can be serviced easily by the representative of that Division.

Fragmentation of communities does not engender community spirit and is difficult to service by the Divisional Councillor.

I have serviced this area (Stratford and Freshwater) in both configurations as Div 9 and 10, and combined as Div 8. From experience, having Freshwater and Stratford in the one Division is far more satisfactory than being divided through the middle. Easier to service from a Councillor point of view, and the community have one person to deal with as many of the issues in these areas are common, and having to get two Councillors to deal with issues often causes conflict with residents.

Excising Aeroglen will not cause too much disruption as this suburb are their own contained community and tend to be serviced from the city side of town.

I would like to make a comment on the overall quota numbers.

With the proposed boundary changes, each division is sitting on or just over the quota. Why make all these changes when it is blatantly obvious that in four years this is going to have to happen all over again.

I believe it is time to review the whole representation matter and re-introduce 10 Divisions for Cairns Regional Council.

Whilst the growth rate has not been strong in some areas, other areas have had growth and there will be growth in other areas in the very near future.

I believe it would be prudent to introduce the tenth division, as it was 2000 - 2004, to allow for growth in certain areas which have already been identified both south and north of the city, also the shift of the demographic back to the apartment living in the city.

In summary,

Div 5 northern boundary included Aeroglen, not Stratford.

Div 6 eastern boundary taking in Freshwater be adjusted back to Freshwater Creek to leave Freshwater and Stratford in Division 8.

Div 8 include both suburbs of Stratford and Freshwater. This will undoubtedly inflate the quota in this area and will force further revision of other areas of Div 6 and 9.

Serious consideration be given to introduce a tenth Division in the Local Government Area. By introducing a tenth Division will give scope for growth in all areas, give the electorate certainty for many years to come with minimal impact on the community of this LGA.

Thank you for your considerations of this matter,

Marg

Margaret Cochrane

From: [Douglas Mackenzie](#)
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: Change to electoral divisions in cairns
Date: Friday, 18 September 2015 3:44:14 PM

I would like to object to the change to the electoral boundaries separating Stratford and Freshwater. Bob Richardson said in his proposal ,one of his priorities was to keep communities of interest together. I appreciate the work he has done and I am sure there will always be issues. I have lived in Stratford for 35 years and my children went to Freshwater school,I play tennis in Freshwater. We have always thought of each other as the same community. We have fought many issues together . I am sure we are not the most demanding of communities but if we do need something it will be difficult if we are attached to the industrial area which I am sure requires a lot of attention. So if a change needs to be made can we please both go into division 6

.
Yours sincerely. Douglas Mackenzie.

From: no-reply@ecq.qld.gov.au
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: Feedback Form Received from Lyn Wallace
Date: Sunday, 13 September 2015 4:16:42 PM

Name: Lyn Wallace

Council: Cairns Regional

Additional Information: The proposed change will place Stratford in Division 5 and Freshwater in a different Division. Please keep Stratford and Freshwater in the same division (5 would be ok) as they are communities with strong administrative ties and have historically worked well together.

From: [Graham Warden](#)
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: Stratford and Freshwater
Date: Friday, 18 September 2015 2:19:13 PM

I am writing to express our objection to the proposed separation of Stratford and Freshwater by placing one in Council Division 5 and the other in Council Division 6.

Stratford and Freshwater belong together; they are contiguous and in a way analogous to the shape of Cairns – a narrow strip. As residents we do not regard them as separate entities but complementary to each other. For instance, the Library, community hall and pub in one, garden nursery, school and tennis courts in the other. We share similar topography; cane fields to one side of the railway line, residences the other side as far back as the Whitfield range. We also share the problems of flooding (currently under investigation).

The proposal to separate them seems arbitrary since there is no obvious point of separation, other than signs at one point along Kamerunga Road identifying the start/end of the two suburbs.

The proposal smacks of some sort of bureaucratic attempt to make a neat package that in truth would have the opposite effect. Or could it be a gerrymander?

Graham Warden and Alys Wall

Freshwater

17th September 2015

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing this letter as to appeal to the good sense of my council representatives to leave the existing boundaries for Stratford & Freshwater intact.

I've lived in the lovely suburb of Stratford for 23years & I've also been periodically involved with the Stratford & Freshwater Ratepayers association for the same period of time.

The Stratford Ratepayers Association was formed 30 years ago by residents who were concerned enough to keep the ambience of the suburb intact & to their credit is now deemed a Character precinct.

And some years ago the adjoining suburb of Freshwater experienced the rapid development of units that impacted the life style of the residents living next door to them & this led to the amalgamation of the two Committees.

I strongly object to & beg you to consider the changes proposed by those ignorant to the fact, of how much work & effort has been done over the last 30 years to retrain the beautiful ambience of the area & the wonderful co-operation of the C.C.C that has ensued.

I know it sounds dramatic but it is what it is & with a stroke of the pen to balance the numbers could place all the aforesaid in jeopardy.

Yours in hopeful anticipation,

Helen Sulley
Stratford
4870

Dr Ian Cole
Freshwater 4870.

14 September 2015.

The Local Government Change Commission,
Queensland.

I am writing to object to the proposal that the suburbs of Stratford and Freshwater be separated by an electoral boundary in new divisions under consideration for the Cairns Regional Council.

These are two of the older suburbs in the Cairns region and have historically identified as one continuous community.

Geographically they are side by side with no clear feature marking the boundary.

They share geographic borders with the Barron River and Delta cane fields to the North and the Mt Whitfield Range to the South. These features provide a distinct demarcation from the rest of the Cairns' district.

They are serviced by shared education facilities, both primary school and pre- school, by retail outlets, medical providers and the same transport corridor. Community activities centred about sporting clubs, library, meeting halls, restaurants and cafes are shared by the two suburbs.

The people of Stratford and Freshwater view themselves as a united community, evidenced by the local residents' association titled the Stratford and Freshwater Community Association (SAFCA) .

If there is a need for a redistribution of the local government electoral boundaries it is imperative that the two suburbs are treated as a single entity when reassigned to another division.

Regards

Ian Cole.

To whom it may concern,

I would like to object to the proposed inclusion of Stratford in Division 5. I have lived in Stratford and now live on the border of the current division 5. While I have loved living in both areas, they are very different. Stratford falls under a character precinct and is struggling with issues of development. The current division 5 already has high density which it is appropriate and welcome here.

I just don't feel it is logical to separate Stratford from Freshwater when the two suburbs are so geographically and socially interlinked. These two suburbs share council services such as the library and bike path. The proposed inclusion of suburban Stratford with the inner city seems like a proposal based on numbers, not what would be the best outcome for the residents (and voters) in the divisions.

Regards

Jennifer Francis

From: [Lesley Clark](#)
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Cc: safca.contact@gmail.com; [Barron River Electoral \(Barron.River@parliament.qld.gov.au\)](mailto:Barron.River@parliament.qld.gov.au); deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au; j.richardson@cairns.qld.gov.au; r.bates@cairns.qld.gov.au; l.cooper@cairns.qld.gov.au
Subject: submission to cairns regional council review
Date: Friday, 18 September 2015 3:21:07 PM

To the Queensland Local Government Change Commission

Re: Divisional Boundary Review Cairns Regional Council

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Queensland Local Government Change Commission Report ***"2015 REDIVISION OF ELECTORAL DIVISIONS WITHIN CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL: PROPOSED DETERMINATION" September 2015.***

I have lived in Freshwater since 1981 and as a former Mulgrave Shire Councillor and Queensland Member of Parliament I represented areas within the current Divisions 6, 7, 8, 9 for many years and have considerable knowledge and experience of the suburbs included in these Divisions. I have considered the proposed boundary changes as set out in the ***Proposed Determination Report*** made necessary by the very significant growth occurring in Division 9. This Report has incorporated changes proposed in a previous submission by Mr Bob Richardson, and while his submission has considerable merit, **I wish to object to the specific boundary changes proposed by the Queensland Local Government Change Commission which would result in Stratford being included in Division 5 and the neighbouring community of Freshwater in Division 6.**

In my view the arguments put forward by Mr Richardson, and accepted by the Commission, for such action are flawed and reflect a lack of understanding of the history and character of these two suburbs. For example, Stratford has no natural geographic or community links with the proposed Division 5 which would encompass the main business, commercial and industrial areas of Cairns with higher density inner-city housing plus sea and airports. Similarly Freshwater has no natural geographic or community links with Division 6, which contains the newer developing suburbs of Brinsmead and Redlynch and a large shopping centre.

The proposed boundary changes in relation to Stratford and Freshwater appear to have been based on voter numbers only, with no account being taken of their historical association, geographical location or the physical and social linkages between the two communities. Based on my personal knowledge and involvement with the suburbs of Freshwater and Stratford over the last 35 years I believe that these suburbs should be retained one Division on the following grounds:

- Freshwater and Stratford are historic suburbs with an association going back to the early 1880s and the establishment of Freshwater State School in 1923 which was, and still is, attended by children from both communities.
- Freshwater and Stratford are contiguous residential suburbs linked by the same road, railway and bicycle path. Both suburbs are situated on the lower slopes of Mt Whitfield facing north and northwest across the Barron River delta.
- The socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of these suburbs are very similar.
- Families utilise the same services and facilities, namely the primary school, a large regional park, a library, community halls and other recreational facilities.
- The Stratford and Freshwater Community Association Inc which I helped to establish has

been in existence for 30 years this year. Residents from both communities have worked together to achieve many benefits for the area including Heritage Trails and Character Precincts in both suburbs, the retention of the historical fire station as a community hall, and more recently the retention of streetscape character during the redevelopment of the Stratford shopping centre.

- Stratford and Freshwater have identical needs and are better served being represented by the same Councillor.

Based on the information above I recommend that both the Stratford and Freshwater communities be retained in Division 8. However, if this option renders it impossible to achieve the appropriate voter numbers for Division 8, then I believe that both Freshwater and Stratford would be best located together in Division 6 with Kamerunga retained in Division 8.

The adoption of this recommendation would be consistent with the requirement that the Local Government Change Commission act in the public interest when considering boundary changes as set out on page 5 of the Proposed Determination Report namely that:

“The Local Government Change Commission, as established under the Act, is empowered to consider whether changes are in the public interest. In doing so the Change Commission must consider whether changes are consistent with a local government related law, the views of the Minister about the changes and the matters outlined in the Local Government Regulation 2012 Qld (the Regulation).”

The matters of relevance in the Local Government Regulation 2012 Qld for establishing the public interest include:

- Have regard to communities of interest, generally;
- Reflect local communities, the geographical pattern of human activities and the linkages between local communities;
- Ensure effective elected representation;

Adoption of my recommendation that the communities of Stratford and Freshwater be retained in the same Cairns Regional Council Division will ensure that the Local Government Change Commission is acting in the public interest as required.

Thank you for your consideration of my submission.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Clark

Dr Lesley Clark

Director PacificPlus Consulting

Stratford Qld 4870

Change Commission – Cairns Regional Council Redivision
GPO BOX 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Email: cairnsregionalcouncilreview@ecq.qld.gov.au

18 September 2015

Dear Commissioners

Re Objection to the 2015 Redivision of Electoral Divisions within Cairns Regional Council - Proposed Determination

We object to parts of the proposed boundary changes to Divisions 5, 6 and 8.

Under the proposal Stratford is moved out of Division 8 and into Division 5.
Freshwater is moved out of Division 8 and into Division 6.

In your Proposed Determination, you state that the *Local Government Regulation 2012 Qld* stipulates that you must:
“Have regard to communities of interest, generally:

- Reflect local communities, the geographical pattern of human activities and the linkages between local communities;”

As residents of Stratford, we are strongly of the opinion that you have not taken into consideration the above stipulation in regard to the Stratford and Freshwater communities.

Community links

There are very strong connections between Stratford and Freshwater. They are old, established suburbs, with any further development unlikely, other than some urban consolidation. The two suburbs are joined – there is no geographical gap between them. Movement between the suburbs is easy via a common road and bicycle path. Both suburbs are situated on the lower slopes of Mt Whitfield, and look across the cane lands of the Barron River Delta. Both suburbs still have a country feel.

Freshwater and Stratford share a common geography and history. They have many community links and share many complementary facilities. For example, our children attend the same primary school, Freshwater State School, and we use the same library, Stratford Library. We have had a joint community association for 30 years. Our suburbs have the same needs and are better served by being represented by the same Councillor.

What is wrong with different Council representatives

Freshwater and Stratford were in separate divisions for a period of time some years ago. Freshwater was in the old Division 9 which then covered Freshwater, Brinsmead, Park Ridge and Kanimbla. Stratford was in Div 8, broadly similar to the current division.

The primary focus of the Councillor for Div 9 was traffic problems along the busy western arterial road, and other issues that mainly affected the larger part of his division other than Freshwater. The greater demands of the developing areas of Brinsmead, Park Ridge and Kanimbla area took priority over the different issues of Freshwater.

We believe Freshwater in Division 6 and Stratford in Division 5 would be similarly disadvantaged and that the particular issues of the two suburbs would be subsumed by the more pressing issues of the larger parts of these divisions.

The conflicting needs and priorities of the divisions

Division 6 primarily covers the newer, still developing suburb of Redlynch with its large shopping centre and the newer suburb of Brinsmead. Division 5 covers the city, business, commercial and industrial areas, the ports and higher density, inner city housing.

In your Proposed Determination you refer to Mr Bob Richardson's suggested boundary changes for Division 5, including moving Stratford into Division 5: "This significant boundary change was justified as it unites industrial and commercial business areas, including the air and sea ports under the representation of a single Councillor". We are of the opinion that this does not relate to Stratford.

We believe and that Stratford and Freshwater have been included in Divisions 6 and 5 respectively to even out voter numbers and for no other reason.

It has also been suggested that the lifting of height restrictions in North Cairns to allow for more multi-storey development in Division 5 could also be applied to Stratford were it to be incorporated in Division 5. Residents have a real fear that this could happen. This would be totally incompatible with Stratford.

Geography

The nearest part of the current Division 6 to Freshwater is Brinsmead. Though not obvious on a map, Freshwater is geographically separated from Brinsmead by a high ridge of Mt Whitfield. The road route between the two suburbs is several kilometres round the western side of Mt Whitfield, via a road that is dangerous for pedestrians and cyclist.

Stratford is similarly isolated geographically from the rest of Division 5. Most of Division 5 is south or east of Mt Whitfield whereas Stratford is on the north side of Mt Whitfield. Again the road route connecting Stratford to the rest of Division 5 is forced round the base of Mt Whitfield.

Stratford and Freshwater Community Association

A residents association encompassing Freshwater and Stratford has been in continuous existence for 30 years. It was started by then Councillor for Mulgrave Shire (prior to amalgamation of Cairns City and Mulgrave Shire) Dr Lesley Clark who doorknocked Stratford and Freshwater residents to gauge the interest in a residents association being formed. The inaugural meeting of the Stratford & Freshwater Ratepayers and Residents Association was held in November 1985. When the association incorporated in 2005 it was renamed the more inclusive Stratford & Freshwater Community Association. It celebrates its 30th year of activity this year. (Note: for your information there was not a time when the two suburbs had separate ratepayer and residents associations. The association started as a joint association for both suburbs and remains so today.)

Over those 30 years Freshwater and Stratford residents have worked actively with Council and State representatives to maintain the amenity of the two suburbs and improve it. Some examples among many are:

- worked with Council to save the library twice and then to retain funding for a new library;
- lobbied to keep education department land that was to be sold for residential development and is now a large regional park enjoyed by residents from both suburbs and other parts of Cairns;
- achieved funding in 2005-6 for Heritage Trails in both Freshwater and Stratford;
- a Freshwater member manages the Stratford Community Hall on behalf of the Association and income from Hall hires will help to fund replacement Heritage Trail signs in both suburbs;
- worked cooperatively with our representatives to keep development in both suburbs appropriate to the character of the area;
- established a community garden;
- and, achieved Character Precincts in the older parts of both suburbs for the benefit of all residents.

Links with other Division 8 communities

Most importantly we submit that Stratford and Freshwater should remain in the same Cairns Regional Council division. This should be Division 8 because some of the characteristics of the two suburbs are shared with other parts of Division 8. The current Division 8 is made up largely of Stratford/Freshwater, Aeroglen, Machans Beach, Holloways Beach, Yorkeys Knob, Caravonica and Kamerunga plus a section of Smithfield.

A number of these other communities have community associations dedicated to retaining the character of their suburbs and with whom we have established links.

Summary

We request that you make adjustments to the divisional boundaries that would achieve this outcome. We believe that this can be achieved with a new look at all Cairns Regional Council boundaries by ECQ officers.

An alternative way of keeping Stratford and Freshwater in the same division could be to include Freshwater and Stratford in Division 6 and to return Kamerunga to Division 8, but in our opinion this would be a far less acceptable solution than retaining Freshwater and Stratford in Division 8.

Yours sincerely

Leslie Francis & Hazel Lees

Leslie Francis and Hazel Lees

Suggested changes to the Proposed Determination for Cairns Regional Council division boundaries – retaining Stratford and Freshwater in the same division
Number of electors per division - minimum 9489, maximum 11597

Move Stratford out of Division 5 and into Division 6

Move Kamerunga out of Division 6 and back into Division 8

	Actual Enrolment 23/02/2015	Projected enrolment 31/03/2016
Proposed Division 6	11067	11270
Less SA 3114112	125	130
Less SA 3114101	258	269
Plus SA 3114007	401	412
Plus SA 3114008	429	436
Effect on Proposed Div 6	11514	11719
Proposed Division 5	10553	10681
Less SA 3114007	401	412
Less SA 3114008	429	436
Effect on Proposed Div 5	9723	9833
Proposed Division 8	10224	10616
Plus SA 3114112	125	130
Plus SA 3114101	258	269
Effect on Proposed Div 8	10607	11015

Objection to Electoral changes – Dympna Leonard, Machans Beach, Cairns, 4878.

I live in the suburb of Machans Beach, which is close to the Cairns' suburbs of Freshwater and Stratford. I wish to object to the proposal to remove Freshwater and Stratford from the current Division 8 and to divide them into separate divisions.

I object to this on two grounds. Firstly, Machans Beach shares a geographical and community connection with our two neighbouring suburbs of Stratford and Freshwater and has done so since our suburbs established, when the river connecting these suburbs was the main form of transport. This connection continues to this day as people from Machans access both these suburbs for shopping, for schools and for important events such as the ANZAC Day parade and for many social activities.

Currently Machans Beach enjoys many advantages in being part of the same electoral division as Stratford and Freshwater. It has facilitates many valuable collaborations mediated by the same councillor whether it be planning for library facilities, bicycle tracks and walking trails, or work to preserve the Barron River Catchment

My second ground of objection is that the plan to re-allocate each of these two suburbs into separate division just makes no sense. This plan will to divide a residential area which shares such strong community bonds, with a strong sense of community cohesion.

Like the Machans Beach Community Association, the Stratford and Freshwater Community Association (SAFCA) has been in existence for many years, and addresses the concerns and needs of that community. The association meets once a month and is an active supporter of locals and local issues that impact on these shared communities. The division of these suburbs into separate divisions is destructive of valuable social cohesion, built up by many years of volunteer input by committed community members.

I suggest that the adjustment in populations of each division could be better met by moving suburbs in the northern part of Division 8 (Caravonica, Lake Placid) into the next Division to the north, as these more northerly suburbs share many common facilities and issues.

Dympna Leonard

Vice President

vicepresident.mbca@machansbeach.net

Machans Beach Community Association

18 September 2015

Objection to Electoral changes – Deborah Fisher, Machans Beach, Cairns, 4878.

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Deborah Fisher

Secretary

secretary.mbca@machansbeach.net

Machans Beach Community Association

18 September 2015

From: no-reply@ecq.qld.gov.au
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: Feedback Form Received from Paul and Joy Gadek
Date: Friday, 18 September 2015 3:05:28 PM

Name: Paul and Joy Gadek

Council: Cairns Regional

Additional Information: We wish to object to the proposal to place Stratford within division 5 for the reasons in the attached document

Objection to electoral boundary changes, Cairns regional Council.

We wish to object to the proposal to alter the divisional boundaries to remove Stratford from division 8 and place it in division 5, for the following reasons:

1. While divisional boundaries are configured to represent “reasonable proportions” of electors within a nominal 10% variation, they also serve to identify communities with related interests and issues. The current proposal to place the small community of Stratford in division 5, which includes a diversity of commercial, residential and geographic landscapes, makes little sense.
2. Stratford, both geographically and historically, has natural links to Freshwater. These are old established suburbs sharing much in terms of history and community interests, and logically share a common trajectory in the future. The community spirit is very strong, and to be represented by two different councillors with little likelihood of common priorities, again makes no sense at all.
3. If there are to be boundary changes to accommodate electoral representation, Stratford and Freshwater have more in common with the proposed division 6 communities, and should not be split.

From: no-reply@ecq.qld.gov.au [<mailto:no-reply@ecq.qld.gov.au>]

Sent: Thursday, 17 September 2015 7:48 PM

To: Cairns Regional Council Review

Subject: Feedback Form Received from Lindsay Eccles

Name: Lindsay Eccles

Council: Cairns Regional

Additional Information: please see attached document

I wish to object to the proposed boundary changes, which will separate Freshwater from Stratford & Aeroglen, placing the latter 2 suburbs in the same division as large areas of North Cairns.

This seems nonsensical, when you consider the heritage & general characters of the 3 suburbs, & the status of the three suburbs together, which many locals think of as connected by the road & railway, by the suburbs being "North of Mt Whitfield", & the general nature of the 3 suburbs in terms of the people living there. In the eventuality of a cyclone hitting Cairns from the North, these 3 suburbs would again be united in taking the brunt of the destruction.

Currently, our communities are united by our local representation by SAFCA, by our support of & affiliation to Freshwater State School, & by our use of the library & other amenities in the hub at Stratford. The concerns of these 3 suburbs are often mutual.

I would ask that the review committee reconsider this division through our suburbs.

I would suggest that our 3 suburbs remain in one division, & that we be allied with Machans & Holloways Beaches, with whom we share many common concerns, or, possibly, with Redlynch.

With thanks,
Lindsay Eccles

I object to the proposed boundary changes proposed for Freshwater and Stratford for the following reason:

Stratford and Freshwater both share the northern side of Mt Whitfield and work closely together in forming a cohesive, safe and united population with identifiable common goals. Regardless of where boundaries are moved, because of population growth or for whatever other reason, these suburbs need to remain in the same Division. This would maintain social harmony, while dividing these suburbs would have an opposite effect. Competition would then be required for the scant dollars Council holds out annually for improvements needed in these common areas. Division naturally fosters 'them and us' mentality and effectively puts up an unnecessary boarder between friends. I respectfully ask you to reconsider the plans to formally divide our communities of Stratford and Freshwater.

Ralf Dutton
Stratford

From: [Tim Wood](#)
To: [Cairns Regional Council Review](#)
Subject: OBJECTION TO PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE - DIVISION 8 (STRATFORD & FRESHWATER)
Date: Friday, 18 September 2015 9:38:26 AM

As a Stratford resident, I wish to object to the proposal to change local government boundaries by placing Stratford and Freshwater in different Divisions. The linkages between these suburbs are numerous, strong and have a solid historical basis. This is underlined by the fact that the Stratford and Freshwater Community Association has a long and active history in working for the residents of both suburbs. The 2 suburbs have much more in common with each other, and with other suburbs on the edge of the Barron River floodplain, than they do with either Div 6 - hill slopes on the main range or Div 5 - the airport and the city!

When considering the public interest I appeal to the Change Commission to recognise the following:

1. The suburbs are geographically linked and joined by a single arterial road, Kamarunga Rd, a railway line and, now, a bike path. Issues relating to these will affect both suburbs the same way.
2. Both suburbs are on the north facing side of Mt Whitfield and front onto the Barron River floodplain so the suburbs share drainage and water issues. The water catchment principle will be contravened if the proposed split is made.
3. Stratford and Freshwater complement each other: one has the state school the other the public library and the mix of shops is complementary.
4. The suburbs share a village atmosphere that is very important to residents.

For these reasons it make good sense for the suburbs to be represented by the same Councillor. As well, it makes equally good sense that representation for the suburbs should not be split between two different Councillors. It appears from the Local Government Change Commission's Determination Document that a lot of store has been put into Mr Bob Richardson's submission. However Mr Richardson has not supported with any reasonable arguments his suggestion to split Stratford and Freshwater into 2 different divisions and this part of his submission should be rejected.

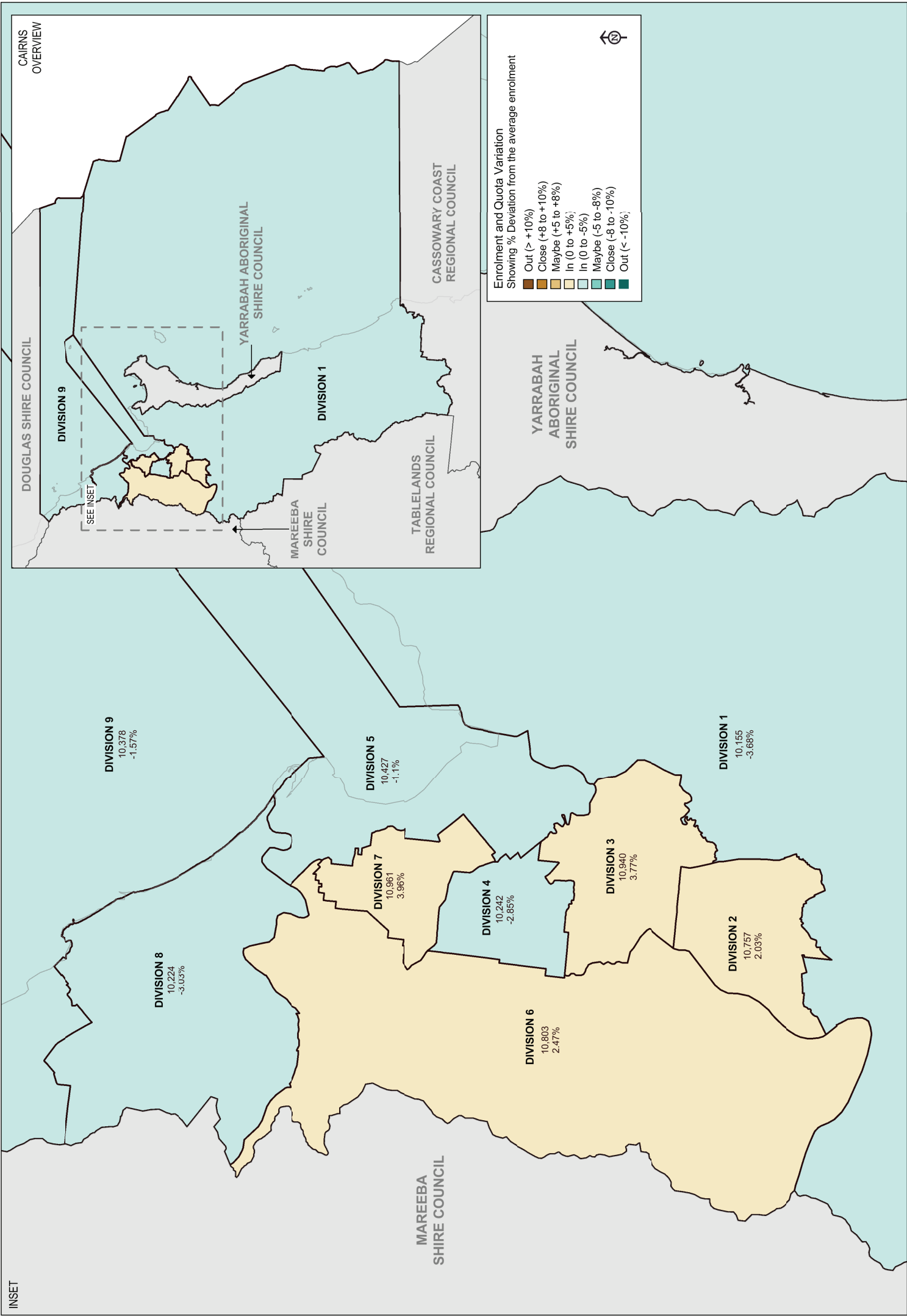
Yours sincerely

Tim Wood
STRATFORD QLD 4870

APPENDIX F

**Maps of Council's Electoral
Divisions for 2016 Elections**

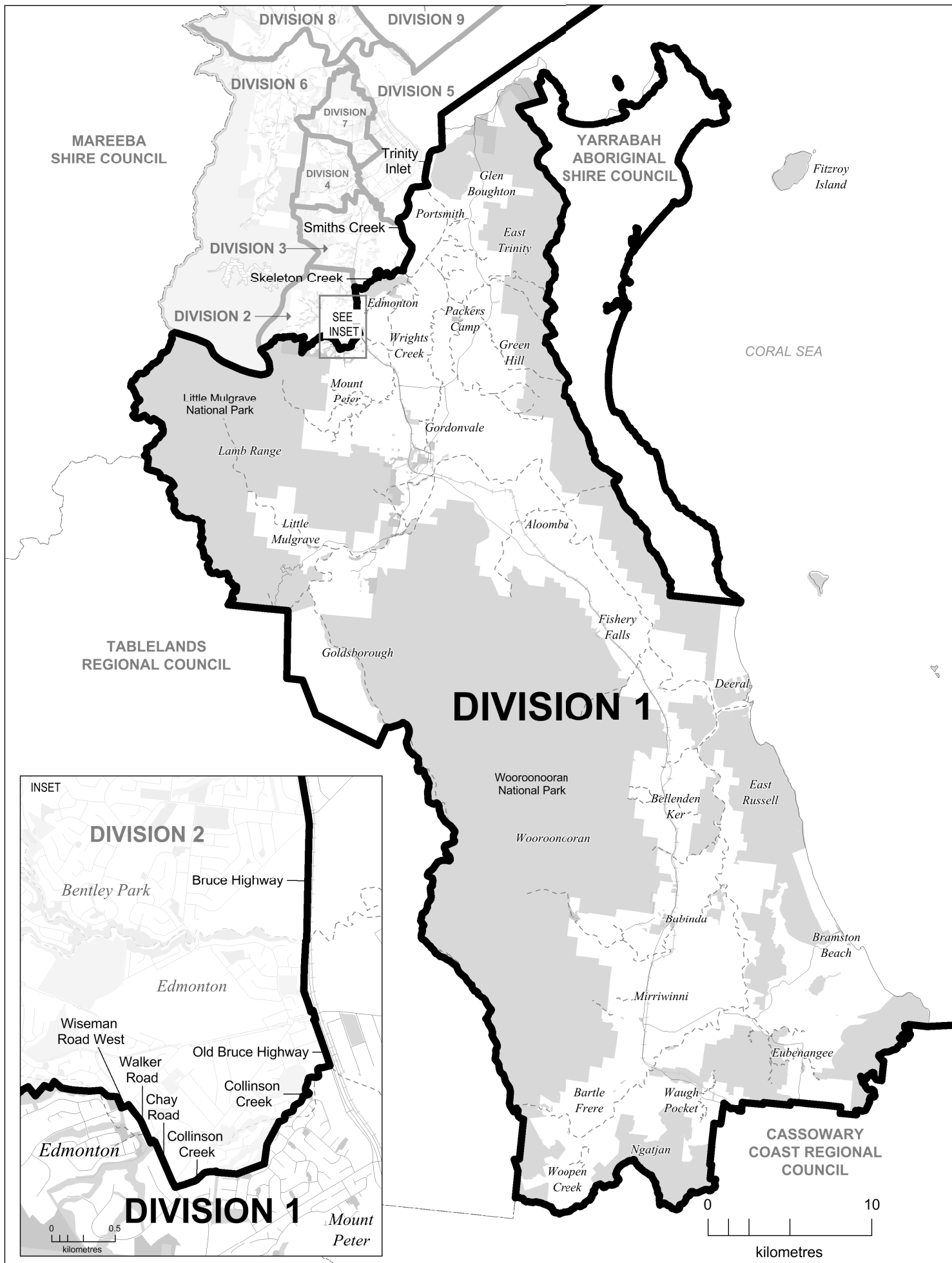
CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL FINAL DIVISION BOUNDARIES



INSET

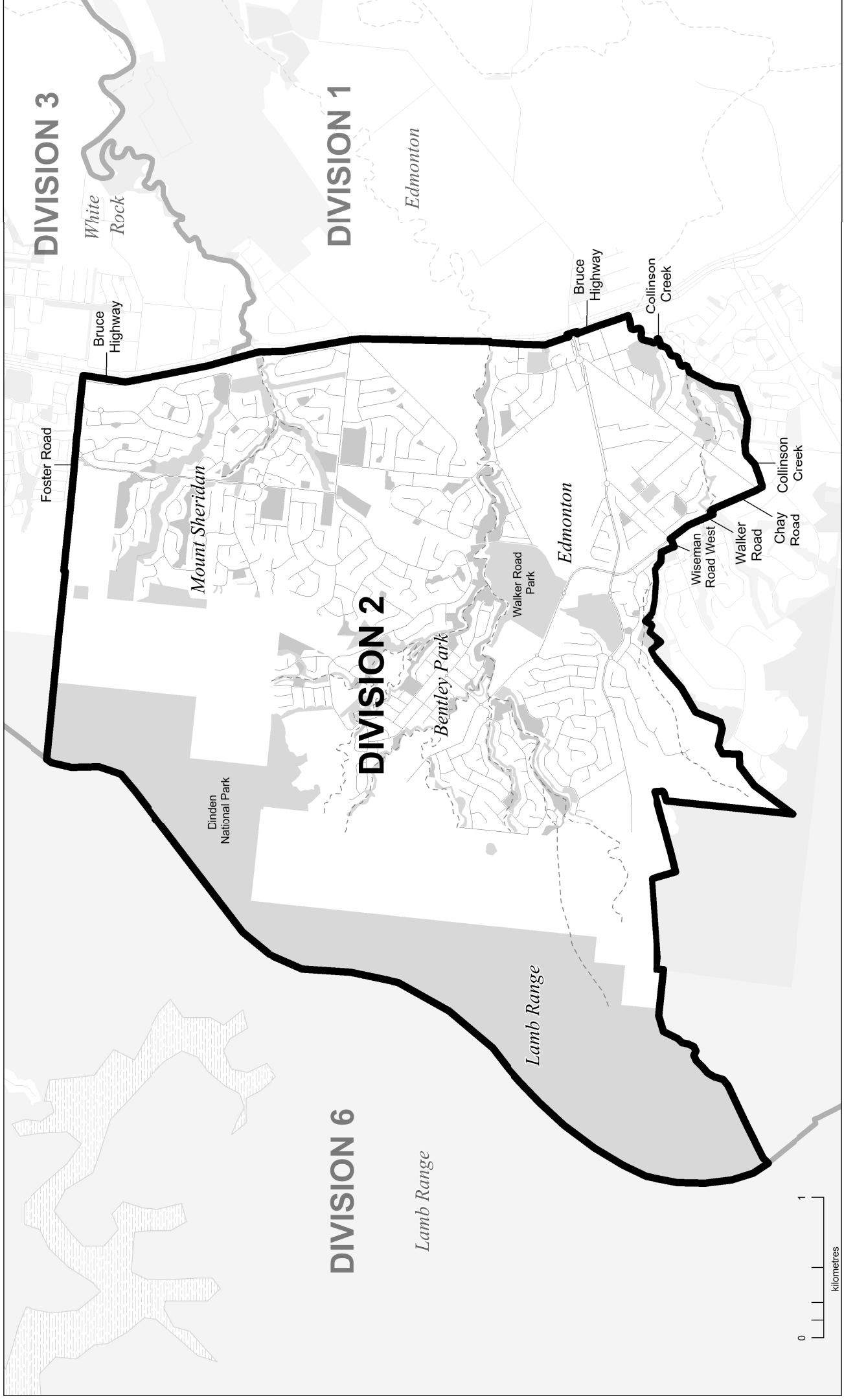
2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 1



2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 2



Division Boundary
 Adjacent Division Boundary

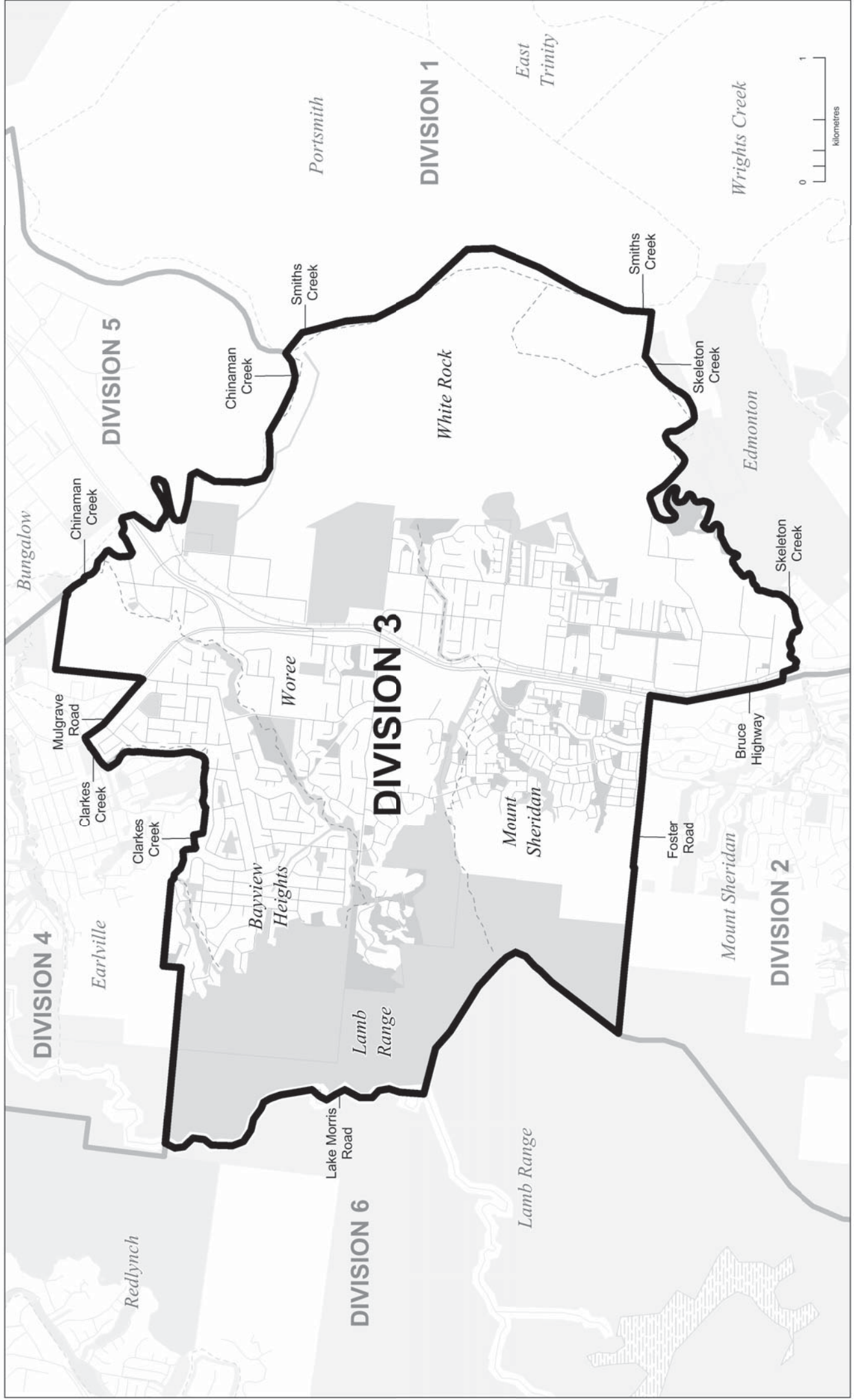
Road
 Railway

Watercourse
 Waterbody

Park / Reserve

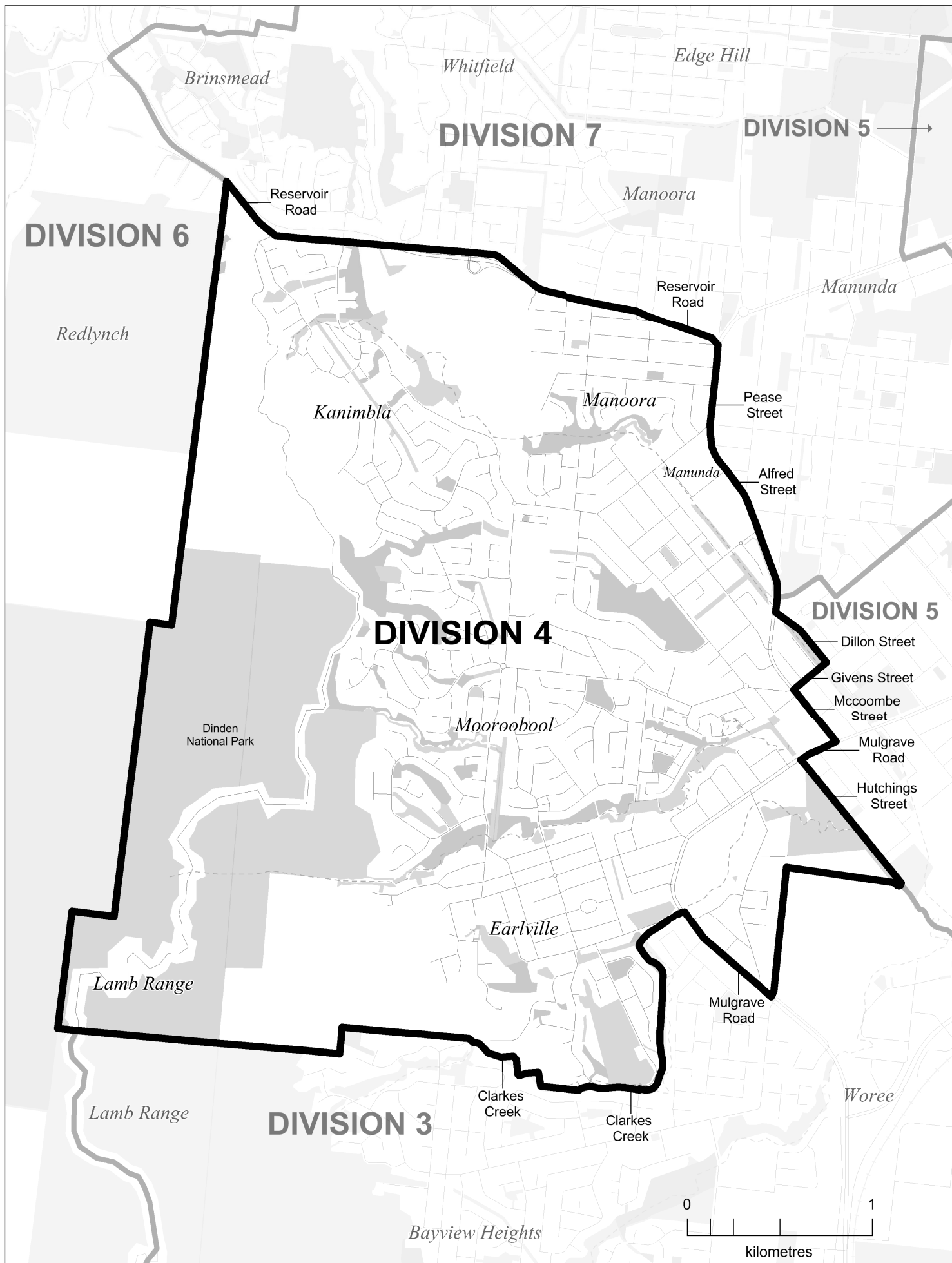
2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 3



2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

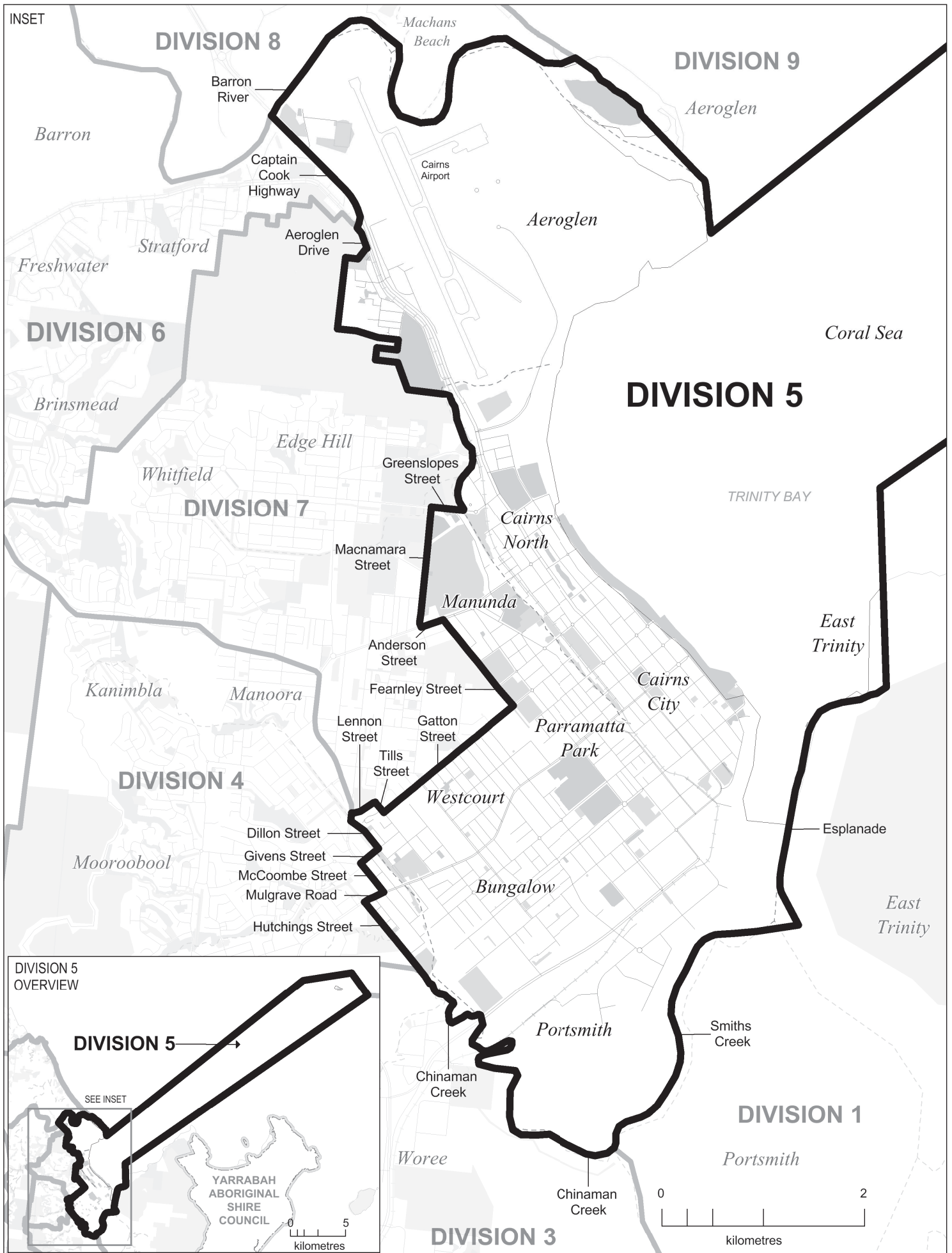
DIVISION 4



- Division Boundary
- Adjacent Division Boundary
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Park / Reserve

2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 5



- Division Boundary
- Adjacent Division Boundary
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Park / Reserve

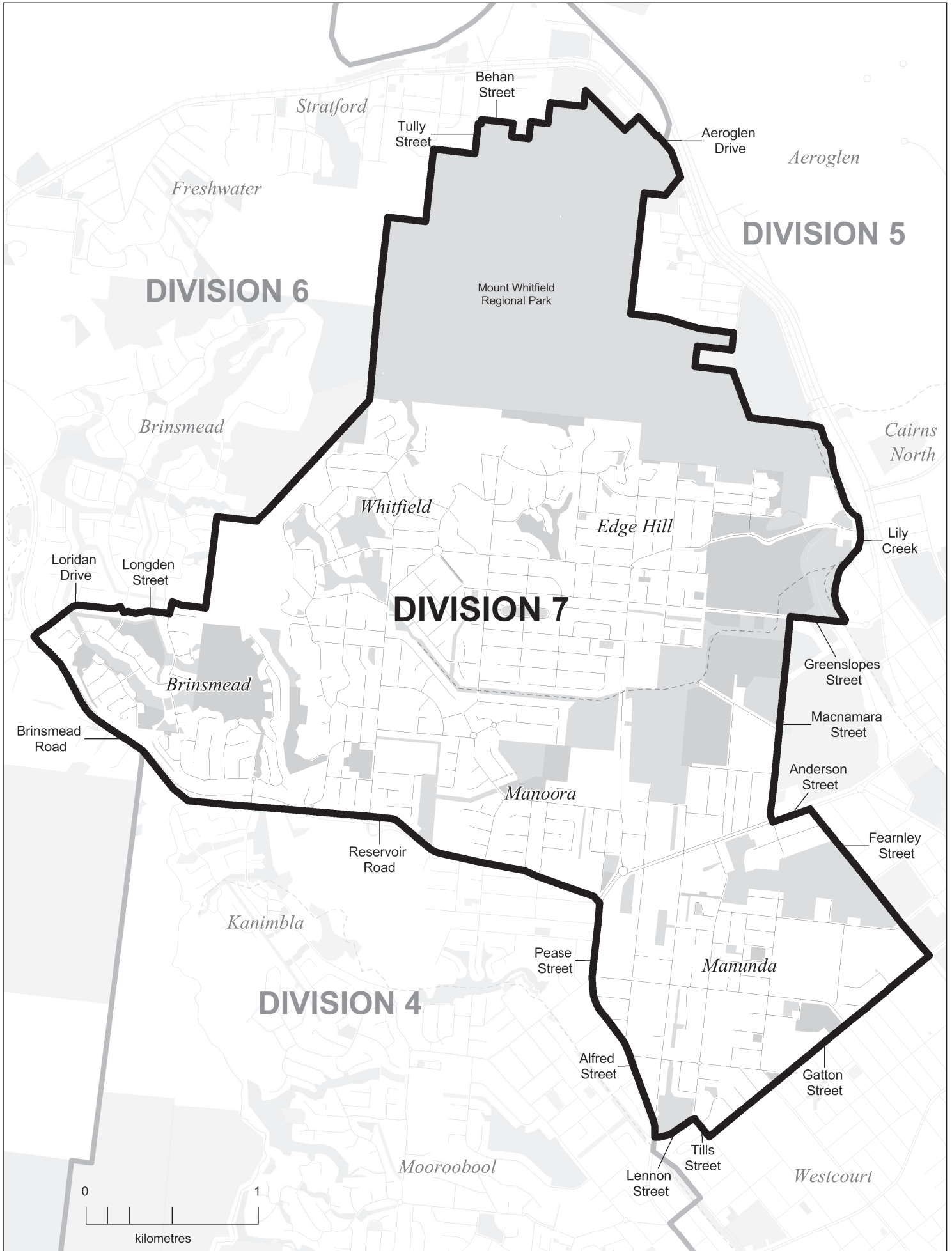
2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 6



2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

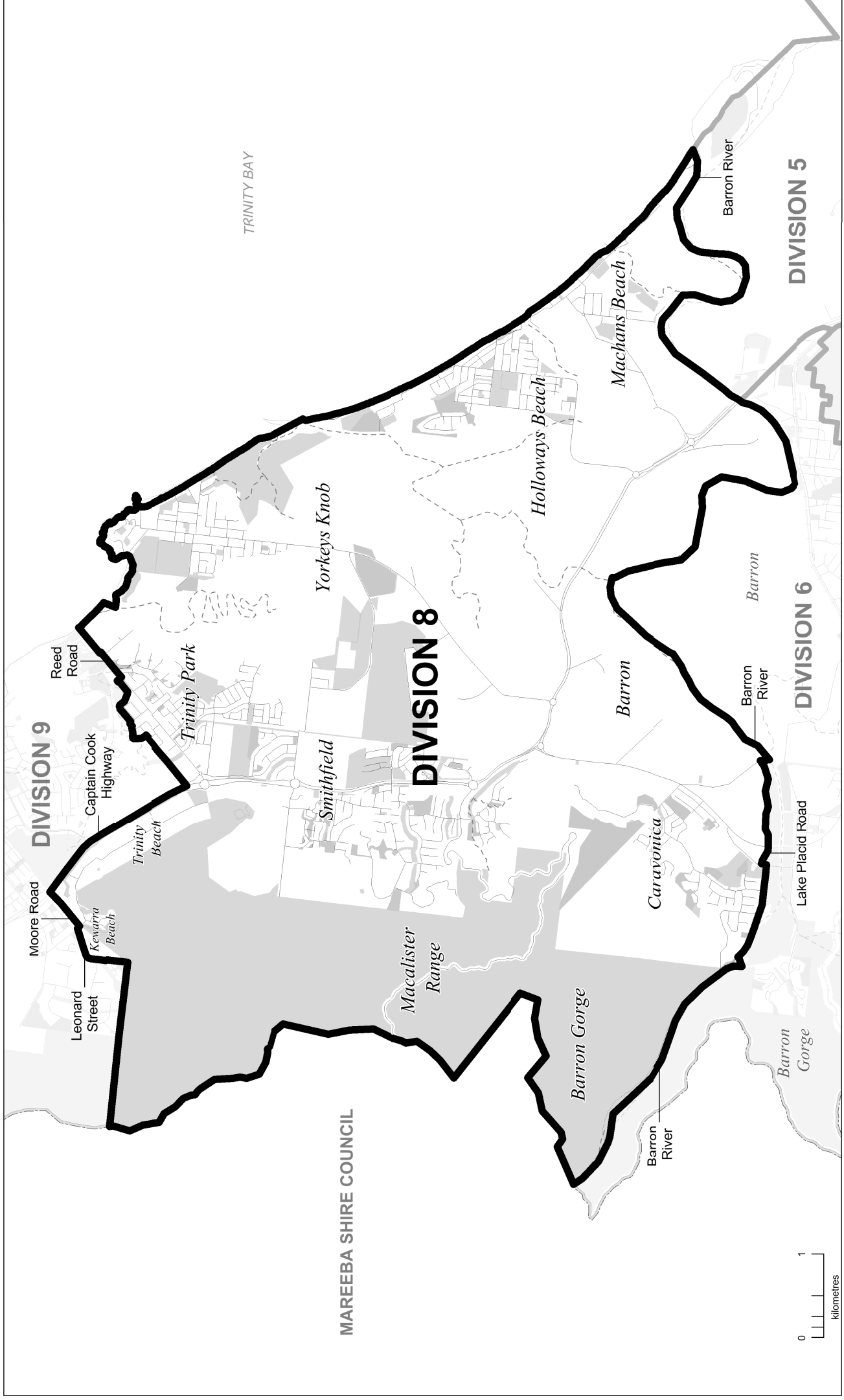
DIVISION 7



- Division Boundary
- Adjacent Division Boundary
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Park / Reserve

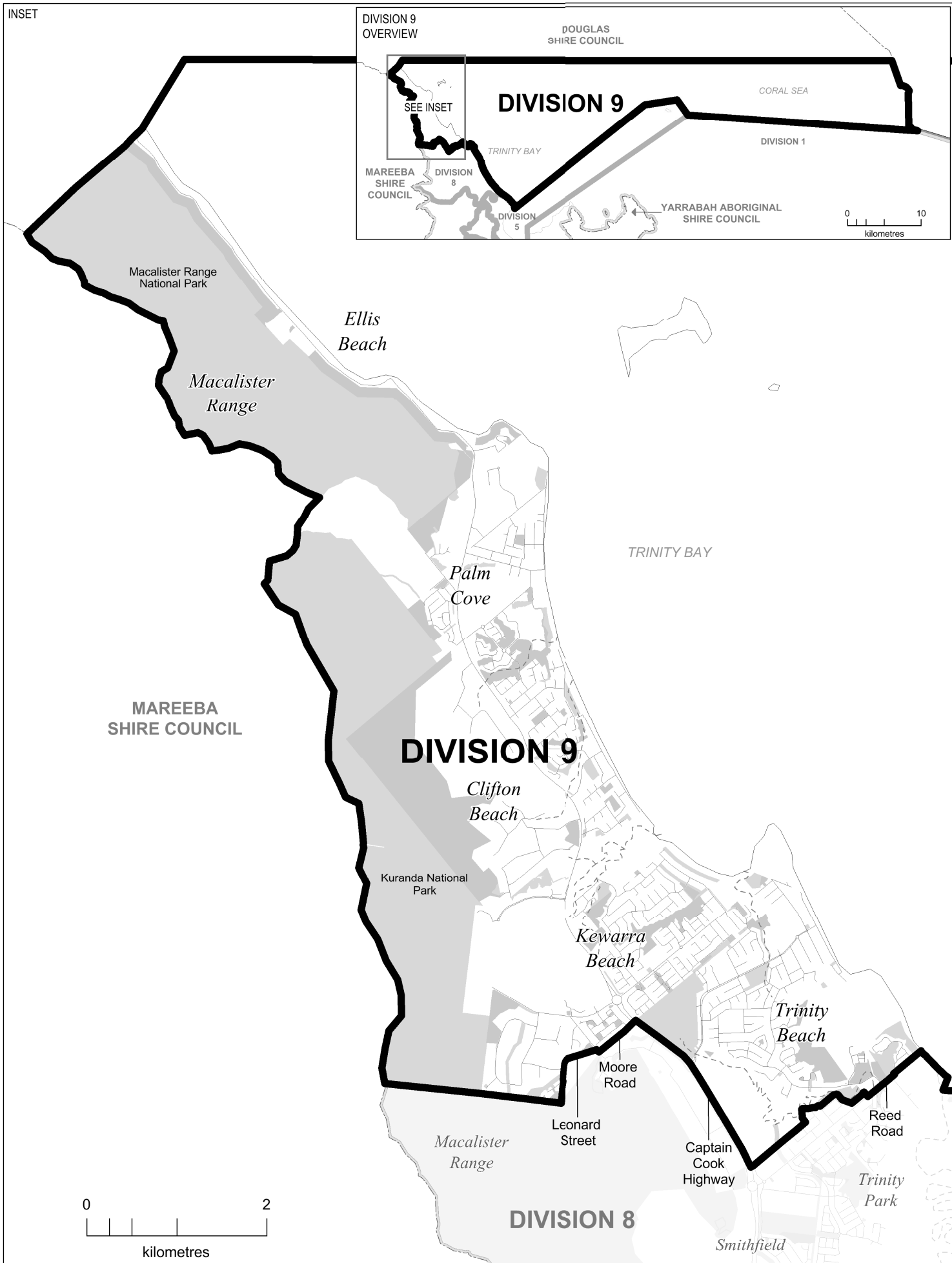
2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 8



2015 DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES

DIVISION 9



- Division Boundary
- Adjacent Division Boundary
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Park / Reserve