

Review of Ward Boundaries

2019 FINAL DETERMINATION
BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL

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INTRODUCTION

The *Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)* provides for a Local Government Change Commission (Change Commission). The Change Commission is responsible for periodically reviewing the internal boundaries of divided councils so that each division or ward has relatively the same number of enrolled voters. This upholds the key democratic principle of 'one vote, one value', by ensuring each person's vote carries the same weight.

The *City of Brisbane Act 2010* (the Act) outlines the criteria and assessment process for reviews of the Brisbane City Council.

The Change Commission has finalised its assessment of the Brisbane City Council's wards on Friday, 18 October 2019. This report outlines the recommended ward boundaries and sets out the reasons for the Change Commission's decisions. Maps of the final boundaries are attached at Appendix A.

The Change Commission for this review consisted of:

- Mr Pat Vidgen PSM, Electoral Commissioner; and
- Mr Wade Lewis, Casual Commissioner.

The casual commissioner was appointed by the Governor in Council on 1 November 2018.

Background

On 20 March 2019, the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) referred a review of the Brisbane City Council's wards (see Appendix B).

In conducting its assessment, the Change Commission was legally required to ensure each Brisbane ward has a similar number of enrolled voters (average enrolment plus or minus 10%), herein referred to as 'quota'. Community interests identified through public submissions and easy-to-identify boundaries were also considered, but it should be noted that ensuring all wards are within quota takes primacy and has been the main driver of the Change Commission's proposal and this final determination.

Table 1 shows the Council's enrolment as at 31 January 2019 and the projected enrolment for 31 March 2024 as well as the current and projected quota tolerances.

Table 1 – Current and Projected Enrolment & Quota		
	31 January 2019	31 March 2024
Number of Wards	26	26
Enrolment	772,162	819,396
Average enrolment per ward (quota)	29,699	31,515
Upper enrolment limit per ward (average +10%)	32,668	34,667
Lower enrolment limit per ward (average -10%)	26,729	28,364

Determining the quota

A quota is determined by dividing the total number of enrolled voters by the number of councillors (other than the mayor), plus or minus 10%. The Change Commission also considers projected enrolment, so the wards remain in quota for as long as possible. These are the most important considerations for the Change Commission given the statutory obligations it must discharge through the ward boundary review process.

Current enrolment data has been sourced from Queensland's electoral roll and projected enrolment data from the Queensland Government Statistician's Office of Queensland Treasury. Projections are based on the timing of future local government quadrennial elections.

Enrolment information is based on 'Statistical Areas Level 1 (SA1)'. SA1s are geographical units used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) for the release of census data. According to the ABS most SA1s have a population of between 200 to 800 persons with an average population of approximately 400 people.

Current and projected enrolment data are available for download on the Brisbane City Council review webpage on the ECQ website.

The Review Process

The Change Commission may conduct its assessment in any way it deems appropriate, unless the Minister has provided specific directions.

The process for this review is as follows:

1. Invite suggestions
2. Invite comments on the suggestions
3. Publish the Change Commission's proposal
4. Invite comments on the proposal
5. Publish the Change Commission's final determination report
6. Final determination report provided to the Minister for Local Government, for implementation by the Governor in Council
7. New boundaries come into effect at the 2020 Local Government Quadrennial Election

EXISTING BOUNDARIES & ENROLMENT

The Brisbane City Council has 772,162 voters and is divided into twenty-six (26) wards, with one councillor representing each ward and a Lord Mayor. Table 2 shows the current and projected enrolment for the Council's existing wards. As at 31 January 2019, Central, Chandler and The Gabba Wards were out of quota and Runcorn Ward was close to falling below the quota and in 2024, six wards are projected to be out of quota.

This situation means that the Change Commission had no choice but to consider and put forward changes that ensure that all wards remain in quota for the 2020 election. Unavoidably, this results in some wards that are currently within quota, and projected to remain in quota, needing to absorb voters from other wards. The consequence of this is that on occasion it is impossible for communities which would prefer to remain within the same ward to do so because of the need to balance enrolment across the wards.

Table 2 – Summary of Enrolment for the Existing Wards				
Ward	Enrolment as at 31/01/2019	% Deviation from Average Enrolment	Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2024	% Deviation from Projected Average Enrolment
Bracken Ridge	29,482	-0.73	30,314	-3.81
Calamvale	28,725	-3.28	29,995	-4.82
Central	32,852	10.62	39,929	26.7
Chandler	26,712	-10.06	28,005	-11.14
Coorparoo	30,293	2	32,280	2.43
Deagon	29,373	-1.1	30,614	-2.86
Doboy	29,107	-1.99	30,790	-2.3
Enoggera	31,068	4.61	32,356	2.67
Forest Lake	30,465	2.58	32,855	4.25
Hamilton	30,644	3.18	33,035	4.82
Holland Park	28,117	-5.33	29,281	-7.09
Jamboree	27,427	-7.65	27,616	-12.37
Macgregor	27,156	-8.56	28,158	-10.65
Marchant	31,029	4.48	32,588	3.4
McDowall	30,281	1.96	31,822	0.97
Moorooka	28,961	-2.48	30,420	-3.48
Morningside	31,199	5.05	32,497	3.12
Northgate	31,974	7.66	33,494	6.28
Paddington	30,613	3.08	32,461	3
Pullenvale	29,468	-0.78	30,023	-4.73
Runcorn	26,863	-9.55	27,468	-12.84
Tennyson	28,776	-3.11	31,090	-1.35
The Gabba	33,363	12.34	40,938	29.9
The Gap	29,754	0.19	30,470	-3.32
Walter Taylor	29,262	-1.47	30,195	-4.19
Wynnum-Manly	29,198	-1.69	30,702	-2.58

PUBLIC SUGGESTIONS & COMMENTS

The Change Commission sought public suggestions and comments on the suggestions to assist in developing its proposal. Advertisements were placed in The Courier Mail and on the ECQ's website and social media.

Suggestions were invited from 27 April 2019 to 5pm 20 May 2019. A one-week extension was offered to all registered political parties in Queensland, due to the timing of the federal election relative to the suggestions period. Seventeen (17) submissions were received and are available to view at Appendix C.

Comments on the suggestions were then invited from 27 May 2019 to 5pm 17 June 2019. Twenty-nine (29) submissions were received, including a petition with more than one-hundred signatories (which was thus treated as a single submission), which are available to view at Appendix D.

PROPOSED DETERMINATION

The Change Commission published its proposal on 16 August 2019 along with an invitation for public comments on the proposal. The proposed determination report, which includes the Change Commission's reasoning and consideration of the suggestions and comments, as well as the proposed maps, are available to view at Appendix E. .

Advertisements were placed in The Courier-Mail and on the ECQ's website and social media. The Electoral Commissioner also spoke on ABC Radio on 16 August 2019 to disseminate information about the review and the proposed boundaries.

The proposed boundaries brought enrolment in each ward into quota, while also seeking to cater for the significant growth projected in certain parts of the region. The Change Commission considered the feedback from the public submissions and sought to create easily identifiable ward boundaries by following natural or geographic features such as roads and waterways.

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL

Comments on the proposal were invited from 16 August 2019 to 5pm 9 September 2019. One hundred and ninety-eight (198) comments were received and can be viewed at Appendix F.

Six of these submissions were petitions with multiple signatories and have each been treated as a single comment. Several late submissions were also received but have not been included in the report or appendices.

A summary of the key themes and general commentary from these submissions is provided below. The Change Commission's consideration of the comments as they relate to individual wards are discussed in 'The Changes to the Proposal' section of the report.

Auchenflower (Paddington & Walter Taylor Wards)

Several submissions raised opposition to the proposed transfer of a small portion of Auchenflower to the Walter Taylor Ward, requesting the suburb remain united in Paddington Ward. One of the submissions was a petition (CoP-197) with multiple signatories.

Some of the paraphrased feedback from these submissions includes:

- oppose being split from the Auchenflower community;
- do not want to become some hybrid annex as proposed;
- oppose Park Avenue, Bayliss Street and Cadell Street being split from Paddington Ward and the suburb of Auchenflower;
- these streets would feel like an outpost of the Walter Taylor Ward;
- these residents have different issues to the Walter Taylor Ward;
- requests their inclusion in the Paddington Ward; and
- expand the southern boundary of Paddington Ward to align with the suburb boundary of Auchenflower.

Camp Hill (Coorparoo, Morningside & Doboy Wards)

A significant number of comments expressed opposition to the proposed boundaries in the Camp Hill area. One of the submissions was a petition (CoP-43) with multiple signatories.

Some of the paraphrased feedback from these submissions includes:

- do not want Camp Hill split across multiple wards;
- Camp Hill residents relate more to Coorparoo than Hemmant or Morningside;
- oppose Camp Hill being removed from Coorparoo Ward;
- support the existing boundaries being retained;
- retain the current Old Cleveland Road boundary;
- residents have greater connections, commonality and interests with Coorparoo;
- placing part of the area into Doboy will greatly devalue properties;
- Camp Hill, south of Old Cleveland Road and west of Boundary Road, has a strong community of interest with Coorparoo;
- Morningside Ward issues are very different;
- need one representative as Camp Hill is under stress from loss of character;
- Camp Hill has no close affiliations with Hemmant, Lytton, Doboy, Murarrie or Tingalpa.
- Camp Hill is a unique, vibrant area and its urban fabric has a stronger connection to Coorparoo than the bayside or industrial suburbs;
- there are different traffic and transport issues in the neighbouring Wards;
- the change is a waste of taxpayer money; and
- there are different socio-economic groups, so should leave Camp Hill in Morningside or include in Holland Park or Coorparoo.

Cannon Hill (Morningside & Dobby Wards)

Several comments expressed opposition to the proposed boundaries in the Cannon Hill area. A petition (CoP-72) objecting to the changes received multiple signatories.

Some of the paraphrased feedback from these submissions includes:

- oppose the change to Cannon Hill;
- residents wish to remain in the Morningside Ward and not in the same ward as Murarrie, as they are distinct communities;
- Boundary Road is a clear and logical boundary, everyone understands where it is;
- leave the community as it is; and
- the community associates with Morningside and Coorparoo.

Carseldine (Bracken Ridge & McDowall Wards)

A significant number of comments opposed the boundaries in the Carseldine area. A petition (CoP-71) regarding this change also received multiple signatories.

Some of the paraphrased feedback from these submissions includes:

- object to the proposed split of Carseldine;
- retain the existing boundaries, it is a great community, leave it be;
- the proposed split will result in a loss of unification;
- government is making changes for its own benefit and not the citizens;
- do not want the community split in two, it should stay in one Council;
- Carseldine residents use Gympie Road as their primary transport route;
- if the change is reversed, there are not unacceptable impacts to the quota on Bracken Ridge, Marchant or McDowall Wards;
- if it has to happen, why not include the area with Aspley, which Carseldine was part of years ago, or even Bald Hills as including it with Everton Park is ridiculous;
- do not want the resale value of the properties to be severely compromised; and
- the changes do not unite Aspley and split Carseldine. No residents requested the change and as all wards are in quota, this area is not dependent on inner city changes.

Mount Gravatt (Holland Park & Macgregor Wards)

A handful of submissions raised concerns about the proposed transfer of the Mount Gravatt Outlook Reserve and the Mount Gravatt Showgrounds from the Holland Park Ward into the Macgregor Ward. The submitters noted these areas form an integral part of the suburb and should remain in a ward where the community is invested in protecting the historical, cultural and environmental aspects of the area. It was also noted that the area is accessed via Shire Road in Holland Park Ward.

Newstead (Central & Hamilton Wards)

A large volume of submissions regarding changes to Central Ward were received. Most of this correspondence was compiled and submitted by the Central Ward Office and has been included in this report as a petition (CoP-198).

Some of the paraphrased feedback from these submissions includes:

- oppose the transfer of Newstead and Bowen Hills, leave everything as it is;
- Breakfast / Enoggera Creek is a clear boundary between Central and Hamilton Wards;
- Newstead and Bowen Hills share stronger community ties to Central Ward;
- oppose any change to remove Newstead from Central Ward or Cr Vicki Howard;
- would like common representation across Newstead, Teneriffe and New Farm;
- Longland Street is a contrived and divisive boundary;
- Newstead has nothing in common with Pinkenba and Kalinga;
- there is a network of community groups, precincts and venues in Central Ward;
- does not enhance, rather divides the community;
- Newstead should have one councillor;
- it is a high-density area with public transport and other similar issues;
- there are shared facilities, shops and schools in Central;
- the current ward better represents Newstead's issues and interests; and
- Bowen Hills and Newstead have community of interest in Central Ward.

Richlands (Forest Lake & Jamboree Wards)

Several submitters objected to the proposed transfer of Richlands into the Jamboree Ward from the Forest Lake Ward. A petition (CoP-28) also received a handful of signatories.

Some of the paraphrased feedback included:

- oppose the change as the Richlands Ward has already been abolished;
- Richlands is separated by an industrial estate and highway from Jamboree Ward;
- the CJ Greenfields Sporting Precinct is the only developed multi-sport precinct and it is detrimental to remove it from Forest Lake Ward;
- the change does not suit the natural geographic and infrastructure layout of the region;
- confusing for residents and it will make it difficult to visit the Jamboree council office;
- people in the area are elderly and have issues associated with poor bus networks;
- fear the area will be excluded and have less representation in Jamboree Ward;
- lack of cultural connection with the Centenary suburbs; and
- suggest moving Jamboree's boundaries east into Oxley or Corinda instead.

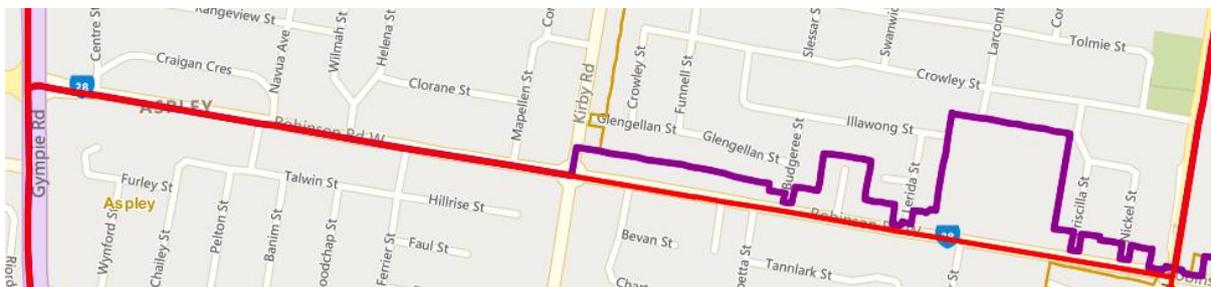
CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED BOUNDARIES

After reviewing its proposed boundaries and having considered feedback from the public submissions, the Change Commission has made a number of modifications to the ward boundaries, while being mindful of its statutory obligations to ensure the wards remain in quota for the 2020 election.

The Change Commission would like to acknowledge the high level of public engagement throughout this review and thank the community for its contributions. While legally required to balance enrolment across Brisbane's wards, the advice received through public feedback has helped the Change Commission to better understand the interests and composition of local communities and, in the context of ensuring wards remain in quota, determine where the boundaries may be best placed.

Aside from considering enrolment and public submissions, the Change Commission has also made a concerted effort to select identifiable features as boundaries. While aware some submitters have suggested following locality boundaries, it is noted that in Brisbane the suburb boundaries weave around individual properties. Therefore, the Change Commission has opted to follow more definable boundaries such as roads and creeks.

The image below is provided as an example. It shows the final southern boundary (red) of Bracken Ridge Ward following Robinson Road West, as opposed to the current boundary (purple) which follows the suburb boundary and criss-crosses behind houses and lots.



In determining the final boundaries, the Change Commission determined that for procedural fairness reasons, it would seek to minimise the number of new changes introduced as there is no further opportunity for public consultation. Therefore, most changes between the proposed and final boundaries have been to accommodate public submissions and are in areas where it has been possible to return to the existing boundaries.

The Change Commission notes that it has reduced the number of enrolled voters reassigned to another ward when compared to the proposal. The proposed boundaries would have impacted approximately 10% of voters, whereas the final boundaries reassign approximately 7.90% of voters.

Maps of the proposed wards are attached at Appendix E and can be compared with the final division maps at Appendix A. The boundary modifications and consideration of the comments on the proposal are discussed below.

Bracken Ridge Ward

Numerous submissions including a petition with multiple signatories objected to the proposed transfer of part of Carseldine to McDowall Ward. Submitters highlighted the benefits of having this suburb united in one division and noted Gympie Road is an important connecting road rather than dividing road in the area.

While the proposed changes had brought this Ward's enrolment closer to the average, the Change Commission has been persuaded to retain the existing boundaries and keep Carseldine united within Bracken Ridge Ward. In doing so, it has also reversed the changes in Aspley with the Marchant and McDowall Wards, so that the southern boundary of Bracken Ridge Ward follows Robinson Road West.

The final Ward has 29,568 voters which is -0.44% below average and is predicted to have 30,399 voters by 2024 which would be -3.54% below average.

Calamvale Ward

The Change Commission supported the suggestion to transfer part of the 'Chain of Ponds' residential area into Calamvale Ward from Forest Lake Ward. It was noted this enables the boundary between these two wards to follow Blunder Creek, whereas the proposed boundary deviated to follow Old Blunder Road. In doing so, this has also brought Calamvale Ward's current and projected enrolment closer to the average.

The final Ward has 29,717 voters which is 0.06% above average and is predicted to have 31,217 voters by 2024 which would be -0.95% below average.

Central Ward

The Change Commission received a large volume of submissions including a petition with close to 200 signatories relating to Central Ward. The comments mostly objected to the proposed transfer of part of Newstead to Hamilton Ward, citing strong community interests and ties with Central Ward, Teneriffe, New Farm, the Councillor and the use of services and facilities. Several submitters also discussed the Bowen Hills area, noting it also shares a community of interest with Central Ward.

The Change Commission modelled recommendations to retain Newstead completely within this Ward, noting this resulted in Central Ward exceeding the projected enrolment average at 18.9% and Hamilton Ward having a current enrolment of -9.7%. It then considered suggestions to retain Newstead in Central Ward, while removing Bowen Hills. The projected enrolment for Central Ward remained out of quota at 13.97%.

The Change Commission also modelled recommendations to include as much of Newstead as possible, shifting the boundary to Skyring Terrace and noted that, in doing so, it was still necessary to transfer most of Bowen Hills into Hamilton Ward including the Gregory Terrace and Saint Pauls Terrace area. This scenario was possible from an enrolment perspective, with current enrolment at -5.67% and projected to be 7.46% in 2024.

Following extensive deliberations, the Change Commission determined to retain its proposed boundaries as the final boundaries, noting this generated the most sustainable enrolment outcome (-3.91% and projected to be 5.2% in 2024). Another decisive factor was that the alternative scenario described above (that contained projected growth) did so at the expense of a significant number of Bowen Hills residents that have not had the opportunity to offer their feedback. Therefore, as the alternative scenario would only add one additional section of Newstead, the Change Commission was not persuaded a change of this magnitude at this stage of the review was in the public interest.

While understanding the connections between Newstead and Central Ward and the desire of residents to remain united as a suburb, the Change Commission is legally required to ensure equitable democratic representation by distributing enrolment evenly across the wards. This often means splitting growth areas such as Newstead. In doing so, the Change Commission acknowledges this will not be welcomed by some in the community, but notes it is Central Ward's best option to achieving longer-term enrolment stability.

The proposed boundaries have been accepted as the final boundaries for this Ward.

Chandler Ward

The Change Commission discussed but did not implement a request to realign this Ward's boundary to follow Newnham Road and incorporate parts of Wishart in Chandler Ward. It was noted this change would have significant enrolment impacts on neighbouring Macgregor Ward and would also introduce a new change without an opportunity for the impacted residents to offer their feedback.

Other feedback regarding Rochedale and Burbank was noted, however based on the enrolment information available and the fact that the Change Commission was not willing to introduce significant new changes at this stage of the review, it has accepted the proposed boundaries as the final boundaries for this Ward.

Coorparoo Ward

Numerous submissions including a petition with multiple signatories objected to the proposed changes in the Camp Hill area, requesting the existing boundaries be retained.

The Change Commission was persuaded to reinstate Old Cleveland Road as the northern boundary of Coorparoo Ward, returning the parts of Camp Hill previously in Coorparoo Ward and to a large extent the parts of Camp Hill previously in Morningside Ward. It noted that by reversing its proposed boundaries in this area, this required other realignments to the surrounding wards. Suggestions to transfer Annerley out of Coorparoo Ward have also been implemented, as this has helped to accommodate changes in the Camp Hill area and has also kept Annerley in two wards, rather than split between three wards.

The final Ward has 29,934 voters which is 0.79% above average and is predicted to have 32,742 voters by 2024 which would be 3.89% above average.

Deagon Ward

Two comments discussed Deagon Ward, with one supporting the proposed transfer of part of Geebung and the other opposing this change but noting there are limited alternatives that do not involve significant disruption. The proposed boundaries have been accepted as the final boundaries for this Ward.

Doboy Ward

A number of submissions including a petition with multiple signatories, objected to the proposed transfer of the remainder of Cannon Hill into Doboy Ward. The submitters requested the portion of Cannon Hill currently located in Morningside Ward remain in this Ward. While the Change Commission considered this suggestion, it has retained the proposed boundaries, noting it is necessary from an enrolment perspective and that it unites the entire suburb of Cannon Hill in the same ward.

The decision to reverse the proposed changes in the Camp Hill area (see Coorparoo and Morningside Wards), meant Doboy Ward needed to gain voters. The Change Commission implemented suggestions to return part of Manly West into this Ward and noted that with Manly West and Cannon Hill included, Doboy Ward is -5.13% below the average enrolment and if the part of Cannon Hill was returned to Morningside Ward, Doboy Ward would fall out of quota.

The Change Commission also considered but did not implement a recommendation to move part of Carina Heights north of Bendena Terrace and the rest of Camp Hill into Doboy Ward, noting it had already returned the boundaries in the Camp Hill area to follow the existing boundaries as requested by many submitters.

The final Ward has 28,175 voters which is -5.13% below average and is predicted to have 29,848 voters by 2024 which would be -5.29% below average.

Enoggera Ward

A few submitters expressed their support for the proposed boundaries of Enoggera Ward, particularly the addition of more of Windsor. One of these submissions also noted their approval of the ward shifting east, with Dawson Parade as the north-western boundary, the retention of Enoggera Creek as the southern boundary, the shift of McLean Parade into The Gap Ward and the additional portion of Alderley being added from Marchant Ward.

A modification that transferred three voters from Enoggera Ward to The Gap Ward has been implemented, so the western boundary of the Enoggera Ward follows the Mitchelton suburb boundary before connecting to Samford Road. Of the suggested boundary modifications, the Change Commission supported recommendations to retain the existing boundary in the Grange area so that it follows the more prominent Raymont and Wilston Roads.

Others recommended transferring more of Windsor from Marchant Ward, or extending Enoggera Ward to Breakfast Creek Road. These suggestions were considered but not implemented, as this would have introduced new changes that were not necessary from an enrolment perspective.

The final Ward has 30,746 voters which is 3.53% above average and is predicted to have 32,320 voters by 2024 which would be 2.55% above average.

Forest Lake Ward

The Change Commission considered the submissions and petition and agreed to return most of Richlands, including the C.J. Greenfield Park, back into the Forest Lake Ward. A part of the industrial area situated west of the Centenary Highway has remained in Jamboree Ward. An additional change has been made to extend the northern boundary of Forest Lake Ward to follow the prominent Ipswich Motorway, rather than returning it to Boundary Road.

As discussed under 'Calamvale Ward', the Change Commission was persuaded by a suggestion to transfer part of the 'Chain of Ponds' residential area into Calamvale Ward from Forest Lake Ward. This change has improved enrolment in Calamvale Ward and enabled the shared boundary between these two wards to follow Blunder Creek.

The final Ward has 30,059 voters which is 1.21% above average and is predicted to have 32,431 voters by 2024 which would be 2.91% above average.

Hamilton Ward

Most of the comments discussing Hamilton Ward expressed opposition to moving part of Newstead into this Ward and out of Central Ward. For more information about these deliberations, see 'Central Ward'.

A number of comments about Hamilton Ward also discussed the suburbs of Lutwyche, Wooloowin and Albion, and expressed mixed views about where these suburbs should be placed. The Change Commission has adjusted the boundary to return the majority of Albion to Hamilton Ward, following Mclennan Street and Marne Road. The parts of Wooloowin and Lutwyche placed in the proposed Marchant Ward have remained there, as Hamilton Ward is already projected to grow by 6% by 2024.

The final Ward has 29,407 voters which is -0.98% below average and is predicted to have 33,428 voters by 2024 which would be 6.07% above average.

Holland Park Ward

The Change Commission received a few submissions opposing the proposed placement of the Mount Gravatt Outlook Reserve and Mount Gravatt Showgrounds in Macgregor Ward. The submitters indicated this area shares significant ties with the Mount Gravatt suburb and is accessible via the Holland Park Ward. As this change has minimal impacts on voter numbers, the Change Commission has retained the area in the Holland Park Ward.

A couple submitters expressed opposition to Tarragindi being divided, stating the boundary splits residential communities and shared precincts. The Change Commission was unable to transfer all of Tarragindi back into Holland Park Ward, however has transferred a significant portion following the Tarragindi locality boundary and Fernvale Road.

The final Ward has 30,584 voters which is 2.98% above average and is predicted to have 31,778 voters by 2024 which would be 0.83% above average.

Jamboree Ward

The Change Commission was persuaded to return most of Richlands to Forest Lake Ward as discussed under 'Forest Lake Ward'. As Jamboree Ward is projected to fall below the quota by 2024, it was necessary to implement some new changes in this area to supplement the loss of electors from Richlands.

A few submissions recommended that Jamboree Ward expand east to gain voters from the Tennyson and Moorooka Wards. The Change Commission agreed and has expanded the eastern boundary to follow the Oxley locality boundary south from the Brisbane River and continue along Clivedon Avenue, the rail line, Seventeen Mile Rocks Road, Oxley Station Road, Englefield Road, Douglas Street and the Ipswich Motorway. While recognising it is introducing a new change, the Change Commission notes this is necessary from an enrolment perspective following the return of the Richlands area. Another consideration was that most of the Oxley area in question was suggested to move from Moorooka Ward to Tennyson Ward in the proposed determination, and therefore while moving to a different Ward than proposed, it appeared to be the most reasonable exchange.

The final Ward has 29,680 voters which is -0.06% below average and is predicted to have 29,988 voters by 2024 which would be -4.85% below average.

Macgregor Ward

Two changes have been made to Macgregor Ward to accommodate public submissions. The Change Commission returned the Mount Gravatt Outlook Reserve and Showgrounds to Holland Park Ward and amended the boundary with Runcorn Ward to follow McCullough Street without deviation. For more information see 'Holland Park Ward' and 'Runcorn Ward'.

The final Ward has 27,850 voters which is -6.22% below average and is predicted to have 29,628 voters by 2024 which would be -5.99% below average.

Marchant Ward

The Change Commission has modified the boundaries of Marchant Ward to accommodate public submissions regarding the Bracken Ridge, McDowall and Hamilton Wards. In the north, the proposed changes in the Aspley area have been reversed back to Robinson Road West. The only change to this boundary is that it follows Robinson Road West without deviating around properties as it does currently. The boundary also returns to follow Gympie Road, Webster Road and Pie Street. In retaining the existing boundaries, the Change Commission has been able to accommodate public submissions requesting Carseldine remain united in Bracken Ridge Ward.

The Change Commission has also implemented some realignments to the southern boundary to accommodate comments on the proposal. The south-western corner has returned to Raymont and Wilston Roads as discussed under 'Enoggera Ward', while in the south-eastern corner, a portion of Albion has returned to Hamilton Ward as discussed under 'Hamilton Ward'.

The final Ward has 31,266 voters which is 5.28% above average and is predicted to have 33,339 voters by 2024 which would be 5.79% above average.

McDowall Ward

As discussed under 'Bracken Ridge Ward' and 'Marchant Ward', the Change Commission was persuaded by public submissions to reverse the proposed changes in the Carseldine area, retaining the existing boundaries between the McDowall, Bracken Ridge and Marchant Wards.

A minor modification to the south-eastern boundary of this Ward has been implemented to accommodate a suggestion for the boundary to continue along Shand Street to Kedron Brook, rather than deviating to Sheehy Street. This change does not affect any voters.

The final Ward has 30,281 voters which is 1.96% above average and is predicted to have 31,822 voters by 2024 which would be 0.97% above average.

Moorooka Ward

As discussed under 'Coorparoo Ward', the Change Commission was persuaded by suggestions opposing the division of Annerley into three wards. The portion of Annerley east* of Ipswich Road in Coorparoo Ward has been transferred into Moorooka Ward as recommended.

In doing so, this enabled a large portion of Tarragindi to be returned to Holland Park Ward as requested by public submissions and discussed under 'Holland Park Ward'. A change between the Moorooka and Runcorn Wards has also been actioned as a result of a public suggestion so that the boundary follows Boundary Road instead of the smaller streets proposed. Another minor realignment has been made so that the boundary between the Tennyson and Moorooka Ward continues to follow Ipswich Road further south before connecting to the Moolabin Creek, transferring 10 voters into Tennyson Ward.

The final Ward has 28,846 voters which is -2.87% below average and is predicted to have 29,787 voters by 2024 which would be -5.48% below average.

Morningside Ward

The Change Commission was persuaded by suggestions to reverse the proposed realignments in the Camp Hill area, thereby mostly reinstating the existing boundaries between the Coorparoo, Doboy and Morningside Wards. The only change to the boundary between the Morningside and Doboy Wards is that it follows roads south of Darcy Road to Old Cleveland Road without deviating around properties as it does currently. As a result of returning the boundary in the Camp Hill area, the requests to retain the section of Cannon Hill currently in Morningside Ward were unable to be accommodated, as Doboy Ward would fall below the legislated quota.

The final Ward has 28,739 voters which is -3.23% below average and is predicted to have 29,897 voters by 2024 which would be -5.13% below average.

Northgate Ward

Two submitters expressed support for the proposed transfer of part of Chermside out of Northgate Ward and into Marchant Ward. The proposed boundaries have been accepted as the final boundaries for this Ward.

* Amended on 6 November 2019: replaced 'west' with 'east' under Moorooka Ward.

Paddington Ward

A number of submitters including a petition with multiple signatories, objected to the proposed transfer of a small portion of Auchenflower from Paddington Ward into Walter Taylor Ward. Some of these comments proposed alternative boundaries such as Croydon Street or Sylvan Road, noting these are more significant roadways than Dixon Street.

The Change Commission supported this request and has modified the boundary to follow Croydon Street, Sylvan Road and the rail line, thereby reuniting the Auchenflower suburb in Paddington Ward and following more significant roadways in the area.

The final Ward has 31,143 voters which is 4.86% above average and is predicted to have 32,793 voters by 2024 which would be 4.05% above average.

Pullenvale Ward

Two comments discussed Pullenvale Ward, with one expressing support for the unification of a greater portion of Chapel Hill and another recommending the boundary follow the creek instead of Chapel Hill Road, transferring some additional streets into Walter Taylor Ward.

The Change Commission was not persuaded to alter the proposed boundary, noting Chapel Hill residents west of Chapel Hill Road have connectivity with neighbouring suburbs such as Kenmore via Moggill Road and other smaller connecting roads.

The proposed boundaries have been accepted as the final boundaries for this Ward.

Runcorn Ward

A single change has been implemented for Runcorn Ward after a submitter recommended the boundary between the Runcorn, Macgregor and Moorooka Wards follow Boundary Road and McCullough Street instead of minor roads. As the Change Commission has made a concerted effort to select easily identifiable boundaries, it supported this submission.

The final Ward has 29,991 voters which is 0.98% above average and is predicted to have 30,739 voters by 2024 which would be -2.46% below average.

Tennyson Ward

The Change Commission was persuaded by public submissions to return Richlands to Forest Lake Ward and has adopted recommendations to extend the eastern boundary of Jamboree Ward to gain parts of Oxley. The shared boundary between the Tennyson and Jamboree Wards follows the Oxley locality boundary, the rail line, Seventeen Mile Rocks Road, Oxley Station Road, Englefield Road, Douglas Street and connects with the Ipswich Motorway. For more information, see 'Forest Lake Ward' and 'Jamboree Ward'.

The final Ward has 28,160 voters which is -5.18% below average and is predicted to have 30,559 voters by 2024 which would be -3.03% below average.

The Gabba Ward

The Change Commission was not persuaded by suggestions to alter The Gabba Ward. While it notes some submitters would have preferred other areas such as Dutton Park to have been removed, it selected East Brisbane and part of Woolloongabba due to the higher levels of growth in these areas. The primary goal in establishing these boundaries, has been to try and contain the significant growth that is anticipated while aligning to describable features such as roads. Based on the latest information available, the Change Commission is confident the final boundaries will keep The Gabba Ward in quota for the foreseeable future.

The final Ward has 26,942 voters which is -9.28% below average and is predicted to have 33,541 voters by 2024 which would be 6.43% above average.

The Gap Ward

Two submitters indicated their support for the proposed boundaries of The Gap Ward. One noted their support for the unification of Bardon in Paddington Ward and the majority of Keperra in this Ward, while the other stated the proposed boundaries make appropriate use of natural and man-made boundaries. A modification has been made so the boundary follows the Keperra suburb boundary to Samford Road, adding three electors from Enoggera Ward.

The final Ward has 30,779 voters which is 3.64% above average and is predicted to have 31,397 voters by 2024 which would be -0.38% below average.

Walter Taylor Ward

As discussed under 'Paddington Ward', the Change Commission was persuaded by public submissions to keep Auchenflower united and has modified the boundary to follow more significant roadways in the area.

One public submission also recommended a change in the Chapel Hill area between the Pullenvale and Walter Taylor Wards. This was not implemented and is discussed under 'Pullenvale Ward'.

The final Ward has 30,134 voters which is 1.47% above average and is predicted to have 31,515 voters by 2024 which would be 0% above average.

Wynnum-Manly Ward

Some submissions recommended that the suburb of Manly West remain split between Wynnum-Manly Ward and Dobby Ward, to accommodate submissions regarding Camp Hill and Cannon Hill. One comment suggested the boundary follow Radford Road and Manly Road, rather than Radford Road and the series of minor roads in use currently.

While the Change Commission would have preferred to keep the Manly West suburb united in Wynnum-Manly Ward as was proposed, to accommodate the public submissions regarding Camp Hill, it has adopted the recommendations for the boundary to follow Radford Road, Caloundra Street* and Manly Road. For more information, see 'Dobby Ward'.

The final Ward has 28,406 voters which is -4.35% below average and is predicted to have 29,899 voters by 2024 which would be -5.13% below average.

* Amended 6 November 2019: added 'Caloundra Street' to reflect the boundary as shown in the Appendix A maps.

FINAL DETERMINATION

After assessing the material submitted and having considered the requirements of the Act, the Change Commission is satisfied the final boundaries meet the enrolment requirements of the Act. It therefore recommends the proposed boundaries, with the aforementioned modifications, become the final wards for the Brisbane City Council.

The reasoning for these changes is provided in the 'Changes to the Proposed Boundaries' section of the report.

It is noted that the implementation of this recommendation is expected to result in the following ward enrolment:

Ward	Enrolment as at 31/01/2019	% Deviation from Average Enrolment	Projected Enrolment as at 31/03/2024	% Deviation from Projected Average Enrolment
Bracken Ridge	29,568	-0.44	30,399	-3.54
Calamvale	29,717	0.06	31,217	-0.95
Central	28,538	-3.91	33,154	5.2
Chandler	29,279	-1.41	30,041	-4.68
Coorparoo	29,934	0.79	32,742	3.89
Deagon	31,893	7.39	33,150	5.19
Doboy	28,175	-5.13	29,848	-5.29
Enoggera	30,746	3.53	32,320	2.55
Forest Lake	30,059	1.21	32,431	2.91
Hamilton	29,407	-0.98	33,428	6.07
Holland Park	30,584	2.98	31,778	0.83
Jamboree	29,680	-0.06	29,988	-4.85
Macgregor	27,850	-6.22	29,628	-5.99
Marchant	31,266	5.28	33,339	5.79
McDowall	30,281	1.96	31,822	0.97
Moorooka	28,846	-2.87	29,787	-5.48
Morningside	28,739	-3.23	29,897	-5.13
Northgate	30,727	3.46	32,098	1.85
Paddington	31,143	4.86	32,793	4.05
Pullenvale	31,317	5.45	31,886	1.18
Runcorn	29,991	0.98	30,739	-2.46
Tennyson	28,160	-5.18	30,559	-3.03
The Gabba	26,942	-9.28	33,541	6.43
The Gap	30,779	3.64	31,397	-0.38
Walter Taylor	30,134	1.47	31,515	0
Wynnum-Manly	28,406	-4.35	29,899	-5.13

RECOMMENDATION

The Change Commission has provided its assessment to the Minister for Local Government and recommended the Governor in Council implement its final boundaries.

The Change Commission's final recommendation is as follows:

- for the purpose of the 2020 Local Government Quadrennial Election, the Brisbane City Council be redivided into twenty-six (26) wards as shown in the maps contained in Appendix A.

In accordance with the Act, the Change Commission has published a notice of results in the Government Gazette, a newspaper circulating in the local government area and in the ECQ website.



Pat Vidgen PSM
Electoral Commissioner



Wade Lewis
Casual Commissioner

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