

APPENDIX C

Suggestions Notice & Public Submissions

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGE COMMISSION

Divisional Boundary Review of Sunshine Coast Regional Council

The Sunshine Coast Regional Council has advised its electoral divisions no longer meet the voter enrolment requirements set down in the *Local Government Act 2009*. As a result, the Minister for Local Government has referred the matter to the Change Commission for independent assessment.

Enrolment Requirements

Each division of the Council is required to have relatively the same number of voters (quota) to ensure each person's vote has the same value. The quota for each division of the Sunshine Coast Regional local government area is 22,445* with a lower limit of 20,201 (-10%) and an upper limit of 24,690 (+10%).

For more information and enrolment statistics please see the Electoral Commission of Queensland's website: www.ecq.qld.gov.au/electoral-boundaries/lg-reviews/DBRs or phone 1300 881 665.

INVITATION FOR WRITTEN SUGGESTIONS

The Change Commission now invites suggestions regarding the divisional boundaries for the Sunshine Coast Regional Council. Submissions will be accepted until 5pm on 20 May 2019. Late submissions cannot be considered.

Submissions can be lodged through:

- **Online Form (preferred)**

www.ecq.qld.gov.au/electoral-boundaries/lg-reviews/DBRs

- **Email**

LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

- **Personal Delivery** (Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm)

Electoral Commission of Queensland
Level 20, 1 Eagle Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

- **Post**

Local Government Change Commission
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Submissions will be made available for public inspection. To discuss any privacy concerns, please phone 1300 881 665.

Pat Vidgen PSM
Electoral Commissioner

**Please note: The average enrolment figure in this notice has been amended after spatial modelling resulted in a slight modification to the average enrolment.*

Divisional Boundary Review of Sunshine Coast Regional Council

List of Public Suggestions

Suggestion	Name / Organisation
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- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Dan |
| 2 | Ray Barber, President, Coolum Residents Association Inc. |
| 3 | Estelle Blair |
| 4 | Leigh Warneminde |
| 5 | Estelle Blair, President, Development Watch Inc. |
| 6 | Peter Cox |
| 7 | Friends of Lake Weyba |
| 8 | Sunshine Coast Council |

Sent: Wednesday, 1 May 2019 7:50 AM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78668) Sunshine Coast Regional Local Government Area - Dan

Online submission for **Sunshine Coast Regional Local Government Area** from **Dan**

Submission Details

Name: Dan

Submission Text: I would like Coolum Beach to be in Noosa Council for so many reasons.

File Upload: No file uploaded ()

15 May, 2019



Electoral Commission of Queensland

LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

Coolum Residents Association Inc is the 70 year old, 70 member community association for Coolum Beach.

Communities of interest

Division 9 presently comprises the villages of Verrierdale, Doonan, Peregian Springs, Coolum Beach, Yandina Creek, Valdora, Maroochy River and Bli Bli. Of these the Sunshine Coast planning scheme elevates to the status of District Centre Coolum Beach. The others are of lesser significance in the services hierarchy.

Each of the lesser villages, other than Bli Bli, has historically comprised Coolum Beach's agricultural, pastoral, swamp and forest hinterlands. Bli Bli was proximate to, and had connexions, to the former regional centre of Nambour. Bli Bli still shares Nambour's postcode. It also had community links to Maroochydore, Marcoola and Maroochy River.

Our members can find few, if any, communities of interest in the last 30 years between Bli Bli and Coolum Beach. Sugar cane farming was the common industry for the two towns. However, cane is a much-depleted industry in division 9.

Rural residents of division 9 have long used Coolum Beach as their district centre.

This has created communities: communities of club membership; communities of socialisation and communities of personal interest.

For at least 50 years, until 2012, division 9 and its past equivalents were represented at Maroochy Shire Council by a resident of Coolum Beach.

The culture of Coolum Beach has increasingly, since about 1965, included a desire for natural conservation, low-rise building development and lifestyle living. By choosing to live on isolated rural blocks, the hinterlanders were seen to share Coolum Beach's culture, particularly of lifestyle and conservation.

The local authority election of 1982 saw Coolum Beach elect an anti-highrise development councillor in Councillor Tom Watkins, a retired businessman. In the 1990's and new millennium, each councillor seemed to reflect in his or her decision making the desire for low-rise, for conservation and for good services.

During this time, Bli Bli remained a rural idyll, as relaxed in lifestyle as Coolum Beach but with urban sprawl commencing to appear. For most of this time it was in a different Council division to Coolum Beach and its councillors could almost always be described as rural conservatives. The culture of Bli Bli and its councillors took a turn toward urbanisation and commercial development close to the Maroochy River.

This association argues that the two centres have taken separate paths for many decades. No one says that one is better than the other: only different.

The communities of interest are different enough for Bli Bli and Coolum Beach to be placed in separate divisions.

Means of communication and serviceability Coolum and district can presently access the state parliamentary office of the Member for Ninderry at Heathfield Road, Coolum Beach. The state member for the people of Bli Bli is the Member for Nicklin, whose office is 10 minutes' drive from them at Nambour.

Sunshine Coast Councillors do not have out-of-centre offices.

Creating sensible and definable boundaries

CRA Inc says that Bli Bli should be excised from division 9. The sensible boundary that achieves that excision is the Maroochy River.

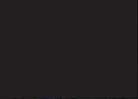
Excision allows what we call Steinhardt's farm and Yaroomba to be readmitted to the community of interest found in division 9. The sensible boundaries achieving this readmission are Suncoast Beach Drive, immediately to the south of Mt Coolum (which is a visual boundary), David Low Way and Tanah Street East.

Specific enrolments requirements for divisional boundary reviews

Bli Bli moving from division 9 appears to deliver a reduction of about 6,066 voters. Adding Steinhardt's farm and Yaroomba adds voters of about 2,574, achieving a total of about 21,200, just 755 below quota.

ECQ predicts little room for population growth in most of the division 9 subdivisions. However, allowance should be allowed for population growth at Peregian Springs.

Yours faithfully,



Coolum Residents Association Inc.

Ray Barber President

From: Estelle Blair
Sent: Thursday, 16 May 2019 6:48 PM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: Submission on the review of Divisional boundaries for Sunshine Coast Regional Council
Attachments: Submission_ECQ review of divisional boundaries_Sunshine Coast LGA_Div9.pdf; Division9_revised_bdry.pdf; Division7_revised_bdry.pdf; Division8_revised_bdry.pdf

Hello

Please find attached my submission to the above review. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Regards

Estelle Blair



Draft Submission on ECQ review of divisional boundaries for the Sunshine Coast LGA

The following proposal is submitted for ECQ's consideration.

It is proposed to create a natural community of interest along the coastal strip from the Maroochy River to the local government boundary at the Peregian Beach connector road north of Coolum Beach. The justification for this boundary realignment is as follows:

Communities of interest: The coastal strip from the north shore of the Maroochy River (Twin Waters, Pacific Paradise) to the LGA boundary at the Motorway connection road to Peregian Beach, is a natural and cohesive community of interest. That the current boundary between Divs 8 and 9 falls in Yaroomba splits this community of interest, combining the southern part with suburban communities in the Enterprise Zone south of the Maroochy River, and combining Coolum district (part of Yaroomba, Pt Arkwright and Coolum) with subcoastal suburbs (Peregian Springs and Peregian Breeze) and hinterland communities (Doonan, Verrierdale, Yandina Creek, Valdora etc), which do not share the same values and interests. It is logical and feasible to include all of the coastal communities north of the Maroochy River (Pacific Paradise, Twin Waters, Mudjimba, Maroola, Mt Coolum, Yaroomba, Pt Arkwright and Coolum) into one Division. The *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* recognises the different community lifestyle and aspirations north and south of the River, in having a vision of the north community as a series of low key coastal villages, a "community of communities", outside of the Enterprise corridor (except for the Airport precinct). It is logical that the Divisional boundaries also recognise this. Including SA1 units along the immediate southern bank of the Maroochy River from the Sunshine Motorway to the ocean (ie SA1 units 3142729, 3142739, 3142740, 3142710, 3142712, 3142713) is intended to be a temporary measure in place until the population of major new developments north of Maroochy River come to fruition, but these areas directly fronting the Maroochy estuary do share common issues, such as flooding and coastal erosion with Twin Waters on the North Shore. It also makes the Division totals more equitable, after more populated SA1 units south of the River are relocated into Division 4 and Division 7 and Division 9 is extended southward to include more of its rural community of interest.

Means of communication and serviceability: Currently the coastal strip falls into two State electoral areas, Ninderry and Maroochydhore. This will not change with the proposed redistribution. The elected member for Ninderry has his office in Coolum Beach; the elected member for Maroochydhore has her office adjacent on the proposed southernmost boundary, within 20 minutes of the most northern section of her electorate. Sunshine Coast Councillors do not have out-of-centre offices, so their accessibility to the public remains unchanged. Public transport connections along the coastal strip (via David Low Way and the Motorway) already adequately service all respective offices, and enable public travel between Coolum Beach and Maroochydhore, as well as shopping precincts in Pacific Paradise and other suburbs in between.

Creating sensible and definable boundaries: The revised "Division 8" would include from the south and north banks of the Maroochy River, largely east of the Sunshine Motorway (except for a small area of Pacific Paradise artificially cut off from the rest of the suburb by the Motorway), north along the coast as far as the connector road between the Motorway and Peregian Beach. By using major roads and the Maroochy River a sensible and definable boundary is created. These major boundaries also split the villages now and a realignment is preferable to having contiguous communities split (as in Coolum/Yaroomba), while retaining, for the time being, a community of interest around the immediate Maroochy estuary.

Specific enrolment requirements for Divisional Boundary Reviews: It is possible to create a revised Division 8 as follows:

Division 8: Remove population south of the Maroochy River, except for SA1 units 3142729, 3142740, 3142739, 3142710, 3142712, 3142713, 3142725, 3142707, 3142705 (immediately adjacent to the Maroochy River) and include Yaroomba, Pt Arkwright and Coolum as shown in the attached map. This gives a voting population of 22,661 (current) and 24,782 (2024), within the 10% variation. Rapid growth of residential apartments in either Coolum or Marcoola may result in the 2024 projection being further revised.

Division 4: Include the following areas of Maroochydoore east of Maroochy Boulevard, Evans Street and Broadmeadows Rd and east of the canal, including Cotton Tree south to Aerodrome Road, except for SA1 units 3142710, 3142712, 3142713, 3142725, 3142707, 3142705 as shown on the attached map: This gives a Division 4 voting population of 22,340 (current) and 24,431 (2024).

Division 7: Include the following areas: west of Maroochy Boulevard, Evans Street and Broadmeadows Road through to the Motorway and River, excepting 3142729, 3142739 and 3142740 and remove Rosemount, Diddilibah, Kiels Mountain, Kunda Park and Maroochydoore west of the Motorway areas as indicated on the attached map. This gives a voting population of 22,343 (current) and 24,550 (2024).

Division 9: Remove Coolum area east of the Motorway and north of South Coolum Road, Yarrock Street, Jenyor Street, Warran Road and Warragah Parade, and include areas of Rosemount, Diddilibah, Kiels Mountain, Kunda Park, Kuluin, and Maroochydoore and Pacific Paradise west of the Motorway, using Maroochydoore Road from Bruce Highway to the Sunshine Motorway as the boundary, as shown on the attached map. This gives a voting population of 22630 (current) and 25781 (2024).



2019 Local Government Area Review
SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL
DIVISION 7
Current Division and SA1 Boundaries



LEGEND

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

DISCLAIMER

Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) data used during compilation sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. SA1s are spatial units defined in the 2016 Australian Statistical Geographical Standard (ASGS).

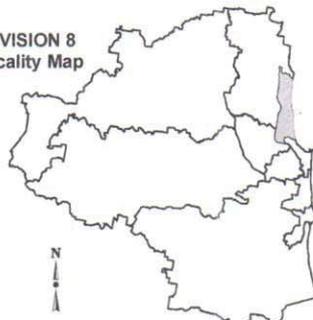
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2019 Local Government Area Review
SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL
DIVISION 8
 Current Division and SA1 Boundaries



DIVISION 8
 Locality Map



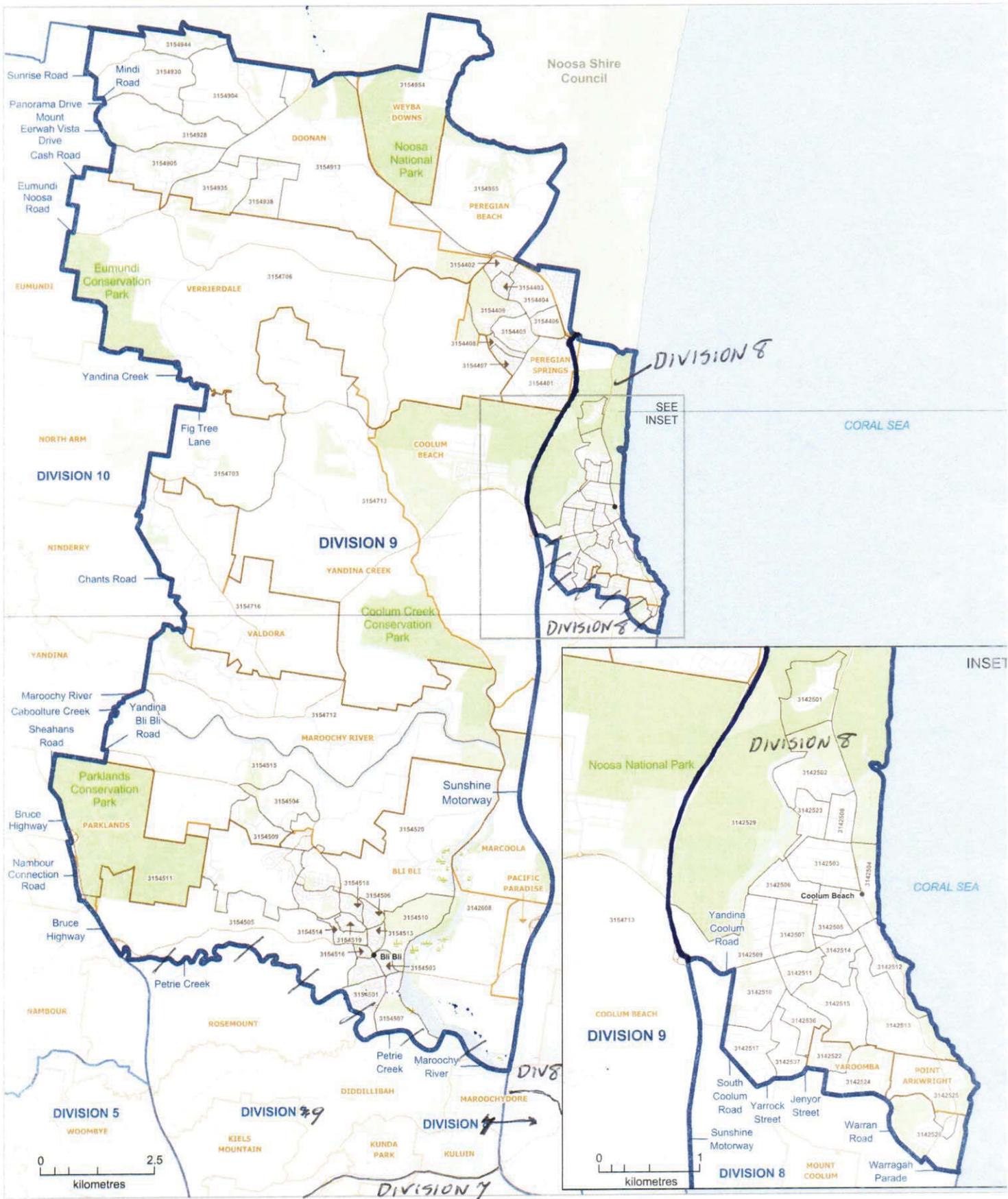
LEGEND

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

DISCLAIMER

Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) data used during compilation sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. SA1s are spatial units defined in the 2016 Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS).

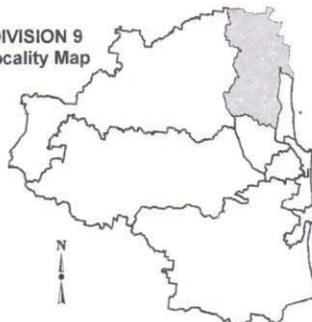
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2019 Local Government Area Review
SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL
DIVISION 9
Current Division and SA1 Boundaries



DIVISION 9
Locality Map



LEGEND

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

DISCLAIMER

Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1) data used during compilation sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. SA1s are spatial units defined in the 2016 Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS).

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Sent: Friday, 17 May 2019 11:36 AM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: (78781) Sunshine Coast Regional Local Government Area - Leigh Warneminde

Online submission for **Sunshine Coast Regional Local Government Area** from **Leigh Warneminde**

Submission Details

Name: Leigh Warneminde

Submission Text: Submission on ECQ review of divisional boundaries for the Sunshine Coast This submission proposes to converge the community along the coastal strip from the Maroochy River to the Northern border of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council Local Government boundary. Communities of interest: The coastal area from the north shore of the Maroochy River to the LGA boundary at the Motorway connection at Peregian Beach South, is a community of interest. The current boundary between Div 8 and 9 intersects at Yaroomba dividing this coastal community. It makes sense to include the coastal communities north of the Maroochy River (Pacific Paradise, Twin Waters, Mudjimba, Marcoola, Mt Coolum, Yaroomba, Pt Arkwright and Coolum) into one Division. To including the area immediate southern bank of the Maroochy River from the Sunshine Motorway to the ocean is a proposed until the population of current developments on the north shore are occupied. The areas directly fronting the Maroochy estuary share common issues, such as flooding and coastal erosion with Twin Waters on the North Shore. The Division totals then become equitable. Means of communication and serviceability: The coastal area falls into two State electoral areas, Ninderry and Maroochydhore and will remain unchanged. The office for elected member for Ninderry is in Coolum Beach; the office for elected member for Maroochydhore is adjacent to the southernmost boundary. Sunshine Coast Councillors do not have out-of-centre offices, their accessibility to the public remains unchanged. Public transport currently provides connections to respective offices. Creating sensible and definable boundaries: The revised "Division 8" would include from the south and north banks of the Maroochy River, largely east of the Sunshine Motorway, north along the coast as far as the connector road between the Motorway and Peregian Beach. By using major roads and the Maroochy River a definable boundary is created. These major boundaries currently split the villages. Realignment is preferable and practical. Specific enrolment requirements for Divisional Boundary Reviews: It is possible to create a revised Division 8 as follows: Division 8: Remove population south of the Maroochy River (immediately adjacent to the Maroochy River) and include Yaroomba. Rapid growth of residential apartments in Coolum or Marcoola may result in the 2024 projection being revised in the future. Division 4: Include the following areas of Maroochydhore east of Maroochy Boulevard, Evans Street and Broadmeadows Rd and east of the canal, including Cotton Tree south to Aerodrome Road. Division 7: Include the following areas: west of Maroochy Boulevard, Evans Street and Broadmeadows Road through to the Motorway and River and remove Rosemount, Diddillibah, Kiels Mountain, Kunda Park and Maroochydhore west of the Motorway areas as indicated on the attached map. Division 9: Remove Coolum area east of the Motorway and north of South Coolum Road, Yarrock Street, Jenyor Street, Warran Road and Warragah Parade, and include areas of Rosemount, Diddilibah, Kiels Mountain, Kunda Park, Kuluin, and Maroochydhore and Pacific Paradise west of the Motorway, using Maroochydhore Road from Bruce Highway to the Sunshine Motorway as the boundary.

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From: President
Sent: Friday, 17 May 2019 12:54 PM
To: LG CC Submissions
Subject: Submission for ECQ review of Divisional boundaries for Sunshine Coast Local Government Area
Attachments: Submission to ECQ_17052019.docx.pdf

Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of Development Watch Inc, please find attached a submission on amending the Division 9 boundary for the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission.

Yours sincerely

Estelle Blair

President

It is proposed to amend the boundary of Division 9 as follows: Include Yaroomba and 'older' areas of Mount Coolum (to Suncoast Beach Drive) in Division 9 and reallocate the Bli Bli area to Division 7 or 10. Justification is as follows:

Communities of interest: Division 9 presently comprises the villages of Verrierdale, Doonan, Peregrin Springs, Coolum Beach, Yandina Creek, Valdora, Maroochy River and Bli Bli. Of these, the Sunshine Coast planning scheme elevates Coolum Beach to the status of District Centre. The others are of lesser significance in the services hierarchy. Rural residents of division 9 have long used Coolum Beach as their district centre.

Each of the lesser villages, other than Bli Bli, has historically comprised Coolum Beach's agricultural, pastoral, swamp and forest hinterlands. Bli Bli was closer, and had connections, to the former regional centre of Nambour. Bli Bli still shares Nambour's postcode. It also had community links to Maroochy, Maroola and Maroochy River.

The culture of Coolum Beach has increasingly, since about 1965, included a desire for conservation of the natural landscape, low-rise urban development and lifestyle living. By choosing to live on isolated rural blocks, the hinterlanders appear to share Coolum Beach's culture, particularly of lifestyle and conservation.

For at least 50 years, until 2012, division 9 and its past equivalents were represented at Maroochy Shire Council by a resident of Coolum Beach. In the 1990s and early 2000s, councillors seemed to reflect the community's desire for low-rise development, for conservation and for good services.

For most of this time Bli Bli was in a different Council division to Coolum Beach and its councillors could almost always be described as rural conservatives. The culture of Bli Bli and its councillors took a turn toward urbanisation and commercial development close to the Maroochy River.

The two centres appear to have taken separate paths for many decades. The communities of interest are different enough for Bli Bli and Coolum Beach to be placed in separate divisions.

Means of communication and serviceability: Coolum and district can presently access the State parliamentary office of the Member for Ninderry at Heathfield Road, Coolum Beach. There is no change in ease or difficulty of residents accessing local or State representatives. Sunshine Coast Councillors do not have out-of-centre offices.

Creating sensible and definable boundaries: It is recommended that Bli Bli should be excised from division 9. The sensible boundary that achieves that excision is the Maroochy River.

Excision allows parts of Mt Coolum and Yaroomba to be readmitted to the community of interest found in Division 9. The sensible boundaries achieving this readmission are Suncoast Beach Drive, immediately to the south of Mt Coolum (which is a visual boundary), David Low Way and SA1 3142535, immediately south of Tanah Street East.

Specific enrolments requirements for divisional boundary reviews: Bli Bli moving from Division 9 appears to deliver a reduction of about 6,066 voters. Adding parts of Mt Coolum and Yaroomba adds about 3000 voters, achieving a total of about 21,500, within the tolerance of the quota. ECQ predicts little room for population growth in most of the division 9 subdivisions. However, allowance should be allowed for population growth at Peregrin Springs and additional urban renewal in Coolum Beach.

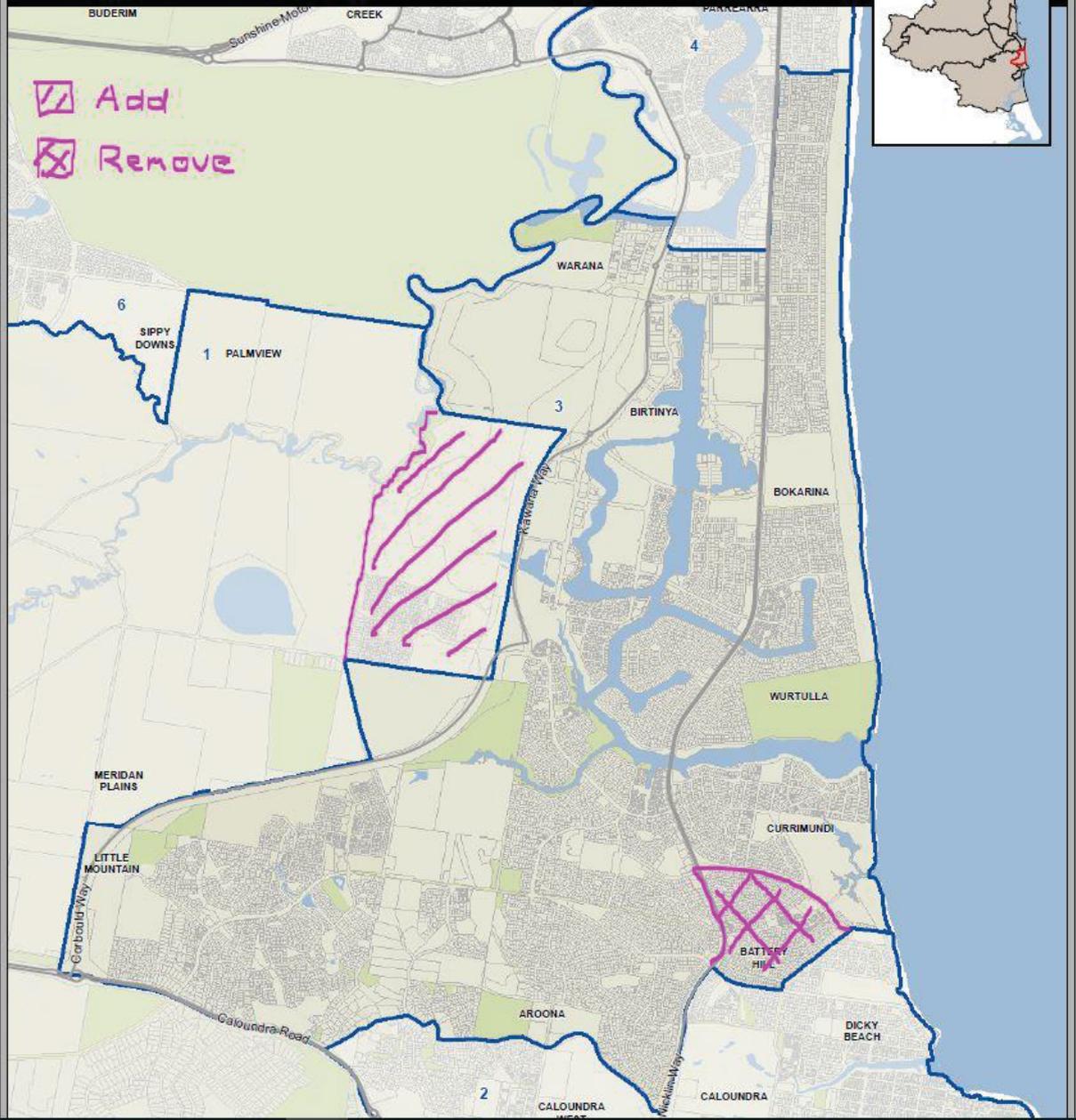
Submission Details

Name: Peter Cox

Suburb: Division 3

Submission Text: As the Division 3 Councillor, I have concerns that the Sunshine Coast Council submission doesn't properly address the local residents sentiments. I propose two minor changes to Division 3 to better align with future growth and existing community interest... 1. Adding Kawana Forest (section of Meridan Plains) The biggest issue here is the 'community of interest' (COI) aspect as many people from Kawana Forest have expressed concern about currently being part of the predominantly rural/hinterland Division 1, which takes in the 'Glasshouse Mountain' communities - located more than 25 minutes away. Understandably, these residents refer to their suburb as a Coastal Urban community, which is exactly what Division 3 is! a) The Kawana Forest community shops at the two existing shopping centres, Stockland's Birtinya Shopping Centre or Currimundi Marketplace - both in Division 3 b) Residents frequent the local parks and beaches within Division 3 c) A significant percentage of Kawana Forest school students attend Meridan State College in Division 3 d) Many residents walk or ride to the Sunshine Coast University Hospital where they're employed e) This is the only suburb located within the Currimundi Lake Catchment that is not part of Division 3 2. Removing Battery Hill a) This suggestion would align with the current State Gov electorate boundaries of 'Kawana' and 'Caloundra' b) Unites Battery Hill into one division instead of the current divisional boundary being split between Division 2 and 3. Given the forecast growth within the new Bokarina Beach suburb and the proposed density (apartments) within the Birtinya/Kawana town centre, this appears to be a logical solution. Regards, Peter Peter Cox | Division 3 Councillor Phone: [REDACTED] Mobile: [REDACTED] Please consider the environment before printing this email

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Monday, 20 May 2019

Mr Pat Vidgen PSM
 Electoral Commissioner
 Electoral Commission Queensland
 GPO Box 1393
 BRISBANE Q 4001

Dear Commissioner

RE: 2019 BOUNDARY CHANGE REIVEW - Sunshine Coast Council Division 9

Friends of Lake Weyba Inc is a not for profit community organisation defined by a vision to strive to achieve and maintain environmental excellence for Lake Weyba and the greater Noosa River catchment. The association seeks to sustain and enhance the natural and social qualities of the Lake Weyba area as a natural and social asset for the communities of Lake Weyba, Noosa and the greater Sunshine Coast region.

As the representative voice of the local community, our organisation with over 300 members and supporters refers to a request from the Sunshine Coast Council (SCC) of 28 February 2019, advising that in preparation for the 2020 quadrennial local government elections, Division 9 within it's local government area (LGA) did not have a reasonable proportion of voters thereby requiring a review to ensure that **each vote had the same value**.

Section 19 of the Local government Electoral Act 2011 requires any change in divisional boundaries to be in the public interest and the Commissioner must consider the view of the Minister in relation to the proposed change. We note the Hon Stirling Hincliffe's MP provided the following view to you - "I recommend that in assessing the proposed changes to divisional boundaries, the Change Commission considers the potential impacts on the proportion of electors in Division 1 arising from the current Aura development in Caloundra South and Harmony development in Palmview".

We highlight the following points contained in the Commissions 2015 final determination for Division 9 :

- The determination of the 2015 review of SCC Division 9 was based on "projected future changes in electoral numbers" provided by the Queensland Treasury.
- Reviews are intended where possible to be "sustainable for at least two quadrennial elections and to be in the public interest".
- The Change Commission attempted to cater for "future demographic trends to keep all of the divisions within SCC in quota in the lead up the 2020 quadrennial elections".
- The final determination stated it "**maintained communities of interest**". (Page 8)
- The 2015 boundary changes were considered "likely to keep all divisions within quota and are expected to prevent the need for future boundary changes prior to the 2020 LG elections".

The need for a review of Sunshine Coast Council divisions in 2019 indicates that the 2015 calculations based on future demographic trends have proven to be inaccurate and that population growth has exceeded all modelling. This is a common circumstance across many other LGA's particularly in south east Queensland evidenced by the significant number of review referrals in 2019 prior to the quadrennial election in 2020.

The Minister's recommendation to the Commission to consider future potential impacts on population growth in Division 1 caused by ongoing urban development shows the foresight needed to avert

consecutive redistributions such as that now proposed for Division 9. Internal reviews are not proving sustainable and are a “band-aid” solution only in areas of rapid population growth.

Division 9 includes the river township of Bli Bli an area of major urban expansion regionally, the bustling coastal town of Coolumb Beach where numerous large multi-storey unit complexes are currently being constructed, and satellite urban communities such as the 400 lot Peregrine Breeze and township of Peregrine Springs contribute to ongoing population growth. Peregrine Springs has been continually expanding since the 1990’s and further subdivisions of land and unit complexes are currently planned. Ongoing population expansion in these areas is therefore a certainty.

Division 9 also includes in its northern reaches the rural and rural residential communities of Weyba Downs and Peregrine Beach (West) located on the western and southern shores respectively of Lake Weyba, as well as part of the community of Doonan. The SCC’s 2015 internal review states that its proposed internal boundary change united certain communities. The review omitted to acknowledge that it further divided the community of Doonan already divided by the local government boundary between Sunshine Coast and Noosa Councils. Residents of Doonan remain perplexed to find their neighbours on one side of the street in a separate local government area. The headwaters of Eenie Creek, a major contributor to the catchment of Lake Weyba flow through the Doonan area.

Queensland electoral boundaries should be appropriate to the communities they serve and based on a shared “community of interest”. A further internal review of SCC Division 9 will not uphold the key democratic principle of “**one vote, one value**”.

Our organisation believes a sustainable future planning option exists in relation to boundary change for Division 9 which would be in the public interest, unite communities of interest, be financially viable, provide communication and serviceability currently lacking for these communities, create sensible definable boundaries and have positive flow-on effects for the voters being transferred.

We request the Commissioner to consider an external boundary review of the local government boundaries between the Sunshine Coast Council and Noosa Shire Council, specifically in relation to existing Sunshine Coast Council Division 9 aligned with the Lake Weyba catchment on the following grounds –

1. **Noosa Shire Council** (NSC) is an undivided council with a Mayor and six Councillors. Current voter enrolment is **38,768**. Population growth is expected to be limited through to 2040.
2. **Sunshine Coast Council** (SCC) is a divided Council with a Mayor and 10 councillors. Current voter enrolment is 224,455. Current population is **361,871** with population growth through to 2040 expected to reach **550,000**.
3. Lake Weyba is an integral part of the Noosa River and lakes system and is included, along with the Noosa River, in the National Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia (DIWA). It is a declared Fish Habitat and part of the Noosa-Maroochy Wallum corridor.
4. The waters of **Lake Weyba and catchment** on the northern and eastern shores are within the NSC local government area. The catchment area on the western and southern shores is within the SSC LGA. This **division** significantly hinders effective holistic management of this important and ecologically sensitive natural resource.
5. **Lake Weyba Catchment** Maps are attached. (source- Sunshine Coast Council and Noosa Shire Council website). The water catchment of Lake Weyba constitutes a prominent natural boundary that is easy to identify. The catchment boundary also aligns with a prominent man-made feature

namely a major transport link; the Sunshine Motorway (Emu Mountain Road). In addition, this easily definable boundary adjoins other prominent natural features of ecological significance namely sections of the Noosa National Park and the south eastern local government boundary of Noosa Shire. The southern boundary of the Federal electorate of Wide Bay aligns with the water catchment of Lake Weyba and until the creation of the new State Ninderry prior to the last State election, the boundary of the State electorate of Noosa also followed the Lake Weyba catchment.

6. An external boundary review as proposed would enhance the provisions of the New Noosa Plan currently open for public consultation by providing greater opportunities for environmental protection of this important waterway enabling establishment of protective buffer areas and ecological linkages between protected areas, together with the ability to achieve sustainable development to protect this valuable natural and tourism asset for future generations.
7. Weyba Downs on the western shores directly abuts the Noosa suburb of Noosaville, whilst Peregian Beach (West) on the southern shores directly abuts the Noosa suburb of Peregian Beach from which it takes its name. Residents consider themselves part of “**geographical Noosa**”.
8. **Community of Interest** – All communities of Lake Weyba whether in the NSC LGA or the SCC LGA have a shared community of interest which is a shared respect for Lake Weyba and it’s environmental and social values.
9. Residents of Weyba Downs, Peregian Beach (West) and Doonan predominately access schools, professional services, retail services, recreational and social pursuits within the Noosa local government area. They identify strongly with the Noosa Shire as their “community of interest” and with the core values of the Noosa region.

In 2015 our organisation conducted a doorknock survey in both localities to ascertain support of a referral for review of the local government boundaries to the Boundary Change Commissioner. In Weyba Downs the support was over 90% whilst support in the Peregian Beach (West) locality was approximately 75%. The same survey of neighbouring Doonan returned a similar result of approximately 75%.

10. **Democratic representation** – The majority of residents in the Weyba Downs, Peregian Beach (West) and Doonan localities do not consider they have any meaningful community engagement or social inclusion with the more heavily populated areas to the south in Division 9. As the population continues to rapidly expand throughout the Sunshine Coast region there is growing sense of foreboding that the key democratic principle of “**one vote, one value**” where each person’s vote carries equal weight has been eroded for residents of the northern reaches of the SCC LGA.

2019 enrolment of Weyba Downs and Peregian Beach (West) localities represents a mere 0.28 % of the SCC enrolment. Should the inclusion of Doonan in a review be considered appropriate this figure would climb to 0.49%. Statistically, such a minimal number of voters with no sense of shared community of interest or values, or social inclusion with the remainder of Division 9 or SCC region must equate to unequal democratic representation. This imbalance will only widen due to continuing population growth.

The lack of **meaningful community engagement and representation** is illustrated by the current local issue of changes to the proposed flight paths for the expansion of the Sunshine Coast Airport. Our organisation lodged a submission during the approval process for the EIS in 2014 stating that noise, social and environmental impacts on Lake Weyba and its communities had not been assessed, despite being beneath one of the proposed flight paths. The approved EIS did not include any studies of areas to the north of

Coolum. The amended EIS made only a cursory reference to Lake Weyba following our submission. Residents of the Lake Weyba communities received no direct consultation from SCC in 2014 nor during the current review of flight paths in 2019 demonstrating a lack of meaningful community engagement and representation.

At a State level, the Electorate of Ninderry created in 2017 further divided the communities of Doonan and Cooroy. It created a sense of disenfranchisement for the Lake Weyba communities. It was not in the public interest. The flight path issue has again demonstrated a lack of representation for our Lake Weyba communities. The independent Member for Noosa, Sandy Bolton has been very proactive in supporting Lake Weyba and it's communities, irrespective of whether their locality is within the Ninderry electorate and hence the SCC LGA, or in her electorate. The same level of community engagement has not ensued from the Member for Ninderry. In fact there has been no acknowledgement by his office of submissions forwarded during the recent consultation period.

Historically, the Noosa Shire was created in 1910 with it's first council chambers located at the rural township Pomona in a period where agriculture was the main economic driver. As early as 1929 local communities began to call for a boundary review as the economic centre of the shire gradually transitioned towards the south-east to the coastal townships of Tewantin (the present location of the Council Chambers), Noosaville and Noosa Heads. Today the main industry is tourism with business centred around the coastal fringe at the southern boundary of the Shire. From 2004 until last year, a community organisation known as EDV Residents Group advocated for a referral for boundary review for the areas of Eumundi, Doonan, Verrierdale and Weyba Downs based on a strong community of interest with Noosa, which was particularly evident in the community of Weyba Downs and the divided community of Doonan, geographical hierarchy, democratic representation and shared values. Sunshine Coast Council's refusal to provide data on assets and financial impacts, and it's unwillingness to engage with it's northern SCC communities precluded meaningful and inclusive community dialogue to resolve a long standing community concern.

The boundary change now proposed by our organisation represents a "minor change" that does not involve the transfer of any infrastructure, would have no financial impact on the SCC, whilst it may have a neutral or minor negative financial impact on the Noosa Shire. It would address not only community of interest but also the lack of democratic representation for residents of Weyba Downs and Peregian Beach (west).

Most significantly, a boundary review could address the anomaly of the Lake Weyba catchment being divided across two local government areas. This division creates difficulties in planning and environmental management of this nationally important waterbody. Friends of Lake Weyba welcome your consideration of our proposal.

In the event our proposal is not considered, then we submit that any adjustment to enrolment voter numbers should occur in the more densely populated and expanding area of Bli Bli to prevent further division and loss of representation for communities in the far northern reaches of the Sunshine Coast region. We do not believe a redistribution of any Coolum communities would be reflective of long established communities of interest.

Yours faithfully

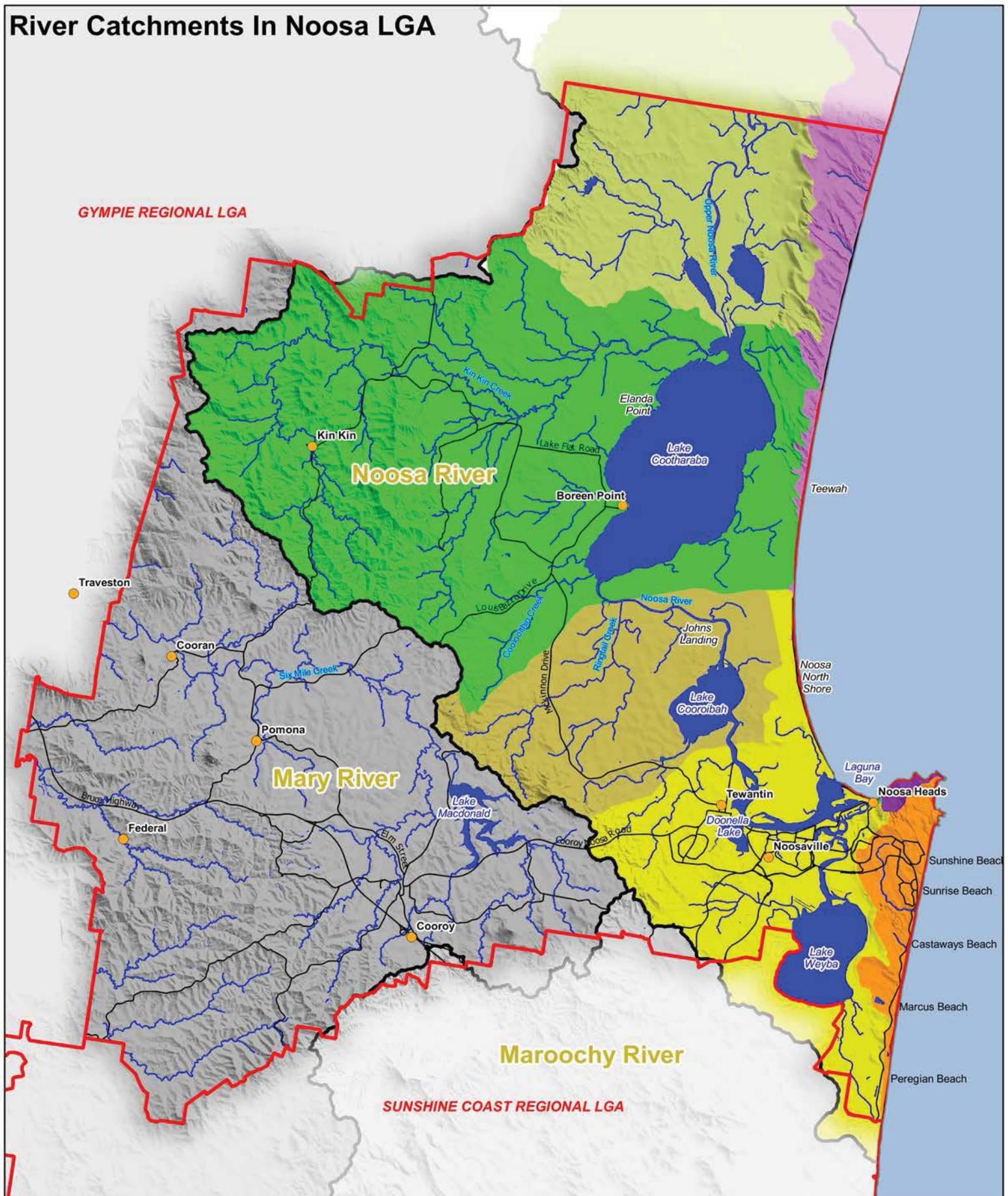
[REDACTED]
Anita Brake - President

FRIENDS
OF LAKE
WEYBA INC 

[REDACTED] Noosaville, Qld. 4566 [REDACTED]

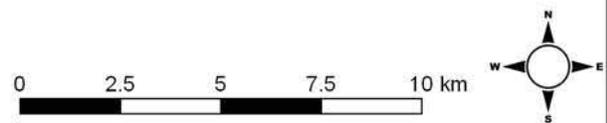
www.friendsoflakeweyba.org [REDACTED]

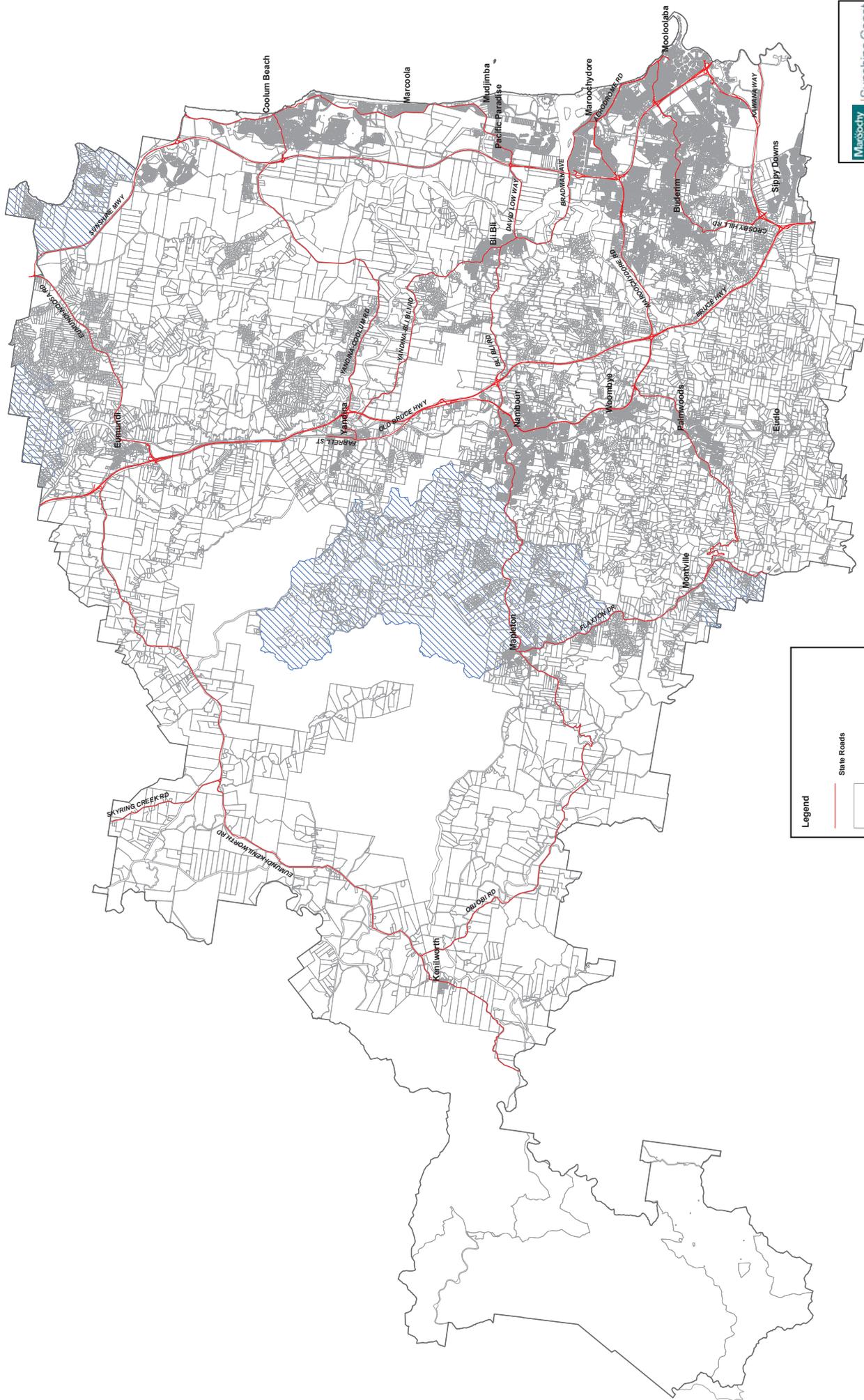
River Catchments In Noosa LGA



Legend

- | | | | | |
|-------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| LGAs | Watercourses | Upper Noosa River | Lake Cooroibah | Eastern Beaches |
| Water | Major Roads | Teewah Sands | Noosa River Estuary | Mary River |
| | | Lake Cootharaba | Noosa Headland | Maroochy River |





Legend

-  State Roads
-  Land Parcels
-  Water Resource Catchment Areas
-  Planning Scheme Area Boundary

Note: For all Candidates on all mapping, please refer to the CD Support Officers located in Nambour on Maroochydrive.



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Officer: Victoria Nelson

Direct telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

20 May 2019

Attn: Ms Elise Arklay
Secretary
Local Government Change Commission
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Email: LGCCsubmissions@ecq.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Arklay

Re: Submission to Review of Sunshine Coast Council Divisional Boundaries

I refer to your correspondence of 15 April 2019 in relation to the Sunshine Coast Council divisional boundary review. This letter serves as Sunshine Coast Council's submission to the Change Commission's assessment and determination process.

In accordance with section 16 of the *Local Government Act* 2009, Sunshine Coast Council reviewed the number of electors in each of its divisions. This review found that one division (Division 9) was out of quota as at 31 January 2019. Further, the Minister for Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs, in his referral of the matter to the Change Commission, recommended an examination into the impacts of the significant development currently occurring in Division 1.

In making this submission Sunshine Coast Council has considered factors such as communities of interest, population density, growth and future development, natural boundaries, roads, the predictable pattern of boundaries to assist future changes, and Statistical Analysis (SA1) areas. Data provided by the Electoral Commission Queensland (ECQ) as at 31 January 2019 has been used to estimate voter transfer numbers. In addition, the projection data to 2024, also provided by ECQ, has been used to inform this submission.

Some individual councillors made representations that differed from this submission. Council staff advised those councillors that they are also able to make their own submission in accordance with the advice of the Office of the Independent Assessor.

Table A below shows the existing number of electors per division at 31 January 2019 and demonstrates that Division 9 is currently out of quota.

Table A – Existing Divisional Voter Numbers as at 31 January 2019

Division	Electors at 31/01/2019	Average Enrolment	Low Quota	High Quota	Deviation from Quota
1	24,154	22,446	20,201	24,690	7.61
2	21,073	22,446	20,201	24,690	-6.11
3	23,760	22,446	20,201	24,690	5.86
4	20,774	22,446	20,201	24,690	-7.45
5	20,876	22,446	20,201	24,690	-6.99
6	21,968	22,446	20,201	24,690	-2.13
7	21,555	22,446	20,201	24,690	-3.97
8	22,482	22,446	20,201	24,690	0.16
9	25,183	22,446	20,201	24,690	12.20
10	22,630	22,446	20,201	24,690	0.82
Total	224,455				

Summary

In summary, this submission proposes the transfer of:

- 2,759 electors from Division 9 to Division 8,
- Approximately 1,600 electors from Division 8 to Division 4,
- 411 electors from Division 1 to Division 6; and
- Approximately 1,666 electors from Division 1 to Division 5.

No changes are proposed for Divisions 2, 3, 7 and 10 at this time.

Table B below shows the number of electors by division, after taking account of the changes proposed by Council.

Table B – Proposed Divisional Voter Redistribution

Division	Electors at 31/01/2019	Average Enrolment	Low Quota	High Quota	Deviation from Quota
1	22,077	22,446	20,201	24,690	-1.64
2	21,073	22,446	20,201	24,690	-6.12
3	23,760	22,446	20,201	24,690	5.85
4	22,374	22,446	20,201	24,690	-0.32
5	22,542	22,446	20,201	24,690	0.43
6	22,379	22,446	20,201	24,690	-0.30
7	21,555	22,446	20,201	24,690	-3.97
8	23,641	22,446	20,201	24,690	5.32
9	22,424	22,446	20,201	24,690	-0.10
10	22,630	22,446	20,201	24,690	0.82
Total	224,455				

Results of the review

The following information supports Council's recommendation.

Division 9 to Division 8

To bring the number of electors in Division 9 within quota, it is proposed that approximately 2,759 electors transfer from Division 9 to Division 8. This proposal is shown as the shaded area on Map 1 (attached) and sees Division 8's northern boundary move further north to encompass all of Yaroomba and Point Arkwright and some additional parts of Coolum Beach.

This movement transfers the following SA1 areas from Division 9 to Division 8: 3142526, 3142525, 3142524, 3142522, 3142515, 3142536, 3142537, 3142517 and 3142510.

Elector numbers – Division 9 to Division 8

Division 9	25,183
Less transfers to Division 8	<u>2,759</u>
Division 9 total	22,424
Deviation	-0.10

This proposal sees Division 9 almost exactly on quota and takes into account communities of interest, localities and roads as well as the natural topography of the area. However, this transfer of electors puts Division 8 out of quota and necessitates the transfer of electors out of the division.

Division 8	22,482
Plus transfers from Division 9	<u>2,759</u>
Division 8 total	25,241
Deviation	12.45

Division 8 to Division 4

After the transfer of electors from Division 9 and to bring Division 8 within quota, it is proposed that approximately 1,600 electors be transferred from Division 8 to Division 4. This proposal is shown as the shaded area on Map 2 (attached) and recommends Division 4's north western boundary move further west along the Sunshine Motorway. SA1 3142718 and most of SA1 3142723* (the southern section to Cornmeal Creek) are proposed for transfer to Division 4.

This area is a relatively new development and it is argued that the demographic of the area (known as Sunshine Cove) will share commonality and community of interest with the new Maroochy City Centre close by. The residents of the Sunshine Cove community will likely have a close connection with the new city centre rather than the older retail precincts currently in Division 8 and situated in the north eastern areas of Maroochydoore.

Cornmeal Creek is also a natural and obvious linear boundary in accordance with local government legislation and creates almost a straight line from east to west between Divisions 4 and 8. The northern side of Cornmeal Creek is described as “old Maroochydoore” with these northern parts of SA1s 3142723 and 3142718 having a closer community of interest with its neighbouring SA1s. It is estimated that this older section of the SA1s represents approximately 200 electors and it is recommended that these electors remain in Division 8. Calculations have been adjusted to take account of these voters.

Elector numbers – Division 8 to Division 4

Division 8 (including transfers from Division 9)	25,241
Less transfers to Division 4	1,600
Division 8 total	<u>23,641</u>
Deviation	5.32

The projection for Division 8 is that it will be almost intolerably out of quota by 2024. For this reason, fewer electors have been recommended for transfer out of Division 8 than would be taken from Division 9. Division 4 is currently below quota and can comfortably expand by an additional 1,600 electors without the need for further boundary adjustment.

Division 4	20,774
Plus transfers from Division 8	1,600
Division 4 total	<u>22,374</u>
Deviation	-0.32

It is also feasible that, instead of the Division 4 boundary moving west, it could move north from Aerodrome Road to take in the Cotton Tree area to the Maroochy River. The number of electors to be transferred under this scenario is also approximately 1,600 with the results (numerically) of this proposal almost identical to the first suggestion.

Under this second proposal SA1s 3142703, 3142704, 3142708, 3142707 and 3142705 are transferred to Division 4 and are depicted as the shaded area on Map 3 attached.

Council therefore submits both proposals relating to transfers from Division 8 to Division 4 as outlined above for the Commission to consider and determine as to which represents the optimal outcome taking into account key criteria relating to community of interest, geographic location, natural and built form boundaries.

Division 1

Whilst Division 1 is currently within quota, the rate of growth in the Division is such that there is a possibility that it will be out of quota by the March 2020 elections. Further, the data projections to 2024 indicate that it will be more than 35% above the average enrolment number by that time. As such, Council proposes a number of realignments to mitigate this outcome.

Division 1 to Division 6

As indicated by the Minister for Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs, the Harmony development at Palmview is experiencing rapid growth with that growth expected to continue for many years.

The new master planned development of Harmony (which is forecast to eventually accommodate 17,000 residents) shares much commonality in terms of communities of interest, service provision etc with the residents of Mountain Creek and Sippy Downs to the north. In addition, projections to 2024 for Division 6 indicate it will be intolerably below quota at -12.3%. For this reason the transfer of SA1 3144227 into Division 6 is recommended. It is predicted that this SA1 will increase to more than 3,000 electors by 2024.

This proposal results in the Division 1/6 boundary following the natural lines of the Mooloolah River west to the Bruce Highway and is shown in Map 4 attached.

Elector numbers – Division 1 to Division 6

Division 1	24,154
Less transfers to Division 6	411
Division 1 total	<u>23,743</u>
Deviation	5.78

Division 6	21,968
Plus transfers from Division 1	411
Division 6 total	<u>22,379</u>
Deviation	-0.30

Furthermore, Council recommends that additional electors be transferred out of Division 1 to take into account the predicted large scale influx of residents and voters in Baringa and Bells Creek (Caloundra South / Aura development).

Division 1 to Division 5

The rate of growth in Division 5 is declining in comparison with other divisions, in particular with Division 1. The projection for Division 5 as at 2024 is that it will be intolerably out of quota at -11.73%.

As such, it is recommended that electors in Glenview, eastern Palmview and Maleny be transferred from Division 1 to Division 5 as per Maps 5 and 6 attached.

This recommendation suggests that SA1s 3144230, 3144223¹, 3144226, 3144231, 3144224, 3144008 and 3144021 be incorporated into Division 5 representing a transfer of 1,666 voters.

This realignment sees the south eastern Division 5 boundary move east to the Bruce Highway and south to follow the locality boundary of Glenview, stopping at the Ewen Maddock Dam. In addition, Maleny is predominantly in Division 5 with the exception of two small sections, representing 82 electors, on the southern side of Mountain View Road. The transfer of these two SA1s has been included above and brings all of Maleny as a very strong community of interest into Division 5.

¹ The data provided by ECQ shows two SA1s numbered "3144223": one adjacent to 3144226 (Palmview) and the other bordering the north eastern bank of the Ewen Maddock Dam. It is recommended that both these areas be incorporated into Division 5.

Elector numbers – Division 1 to Division 5

Division 1 (after transfer to Division 6)	23,743
Less transfers to Division 5	1,666
Division 1 total	<u>22,077</u>
Deviation	-1.64

Division 5	20,876
Plus transfers from Division 1	1,666
Division 5 total	<u>22,542</u>
Deviation	0.43

This submission aligns with the provisions of the Local Government Act and follows extensive research and consultation with elected members. The Change Commission is requested to give consideration to these recommended local government electoral boundary changes for the Sunshine Coast Council area.

Please contact this office should you require any additional information in support of this submission.

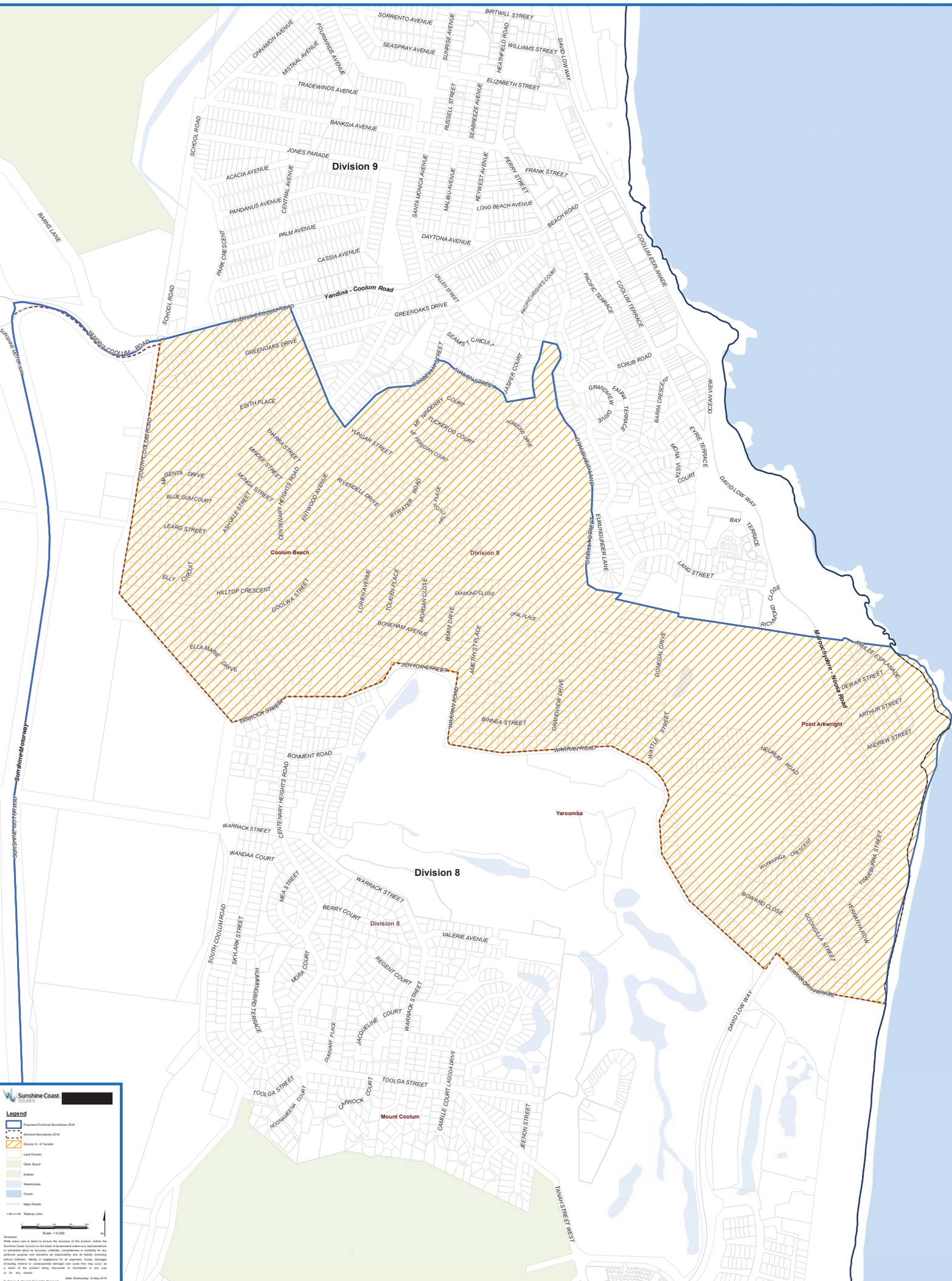
Yours sincerely



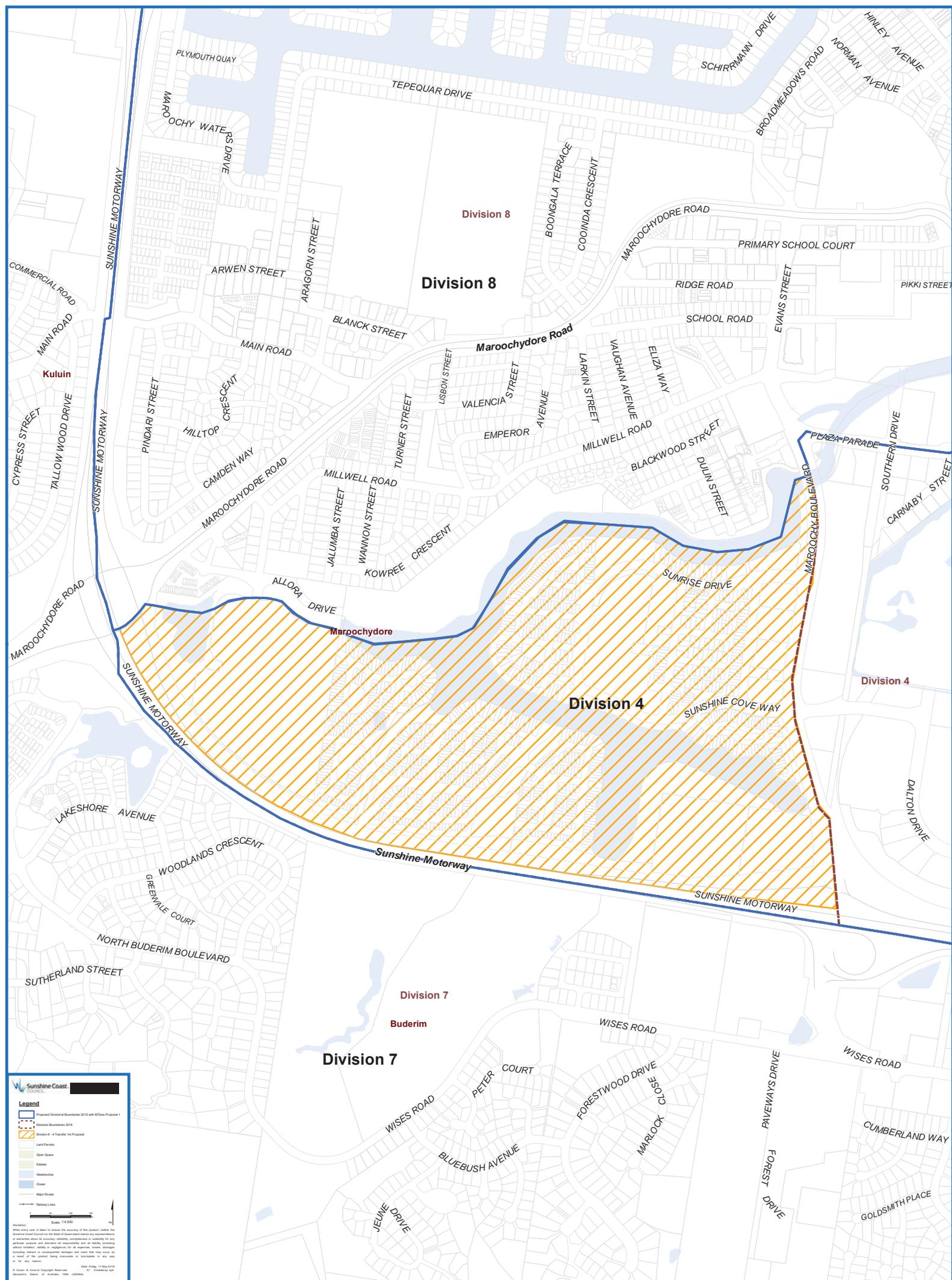
Michael Whittaker
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Enc. Maps 1 - 6

MAP 1 - Electoral Division Boundary Proposal - Division 9 - 8



MAP 2 - Electoral Division Boundary - Division 8 - 4 Proposal 1



MAP 3 - Electoral Division Boundary - Division 8 - 4 Proposal 2



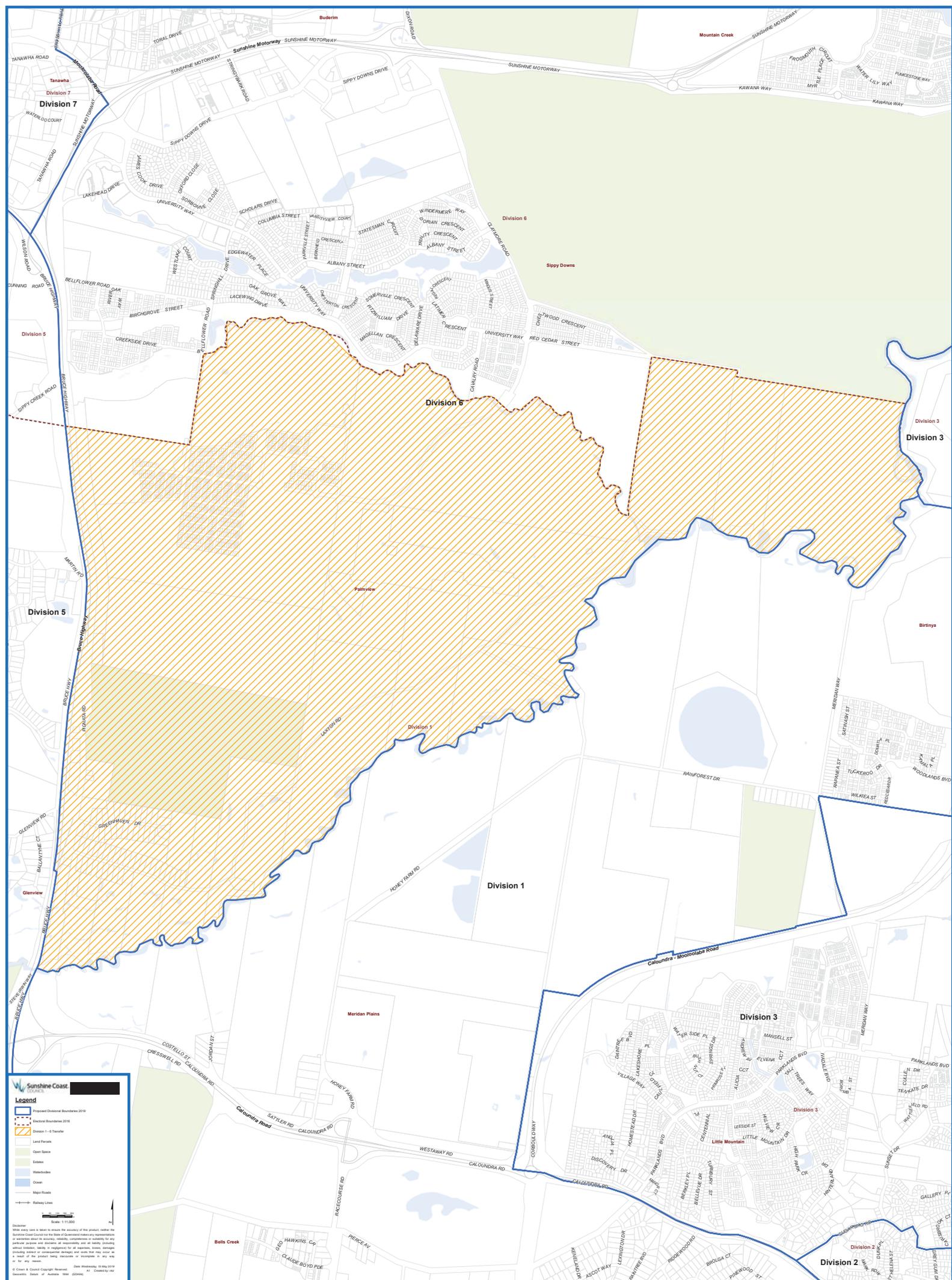
Legend

- Proposed Electoral Boundaries 2019 with WfOme Proposal 2
- Electoral Boundaries 2016
- Division 8 - 4 2nd Proposal
- Land Parcels
- Open Space
- Creeks
- Waterholes
- Ocean
- Major Roads
- Shading Lines

Scale: 1:4,000

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MAP 4 - Electoral Division Boundary Proposal - Division 1 - 6



Sunshine Coast

Legend

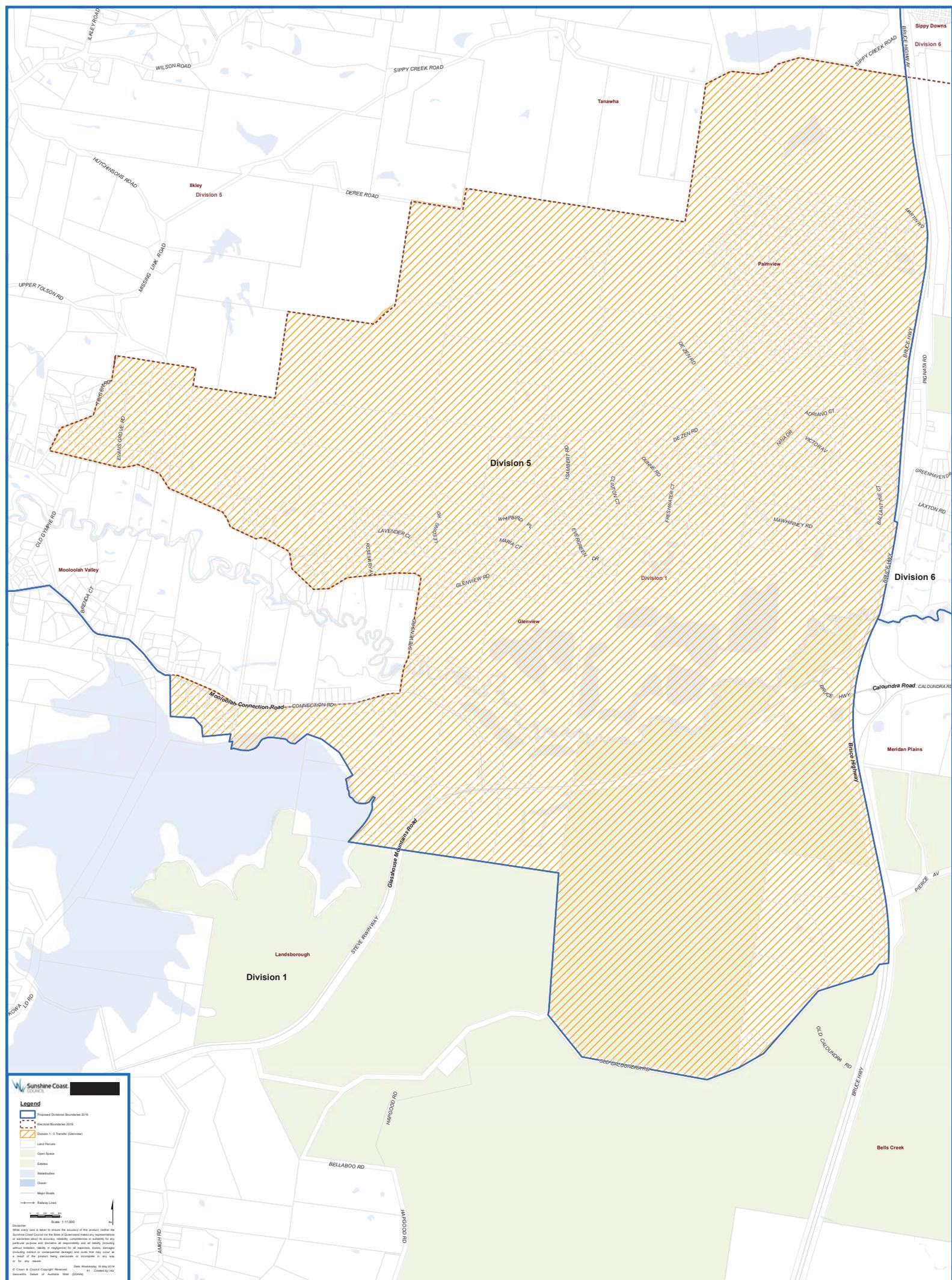
- Proposed Divisional Boundaries 2019
- Electoral Boundaries 2016
- Division 1-6 Transfer
- Land Parcels
- Open Space
- Estates
- Waterbodies
- Ocean
- Major Roads
- Railway Lines

Scale: 1:11,000

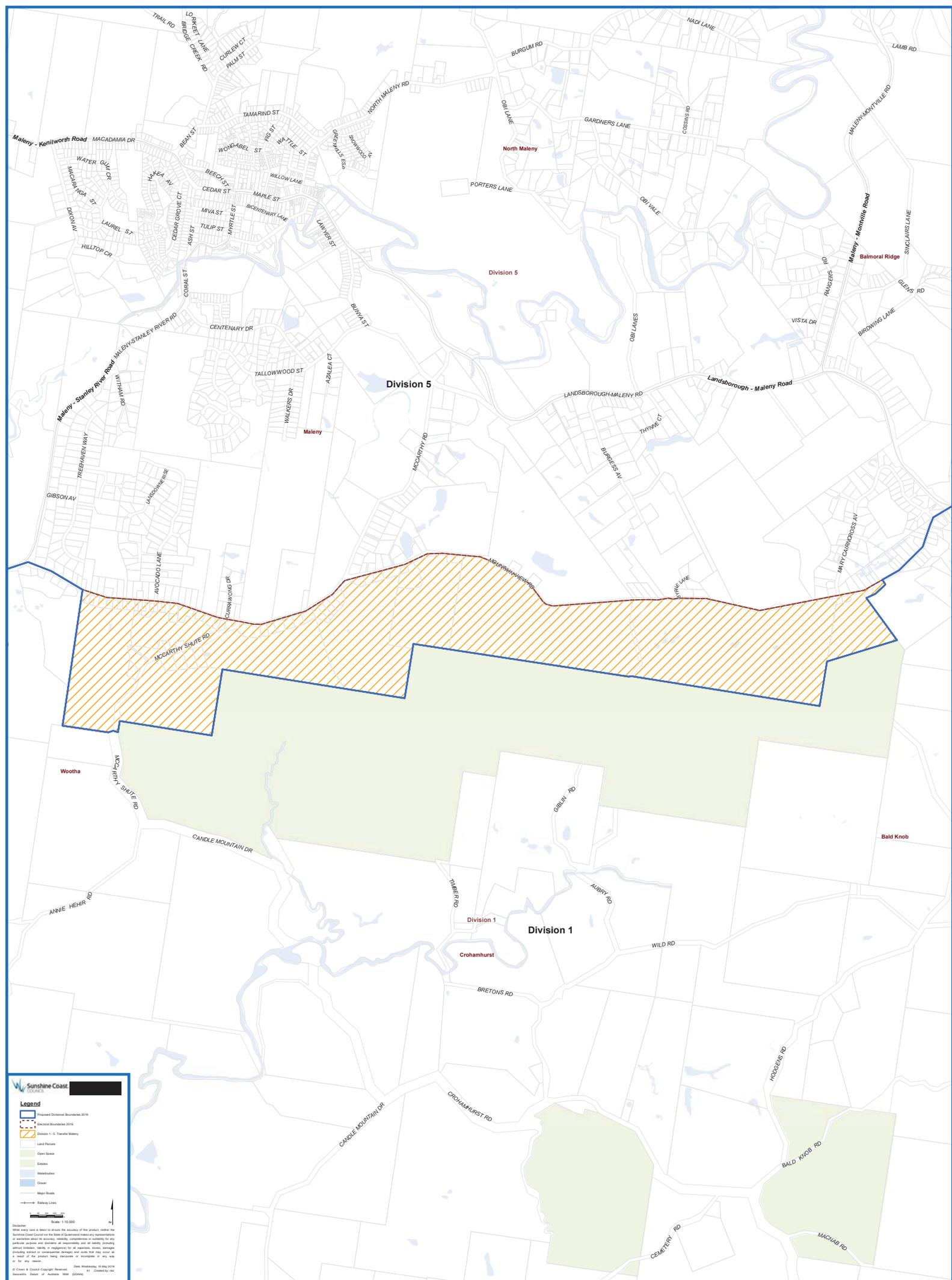
October 2019

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MAP 5 - Electoral Division Boundary Proposal - Division 1 - 5



MAP 6 - Electoral Division Boundary Proposal - Division 1 - 5



Sunshine Coast

Legend

- Proposed Divisional Boundaries 2019
- Electoral Boundaries 2016
- Division 1 - 5 - Torralta Maleny
- Land Parcels
- Open Space
- Creeks
- Waterholes
- Ocean
- Major Roads
- Railway Lines

Scale: 1:10,000

October 2019

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