

John

An interesting analysis. If One Nation focussed attention on energy policy/climate change it could cause a big loss of votes in federal seats in Qld. I saw a report that Malcolm Roberts is working part time with Hanson so something could develop along those lines

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## **Pauline Hanson's party vows Queensland chaos in federal election**



One Nation senator Pauline Hanson. Picture: AAP

[Jamie Walker](#), The Australian, 12:00AM December 30, 2017

One Nation has sounded an ominous warning to the Turnbull government, vowing to contest every seat in Queensland at the next federal election and widen the carnage it caused for the Coalition at last month's state poll.

While Pauline Hanson's party flopped in the Queensland election, its decision to preference nearly all sitting MPs next to last to the Greens was disastrous for the state LNP and threatens to swing a wrecking ball at the Coalition federally. Party powerbroker James Ashby said One Nation was gearing up for the possibility of an early election next year brought on by the MPs' citizenship fiasco. "Our intention is to run in as many seats as possible across the country and all the seats in Queensland," Mr Ashby said. "Our vetting process (for candidates) is well under way."

What was once the government's northern bastion has become its Achilles heel, with a quarterly demographic analysis of Newspoll for The Weekend Aus-

tralian this week showing that the Coalition's primary vote had slumped to 32 per cent in Queensland, less than what the state Liberal National Party polled on November 25. This would cost Malcolm Turnbull up to 12 seats in that state alone. Worse still for the Prime Minister, the quarterly analysis of Newspoll had the Coalition languishing on a vote of 35 per cent in NSW and losing ground to Labor in the nation's five major capital cities.

Through the LNP, the Coalition holds 21 of the state's 30 federal seats, making Queensland pivotal to its survival. This numerical strength, however, will become a liability for the government if One Nation maintains the preferencing policy it took to the state election — an option Mr Ashby is leaving open.

The danger is evident in the outer Brisbane seat of Dickson, held by Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton. His margin is 1.6 per cent, though this may improve slightly under a redistribution of federal electoral boundaries.

At last month's Queensland election, One Nation did not contest the state division of Everton covering the brick-and-tile suburbs of Albany Creek and Eatons Hill, two of Mr Dutton's stronger areas in Dickson. LNP deputy leader Tim Mander was returned in Everton after increasing his primary vote of 49.3 per cent in 2015 to 51.7 per cent, but in neighbouring Aspley, where One Nation did run, the story was very different for his frontbench colleague Tracy Davis. There, the Hanson candidate took 9.6 per cent of the primary vote to destroy Ms Davis's chances. In the absence of One Nation in 2015, the former Newman government minister had polled 52.4 per cent primary in a three-cornered contest with Labor and the Greens.

This time, her base vote plunged to 39.7 per cent. While nearly 80 per cent of the Greens' 9.4 per cent primary vote flowed to Labor, on trend, the support Ms Davis bled to One Nation did not come back in preferences.

This pattern played out across Brisbane in a succession of heartbreak defeats for the LNP. In southside Mansfield, the primary vote of another prominent frontbencher, Ian Walker, crashed by 6.5 points with One Nation in the field. He lost to Labor's Corrine McMillan, even though she, too, secured fewer base votes than the unsuccessful Labor candidate had in 2015.

In Mount Ommaney in Brisbane's suburban west, LNP member Tanya Smith's primary vote plunged to 36.4 per cent, 10 points down on her 2015 result. One Nation captured 7.2 per cent and Labor's vote was up along with that of the

Greens, which ensured her defeat. One Nation cruelled the LNP's prospects in Pine Rivers, covering the top end of Mr Dutton's seat, where it polled 12 per cent primary. Tellingly, this was the difference between the LNP's base vote in 2015 (38.8 per cent) and the 26.8 per cent it secured on November 25.

Mr Ashby refused to be drawn on whether One Nation would persist with its preference policy to effectively put all sitting MPs last on its how-to-vote card.

One Nation's preferences appear to have flowed mostly as directed at the state election, ultimately at a greater cost to the LNP than Labor, but Mr Ashby denied that One Nation had cost the LNP the election. Describing One Nation as a "conservative party, with conservative values", he said it would be prepared to discuss future preference arrangements with both the Coalition and Labor, but the decision would be Senator Hanson's. "Neither side wanted to speak to One Nation at the state election but I assume that will change," he said.

Mr Turnbull has ruled out a future preference deal, saying the Queensland result showed that "a vote for One Nation is a vote for Labor".