



# Tasmanian Electoral Commission

4th Annual Report  
2008–2009

## Fourth Annual Report 2008–2009

To The Honourable Susan Lynette Smith,  
President of the Legislative Council and

The Honourable Michael Polley,  
Speaker of the House of Assembly

We have the honour to submit the fourth report of the Tasmanian Electoral Commission for presentation to the Parliament pursuant to the provisions of section 13 of the *Electoral Act 2004*.

The report covers the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.

Yours sincerely



Liz Gillam  
CHAIRPERSON



Bruce Taylor  
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

(Vacant)  
MEMBER

21 October 2009

Tasmanian Electoral Commission

Annual Report 2008–09

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## CHAIRPERSON'S INTRODUCTION

The past year has principally been one of consolidation for the Commission, with the conduct of the annual Legislative Council elections, and a number of recounts for the House of Assembly and local government. A focus has been preparation for the State election scheduled for March 2010, and the implementation of new boundaries for House of Assembly divisions to reflect the results of a Commonwealth redistribution.

I am particularly pleased to report that elections originally scheduled for 2006 have now been successfully conducted for the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania. The delay resulted from the initiation of Supreme Court proceedings, and the introduction of amending legislation to provide appropriate protection for personal information of those seeking to be on the roll. I record my appreciation to those involved in resolving this issue.

As in previous years, I acknowledge the assistance of the Australian Electoral Commission, and the particular capability and commitment of the Electoral Commissioner, Bruce Taylor, my fellow Commission member Liz Gillam, the Deputy Commissioner Julian Type and the Commission staff with whom it has been my good fortune to work.

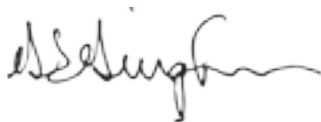
In my introduction to the Commission's first Annual Report, for the period ending on 30 June 2006, I wrote that:

*The Tasmanian electoral system provides the essential underpinning for the democratic good health of our community, and it is sometimes easy to overlook how important this is to our way of life. Tasmania is fortunate indeed to have a strength of democracy which represents an aspiration of many other people and communities around the world.*

...

*The Commission's existence thus reflects a recognition by the Tasmanian Parliament of the importance of a fair and efficient electoral system and the responsibility entrusted to the Commission is significant... ...the Commission will be conscious that the basic electoral framework that has been established over the years is an excellent one.*

It is appropriate for me to reiterate those comments as my time as Chair of the Commission comes to an end.



Richard Bingham

31 May 2009

## ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER'S REVIEW

2008–09 has been another challenging and interesting year for the office of the Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC). Electoral activities undertaken during this period have included the annual periodic Legislative Council elections, two House of Assembly recounts, seven local government recounts, the usual array of non-Parliamentary elections conducted on behalf of various organisations, and involvement in the drafting of various pieces of electoral legislation.

Legislative Council elections were held in May for the divisions of Derwent, Mersey and Windermere, and a writ was issued on 30 June for a by-election to fill a casual vacancy in the division of Pembroke.

The TEC explored innovative and cost effective ways of reaching electors at these elections, with internet advertising, shop window posters and reminder stickers mailed to electors. Two new computer systems were developed to assist with the efficient conduct of elections—an electronic nomination management system (NomSys) and a postal vote management system (PVMS). Both were used successfully at these elections.

The TEC recommended some enhancements to the *Electoral Act 2004* and identified a few issues requiring correction due to the unintended effects of some provisions. The drafting of amending legislation was approved and the *Electoral Amendment Bill 2009* was drafted and tabled in Parliament on 30 June 2009.

Following the 2007–08 Legislative Council Redistribution, the Redistribution Tribunal identified a number of issues in the *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995* that would benefit from amendment. The drafting of amending legislation was also approved, and the office provided instructions for the drafting of the *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Amendment Bill 2009*.

The office also provided assistance with the preparation of amendments to the *Constitution Act 1934* to effect minor changes to the House of Assembly electoral boundaries to align with the recent redistribution of the Commonwealth boundaries.

Following resolution of Supreme Court appeals in relation to the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT) Electors Roll, the Roll was finalised and the deferred ALCT elections were conducted from March to June.

Richard Bingham, Chairperson of the Commission, resigned on 31 May to take up a position as the South Australian Ombudsman. Mr Bingham was the inaugural chair, and his contribution to the smooth establishment and effective operation of the Commission since February 2005 has been invaluable. Tasmania's loss is South Australia's gain.

I also wish to acknowledge the important contributions provided by the other Commission member Ms Liz Gillam, the TEC office staff, our colleagues at the Australian Electoral Commission, the local government community and our service providers, who have all greatly assisted the TEC in conducting election services over this period.



Bruce Taylor  
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

This 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Tasmanian Electoral Commission (the Commission) covers the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.

It is submitted pursuant to section 13 of the Tasmanian *Electoral Act 2004*.

Separate election reports, including full statistical details of elections, will continue to be submitted. In order to provide up-to-date information, the 2009 Legislative Council election results and the House of Assembly recount are included in this report and will also be included in the next Report on Parliamentary Elections.

Special reports on electoral issues may also be submitted from time to time.

Although the Commission is a statutory body, corporate support is provided by the Department of Justice and full financial and staffing reports are included in the Department of Justice Annual Report.

## ABOUT THE TASMANIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION

### Formation

The *Electoral Act 2004* was passed in the Spring 2004 session of Parliament and received Royal Assent on 17 December 2004. The Act commenced on 16 February 2005. The Tasmanian Electoral Commission was established under the Act and commenced operation on 16 February 2005. The Commission has the responsibility for administering the Act.

The Commission comprises the Chairperson, the Electoral Commissioner and one other Member. At the start of the year, the Commission members were Richard Bingham (Chairperson), a former Secretary of the Department of Justice, Liz Gillam (member), former Deputy Director of the Office of the Status of Women and senior policy practitioner with the Local Government Association of Tasmania and Bruce Taylor, the current Electoral Commissioner.

Richard Bingham resigned on 31 May 2009 to take up the position of Ombudsman for South Australia. Advertisements have been placed seeking expressions of interest in the vacant chairperson position.

### Functions and powers

The following functions and powers of the Commission are specified in section 9 of the Act.

- 1 In addition to the functions conferred on it by any other provisions of this Act or any other Act, the Commission has the following functions:
  - to advise the Minister on matters relating to elections;
  - to consider and report to the Minister on matters referred to it by the Minister;
  - to promote public awareness of electoral and parliamentary topics by means of educational and information programs and by other means;
  - to provide information and advice on electoral issues to the Parliament, the Government, Government departments and State authorities, within the meaning of the *State Service Act 2000* ;
  - to publish material on matters relating to its functions;
  - to investigate and prosecute illegal practices under this Act.



- 2 The Commission may do all things necessary or convenient to be done, including employing persons, for or in connection with or incidental to the performance of its functions.
- 3 Without limiting subsection (2) and in addition to any power conferred on the Commission by any other provision of this Act or any other Act, the Commission, in addition to conducting Assembly elections or Council elections may conduct ballots or elections for a person or organisation and may charge fees for that service.

## Responsibilities of the Commission and the Commissioner

The Commission, and the Electoral Commissioner, have statutory responsibilities for the independent and impartial conduct of:

- House of Assembly elections, by-elections and recounts
- Legislative Council elections and by-elections
- Local government elections, by-elections and recounts
- State referendums
- Local government elector polls
- The implementation of electoral boundary redistributions
- Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania elections
- Other statutory elections
- Semi-government and other elections conducted in the public interest
- Public electoral information programs

The Commission and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) jointly manage and maintain the electoral rolls for federal, state and local government elections.

The Electoral Commissioner is a member of the Electoral Council of Australia which oversees electoral and enrolment policy and systems at a national level.

The Electoral Commissioner is a member of the Legislative Council Redistribution Committee and Tribunal for the determination of Legislative Council electoral boundaries. The Tribunal is also responsible for transition arrangements to implement each redistribution.

## Approvals, appointments and determinations

The Commission met formally four times during the year.

The Act provides for a range of approvals, appointments and determinations to be made by the Commission, the Electoral Commissioner or returning officers.

A list of all Commission approvals, appointments and determinations made between 1 July 2008 and 30 June 2009 are shown in Appendix A. These approvals, appointments and determinations are available for public inspection at the office of the Commission and are available on the website.

## LEGISLATION

The Commission and the Electoral Commissioner have legal responsibilities set out in legislation including:

- *Electoral Act 2004*
- *Electoral Regulations 2005*
- *Local Government Act 1993*
- *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005*
- *Juries Act 2003*
- *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995*
- *Aboriginal Lands Act 1995*

### Legislative changes

During 2008–09 the office of the Commission was involved in the following legislative amendments:

- *Electoral Act 2004*

Draft legislation was prepared for introduction in 2009–10 to amend a small number of provisions in the Act based on experience since the Act was enacted in December 2004.
- *Constitution Amendment (House of Assembly Electoral Boundaries) Act 2009*

This Act amended the *Constitution Act 1934* to incorporate new electoral boundaries for the five House of Assembly divisions and align them with recent changes to the Commonwealth House of Representatives boundaries.

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS OF 2008–09

### Resignation of inaugural Electoral Commission Chairperson

The inaugural Chairperson of the Tasmanian Electoral Commission, Richard Bingham, resigned from the Commission on 31 May following his appointment as Ombudsman for South Australia. The appointment of a new Chairperson is expected to be made later in 2009.

### Legislative Council elections

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) assists in the conduct of parliamentary and local government elections in Tasmania. Under a contractual arrangement, AEC staff are appointed as returning officers to manage the field work associated with these elections.

Summary statistics on performance are included later in this report.

#### 2009 election summary

Issue of the writs	Mon 30 March	Polling day	Sat 2 May
Close of nominations	Wed 8 April	Return of the writs	Thu 7 May

Division	Retiring Member	Elected candidate
Derwent	Michael Aird	Michael Aird
Mersey	Norma Jamieson	Mike Gaffney
Windermere	Ivan Dean	Ivan Dean

On 30 March 2009, writs were issued for Legislative Council elections in the divisions of Derwent, Mersey and Windermere. By the close of nominations 12 candidates (7 men and 5 women) had been nominated.

Pre-poll voting was again available in all AEC divisional offices around the country as well as the offices of other State and Territory electoral authorities. An additional pre-poll voting centre was established within the division of Mersey at the Devonport State Library. Electors located overseas could once again complete their postal vote applications online.

Election results are provided as Appendix B.

In 2009, the Commission explored new ways of reaching electors to inform them about the Legislative Council elections. Details of new advertising elements are discussed in detail in the Innovation section of this report.



### Pembroke by-election

A by-election is required for the Legislative Council division of Pembroke to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Allison Ritchie on Tuesday 23 June 2009. The writ for the election was issued on Tuesday 30 June 2009. Polling day will be Saturday 1 August 2009.

## House of Assembly elections

### Denison recount

A recount was conducted on 21 July 2008 for the vacancy for the House of Assembly division of Denison following the resignation of Peg Putt. At the recount, only the votes which elected Ms Putt were redistributed to candidates contesting the recount.

All candidates who contested the seat at the 2006 Denison election and were not elected were eligible to nominate for the recount. At the close of the nomination period, eight of the eighteen eligible candidates had nominated.

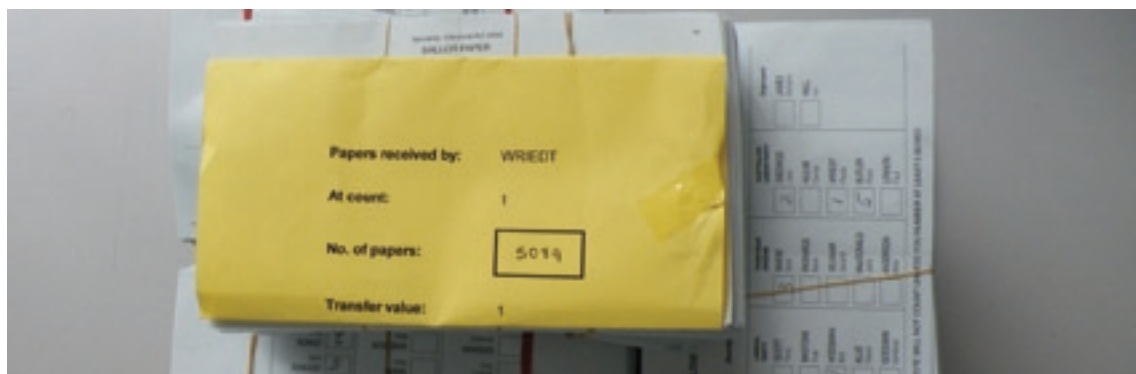
Cassy O'Connor was elected as the new member. Details of the recount are provided in Appendix C.

### Franklin recount

A recount was conducted on 2 February 2009 for the vacancy for the House of Assembly division of Franklin following the resignation of Paula Wriedt. At the recount, only the votes which elected Ms Wriedt were redistributed to candidates contesting the recount.

All candidates who contested the seat at the 2006 Franklin election and were not elected were eligible to nominate for the recount. At the close of the nomination period, eight of the twelve eligible candidates had nominated.

Daniel Hulme was elected as the new member. Details of the recount are provided in Appendix C.



## Local government elections

### Separate elector polls

An elector poll was conducted for the West Coast Council on the proposed move of council administration from Zeehan to Queenstown. Ballot material was delivered to electors from 24 to 27 June 2008. At the close of the poll on 8 July, 55.82% of West Coast electors returned their postal votes with 53.00% not supporting the proposal.

### By-elections and recounts

During 2008-09 the TEC conducted recounts for councillor vacancies on the following councils:

- Break O'Day
- Clarence City
- Glamorgan-Spring Bay (2 recounts)
- Glenorchy City
- Meander Valley
- West Coast

## Changes to the House of Assembly electoral boundaries

The Commonwealth recently conducted a review of the House of Representatives electoral boundaries in Tasmania. This review was part of an independent redistribution of federal divisions, required under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act*. The previous federal redistribution in Tasmania was completed in 2000.

The process is similar to that required under state legislation for the redistribution of Legislative Council divisions.

The Commonwealth redistribution took effect on 16 February 2009, resulting in a small number of electors being enrolled in a House of Assembly division that is different to their Federal division.

To rebalance elector numbers and to avoid confusion for electors long-accustomed to voting in the same division at State and Federal elections, the Tasmanian Parliament has consistently chosen to adopt the Commonwealth House of Representatives boundaries for the purposes of House of Assembly divisions by amending the *Constitution Act 1934* to ensure they coincide.

The amendments to the *Constitution Act 1934* to realign the Tasmanian House of Assembly electoral boundaries with the Commonwealth House of Representatives boundaries took effect on 27 April 2009.

Once the Constitution Act amendments came into effect 15 943 electors who were transferred to a new division were personally sent a joint TEC and AEC letter informing them of their new divisions and current House of Representative and House of Assembly members.

A brief description of the changes and a map of the new divisions are included in Appendix D.

## Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania elections

The *Aboriginal Lands Act 1995* (the Act) provides for the election of members to the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT). These elections are to be conducted by the Electoral Commissioner. The ALCT comprises of 8 committee members, each elected for a 3-year term, representing 5 electoral areas: South region (2), North region (2), North-West region (2), Cape Barren Island group (1), Flinders Island group (1).

The Electoral Commissioner is responsible for determining Aboriginality for the purposes of the Act, preparing and maintaining the ALCT Electors Roll and conducting elections for the Council.

The enrolment process for the elections scheduled for early 2006 was carried out in 2005 and six appeals were lodged in the Supreme Court. The appeals related to the Aboriginality of more than 250 persons and, as a result, the call for nominations was deferred until the appeals were resolved.

In December 2008, the Supreme Court made orders to the effect that the Electoral Commissioner reconsider his decisions in relation to the 250 persons. This reconsideration was conducted in early 2009 and no further appeals were lodged. Accordingly, the roll was finalised.

Prior to this reconsideration, the Act was amended to provide that the Electoral Commissioner is not required to divulge certain personal information relating to applicants for enrolment.

Nominations for the elections closed on 15 May, with the poll closing on 16 June 2009. Eight members were elected to the Council to serve for 3-year terms.

### **Assistance to other electoral authorities**

The TEC assisted other Australian electoral authorities to conduct their elections by issuing pre-poll votes at the Commission office in Hobart.

The TEC issued pre-poll votes for the following elections:

- ACT Legislative Assembly elections
- Queensland state elections,
- New Zealand general elections and a by-election
- Western Australian referendum on daylight savings,
- state by-elections in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia, and
- Northern Territory shire elections

### **Other elections and ballots**

In the last financial year, the TEC conducted a range of non-parliamentary elections of statutory and non-statutory nature. Fees are charged for these services.

Non-statutory elections included:

- Tasmanian Council of Social Service (TasCOSS)
- Tasmanian Council on AIDS Hepatitis & Related Diseases (TasCAHRD)
- Tasmanian Principals' Association
- Tasmanian Pacing Club
- Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council
- Tasmanian University Union (TUU)
- Showmen's Guild of Tasmania

The only statutory election undertaken was for the Elizabeth Macquarie Irrigation Trust.

## INNOVATION

### Election awareness for the 2009 Legislative Council elections

The Commission explored new ways of reaching electors to inform them about the 2009 Legislative Council elections. Three new initiatives were undertaken.

#### Advertising on Tasmanian newspaper websites

Advertising on the websites of Tasmania’s three daily newspapers was included in the Legislative Council election advertising campaign for the first time. Website advertising was seen as a fresh way to inform Tasmanians, particularly those travelling overseas, that the elections were on.

The advertisements appeared as a sequence of three slides (shown below) on the home pages of the newspaper websites and other targeted pages.

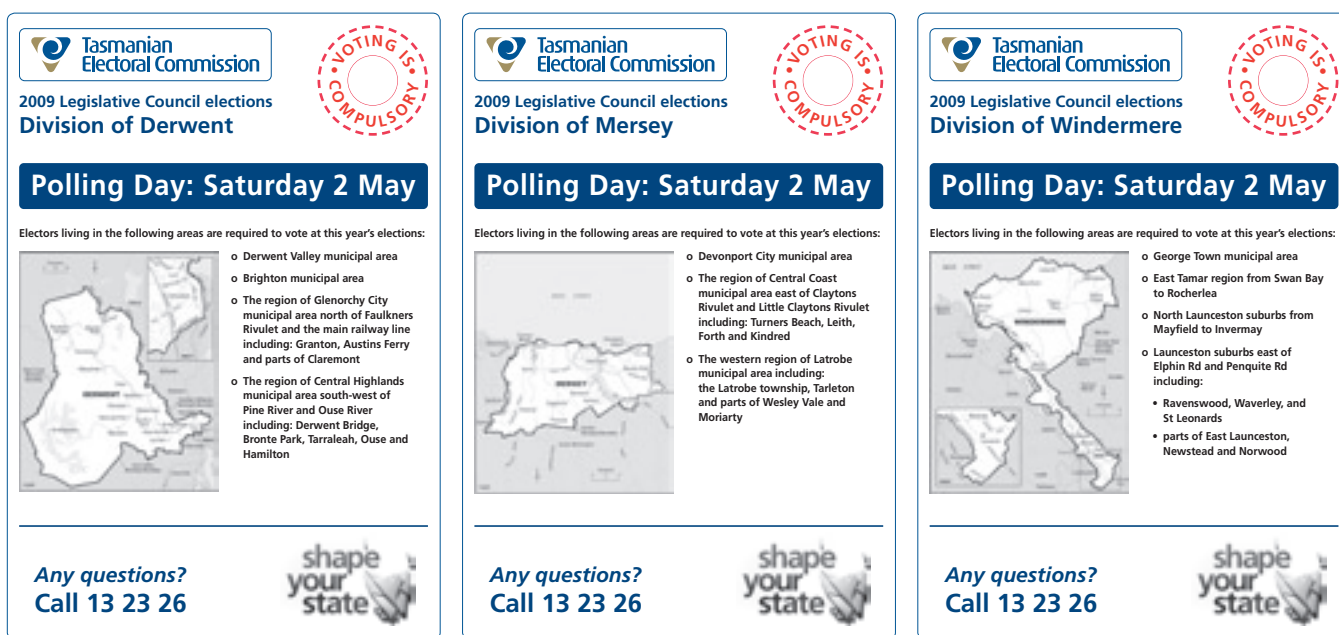


By clicking on the advertisement the elector was transferred directly to the TEC election website. The advertisement appeared on each website from the close of nominations until polling day.

During this period, the advertisement appeared on newspaper paper views over 700,000 times.

#### Local posters

To increase the general awareness of the elections in the community, around 350 posters promoting the election were displayed on windows and notice boards in local businesses across the three divisions going to election. Many businesses were keen to display the posters to inform their own staff as well as their customers.





### Changes to the elector brochure mailout

The Commission’s most effective communication tool to increase participation rates at Legislative Council elections has been the creation of an election brochure personally addressed and posted to each elector required to vote.

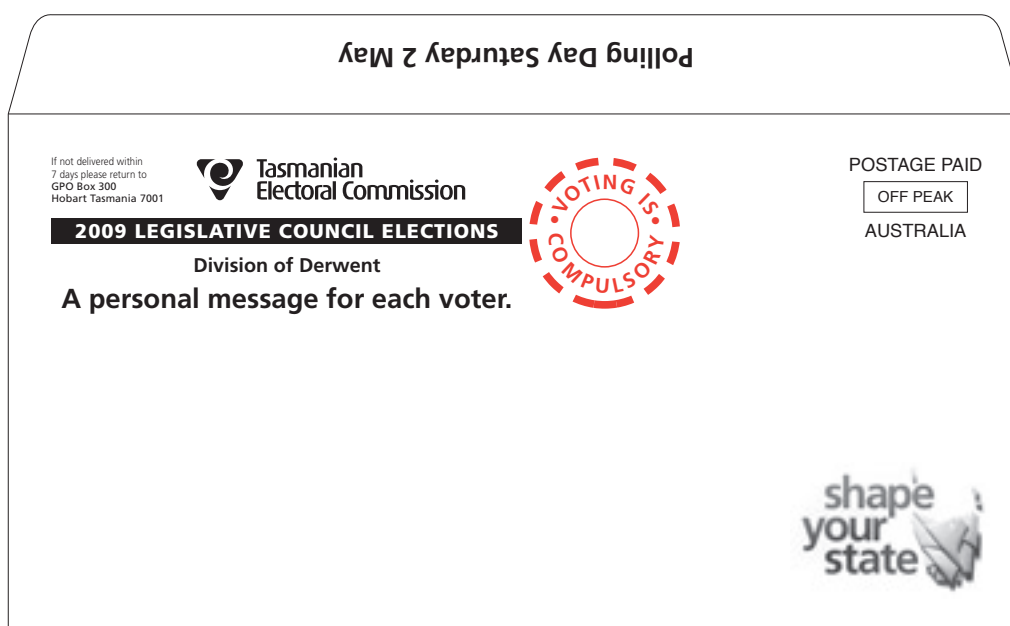
While the brochure has been highly successful, voter turnout at recent Legislative Council elections is still considerably less than for House of Assembly elections. Two major reasons given by electors who have failed to vote are:

- not reading the brochures because they believed it to be ‘junk mail’
- forgetting to vote on polling day.

To address these problems the Commission made two changes to the elector brochure mail out.

The envelope printing was changed to include key election information on the outside. This personally addressed envelope included the name of the election and division; the date of polling day and a statement that voting is compulsory.

To help electors remember to vote on polling day a second insert in the form of a card with a peel-off reminder sticker (as shown) was included with the elector brochure. Electors were advised to peel off the sticky label and place it in their diary or on their planning calendar.





## **New election software**

During the 2008–09 year the TEC developed two election software applications to assist the management of Parliamentary and local government elections.

### **Nomination management system (NomSys)**

NomSys records candidate nomination details, and produces letters, forms and reports for candidates, returning officers, the media, and TEC administration. NomSys was developed for use at Tasmanian Parliamentary and local government elections.

The application was first used at the 2009 Legislative Council elections.

Although there were only a small number of candidates at the Legislative Council elections, NomSys was well received by returning officers and simplified nomination processes, saving time and resources.

NomSys will be used at the forthcoming local government and House of Assembly elections, where considerable efficiency gains are expected due to the larger number of candidates expected to nominate.

### **Postal vote management system (PVMS)**

PVMS is used to manage all postal vote processes required for an parliamentary elections. The system will assist in the management of the following tasks:

- recording postal vote applications
- producing documentation for issuing postal vote material
- recording the return of postal votes, and
- generating the list of electors who have voted by post.

The application was first used at the 2009 Legislative Council elections. The introduction of this new system significantly increased the efficiency of the process and enabled more detailed statistics to be obtained.

PVMS was a success and will result in significant time and resource savings at Parliamentary elections.

## ELECTORAL ENROLMENT

An up-to-date and accurate electoral roll is an essential prerequisite for the conduct of elections. The State of Tasmania and the Commonwealth of Australia have an arrangement for the management and maintenance of a joint roll.

The Tasmanian electoral roll is maintained by the Australian Electoral Commission as part of the national roll. The TEC has on-line access to the roll. The national roll is jointly managed by the Australian Electoral Commission and the State electoral authorities.

Eligible Tasmanians are able to enrol to vote in federal, state or local government elections or change their details on the electoral roll, by completing a single joint enrolment form.

Under section 40 of the *Electoral Act 2004*, the Tasmanian roll is provided to Members of Parliament, registered parties and other organisations approved by the Commission.

All electors enrolled on the State roll are entitled to vote at the local government elections for the council in which their enrolled address is situated. Other individuals who are over the age of 18 and are an owner or occupier of land in the municipal area may be entitled to be on a supplementary electoral roll kept by the council general manager.

### Enrolment management

The Electoral Commissioner represents the Tasmanian Electoral Commission at regular meetings of the Electoral Council of Australia. This body oversees policy and systems related to the on-going development and improvement of the joint Commonwealth/State electoral roll.

Australian electoral commissions are investigating options for greater use of electronic transactions for enrolment.

The Australian Electoral Commission keeps the electoral roll nationally on a mainframe computer. On-line access is available from Commission desktop computers via a dedicated secure line from Canberra.

## REPORT ON PERFORMANCE

This section details the performance results for the TEC. The TEC conducts a range of elections on behalf of the Tasmanian community. The cost per elector for these elections varies depending on the statutory requirements, and the scale and complexity of the election.

The performance assessment, in the first instance, focuses on the cost effectiveness of the electoral process. The cost per enrolled elector to conduct State elections and the cost per enrolled elector to maintain the electoral roll are reported in tables 7, 9, 10 and 11.

While cost effectiveness is important, it is essential that other performance measures such as voter turn-out (number of electors who voted as a percentage of the number of electors on the election roll), and the level of informal voting (number of informal votes as a percentage of the number of votes cast), are maintained at existing levels or better.

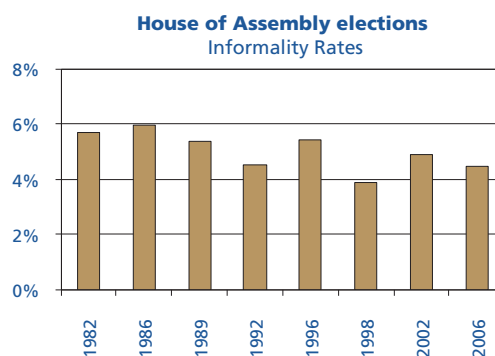
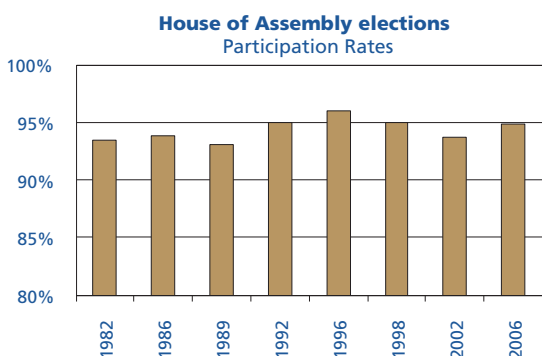
### House of Assembly elections

Table 1: House of Assembly elections statistics 1996–2006

	1996	1998	2002	2006
Number of electors at close of roll	324 556	322 754	332 473	341 481
Ballot papers cast	311 486	306 655	311 637	324 008
Participation rate	95.97%	95.01%	93.73%	94.88%
Formal votes	294 671	294 678	296 470	309 622
Informality rate	5.40%	3.91%	4.87%	4.44%
Number of candidates*	158	138	112	95
Total number of counts**	3 363	3 271	2 500	198

\* The number of members of the House of Assembly was reduced in 1998 from 35 to 25.

\*\* The number of counts reduced dramatically in 2006 with the adoption of the process of amalgamating parcels of ballot papers with the same transfer value when excluding candidates.



## Legislative Council elections

Table 2: Legislative Council elections statistics by division 2008–2009

	2008		2009		
	Huon	Rosevears	Derwent	Mersey	Windermere
Number of electors at close of roll	24 539	23 402	24 491	23 568	23 311
Ballot papers cast	20 332	18 760	20 098	20 271	18 756
Participation rate	82.86%	80.16%	82.06%	86.01%	80.46%
Formal votes	19 584	17 879	19 243	19 707	18 084
Informality rate	3.68%	4.70%	4.25%	2.78%	3.58%
Number of candidates	2	2	3	4	5

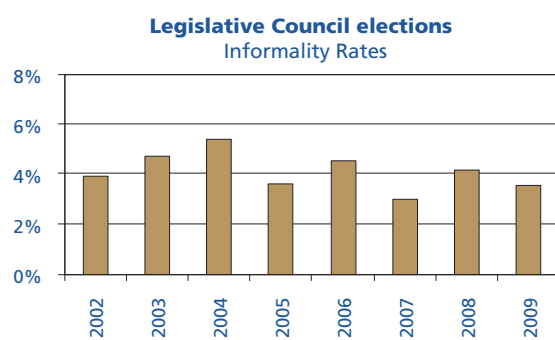
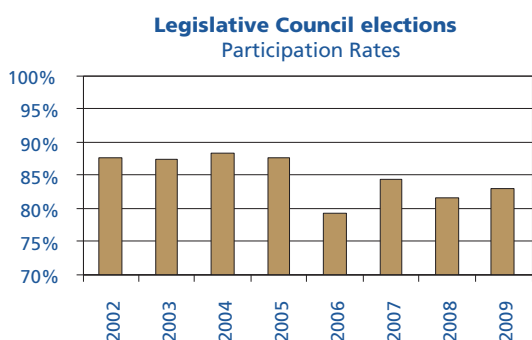
Table 3: Legislative Council elections participation and informality rates 2005–2009

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number of electors at close of roll	46 474*	44 844	46 569*	47 941	71 370
Ballot papers cast	40 703	35 468	39 254	39 092	59 125
Participation rate	87.58%	79.09%	84.29%	81.54%	82.84%
Informality rate	3.62%	4.50%	2.96%	4.17%	3.54%

Note: Enrolment numbers for 2005 and 2007 only include divisions that required a poll.

Factors which may affect participation rates at Legislative Council elections include:

- the number of elections being held
- the demographics of the divisions going to election
- the number of candidates contesting an election
- the level of campaigning undertaken by the candidates and
- local issues.



## Local government elections

Table 4: Local government elections statistics 1999–2007

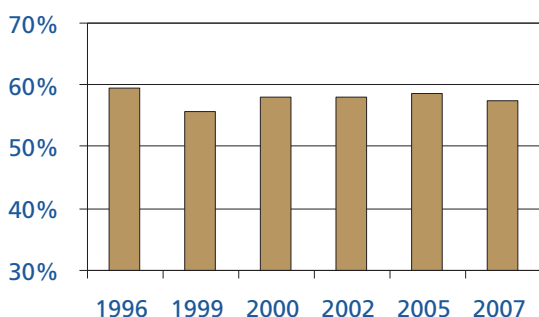
	1999	2000	2002	2005	2007
Number of electors at close of roll*	330 004	334 592	340 283	350 026	357 091
Number of council elections fully conducted by TEC	24/28	27/29	26/28	28/29	29/29
Declarations returned	183 673	193 337	196 903	204 846	205 074
Response rate	55.66%	57.78%	57.86%	58.52%	57.43%
Total ballot papers**	291 890***	514 858	525 772	563 532	538 411
Formal votes	287 896***	505 123	516 100	553 809	528 649
Informality rate	1.37%	1.89%	1.84%	1.73%	1.81%
Number of candidates	377	454	437	487	444
Total number of counts	503	622	570	708	602

\* Comprises those electors on the House of Assembly roll for an address within the municipal area as well as other owners, occupiers and nominees who have enrolled on the general manager's roll. Only includes figures for those councils requiring ballots.

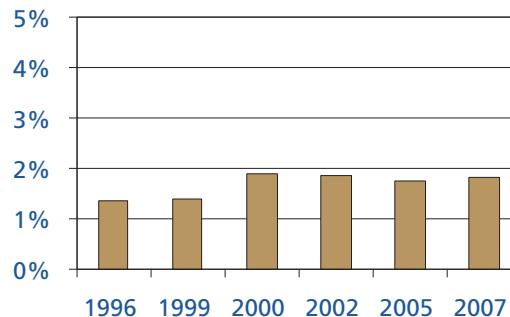
\*\* Includes all ballot papers for mayor, deputy mayor and councillors.

\*\*\* In 1999 most mayoral and deputy mayoral positions were elected by the newly formed councils rather than at the council elections.

Local government elections  
Participation Rates



Local government elections  
Informality Rates



### Tasmania *Together* indicators and targets for local government elections

Tasmania *Together* is a community system of goal setting and measurement, used to guide decision-making in the government and community sectors. The headline indicator for Goal 8 (Open and accountable government that listens and plans for a shared future) is the level of voter participation in local government elections.

*Table 5: Local government election participation*

Tasmania <i>Together</i> indicator	Tasmania <i>Together</i> target
8.1.3 Participation in local government elections	2005: 60% 2010: 65% 2015: 70% 2020: 75%

*Table 6: Local government election participation 1996–2007*

Participation in local government elections	1996	1999	2000	2002	2005	2007
Local government	59.48%	55.66%	57.78%	57.86%	58.52%	57.43%

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This section contains breakdowns of election costs and historical comparisons. Expenditure and Revenue statements can be found in the 2006–2007 Department of Justice Annual Report.

### Cost of elections

*Table 7: Cost of House of Assembly elections*

	1995–96	1998–99	2002–03	2005–06
Total cost (\$'000)	1 635	1 565	1 752	1 897
Number of electors on the roll	324 556	322 754	332 473	341 481
Cost per elector on the roll	\$5.10	\$5.06	\$5.27	\$5.56

*Table 8: Cost of Federal elections*

	1995–96	1998–99	2001–02	2004–05	2007–08
Cost per elector on the roll	\$5.08	\$5.06	\$5.29	\$5.79	\$8.29*

\* The significant increase in costs includes two initiatives undertaken in response to the introduction of new enrolment and close of roll arrangements: targeted enrolment stimulation (\$6 million) and a major public awareness and advertising strategy (\$29 million). With over 13.5 million electors on the roll, the combined \$35 million equates to \$2.56 of the cost per elector.

The cost per elector for the 2004 and 2007 Federal elections are included for information. The 2004 election figure was obtained from the Australian Electoral Commission's *Electoral Pocket Book* of June 2005. The 2007 election figure was obtained from the Australian Electoral Commission's *Electoral Pocket Book* of April 2009. Federal election costs do not include a component for the decentralised structure of permanent divisional returning officers and staff.

*Table 9: Cost of Legislative Council elections*

	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09
Total cost (\$'000)	335	280	346	307	418
Number of electors on the roll	70 008	44 844	70 109	47 941	71 370
Cost per elector on the roll	\$4.79	\$6.24	\$4.94	\$6.40	\$5.86

Periodic Legislative Council elections are conducted annually. Elections for two divisions are held in even-numbered years, and for three divisions in odd-numbered years. Costs per election are always higher when only two elections are held due to fixed costs.

In 2004–05, the cost per elector was low due to a poll not being required in the division of Paterson as there was only one nomination.

In 2006–07, the cost per elector was low due to a poll not being required in the division of Montgomery as there was only one nomination.

*Table 10: Cost of local government elections*

	2000–01	2002–03	2005–06	2007–08
Total cost (\$'000)	917	977	1 147	1 211
Number of electors on the roll	334 592	340 283	350 026	357 091
Cost per elector on the roll	\$2.74	\$2.87	\$3.28	\$3.39

## Cost of electoral enrolment

*Table 11: Cost of managing and maintaining electoral roll*

	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	2007–08	2008–09
Expenditure on roll (\$'000)	243	249	218	214	224
Number of electors on the roll at 30 June	341 172	343 494	346 893	353 031	356 065
Cost per elector on the roll	\$0.71	\$0.72	\$0.63	\$0.61	\$0.63

These costs include the cost to the State of the State/Commonwealth joint roll arrangement, communications lines to the national roll management system, associated IT costs and the cost of providing the roll to members of the Tasmanian Parliament, registered parties and other organisations approved by the Commission under section 40 of the *Electoral Act 2004*.



## APPENDIX A—APPROVALS, APPOINTMENTS AND DETERMINATIONS

### Approvals

Section No.	Subject	Date Approved
72 (c), 73 (3), 88 (2), 89 (3), 89 (5), 142 (2), 314 (2) & 226 (3)	Approval of newspapers for the publication of certain notices or declarations	25/02/09
138 (3)	Recording whether or not each declaration vote envelope is admitted to further scrutiny	18/05/09
131	Antarctic voting (receiving ballot papers from Antarctic electors)	18/05/09
86 (1)	Account for holding nomination deposits	26/03/09
128 (1)	Manner of keeping a record of all persons issued with a postal ballot paper under section 128	26/03/09

### Appointments

Section No.	Subject	Date Approved
24 (1)	Returning officers for the 2009 Legislative Council elections	25/02/09
93 (1)	Polling places for the 2009 Legislative Council elections	25/02/09
26 (1)	Election officials for the 2009 Legislative Council elections	26/03/09
24 (1)	Substitute returning officer for the 2009 Legislative Council election for the division of Derwent	26/03/09
25 (1)	Acting returning officer for the 2009 Legislative Council election for the division of Windermere	31/03/09
24 (1)	Returning officer for the 2009 Pembroke by-election	24/06/09
93 (1)	Polling places for the 2009 Pembroke by-election	24/06/09

## Determinations

Section No.	Subject	Date Approved
27 (1)	Hours of polling at pre-poll centre	25/02/09

## APPENDIX B—LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

### 2009 election summary

Issue of the writs	Mon 30 March	Polling day	Sat 2 May
Close of nominations	Wednesday 8 April	Return of the writs	Thursday 7 May

Division	Retiring Member	Elected candidate
Derwent	Michael Aird	Michael Aird
Mersey	Norma Jamieson	Mike Gaffney
Windermere	Ivan Dean	Ivan Dean

A candidate must obtain a majority of the formal vote to be elected under the preferential voting system used for Legislative Council elections. If no candidate has a majority of the formal vote from first preferences, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is excluded. The exclusion of candidates continues until one candidate obtains an absolute majority.

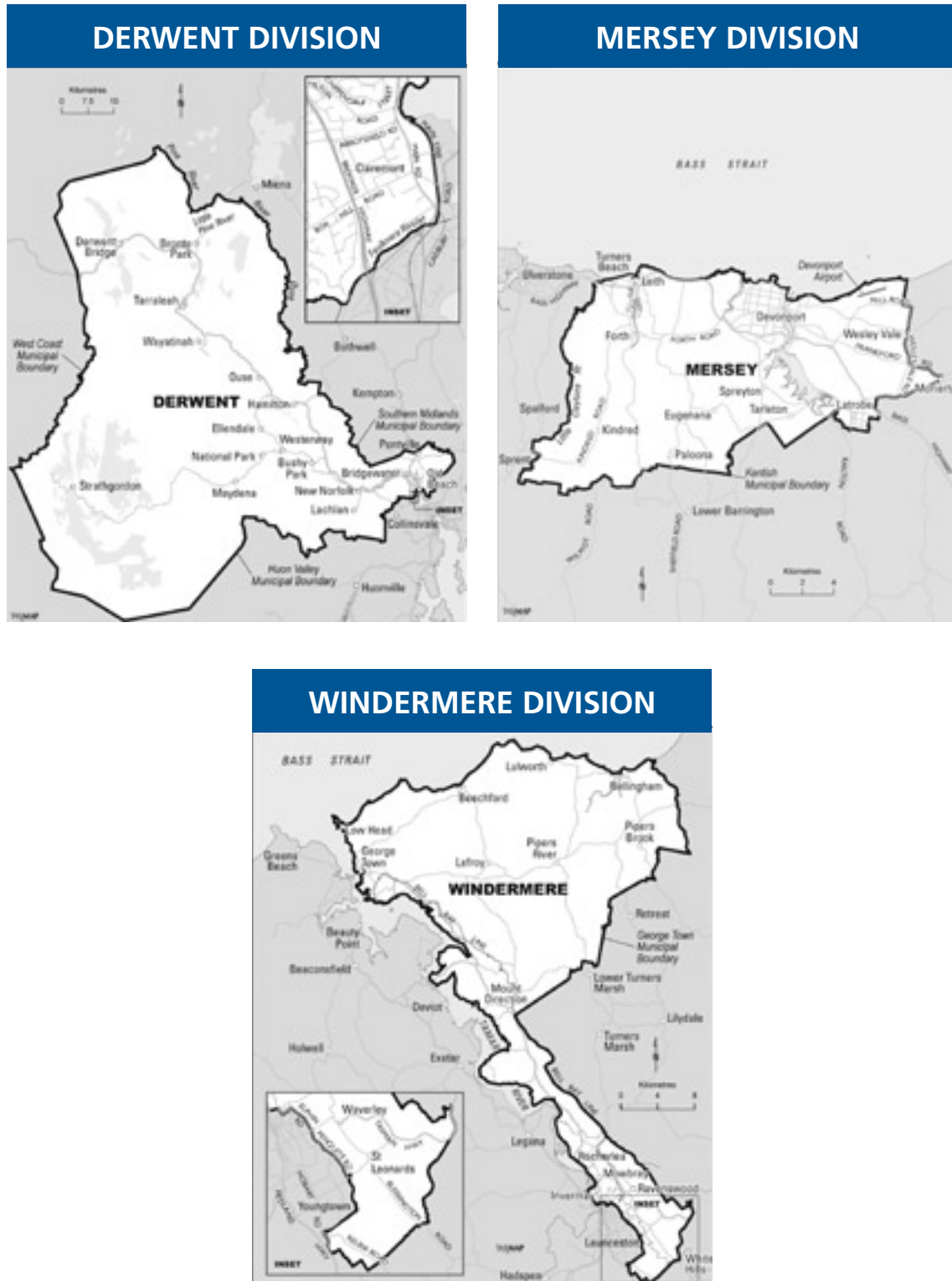
### Periodical cycle

Periodic Legislative Council elections are held on the first Saturday in May each year.

Year	Division	Current Member
2010	Apsley	Tania Rattray-Wagner
	Elwick	Terry Martin
2011	Launceston	Don Wing
	Murchison	Ruth Forrest
	Rumney	Lin Thorpe
2012	Hobart	Doug Parkinson
	Western Tiers	Greg Hall
2013	Montgomery	Sue Smith
	Nelson	Jim Wilkinson
	Pembroke	Allison Ritchie*
2014	Huon	Paul Harriss
	Rosevears	Kerry Finch
2015	Derwent	Michael Aird
	Mersey	Mike Gaffney
	Windermere	Ivan Dean

\* Note Alison Ritchie resigned as the member for Pembroke on Tuesday 23 June 2009. A by-election is being conducted to fill the vacancy.

### Divisional maps



## Division of DERWENT

Election held on 2 May 2009

Retiring member—The Honourable Michael Aird

Returning Officer—Maree Ward

Elected member to serve for a six year term until May 2015

Electors enrolled	24 491
Electors who voted	20 098 (82.06%)
Informal votes	855 (4.25%)

### First preference votes and informal ballot papers—by polling place

	CANDIDATES			Formal votes	Informal	Total ballot papers counted
	AIRD Michael Australian Labor Party	BRANCH Jenny	GUNTER Susan Tasmanian Greens			
1 Abbotsfield	793	563	152	1 508	77	1 585
2 Austins Ferry	714	621	214	1 549	88	1 637
3 Bridgewater	1 068	460	256	1 784	91	1 875
4 Brighton	1 041	576	216	1 833	87	1 920
5 Bronte	34	27	15	76	7	83
6 Claremont	595	502	168	1 265	53	1 318
7 Dromedary	156	82	77	315	13	328
8 Ellendale	60	60	45	165	4	169
9 Gagebrook	691	279	133	1 103	44	1 147
10 Glenora	114	56	37	207	10	217
11 Granton	238	191	92	521	26	547
12 Gretna	78	76	22	176	5	181
13 Hamilton	42	62	24	128	3	131
14 Hobart	57	26	23	106	8	114
15 Lachlan	130	92	105	327	20	347
16 Magra	272	183	51	506	16	522
17 Maydena	59	34	36	129	12	141
18 Molesworth	110	58	98	266	11	277
19 New Norfolk	862	622	357	1 841	78	1 919
20 New Norfolk North	715	401	125	1 241	61	1 302
21 Old Beach	561	417	173	1 151	50	1 201
22 Ouse	107	91	22	220	10	230
23 Pontville	121	106	49	276	12	288
24 Roseneath	166	110	20	296	15	311
25 Tea Tree	61	76	38	175	5	180
26 Westerway	81	71	31	183	12	195
Mobile	28	14	6	48	0	48
<b>Total Ordinary</b>	<b>8 954</b>	<b>5 856</b>	<b>2 585</b>	<b>17 395</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>18 213</b>
Pre-poll	214	140	86	440	8	448
Postal	706	418	187	1 311	24	1 335
Provisional	37	11	8	56	5	61
Absent	21	13	7	41	0	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 932</b>	<b>6 438</b>	<b>2 873</b>	<b>19 243</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>20 098</b>
% Formal vote	51.61%	33.46%	14.93%			

**AIRD elected**

## Division of MERSEY

Election held on 2 May 2009

Retiring member—Norma Jamieson

Returning Officer—Andy Brockbank

Elected member to serve for a six year term until May 2015

Electors enrolled 23 568

Electors who voted 20 271 (86.01%)

Informal votes 564 (2.78%)

### First preference votes and informal ballot papers—by polling place

	CANDIDATES				Formal votes	Informal	Total ballot papers counted
	GAFFNEY Mike	JAMIESON Carolynn	LAYCOCK Lynn	MARTIN Steve			
1 Addison Street	314	113	133	285	845	19	864
2 Ambleside	230	66	76	119	491	9	500
3 Devonport Central	666	234	267	434	1 601	39	1 640
4 Devonport North	300	99	129	215	743	21	764
5 Devonport South	422	122	185	305	1 034	40	1 074
6 Don	302	136	148	216	802	35	837
7 East Devonport	736	266	344	556	1 902	70	1 972
8 Forth	304	122	112	126	664	22	686
9 Hobart	25	6	5	4	40	0	40
10 Latrobe	1 089	193	158	545	1 985	53	2 038
11 Melrose	72	8	36	28	144	4	148
12 Miandetta	159	30	38	98	325	6	331
13 Nixon Street	921	260	397	517	2 095	73	2 168
14 Spreyton	645	157	167	240	1 209	35	1 244
15 Turners Beach	354	114	123	203	794	33	827
16 Valley Road	476	154	220	513	1 363	29	1 392
17 Wesley Vale	57	43	17	46	163	4	167
Mobile	35	38	30	61	164	3	167
<b>Total Ordinary</b>	<b>7 107</b>	<b>2 161</b>	<b>2 585</b>	<b>4 511</b>	<b>16 364</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>16 859</b>
Pre-poll	838	295	386	578	2 097	51	2 148
Postal	374	142	159	325	1 000	10	1 010
Provisional	38	10	14	11	73	5	78
Absent	103	9	39	22	173	3	176
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 460</b>	<b>2 617</b>	<b>3 183</b>	<b>5 447</b>	<b>19 707</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>20 271</b>
% Formal vote	42.93%	13.28%	16.15%	27.64%			

### Distribution of preferences

	GAFFNEY Mike	JAMIESON Carolynn	LAYCOCK Lynn	MARTIN Steve	Formal votes	Remarks
Count 1 Total votes	8 460	2 617	3 183	5 447	<b>19 707</b>	First preferences
Count 2 Votes transferred	1 129	-2 617	648	840		Jamieson excluded
Total votes	<b>9 589</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3 831</b>	<b>6 287</b>	<b>19 707</b>	
Count 3 Votes transferred	2 247		-3 831	1 584		Laycock excluded
Total votes	<b>11 836</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>7 871</b>	<b>19 707</b>	<b>Gaffney elected</b>

## Division of WINDERMERE

Election held on 2 May 2009

Retiring member—Ivan Dean

Returning Officer—Anne Scott

Elected member to serve for a six year term until May 2015

Electors enrolled 23 311  
Electors who voted 18 756 (80.46%)  
Informal votes 672 (3.58%)

### First preference votes and informal ballot papers—by polling place

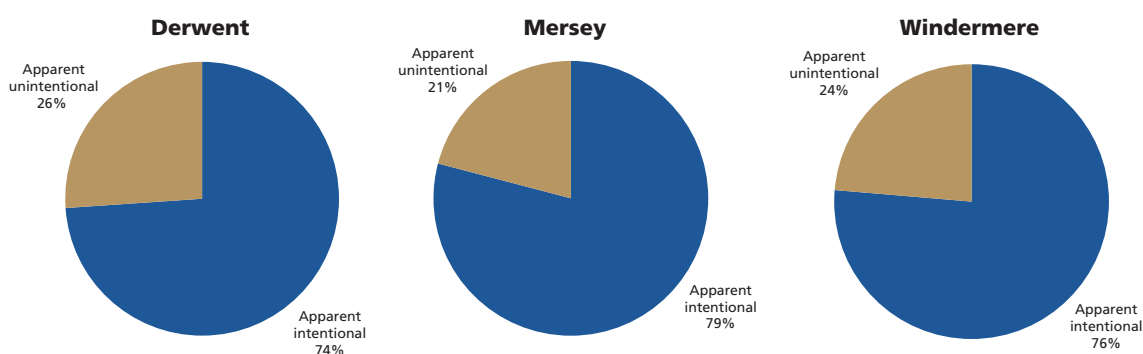
	CANDIDATES					Formal votes	Informal	Total ballot papers counted
	DEAN Ivan	HAY Kathryn	KAYE Peter John	SANDS Ted	WHISH- WILSON Peter Tasmanian Greens			
1 Dilston	194	99	85	79	182	639	9	648
2 Elphin	340	167	65	70	165	807	15	822
3 George Town	771	460	119	77	273	1 700	66	1 766
4 George Town South	362	244	56	38	138	838	22	860
5 Hillwood	119	84	57	44	145	449	20	469
6 Hobart	11	8	1	2	10	32	0	32
7 Inveresk	273	229	98	83	184	867	43	910
8 Invermay	294	254	75	102	243	968	53	1 021
9 Mowbray	594	484	182	133	249	1 642	82	1 724
10 Newnham	954	608	236	180	257	2 235	81	2 316
11 Norwood	257	110	61	72	110	610	24	634
12 Pipers River	84	56	30	16	55	241	8	249
13 Ravenswood	661	684	155	123	156	1 779	87	1 866
14 Rocherlea	295	255	71	69	83	773	42	815
15 St Leonards	390	214	124	90	146	964	35	999
16 Waverley	347	256	82	49	96	830	35	865
17 Weymouth	40	18	21	10	25	114	3	117
Mobile	128	30	16	29	21	224	12	236
<b>Total ordinary</b>	<b>6 114</b>	<b>4 260</b>	<b>1 534</b>	<b>1 266</b>	<b>2 538</b>	<b>15 712</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>16 349</b>
Pre-poll	311	180	83	82	163	819	13	832
Postal	605	342	139	97	208	1 391	20	1 411
Provisional	24	33	5	4	16	82	1	83
Absent	30	24	8	2	16	80	1	81
<b>Total</b>	<b>7 084</b>	<b>4 839</b>	<b>1 769</b>	<b>1 451</b>	<b>2 941</b>	<b>18 084</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>18 756</b>
% Formal vote	39.17%	26.76%	9.78%	8.02%	16.26%			

### Distribution of preferences

	DEAN Ivan	HAY Kathryn	KAYE Peter John	SANDS Ted	WHISH- WILSON Peter Tasmanian Greens	Exhausted votes	Formal votes	Remarks
Count 1 Total votes	7 084	4 839	1 769	1 451	2 941		<b>18 084</b>	First preferences
Count 2 Votes transferred	350	298	341	-1 451	462			Sands excluded
Total votes	<b>7 434</b>	<b>5 137</b>	<b>2 110</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3 403</b>		<b>18 084</b>	
Count 3 Votes transferred	842	654	-2 110		614			Kaye excluded
Total votes	<b>8 276</b>	<b>5 791</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>4 017</b>		<b>18 084</b>	
Count 4 Votes transferred	1 563	2 260			-4 017	194		Whish-Wilson excluded
Total votes	<b>9 839</b>	<b>8 051</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>18 084</b>	<b>Dean elected</b>

## Informal ballot paper survey

	Derwent	Mersey	Windermere	Total
<b>Apparent intentional informal voting</b>				
Blank	201	146	180	527
Deliberate informal or scribble/messages only	431	300	333	1 064
<i>Total</i>	<i>632</i>	<i>446</i>	<i>513</i>	<i>1 591</i>
<b>Apparent unintentional informality</b>				
Contains writing identifying elector	1	1	4	6
Contains only ticks or crosses	159	63	68	290
No first preference	16	3	4	23
Repetitions or omissions	41	44	62	147
Two or more first preferences	5	7	21	33
For other division	1	0	0	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>223</i>	<i>118</i>	<i>159</i>	<i>500</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>2 091</b>





## APPENDIX C—HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY RECOUNTS

### Denison recount

A recount was conducted to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly created by the resignation of Peg Putt, who resigned from Parliament on Monday 7 July 2008.

Peg Putt received 11 338 votes at the 2006 House of Assembly election, well over the Denison quota of 10 257. The value of the ballot papers used in the recount has been reduced by fraction to equal the quota, as required by section 5 of Schedule 6 of the *Electoral Act 2004*.

	Tasmania First	Liberal Party	Tasmanian Greens	Group F	Exhausted votes	Lost by Fraction	Total votes	Absolute majority
Votes	27	135	789	417	106	6	10 257	5 073
Percentage	0.3%	1.3%	7.8%	4.1%				
	Kevin Pelham	Elise Archer	Marrette Corby	Toby Rowllan	Ken Higgs			
		John Klonaris	Bill Harvey	Cassy O'Connor				
		1 550	1 550	1 550	1 550	1 550	1 550	1 550
		15.3%	15.3%	15.3%	15.3%	15.3%	15.3%	15.3%
		0.7%	7.8%	4.1%	0.2%			

### Cassy O'Connor elected

Cassy O'Connor was elected as a Member of the House of Assembly for the Division of Denison until the next general election.

### Franklin recount

A recount was conducted to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly created by the resignation of Paula Wriedt, who resigned from Parliament on Monday 19 January 2009.

Paula Wriedt received 10 616 votes at the 2006 House of Assembly election, just under the Franklin quota of 10 660. Additional votes from the notional exclusion of Goodwin were distributed to enable Wriedt to reach the quota as required by section 4 of Schedule 6 of the *Electoral Act 2004*.

	Socialist Alliance	Liberal Party	Tasmanian Greens	Australian Labor Party	Ungrouped							
	Mathew Holloway	Vanessa Goodwin	Jane MacDonald	Mark Rickards	Gerard Velnaar	Daniel Hulme	Ian Hall	Richard James				
Votes	80	632	457	226	244	8 097	357	282	239	46	10 660	5 188
Percentage	0.8%	6.1%	4.4%	2.2%	2.4%	78.0%	3.4%	2.7%				
									Exhausted votes	Lost by Fraction	Total votes	Absolute majority

### Daniel Hulme elected

Daniel Hulme was elected as a Member of the House Assembly for the Division of Franklin until the next general election.

## APPENDIX D—NEW HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY DIVISIONS

### Division of Bass

The division of Bass gains Hadspen from Lyons and the balance of the Launceston City municipal area from Lyons in the vicinity of Franklin Village and Relbia Road.



### Division of Braddon

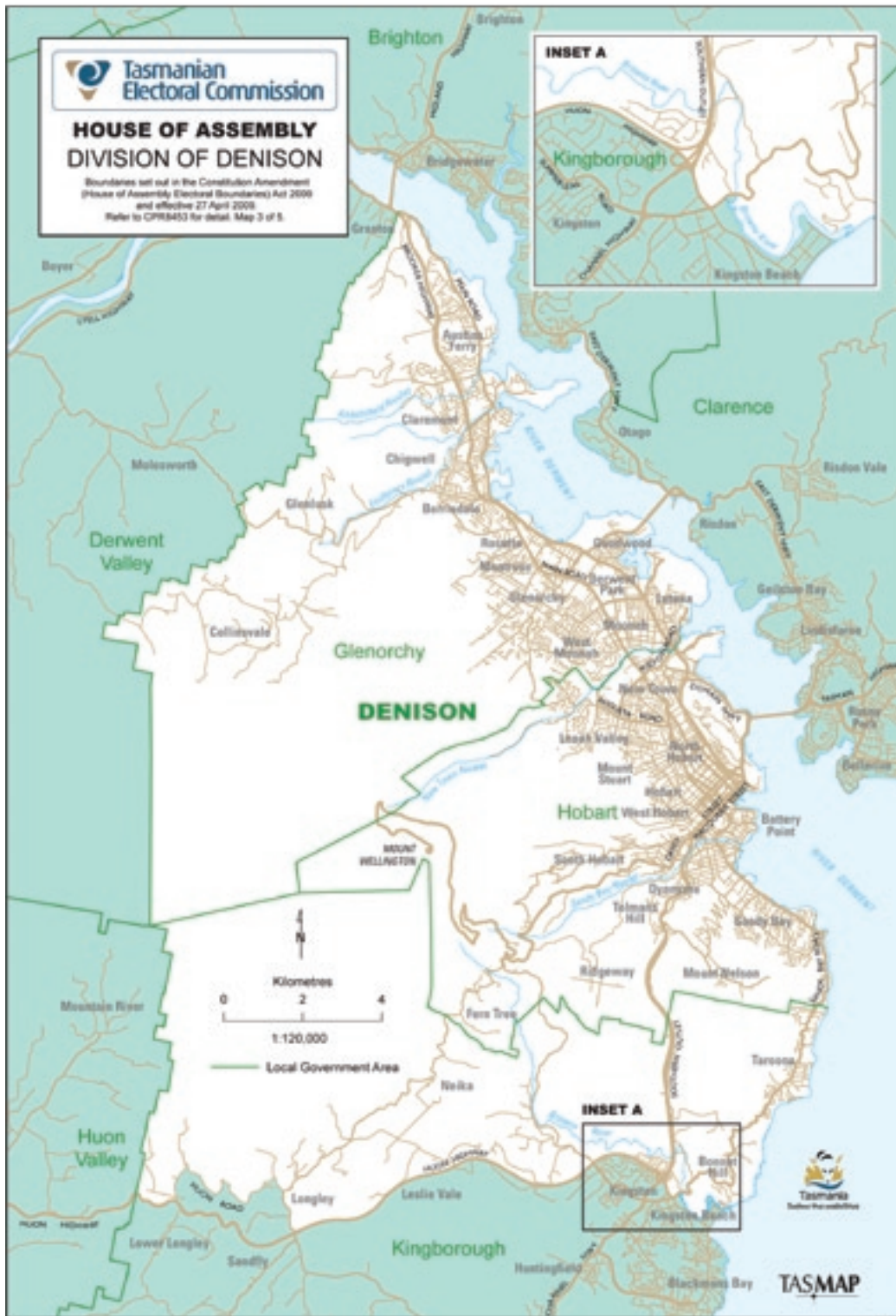
The division of Braddon gains the West Coast municipal area from Lyons and cedes the eastern portion of Latrobe municipal area contained in the Western Tiers Legislative Council division (with minor exception) to Lyons.





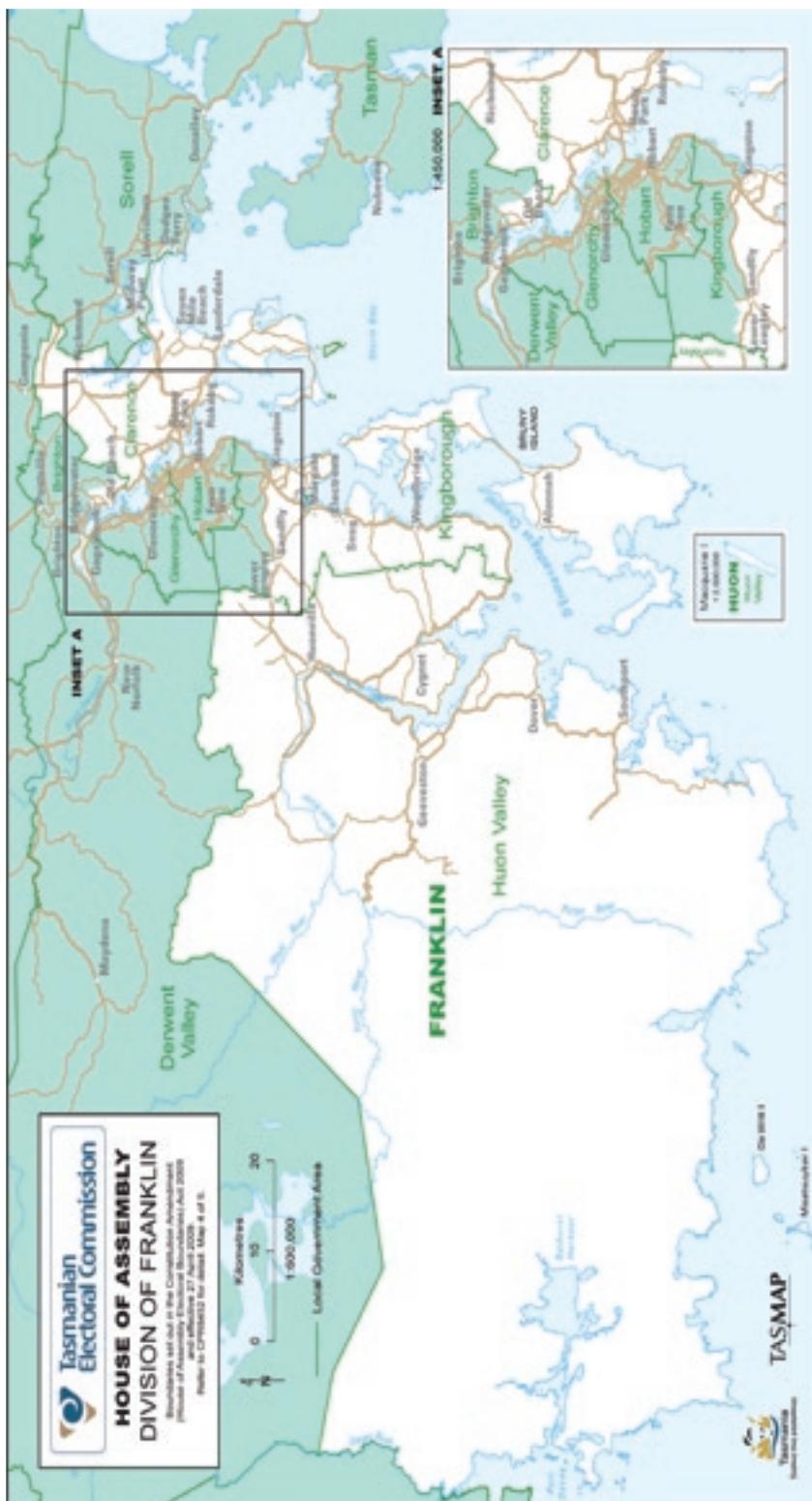
### Division of Denison

The division of Denison gains part of the Kingborough municipal area generally north of Huon Highway and Browns River from Franklin, including the localities of Neika, Firthside and Bonnet Hill.



### Division of Franklin

The division of Franklin cedes Bridgewater and Gagebrook to Lyons and part of the Kingborough municipal area generally north of the Huon Highway and Browns River to Denison, including the localities of Neika, Firthside and Bonnet Hill. It gains the balance of the Clarence City municipal area from Lyons, including Richmond.





### Division of Lyons

The division of Lyons cedes Hadspen to Bass and cedes the balance of the Launceston City municipal area to Bass in the vicinity of Franklin Village and Relbia Road. It cedes the West Coast municipal area to Braddon and gains the eastern portion of Latrobe municipal area contained in Western Tiers Legislative Council division (with minor exception) from Braddon. Lyons gains Bridgewater and Gagebrook from Franklin and cedes the balance of Clarence City municipal area including Richmond to Franklin.





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