

# Tasmanian Electoral Commission

## Annual Report 2019–20



# Tasmanian Electoral Commission

Annual Report 2019–20

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Fifteenth Annual Report 2019–20

To The Honourable Craig Farrell,  
President of the Legislative Council  
and  
The Honourable Sue Hickey,  
Speaker of the House of Assembly

We have the honour to submit the fifteenth annual 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 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Yours sincerely

Mike Blake  
CHAIRPERSON

Andrew Hawkey  
ELECTORAL  
COMMISSIONER

Karen Frost  
MEMBER

13 October 2020

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# Chairperson's introduction

In my introduction in the 2018-19 annual report I noted that “significant attributes of the management and staff of the Tasmanian Electoral Commission (the Commission) is their capacity to respond, adapt and innovate in the face of what seems to be ever increasing requirements of evolving election arrangements and requirements in this State and federally”.

That was particularly relevant then and even more so now as the staff of the Commission responded to COVID-19 by providing very appropriate advice to Government, multiple legislative reviews and advice to a Committee of the Parliament established to review the size of the House of Assembly. Little seems to stand still in the electoral environment including cyber risk approaches to which the Commission continues to explore and develop.

During 2019-20, the Commission welcomed 5 new staff whose contributions to the workings of the TEC added much to our flexible and adaptive capacity.

Evident from this report are many of the Commission's significant achievements in 2019-20 of which all Commission staff should be rightfully proud – well done.

On behalf of Karen and myself, thank you all.



**Mike Blake**

Chairperson  
Tasmanian Electoral Commission

# Electoral Commissioner's Review

This year has been one of surprises, extraordinary change and ongoing uncertainty.

The year commenced with expectations of straightforward Legislative Council elections in May and a new workload in 2020 as a result of the *Electoral Act 2004* and *Local Government Act 1993* reviews. Twelve months on, we find ourselves only in the early stages of the Legislative Council elections, operating in a COVID-safe environment with many staff working from home.

## The 2020 Legislative Council elections

The COVID-19 pandemic created many unforeseen challenges to the 2020 Legislative Council elections. On 15 April the Electoral Commission made the extraordinary decision to not conduct these elections in April/May. Periodical Legislative Council elections have been held in May each year since 1887, with the only exception being 1999<sup>1</sup>.

“The impact of COVID-19” section of this report provides a summary of the key events that led to the elections being delayed and details the additional arrangements required to enable accessible elections to take place that provide a safe environment for staff and electors and one in which electors have confidence to participate.

As increased restrictions removed the possibility of opening polling places, some called for the 2020 Legislative Council elections to proceed in May as a full postal ballot rather than delay the elections. As stated in its letter to the President of the Legislative Council dated 17 April 2020, the Commission takes the view that a Tasmanian Parliamentary election conducted solely by postal vote is not an election for the purposes of the *Electoral Act 2004*. Fundamentally, the Act provides every elector with the right to vote at a polling place on polling day.

1. Due to the 1998 Legislative Council electoral boundaries redistribution which reduced the size of the upper house from 19 to 15 members.

In Tasmania, the *Electoral Act 2004* establishes the rules for Parliamentary attendance ballot elections and the *Local Government Act 1993* establishes the rules for local government postal vote elections. At first glance the work to change from an attendance to a postal ballot may seem minor. In practice, this is not so simple. A good way to illustrate the complexity between the two election systems is with the following analogy:

*A community wants to establish a football competition. The problem is that the rule book on hand is for world football (soccer) not the local Australian rules footy (AFL). Both games involve moving a ball across the field with the aim to score goals. How hard can it be to amend the laws of the game so we can play AFL?*

*While both games are known as football, they have many differences, including the:*

- » *size and shape of the ground*
- » *type of ball*
- » *shape of the goals and the scoring system*
- » *duration of the game*
- » *number of players on the field and how they interchange, and*
- » *way players make contact with the ball and the opposition.*

Similarly, the structure and details of election rules differ depending on the type of ballot.

## A COVID-safe TEC

In light of the growing threat of COVID-19, special contingency planning was undertaken in March to mitigate the impact of the virus being present within the TEC. This involved:

- » assessing the critical workloads and responsibilities of each work area and position
- » setting up working from home environments for all staff using IT hardware and furniture stored for larger elections, and
- » establishing an office in Kingston for the Huon election staff to isolate them from the rest of the TEC.

The deferral of the Legislative Council elections provided an opportunity for TEC staff to be involved in the state government interoperability, as summarised in Appendix G.

The office was closed to the public on Friday 3 April until Monday 15 June, a week prior to the issue of the Writs for the Legislative Council elections.

Another positive outcome is the success of our team jointly working from home and the office and the ability to effectively interact, particularly using Microsoft Teams. It is expected that in the future more staff will take advantage of the broader options under the Department of Justice flexible work arrangements.

As we are now in the second half of the parliamentary term, the forthcoming year will see the completion of COVID-safe 2020 and 2021 Legislative Council elections and an increase in preparations for the next state election and statewide local government elections in 2022. As with most of Australian society, the pandemic has changed how we work and we await to see the full impact it will have on our elections and our democracy in the future.

## Other non-COVID-19 matters

In the latter part of 2019, the Commission had the opportunity to undertake some of its education and advisory functions under the Electoral Act:

- » On Friday 2 August 2019 the three members of the Commission appeared before the House of Assembly select committee into the House of Assembly Restoration Bill 2018, to provide administrative advice on options that had been proposed to the committee.
- » The Electoral Commissioner and TEC communications and operations staff developed and presented a hands on experience of a Hare-Clark scrutiny to the 2019 Australasian Parliamentary Educators Conference
- » The communications area developed a new educative animation explaining the value of marking preferences on the ballot paper

I thank all of the TEC staff for their ability to remain positive, professional and creative through another demanding year.



**Andrew Hawkey**

Electoral Commissioner

# The Tasmanian Electoral Commission

A photograph of a man in a light blue shirt and brown shorts standing in front of a brick building entrance. A white banner hanging above the door reads "POLLING PLACE" in black letters and "OPEN 8AM TO 6PM" in red letters. The building has arched windows and a red brick facade. Green foliage is visible in the foreground.

**POLLING PLACE**  
OPEN 8AM TO 6PM

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission (the Commission) is established under section 6 of the *Electoral Act 2004*. The Commission comprises the Chairperson, the Electoral Commissioner and one other Member.

## This report

This annual report of the Commission covers the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020. It is submitted pursuant to section 13 of the Tasmanian *Electoral Act 2004*. Although the Commission is a statutory body, corporate support is provided by the Department of Justice and full financial (including the impact of COVID-19) and staffing reports are included in the Department of Justice Annual Report.

## Commission 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:
  - (a) to advise the Minister on matters relating to elections
  - (b) to consider and report to the Minister on matters referred to it by the Minister
  - (c) to promote public awareness of electoral and parliamentary topics by means of educational and information programs and by other means
  - (d) 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*
  - (e) to publish material on matters relating to its functions
  - (f) to investigate and prosecute illegal practices under this Act.

# The Tasmanian Electoral Commission (cont'd)

- (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.

### The Commission and the Electoral Commissioner have legal responsibilities under the following legislation:

- » *Electoral Act 2004*
- » *Electoral Regulations 2005*
- » *Local Government Act 1993*
- » *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015*
- » *Juries Act 2003*
- » *Legislative Council Electoral Boundaries Act 1995*
- » *Aboriginal Lands Act 1995*
- » *Water Management Act 1999*

### Responsibilities

The Commission, and the Electoral Commissioner, have statutory responsibilities for the independent and impartial conduct of Tasmanian elections and referendums.

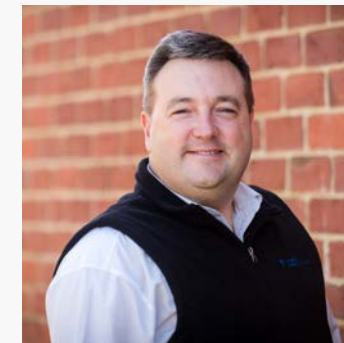
An up-to-date and accurate electoral roll is an essential prerequisite for the conduct of elections. The State of Tasmania and the Commonwealth of Australia have a joint management arrangement whereby the Commission and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) jointly manage and maintain the electoral rolls for federal, state and local government elections.

The Electoral Commissioner is a member of the Electoral Council of Australia and New Zealand (ECANZ) which regularly discusses strategies for maintenance of the electoral roll.

All electors enrolled on the State roll are entitled to vote at the local government elections for the municipal area in which their enrolled address is situated. Other individuals who are over the age of 18 and are owners or occupiers of land in the municipal area may be entitled to be on a supplementary electoral roll kept by the council's General Manager.



**Mike Blake**  
Chairperson



**Andrew Hawkey**  
Electoral Commissioner



**Karen Frost**  
Member



Impact of  
the COVID-19  
pandemic



# 2020 Legislative Council elections deferred

Under section 19 of the *Constitution Act 1934*, there are to be periodic Legislative Council elections in each year and polling day for these elections is to be a Saturday in May (by default the first Saturday in May).

Periodic Legislative Council elections have been conducted in Tasmania since 1851 with historical documents providing election results in all but three years during the 170-year period – 1852, 1878 and 1908. The arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic on our shores saw unprecedented impacts on our Legislative Council elections. The following outlines the extraordinary events that occurred in the lead up to the 2020 Legislative Council elections.

## Polling day Saturday 2 May 2020

Under the *Electoral Act 2004* and the *Constitution Act 1934*, the 2020 periodic Legislative Council elections for the divisions of Huon and Rosevears were to be conducted on Saturday 2 May, requiring approximately 53,000 Tasmanian electors to vote. In accordance with Part 5 of the *Electoral Act 2004*, it was expected that Her Excellency the Governor would issue writs with the following dates:

<b>Issue of the Writs</b>		Monday 30 March
<b>Close of the roll</b>	6pm	Monday 30 March
<b>Nominations close</b>	noon	Tuesday 7 April
<b>Polling day</b>		Saturday 2 May

Section 9 of the *Electoral Act 2004* charges the Commission with the function to advise the Minister on matters relating to elections. In light of the escalating impact of COVID-19, the Commission wrote to the Minister for Justice on 11 March 2020 raising a range of potential challenges for the conduct of these elections.

After seeking further advice from Public Health (Department of Health), the Minister for Justice responded stating, that while noting the issues raised in the Commission's briefing:

*Current advice is that there is no barrier to conducting the elections as planned other than to ensure appropriate measures are applied and processes changed, where needed, to minimise the risk of infection. Therefore, based on this advice, the elections should proceed as scheduled.*

Appendix B contains the Legislative Council elections periodic cycle and the timetable for the 2020 elections.

As the *Constitution Act 1934* requires polling day for periodic elections to be a Saturday in May, only an amendment to legislation would enable deferral of the 2020 Legislative Council elections beyond May. Therefore, based on the Minister's current advice, the Commission continued planning for a 2 May polling day.

## Revised dates – polling day Saturday 30 May 2020

With the continued rise of COVID-19 cases and a state of emergency declared for Tasmania on 20 March, the Commissioner sought Ministerial approval to revise the election dates, moving polling day to Saturday 30 May. This provided an extended early voting period and a longer period for electors unable to attend a polling place to apply and be issued with postal votes.

As provided under section 19(4) of the *Constitution Act 1934*, on 30 March 2020 Her Excellency the Governor made the proclamation that set polling day as Saturday 30 May 2020. The revised election period was:

<b>Issue of the Writs</b>		Wednesday 15 April
<b>Close of the roll</b>	6pm	Wednesday 15 April
<b>Nominations close</b>	noon	Thursday 23 April
<b>Polling day</b>		Saturday 30 May

In the media release announcing the new dates, the Commission also outlined additional measures to maintain election integrity. The Electoral Commissioner stated:

*The Commission is very mindful of the difficult, uncertain and continually changing circumstances we are in as a community, as a state and as a nation. While Tasmanian legislation requires us to conduct the 2020 Legislative Council elections, the Commission will be doing everything it can to ensure the safety of the voting public, the safety of our staff and the integrity of these elections.*

# 2020 Legislative Council elections deferred (cont'd)

Appendix G contains samples of the information pack.

## Tasmania significantly tightens restrictions

On 30 March 2020, the Director of Public Health issued a new Direction which:

- » created significantly tighter restrictions on many public facilities in Tasmania, including those scheduled to be used as polling places and,
- » placed new restrictions on gatherings of more than 2 persons.

The Commission sought a formal direction from the Director of Public Health as to the safety of Tasmanians attending polling places for these elections. On Friday 9 April, The Director formally advised the Commission that:

*...it is likely that it will not be possible to open polling places for the elections, a person attempting to act to the contrary will commit an offence under s 16(3) of the Public Health Act 1977. Section 5 of that Act provides that its provisions are to prevail over the provisions of any other Act.*

After seeking advice from the Solicitor General, the Commission came to the view that a Tasmanian Parliamentary election conducted solely by postal vote is not an election for the purposes of the Electoral Act.

On 15 April a special Gazette was published that contained two elements:

- » revocation of the Governor Proclamation appointing 30 May as polling day, and
- » the Premier issuing a notice under section 13 of the COVID-19 Disease emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 that empowered the Governor to be able to proclaim polling day for any Saturday in June, July or August of 2020.

Without a new Proclamation setting a new future polling day, it could be argued that the Electoral Act defaults back to requiring a 2 May polling day.

In light of the special Gazette, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission met on Wednesday 15 April to discuss the circumstances and made the following resolution:

Appendix E contains a copy of the letter to the President of the Legislative Council.

*As a result of advice from the Director of Public Health that it is likely that it will be a health risk and breach of a future Direction to open polling places on any polling day in May, the Commission resolves not to conduct the periodic Legislative Council elections in May 2020.*

The Commission wrote to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly to inform them of the decision (Appendix E) and issued a media release.

## Special legislation required

On 5 May 2020, the Parliament passed the *COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (No2) 2020*. This legislation included:

- » extension of the term of the current members of Huon and Rosevears until the declaration of the poll for the 2020 Legislative Council elections
- » empowering the Governor to appoint a new polling day on a Saturday in a month before 31 December 2020, if at the time the Director of Public Health was of the opinion that there was no longer a significant risk to public health.

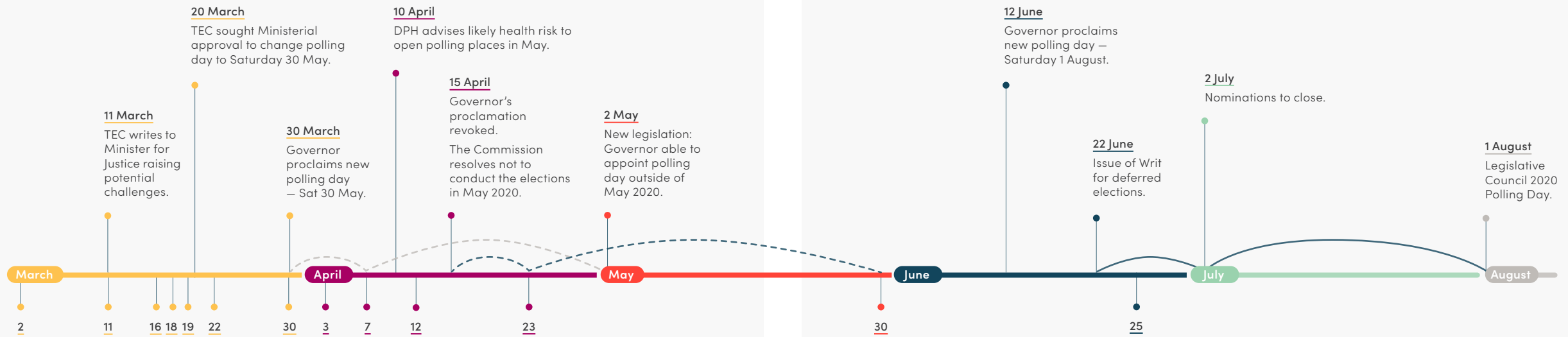
## New polling day set for 2020 elections

On Friday 12 June the Director advised there was no longer a significant risk to public health by holding the elections. Following this advice, the Premier announced Saturday 1 August as polling day and Her Excellency issued a Proclamation appointing that date.

The 2020 Legislative Council elections in the divisions of Huon and Rosevears formally commenced with the issue of Writs on Monday 22 June 2020.

Preparing to run a compulsory attendance election during a pandemic required a great deal of consultation, preparation and contingency planning. This is detailed further on page 22.

# Timeline of election and COVID-19 events



## March

- 2 First confirmed case in Tasmania.
- 11 World Health Organisation (WHO) declares pandemic.  
TEC writes to Minister for Justice raising potential challenges.
- 16 Non-essential static gatherings of 500+ banned nationwide.
- 18 Non-essential indoor gatherings of 100+ banned nationwide.
- 19 Ruby Princess cruise ship docks in Sydney. 2,700 passengers disembark.  
Tasmania declares state of emergency.
- 20 Restricted to 1 person per 4m<sup>2</sup> inside.  
TEC sought Ministerial approval to change polling day to Saturday 30 May.

- 22 Entertainment, indoor sporting and worship venues closed nationwide.
- 30 Governor proclaims new polling day – Saturday 30 May 2020.  
Restrictions tighten. Tasmanians instructed to stay home for 4 weeks.  
Two Ruby Princess passengers admitted to the North West Regional Hospital with COVID-19 (late March).

## April

- 3 North West Tasmania outbreak begins with 3 confirmed cases.
- 7 Visits to hospitals and aged care facilities banned.
- 10 Director of Public Health (DPH) advises likely health risk to open polling places in May.

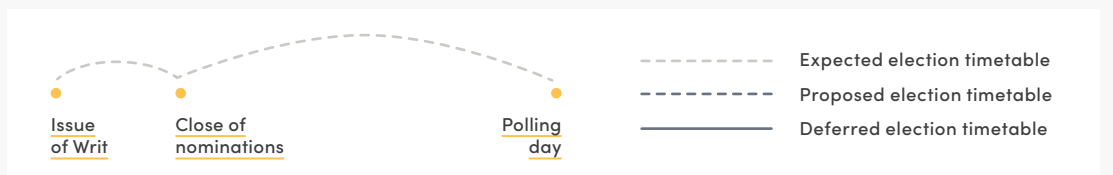
- 12 North West Tasmania effectively in lockdown. Tasmania has most cases in Australia per capita.
- 15 The Commission resolves not to conduct the elections in May 2020.  
Revocation of the Governor's proclamation appointing 30 May as polling day.

## May

- 2 Parliament passed new legislation to extend the term of current members of Huon and Rosevears, and empowering the Governor to appoint a 2020 polling day outside of May.

## June

- 12 DPH advises no significant public health risk to holding elections.  
Governor proclaims new polling day – Saturday 1 August 2020.
- 22 Issue of Writ for deferred Legislative Council elections.
- 25 Restrictions further ease. Indoor gatherings increase to max. 250 people. Density limits to 1 person per 2m<sup>2</sup>. Businesses begin reopening.



# Conducting elections during COVID-19

With the likelihood that the COVID-19 pandemic would continue across any 2020 election period, the Commission needed to adjust processes, materials and timetables to ensure the elections could be conducted safely and also give electors confidence to participate in the electoral process.

Commission planning involved three elements:

1. Creating a COVID-safe voting environment
2. Changing voting services to provide safer and more accessible voting options
3. Developing a new communication strategy to inform electors of the new timetable and new arrangements.

## 1. Creating a COVID-safe voting environment

The Commission developed COVID-safe plans, in line with requirements established by WorkSafe Tasmania, for all locations where electoral work was going to be conducted. As many of the premises to be used for polling were not likely to have their own COVID-safe plan in place, the Commission developed a generic plan that could be adapted to each polling place premises.

As election planning needs to occur weeks if not months before an activity takes place, the COVID-safe plans needed to cater for a possible increase in restrictions and health risks that may occur by polling day. The Commission's COVID-safe plans included the following key elements:

### Distancing measures

- » Voting screens taped off and positioned so there will be at least two empty voting screens between each person voting
- » Simple floor markers, using TEC branded tape, to be placed to guide physical distancing in the polling place.

### Hygiene measures

- » A portable, touch-free hand sanitiser at every polling place entrance
- » Perspex sneeze guards for each issuing point
- » 50,000 golf pencils, allowing each elector access to a single use pencil for marking the ballot paper
- » Plastic mats for every voting screen allowing for easy, regular cleaning
- » Contracted cleaning companies to clean voting screen mats and to clean the polling place before and after use.

### Staffing measures

- » An additional staff person assigned to each polling place entrance to encourage electors to use the hand sanitiser, and to ensure the maximum capacity limit is not exceeded.

When the new election dates were announced, Tasmanian premises were restricted to a maximum of 1 person per 4m<sup>2</sup> of floor space. In planning for these limits, every polling place was measured, ranging from 72m<sup>2</sup> to 1200m<sup>2</sup>.

The Commission held the view that the smallest premises did not have sufficient space to allow for the new distancing measures. In each case, the location was within 10km of a pre-poll centre and a large polling place on polling day. Therefore, three polling places were abolished prior to the issue of the Writ.

As part of the COVID-safe plan, the TEC created a polling manger's manual supplement and extended the eLearning and face-to-face training packages, incorporating the additional COVID-safe procedures.

To limit risks outside polling places, traditionally held fundraising stalls, sausage sizzles and markets will not be permitted at these elections.

# Conducting elections during COVID-19 (cont'd)

Appendix F contains samples of the information pack.

## 2. Changing voting services

To mitigate the impact of possible further restrictions coming into effect during the election period and to address the growing apprehension some electors had about being in a busy public space during the pandemic, the Commission planned ways to enhance postal and pre-poll voting services by extending the election period.

Under the Act, an elector is entitled to apply for a postal vote if they expect to not be able to attend a polling place on polling day. Recent legislative amendments moved the closing date for lodging applications from two days to eight days prior to polling day. These elections will be the first experience electors have of this earlier deadline.

The TEC took the unprecedented decision to mail out an information pack containing a postal vote application, reply paid envelope and simple instruction card to every elector on the election rolls (~53,000) following the issue of the Writs.

### Early voting in person

While new measures would make polling places safe for electors to vote, the Commission was concerned that busy polling places, or the need to wait in line, might create anxiety and dissuade some electors from participating. Therefore, plans have been made for increased early voting services in an attempt to provide greater periods of low voting traffic for these elections. The new election period extends the early voting period from three to four weeks. While the original plans were to have three large pre-poll centres open for the full early voting period and a further two small centres open during the last week, plans were adapted to open all five pre-poll centres for the full period.

As most electoral commission offices across the country were closed and travel restrictions were in place, the Commission could not provide early voting centres interstate. Electors based interstate were encouraged to apply to vote by post during the extended early voting period.

## Mobile voting service

Due to the highly contagious nature of the COVID-19 virus and the significant risk to the elderly, the Commission decided not to send mobile polling teams to aged care facilities and hospitals.

To ensure that electors within aged care facilities are not disenfranchised, a nursing representative was identified within each location and asked to assist with the postal vote process.

## 3. Developing a new communication strategy

A high voter turnout underpins the electoral mandate and is a central element of the integrity of Australian Parliamentary elections. Depending on the division, turnout for Tasmanian Legislative Council elections falls within the 80–90% range.

The change of date, the dominance of the news cycle by the pandemic, and elector apprehension of being in public spaces pose significant risks to strong voter turnout at these elections. In order to mitigate these risks, the awareness campaign has been extended in the following ways:

- » **New campaign to support the information pack mailout.** A new awareness campaign was commissioned with 'watch for this important envelope' messaging. The key element of the campaign is a new television ad which will be re-purposed for radio spots and a short, targeted social media campaign.
- » **New messaging and increased coverage.** Planned safety measures, the extended early voting period and the additional pre-poll voting services will be folded in to the standard election awareness campaign. Advertisement placements across all mediums have been significantly increased.



Other electoral  
events



# House of Assembly casual vacancies

Details of the Clark recount are provided in Appendix C.

## Clark recount

On 10 September 2019, the TEC completed a recount to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly for the division of Clark created by the resignation of Scott Bacon.

Eight candidates nominated for the recount.

Madeleine Ogilvie was elected as a member of the House of Assembly for the division of Clark until the next State election.

Details of the Franklin recount are provided in Appendix C.

## Franklin recount

On 5 February 2020, the TEC completed a recount to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly for the division of Franklin created by the resignation of Will Hodgman.

Four candidates nominated for the recount.

Nic Street was elected as a member of the House of Assembly for the division of Franklin until the next State election.

# Local government casual vacancies

Full details of all local government elections including recounts and by-elections can be found on the TEC website.

During 2019–20, the TEC conducted recounts to fill vacancies for the following local government councils:

- » Derwent Valley Council (July)
- » Kingborough Council (August)
- » Derwent Valley Council (October)
- » Glenorchy City Council (January)
- » Hobart City Council (January)
- » Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council (March)
- » King Island Council (April)
- » Waratah-Wynyard Council (June)

By-elections for mayor and councillor positions were conducted for the following councils:

- » George Town Council (close of polling 23 July 2019)



# Hobart City Council elector poll

Electors enrolled:  
37,718  
Declarations returned:  
15,990  
Response rate:  
42.39%  
Informal:  
38  
Total ballot papers:  
15,802



● Yes (77.04%)  
● No (22.96%)

Further details regarding the elector poll can be found on the TEC website.

As reported in the previous Annual Report, on 15 May 2019, a group known as *Hobart Not High-rise* lodged an elector poll petition with the Hobart City Council.

The polling period closed at 10am Monday 15 July, with 15,990 (42.39%) of Hobart City electors returning their postal votes. Electors were asked to answer the following questions by writing 'yes' or 'no'.

**Principal question: Should the Council support the building height limits and other recommendations made by its planning officers?**

Yes	12 145	77.04%
No	3 619	22.96%

For the further questions, ballot papers were counted as groups determined by the response to the principal question.

**Would you prefer the building height limit in Height Area 1 to be lower than 60 metres?**

Response	Yes	No	Yes	No
Votes	9 200	2 869	1 805	1 800
% (group)	76.2%	23.8%	50.1%	49.9%
% (poll)	58.2%	18.2%	11.4%	11.4%

**Would you prefer the planning schemes remain unchanged?**

Response	Yes	No	Yes	No
Votes	2 716	9 256	1 923	1 674
% (group)	22.7%	77.3%	53.5%	46.5%
% (poll)	17.2%	58.6%	12.2%	10.6%

# Other elections and ballots

During 2019-20, the TEC conducted the following non-parliamentary elections:

## Statutory elections

- » Togari Drainage Trust
- » Mowbray Swamp Drainage Trust

## Non-statutory elections

- » Tasmanian Council of Social Service Inc.
- » Local Government Association of Tasmania by-election

## Industrial ballots

- » Hobart City Council Enterprise Agreement (2 ballots)

# Hare-Clark activity for international conference

Parliamentary educators are employed within Australian and other Parliaments to provide democratic, parliamentary and electoral lessons for school students and other interested groups who visit the Parliament.

The Australasian Parliamentary Educators Conference 2019 was held in Hobart on 20–22 November.

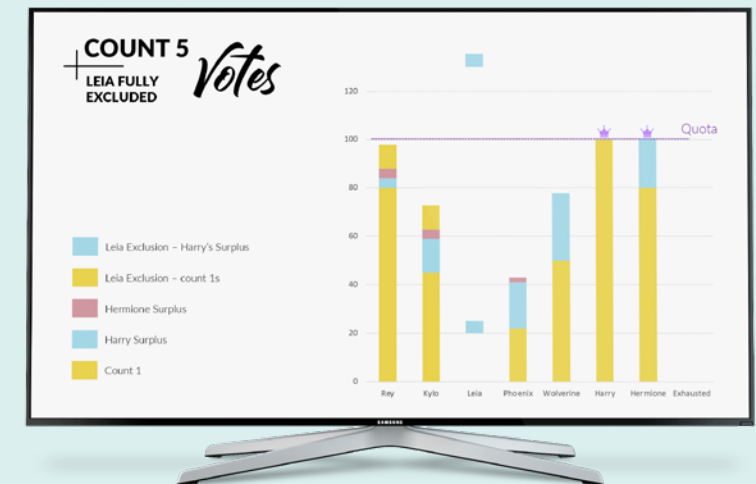
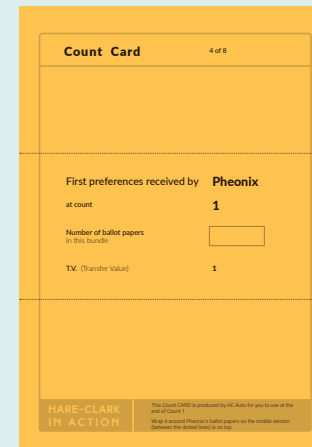
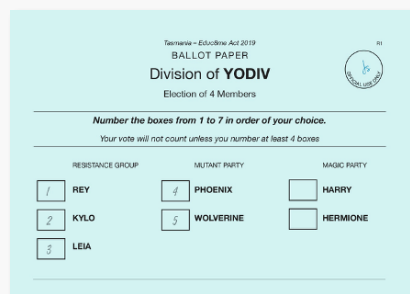
The conference – themed ‘Best practice in Parliamentary Education’ – included delegates from all Australian state and territory Parliaments, the New Zealand Parliament as well as delegates from as far afield as Samoa, Solomon Island, Fiji and Vanuatu. The Electoral Commissioner was invited to make a presentation on the Tasmanian Hare-Clark electoral system at the conference.

In preparation for the conference, the TEC developed a hands-on exercise to explain the Hare-Clark counting process that was aimed at senior high school/college level students. The exercise included:

- » Authentic physical material – ballot papers, sorting trays and count cards
- » An animated on-screen tool, which stepped participants through each part of the process

The Electoral Commissioner facilitated the presentation, with a small team of TEC staff assisting in delivering the exercise where delegates could either watch or partake in the count. The feedback on the day was overwhelmingly positive.

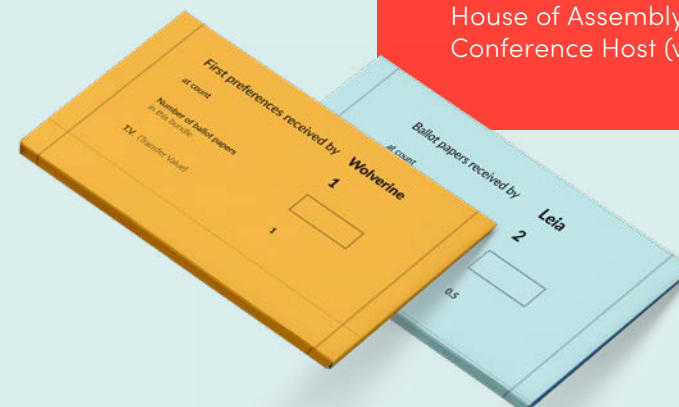
The intention is to further develop the exercise into a kit that teachers can use independently, guided through the process by an interactive digital tool.



“... other education officers said later, ‘Why doesn’t our state have Hare-Clark?’ and ‘I’m sold!’

I can’t thank you and all the team enough!”

**Kimbra McCormack**  
Principal Parliamentary Educator  
House of Assembly, Parliament of Tasmania  
Conference Host (via email)



## New animation explains how preferences work

Tasmanian Parliamentary and local government elections, as well as Australian Federal elections all require voters to place preferences on the ballot paper when casting a vote. Very few elections around the world require preferences, in fact preferential voting is often referred to as the 'Australian' system. Also, the rules around marking preferences vary for different elections.

Common questions asked of the TEC at each election are:

- » How do preferences work?
- » Why should I number all the preferences on the ballot paper?
- » Does including more preferences on the ballot paper disadvantage my 1st choice candidate?
- » Doesn't the party receiving my first preference get to choose where my vote goes? <sup>1</sup>

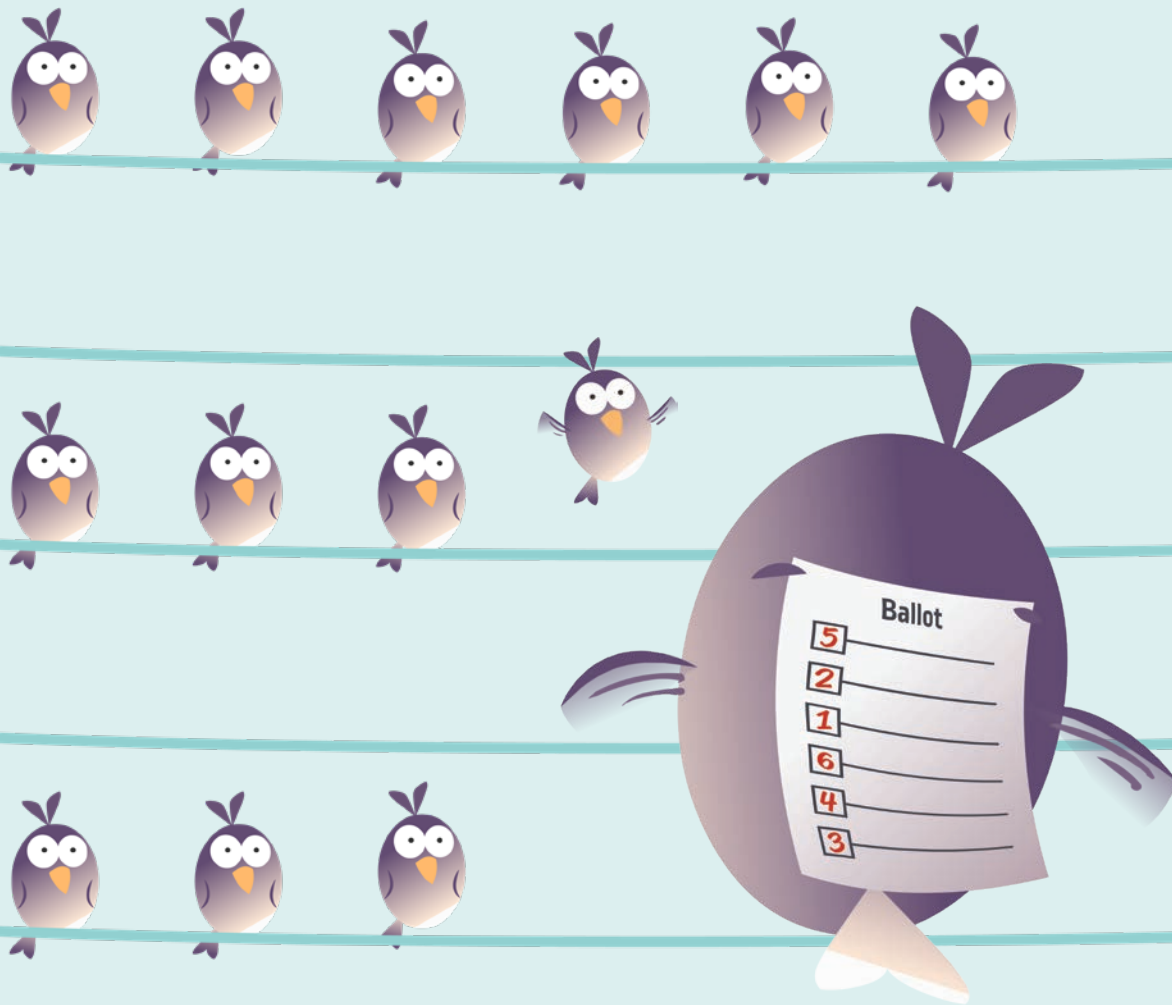
In an effort to address this knowledge gap, the TEC commissioned local agency Small Island Studios to create a new animation explaining how elector's preferences tell us "who's next?".

The animation includes the visual concept of birds sitting on a set of power lines. Each power line represents one candidate on the ballot paper. The birds carry a ballot paper on their back, and move from line to line, as the preferences marked on the ballot paper continue to tell the counters "who's next?".

The animation will be launched during the early voting period of the 2020 Legislative Council elections. It is expected it will be useful to electors and educators in schools. The Northern Territory Electoral Commission has requested permission to modify the animation for Northern Territory elections.

[www.tec.tas.gov.au/multimedia](http://www.tec.tas.gov.au/multimedia)

1. This is relevant for Senate and some other Australian upper house elections only.



“When you vote, you’re showing us who you want to elect. When you number preferences on your ballot paper you’re also telling us – if your first candidate can’t be elected, then – who’s next?”

# Recognition



# Remembering Colin Ball

Reflections of  
former Electoral  
Commissioner,  
Julian Type, and  
Michael Maley PSM.

In August 2019, the electoral world lost Colin Ball OAM aged 85. From 1989 to 1991, Colin served as Tasmanian Chief Electoral Officer – the precursor position to today’s Electoral Commissioner – after serving as State Manager for the Australian Electoral Commission.

Colin was born in Queenstown, the son of the Mt Lyell Railway Stationmaster. He studied to become a radiographer, but elections were his true calling, and he joined the Commonwealth Electoral Office in 1956, serving for many years as Divisional Returning Officer for Denison (now Clark) and later in more senior positions with the Australian Electoral Office/Commission.

CGB, as we knew him, belied the stereotype of long-serving officers as set in their ways and averse to change. On the contrary, he was always thinking about how elections could be improved, showing his electoral mastery when the 1983 rewrite of the Commonwealth Electoral Act repaired the Senate counting system – at its core is a variant of our own Hare-Clark system – replacing random selection of surplus votes with the Tasmanian fractional Gregory system.

If your eyes are starting to glaze over reading this, CGB’s were starting to sparkle. He was in his element. Colin and his good mate (and apprentice), Michael Maley, produced the procedures, training and stationery needed to drive the new system in time for the 1984 double dissolution election, establishing them both as leaders in the field of managing single transferable vote elections long before computers were available to Australian electoral administrators.

Michael remembers Colin as a wonderfully kind and generous mentor, ever willing to share with young recruits to the electoral world his knowledge, experience, and wisdom – not to mention a seemingly inexhaustible supply of hilarious anecdotes.

During his time as Tasmanian Chief Electoral Officer, Colin pioneered modernisation of electoral administration – moving management of the separate Legislative Council electoral roll from a manual card index, to a computerised system housed on the Tasmanian Government’s mainframe computer.

Colin served with the United Nations in Namibia in 1989, and with the Commonwealth Secretariat in Mozambique in 1991–92.

Colin was devoted to American Field Service student exchanges, and it was touching that one of his “American daughters” was able to travel to Hobart for his memorial service, to be with Colin’s wife Helen and daughter Belinda.

A wonderfully kind and generous mentor, ever willing to share his knowledge, experience, and wisdom.

Image courtesy of the Ball family.

# Professional development



[Brisbane](#)

## Graduate Certificate in Business (Public Sector Management)

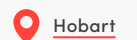
Through Queensland University of Technology, Deputy Electoral Commissioner Ngaire Edwards is undertaking this course consisting of four core units: Managing within the context of government; Managing self and others; Managing outwards in a networked government; Managing operations for outcomes.



[Glenorchy](#)

## Manager Essentials Program

A whole-of-service program designed to increase the fundamental management capabilities of State Service managers, including understanding self and developing others, understanding government and governance, managing people and creating a positive work environment. Communications Manager Wendy Polzin, Operations Manager Chris Garrett and Senior Policy Officer Michelle Davy have commenced this course.



[Hobart](#)

## Project Management Essentials

Elections Officer Sarah Mathews attended this course, covering project management principles and processes such as stakeholder management, establishing project scope outcomes, schedules, and effective ways to evaluate performance.



[Melbourne](#)

## Introduction to Electoral Administration

The Electoral Council of Australia and New Zealand held a BRIDGE workshop attended by Chris Garrett. Activities were designed to achieve key understandings including values and ethics, electoral systems, education/voter information, access to electoral participation, and the conduct of elections.



[Online](#)

## Learning While Working international conference

Wendy Polzin attended presentations about personalisation of learning, designing for memory and deploying chatbots for behavioural change.



# Report on performance



# Report on performance

**Table 1: Electoral enrolment 2016–2020**

As at 30 June	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Tasmanian enrolment (excluding provisional enrolments)	373 911	375 444	381 348	387 466	389 227
Voting eligible population (VEP)	388 456	391 354	393 506	387 466	403 081
Enrolment rate (% of VEP)	96.26%	95.93%	96.91%	97.58%	96.58%

**Table 2: House of Assembly elections statistics 2006–2018**

Election year	2006	2010	2014	2018	
Close of roll enrolment	341 481	357 315	366 442	381 183	
Ballot papers cast	324 008	335 353	342 595	352 180	
Turnout	94.88%	93.85%	93.49%	92.39%	
Number of candidates	95	89	126	109	
Total number of counts	198	194	330	253	
Formal ballot papers	309 622	320 438	326 163	334 871	
Informality	Rate	4.44%	4.45%	4.80%	4.91%
	Apparent intentional	5 723	6 378	8 787	8 468
	Apparent unintentional	8 375	8 324	7 435	8 731

**Table 3: Legislative Council elections statistics by division 2019–2020**

Election year	2019			2020 <sup>1</sup>	
	Montgomery	Nelson	Pembroke	Huon	Rosevears
Close of roll enrolment	27 913	24 086	22 980	26 048	27 503
Ballot papers cast	23 520	19 826	19 583	–	–
Turnout	84.26%	82.31%	85.22%	–	–
Number of candidates	4	10	5	–	–
Formal ballot papers	22 631	19 279	18 951	–	–
Informality rate	3.78%	2.76%	3.23%	–	–

**Table 4: Legislative Council elections participation and informality rates 2015–2019**

Election year	2015	2016	2017	Pembroke	2018	2019	
Close of roll enrolment	73 047	48 914	76 306	26 079	48 192	74 979	
Ballot papers cast	59 318	39 758	64 387	22 266	39 194	62 929	
Turnout	81.21%	81.28%	84.38%	85.38%	81.33%	83.93%	
Informality	Rate	5.04%	4.54%	3.64%	3.47%	4.01%	3.29%
	Apparent intentional	2 180	1 280	1 700	553	1 037	1 504
	Apparent unintentional	812	527	641	219	535	564

1. Due to COVID-19 the 2020 Legislative Council elections for Huon and Rosevears were deferred from May 2020 to August 2020.



## Report on performance (cont'd)

**Table 5: Local government elections statistics 2007–2018**

Election year	2007	2009	2011	2014	Glenorchy City <sup>1</sup>	2018 <sup>2</sup>	
Close of roll enrolment <sup>3</sup>	357 091	362 890	366 906	375 355	33 283	356 810	
Declarations returned	205 074	201 550	199 153	204 875	18 236	209 522	
Turnout	57.43%	55.54%	54.28%	54.58%	54.79%	58.72%	
Total ballot papers <sup>4</sup>	538 411	526 117	510 563	591 180	53 818	596 450	
Number of candidates <sup>4</sup>	444	449	421	716 <sup>5</sup>	32	718	
Number of counts <sup>4</sup>	602	553	489	1 365 <sup>5</sup>	71	1 319	
Formal ballot papers <sup>4</sup>	528 649	516 524	500 410	574 335	51 716	575 279	
Informality	<b>Rate</b>	1.81%	1.82%	1.99%	2.85%	3.91%	3.55%
	<b>Apparent intentional</b>	4 769	4 994	5 471	7 378	164 <sup>6</sup>	7 597
	<b>Apparent unintentional</b>	4 943	4 599	4 682	9 367	777 <sup>6</sup>	13 574

1. Following the passing of the *Glenorchy City Council (Dismissal of Councillors) Act 2017*, a stand-alone election was conducted. Polling closed Tuesday 16 January 2018.

2. These elections included only 28 of the 29 councils.

3. Comprises those electors on the House of Assembly roll for an address within the municipal area as well as other owners, occupiers and company nominees who have enrolled on general managers' rolls.

4. Includes all ballot papers for mayor, deputy mayor and councillors.

5. Increase in number of candidates and number of counts due to the move to "all-in, all-out" elections in 2014.

6. These figures only apply to Councillor ballot papers, as an informal ballot paper survey was not conducted for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor ballot papers for the Glenorchy City Council.





Financial  
performance  
2019–20

# Financial performance

This section contains breakdowns of election costs and historical comparisons. Expenditure and revenue statements can be found in the 2019–20 Department of Justice Annual Report. To provide an accurate comparison between the cost of Federal, House of Assembly, Legislative Council and local government elections, the salaries of permanent TEC are not included in these calculations.

**Table 6: Cost of House of Assembly elections**

Election year	2002	2006	2010	2014	2018
Total cost (\$'000)	1 752	1 897	2 271	2 743	3 039
Number of electors on the roll	332 473	341 481	357 315	366 442	381 183
Cost per elector on the roll	\$5.27	\$5.56	\$6.36	\$7.49	\$7.97

**Table 7: Cost of Legislative Council elections**

Election year	2017	Pembroke by-election	2018	2019	2020 <sup>1</sup>
Total cost (\$'000)	873	266	561	1 027	N/A
Number of divisions	3	1	2	3	2
Number of electors for these elections	76 306	26 079	48 192	74 979	53 551
Cost per elector	\$11.47	\$10.20	\$11.64	\$13.70	N/A

1. Due to COVID-19 the 2020 Legislative Council elections for Huon and Rosevears were deferred from May 2020 to August 2020.

**Table 8: Cost of local government elections**

Election year	2007	2009	2011	2014	Glenorchy City	2018 <sup>3</sup>
Total cost (\$'000)	1 211	1 248	1 337	2 098	233	2 470
Number of electors on the roll	357 091	362 890	366 906	375 355	33 283	356 810
Cost per elector on the roll	\$3.39	\$3.44	\$3.65	\$5.59 <sup>2</sup>	\$6.99	\$6.92

**Table 9: Cost of Federal elections**

Election year	2004	2007	2010	2013	2016	2019
Cost per elector on the roll	\$5.79	\$8.36	\$7.68	\$9.48	\$14.28	\$22.68

These figures were obtained from the *Australian Electoral Commission 2019 Electoral Pocketbook*.

Federal election costs do not include a component for the decentralised structure of permanent divisional returning offices.

**Table 10: Cost of managing and maintaining the electoral roll**

Financial year	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20
Expenditure on roll (\$'000)	413	440	435	449	501
Number of electors on the roll at June 30	373 911	375 444	381 348	387 466	389 227
Cost per elector on the roll	\$1.10	\$1.17	\$1.14	\$1.16	\$1.29

These costs include the cost to the State of the State/Commonwealth joint roll arrangement, communication 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*.

2. Increase in cost reflects the move to “all-in, all-out” elections in 2014.

3. These elections included only 28 of the 29 councils.



# Appendices

# Appendix A

## Appointments, approvals, terminations, determinations and delegations

The Commission met four times during the year. It also made a number of out-of-session resolutions (between meetings) in accordance with the procedures set out in clause 6 of schedule 2 of the *Electoral Act 2004*, making the following appointments, approvals, terminations, determinations and delegations.

### Appointments (*Electoral Act 2004*)

Section no.	Subject	Date appointed
24(1)	Appointment of returning officers required for the 2020 Legislative Council elections in the divisions of Huon and Rosevears.	18/12/2019
24(1)	Appointment of new returning officer for the Legislative Council division of Rosevears.	14/06/2020 (Out-of-session resolution)
24(1)	Appointment of new returning officer for the Legislative Council division of Huon.	22/06/2020 (Out-of-session resolution)
92(4)	Appointment of mobile polling places for the Legislative Council divisions of Huon and Rosevears.	18/12/2019
93(1) & 93(2)	Appointment of ordinary, pre-polling places and mobile polling units Legislative Council divisions of Huon and Rosevears.	18/12/2019
93(3)	Appointment of additional pre-polling place for the Legislative Council election for the division of Rosevears.	9/06/2020

### Approvals (*Electoral Act 2004*)

Section no.	Subject	Date approved
27(1)	Approval of remuneration (casual employment rate).	04/09/2019 (Out-of-session resolution)
27(1)	Approval of remuneration and allowances.	18/12/2019
40(6)	Request from MPES for additional State electoral roll data.	18/12/2019
77(2), (3), (4) & (5)	Approval of email by digital image transmission of nomination forms.	17/03/2020
77(2) & (5)	Approval of updated Legislative Council nomination forms.	17/03/2020
126	Approval of new postal vote application form.	18/12/2019
128(1)(a)	Approved method for delivering postal vote material to nursing homes at the 2020 Legislative Council elections.	09/06/2020

### Termination (*Electoral Act 2004*)

Section no.	Subject	Date terminated
93(3)	Termination of previously appointed polling places for the Legislative Council elections for the divisions of Huon and Rosevears.	09/06/2020

### Determination (*Electoral Act 2004*)

Section no.	Subject	Date determined
27(2)	Determination of terms and conditions of employment.	09/06/2020

### Delegations (*Electoral Act 2004*)

Section no.	Subject	Date delegated
126(1)(g) & 128(1)	Delegation of power to approve an approved person for receiving applications for postal votes under section 126(1)(g) and 128(1).	09/06/2020

# Appendix B

## Legislative Council elections

Elections are conducted on a 6 year periodic cycle.

Elections for 3 members are held in May one year, with elections for 2 members held in May the following year and so on.

Each elector may only have one opportunity to vote in Legislative Council elections once every 6 years.

### Periodic Cycle as at 30 June 2020

Year	Division	Current member
2020	Huon Rosevears	Robert Armstrong Kerry Finch
2021	Derwent Mersey Windermere	Craig Farrell Mike Gaffney Ivan Dean
2022	Elwick McIntyre	Josh Willie Tania Rattray
2023	Launceston Murchison Rumney	Rosemary Armitage Ruth Forrest Sarah Lovell
2024	Hobart Prosser	Rob Valentine Jane Howlett
2025	Montgomery Nelson Pembroke	Leonie Hiscutt Meg Webb Jo Siejka

### Election calendar – Huon and Rosevears

Day	Time	Event
Monday 22 June	6pm	Issue of the writs and close of roll
Thursday 2 July	12 noon	Nominations close
Friday 3 July	12 noon	Announcement of nominations
Friday 24 July	4pm	Postal vote applications close
Saturday 1 August	8am–6pm	Polling day

# Appendix C

## House of Assembly recounts

### Bacon recount

On 10 September 2019, a recount was conducted to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly created by the resignation of Mr Scott Bacon on 22 August 2019.

Counts		T4T- Tasmanians 4 Tasmania		Australian Labor Party			Tasmanian Greens		Liberal Party	Exhausted votes	Lost by fraction	Total votes (the quota)	Absolute majority	Remarks
		Alan BARNETT	Rob NEWITT	Tim COX	Madeleine OGILVIE	Zelinda SHERLOCK	Aaron BENHAM	Mel FITZPATRICK	Kristy JOHNSON					
Counts 1–6	Total votes	72	90	4 048	4 555	1 634	72	117	229	48	1	10 866	5 410	BACON's votes distributed
Counts 7–12	Total transferred	3	3	18	11	3	-72	22	2	7	3			BENHAM excluded (by lot)
	Total votes	75	93	4 066	4 566	1 637	0	139	231	55	4	10 866	5 406	
Counts 13–18	Total transferred	-75	25	11	8	3		3	2	21	2			BARNETT excluded
	Total votes	0	118	4 077	4 574	1 640			142	76	6	10 866	5 396	
Counts 19–24	Total transferred		-118	23	23	7		6	13	46	0			NEWITT excluded
	Total votes		0	4 100	4 597	1 647			148	122	6	10 866	5 373	
Counts 25–30	Total transferred			34	34	21		-148	11	49	-1			FITZ-PATRICK excluded
	Total votes			4 134	4 631	1 668		0	257	171	5	10 866	5 348	
Counts 31–36	Total transferred			65	75	43			-257	75	-1			JOHNSON excluded
	Total votes			4 199	4 706	1 711		0		246	4	10 866	5 311	
Counts 37–42	Total transferred			964	658	-1 711				90	-1			SHERLOCK excluded
	Total votes			5 163	5 364	0				336	3	10 866	5 266	OGILVIE elected
	Percentages			49.0%	51.0%									

## Appendix C: House of Assembly recounts (cont'd)

### Hodgman recount

On 5 February 2020, a recount was conducted to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly created by the resignation of Will Hodgman MP on 20 January 2020.

	Shooters, Fishers, Farmers Tas	Tasmanian Greens	Liberal Party						
	Brendon HEXT	Holly EWIN	Simon DUFFY	Nic STREET	Exhausted votes	Lost by fraction	Total votes (the quota)	Absolute majority	Remarks
Hodgman's votes distributed	233	88	3 113	8 219	209	1	11 863	5 828	STREET elected
Percentage	2.0%	0.8%	26.7%	70.5%					

## Appendix D

### Party register

Political parties may apply to "register" under the *Electoral Act 2004* with the Tasmanian Electoral Commission.

Registration enables a party to list on Parliamentary ballot papers the names of party candidates under the name of the party.

**As at 30 June 2020, the following 10 parties were registered under the Act (alphabetical order):**

- » Animal Justice Party
- » Australian Christians
- » Australian Federation Party Tasmania
- » Australian Labor Party
- » Jacqui Lambie Network
- » The Liberal Party of Australia, Tasmanian Division
- » Pauline Hanson's One Nation
- » Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party Tasmania
- » Socialist Alliance
- » Tasmanian Greens

# Appendix E

## Letter to Legislative Council re: COVID-19



Level 3  
169 Main Road  
Moonah Tasmania 7009  
PO Box 307  
Moonah Tas 7009  
Phone (03) 6208 8700  
Fax (03) 6208 8791  
ballot.box@tec.tas.gov.au  
www.tec.tas.gov.au

To The Honourable Craig Farrell,  
President of the Legislative Council

In accordance to section 9(1d) of the *Electoral Act 2004*, we are writing to inform you that on Wednesday 15 April 2020 the Tasmanian Electoral Commission made the following resolution:

*As a result of advice from the Director of Public Health that it is likely that it will be a health risk and breach of a future Direction to open polling places on any polling day in May, the Commission resolves not to conduct the periodic Legislative Council elections in May 2020.*

### Background

Under section 19 of the *Constitution Act 1934*, there are to be periodic Legislative Council elections in each year and polling day for these elections is to be a Saturday in May (by default the first Saturday in May).

In response to the health risks of COVID-19 and related social distancing restrictions coming into effect in Tasmania, the election dates for the 2020 Legislative Council elections was revised, changing polling day from Saturday 2 May to 30 May. The new date provided for an extended early voting period and longer period for electors to apply and be issued with postal votes, if they were unable to attend a polling place.

However, on 30 March, the Director of Public Health (DPH) issued directions creating significantly tighter restrictions on many facilities including those scheduled to be used as polling places and, with the exception of essential services, placed new restrictions on gatherings of more than 2 persons. The Commission sought further advice from the Solicitor General and sought a formal direction from the DPH as to the safety of Tasmanians attending polling places for these elections.

On Friday 9 April, the Director of Public Health informed the Commission that it is likely that the gathering of people on a polling day in May and the assemblies of people needed to conduct an election would be a public health risk and breach a Direction issued at that time.

### Resolution

Therefore, the Commission resolved to not conduct the 2020 Legislative Council elections in May.

### Why not a postal vote election?

With the new restrictions effectively removing the possibility of opening polling places for these elections, some have called for these elections to be changed from an attendance ballot to a full postal vote.

As established under the *Electoral Act 2004*, Tasmanian Parliamentary elections are to be attendance ballots, where voting should be undertaken at a polling place on polling day. As voting at these elections is compulsory, the Act also provides for supplementary processes – including pre-poll, mobile, Antarctic and postal voting – to enable those electors unable to attend a polling place on polling day to vote.

After seeking advice from the Solicitor-General, the Commission takes the view that a Tasmanian Parliamentary election conducted solely by postal vote is not an election for the purposes of the *Electoral Act*. Therefore, to continue with an election in May and not be able to provide any attendance voting, would provide a structural problem, which may be highly contestable. There may also be other grounds for legal challenge to May elections, due to the restrictions on movement and campaigning by candidates. In addition, the dominance of COVID-19 across Tasmania in all forms of communications meant there has been no opportunity for any community conversation and debate regarding the 2020 Legislative Council elections.

### Where to from here

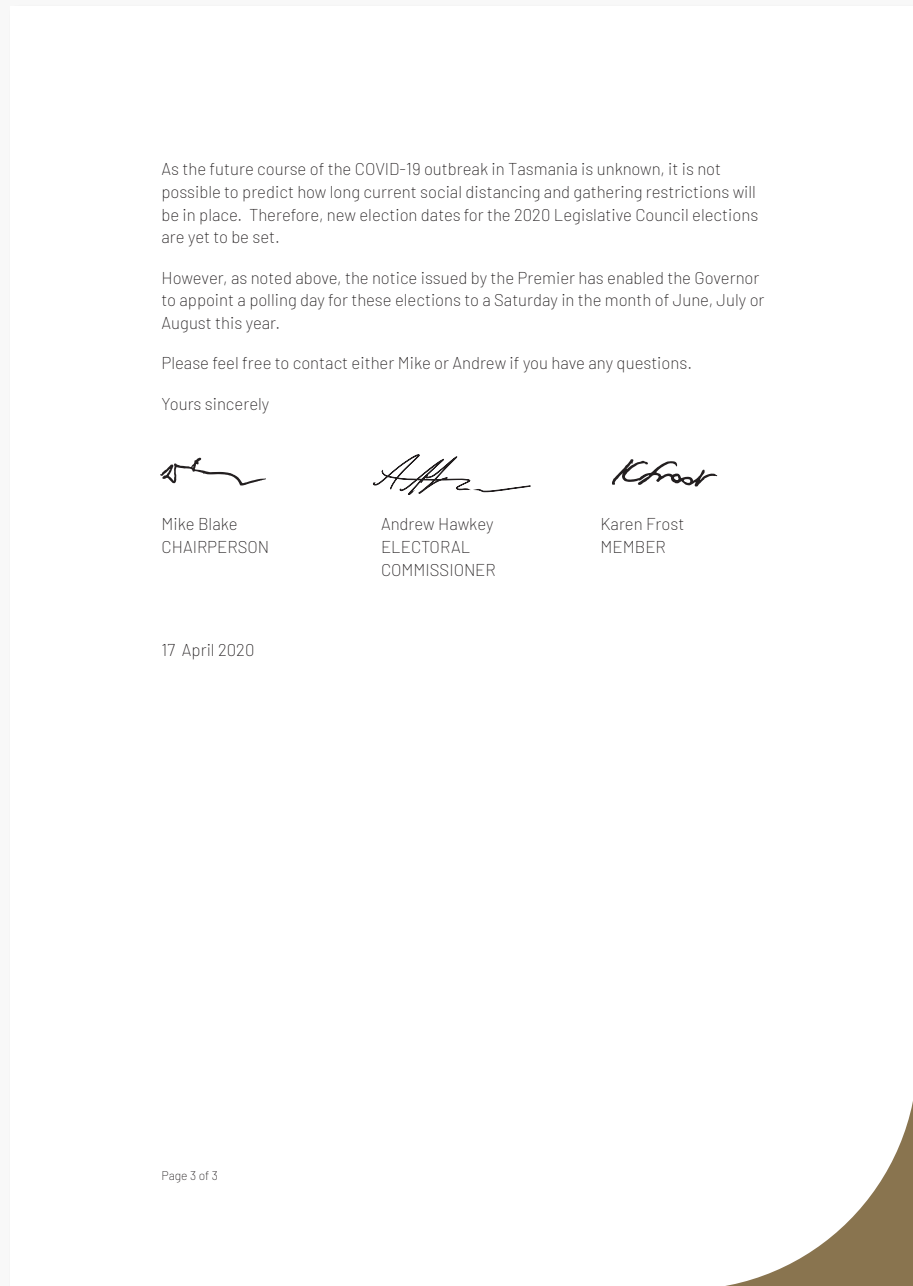
A special gazette dated Wednesday 15 April 2020, included the following two elements:

- The revoking by the Governor of her Proclamation dated 30 March appointing a date on which a poll is held in respect of the periodical elections of members of the Legislative Council to be held in 2020, and
- The issuing of a notice by the Premier under section 13 of the *COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020* to declare that the Saturday in the month that the Governor may by proclamation appoint under section 19(4) of the *Constitution Act 1934*, in behalf of the next periodical elections, to be held in the year 2020, be extended to a Saturday as fixed in the month of June, July or August in that year.

As a new proclamation appointing a new polling day is yet to be made by the Governor, it could be argued that there is still a requirement for the Commission to conduct elections with a 2 May polling day. Therefore, the Commission has made the resolution stated above for procedural completeness and to remove any doubt as to the immediate conduct the 2020 Legislative Council elections.

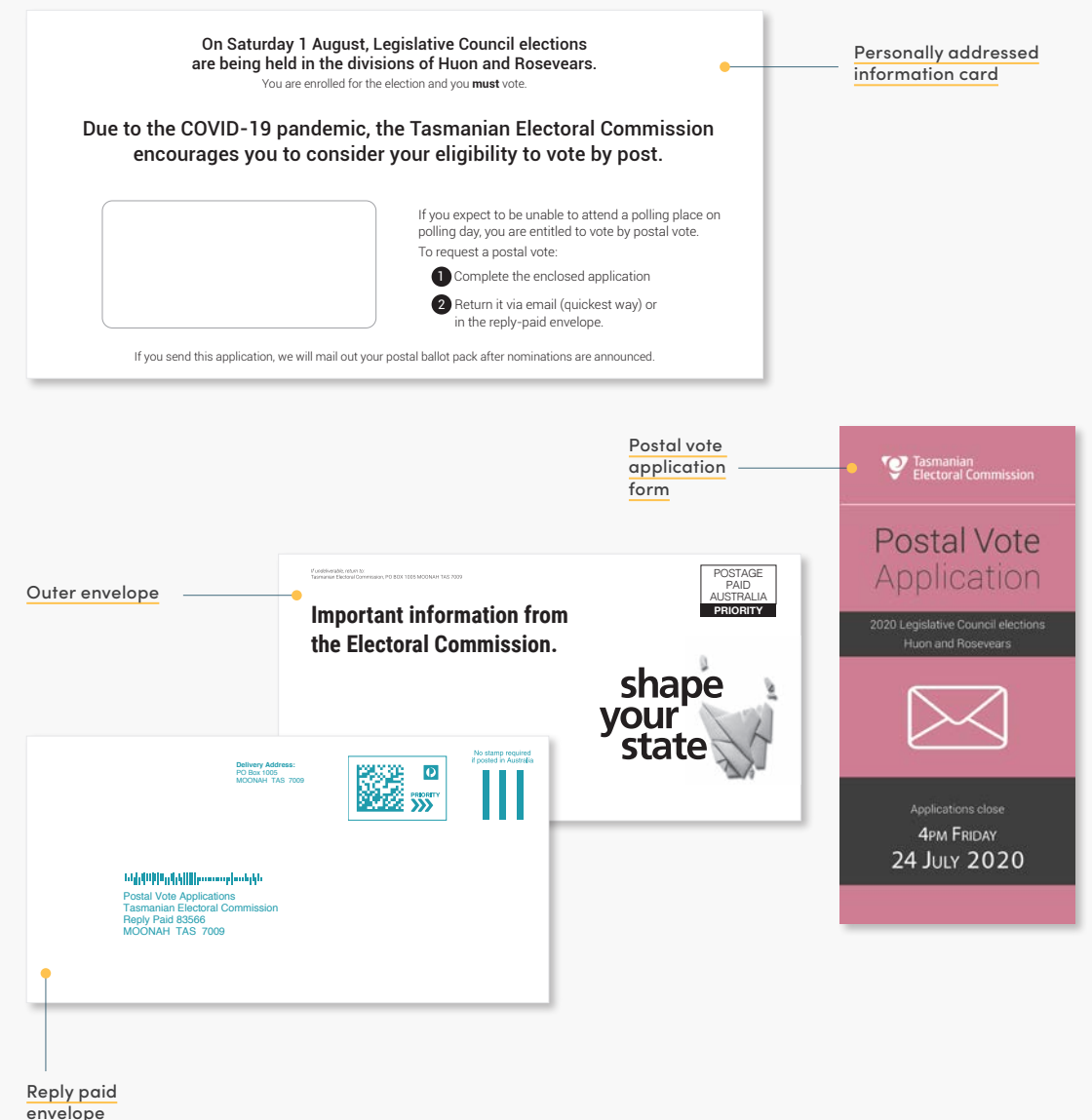


## Appendix E: Letter to Legislative Council re: COVID-19 (cont'd)



## Appendix F

### Contents of the pack mailed out to all Huon and Rosevears electors following the Issue of the Writs



# Appendix G

## TEC involvement in interoperability

The Tasmanian State Service has a long-standing interoperability arrangement, allowing staff to make themselves available to assist in emergency situations.

Following the deferral of the 2020 Legislative Council elections, the TEC was in a position to make a number of staff available to the COVID-19 Response Unit.

In addition, the TEC contributed:

- » 12 voting screens to airports and the Spirit of Tasmania terminal for arriving passengers completing new COVID-19 paperwork, and
- » 7 computers and supporting infrastructure to hotels across Tasmania involved in the government quarantine program.



150 hours  
1 staff member  
Weekdays

### Ambulance Tasmania Logistics Officer

Assisted paramedics with administrative tasks associated with new COVID-19 procedures.



100 hours  
1 staff member  
Weekdays, weekends

### Public Information Unit, Graphic Designer

Designed and updated forms, advertising, signage and fact sheets to convey often complex information and processes in an engaging way.



40 hours  
2 staff members  
Weekends

### Public Health Hotline

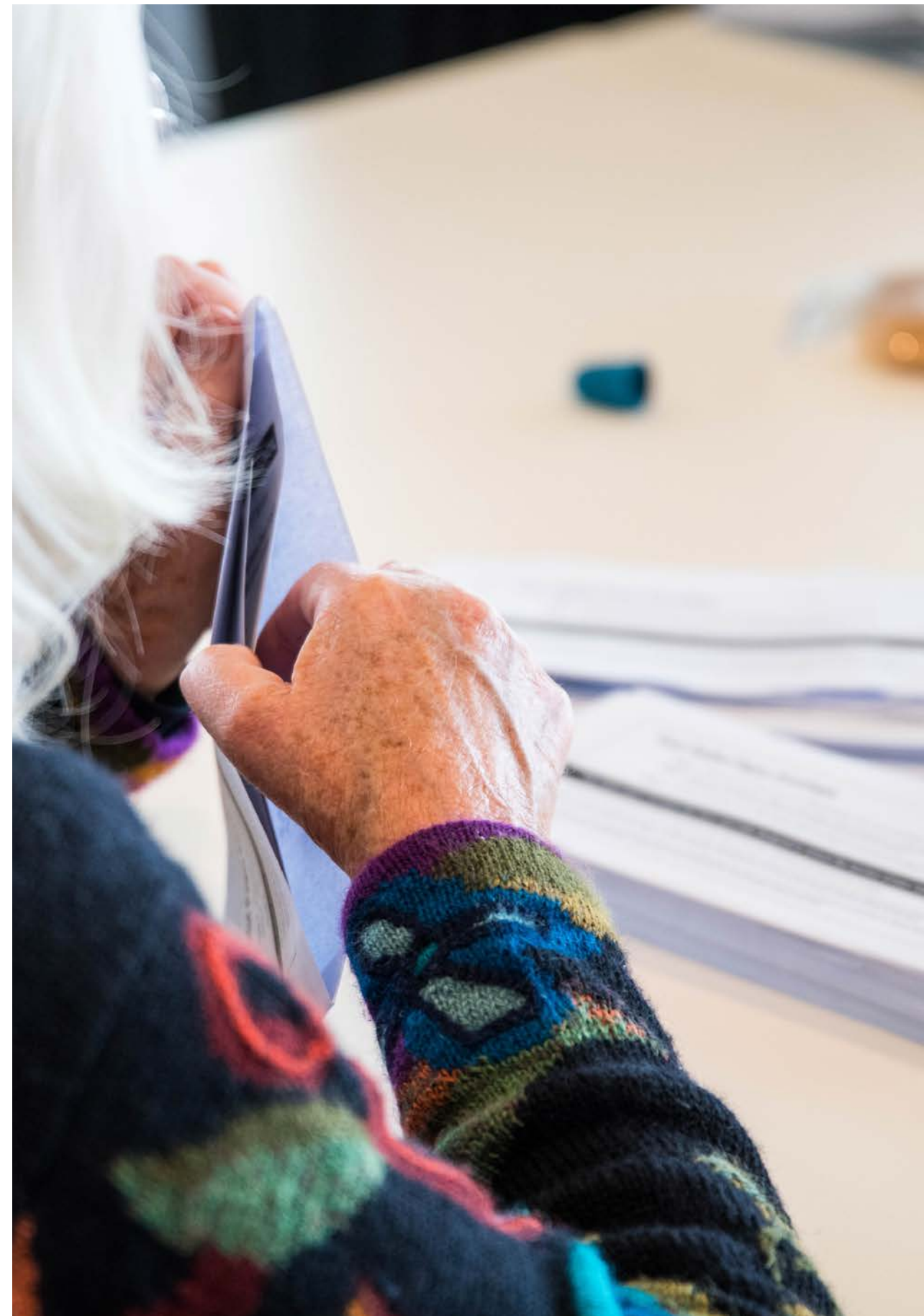
Responded to queries from public around current restrictions, testing and support programs.



40 hours  
3 staff members  
Weekdays, weekends

### Government Liaison Officer

Supported people in government quarantine in Tasmanian hotels.





Australians all are one people,  
For we are young and free,  
For we are proud and brave,  
For from the gift we gave  
Our land of station to man's gift,  
Of beauty rich and pure,  
In honour of peace, let every man  
And woman Australia Fair  
In joyful strains then let us sing  
Advance Australia Fair  
Refrain: our Father, God bless our home,  
Be it with peace and love  
To make this Commonwealth of ours  
The dearest of all the world,  
For those who love us, across the seas,  
We're launching planes to state,  
With courage let us all combine  
To Advance Australia Fair  
In joyful strains then let us sing  
Advance Australia Fair