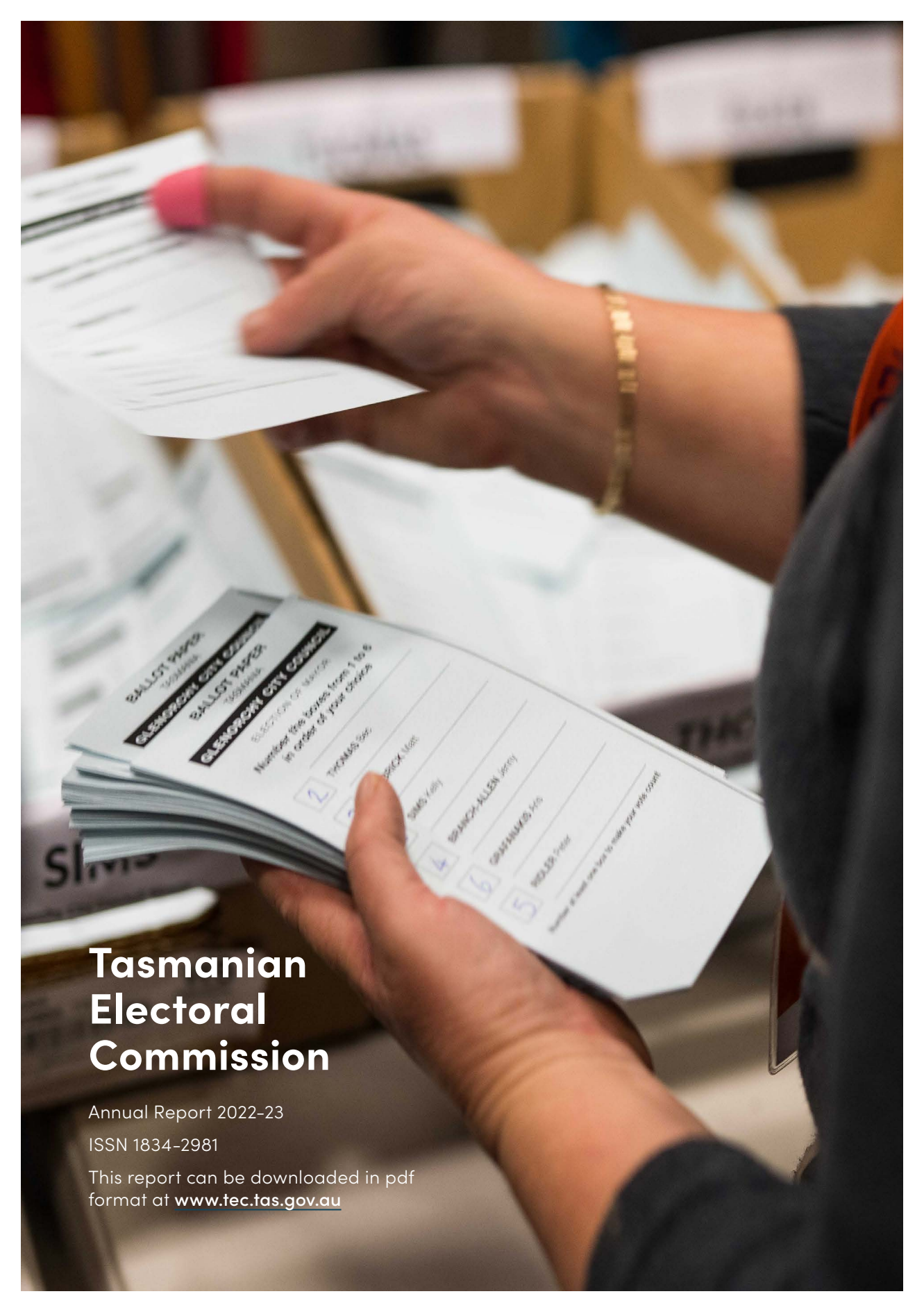




Tasmanian
Electoral
Commission

Annual Report
2022–23



Tasmanian Electoral Commission

Annual Report 2022-23

ISSN 1834-2981

This report can be downloaded in pdf
format at www.tec.tas.gov.au

Eighteenth Annual Report 2022–23

To The Honourable Craig Farrell,
President of the Legislative Council
and
The Honourable Mark Shelton,
Speaker of the House of Assembly

We have the honour to submit the eighteenth 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 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Yours sincerely



Mike Blake
CHAIRPERSON



Andrew Hawkey
ELECTORAL
COMMISSIONER



Karen Frost
MEMBER

31 October 2023

Table of contents

Chairperson's introduction	4
Electoral Commissioner's review	6
The Tasmanian Electoral Commission	8
Commission functions and powers	9
Electoral roll management	10
Purpose, vision and values	11
Significant events of 2022-23	12
2023 Legislative Council elections	13
2023 Legislative Council elections snapshot	14
Legislative Council casual vacancies	16
House of Assembly casual vacancies	16
2022 local government elections	17
2022 local government elections snapshot	20
Local government casual vacancies	23
Other elections and ballots	24
Assisting other electoral authorities	24
Legislative changes	25
Innovations	26
Opening of the northern election office	27
Impartial assisted voting for local government elections	30
A supplementary awareness campaign for compulsory voting	32

Report on performance	34
Table 1: Electoral enrolment	35
Table 2: House of Assembly elections statistics	35
Table 3: Legislative Council elections statistics by division	36
Table 4: Legislative Council elections participation and informality rates	36
Table 5: Local government elections statistics	37
Financial performance 2022–23	38
Table 6: Cost of House of Assembly elections	39
Table 7: Cost of Legislative Council elections	39
Table 8: Cost of local government elections	40
Table 9: Cost of federal elections	40
Table 10: Cost of managing and maintaining the electoral roll	40
Staff	41
Remembering Wendy Polzin	42
Remembering Bob Batchelor	45
Thank you Sarah Ketchell	46
Appendices	47
Appendix A: Appointments, approvals, determinations and delegations	48
Appendix B: Legislative Council elections	50
Appendix C: House of Assembly recounts	61
Appendix D: Party register	62
Appendix E: Elected councillors, mayors and deputy mayors	63

Chairperson's introduction





Australia's electoral landscape is increasingly complex and likely to become even more so. Tasmania is not immune from these developments with the current financial year being no exception in particular following the Parliament's decision to introduce, at relatively short notice, compulsory local government elections.

Our role is to respond positively and proactively to these developments which we continue to do. This annual report outlines how we have done so by recording the benefits of establishing our premises in Launceston, our introduction of impartial assisted voting arrangements for postal only elections and our awareness campaign aimed at ensuring voters were well informed ahead of the local government elections. The very high 84.79% participation level at these elections is a testament to the work of the Commission and I thank all staff for their significant contribution, not only to the local government elections, but to all of the Commission's endeavours during this financial year.

We continued to respond to requests for advice and submissions on important electoral matters and, when doing so, by careful consideration of the matters being addressed without straying into policy.

This will be the last annual report during Commission Member Karen Frost's term. Karen has been a wonderful contributor to the Commission's deliberations bringing sound practical experience of many of the issues we have had to address during her term. Thank you Karen.

Mike Blake

Chairperson
Tasmanian Electoral Commission

Electoral Commissioner's review

The year 2022-23 brought new challenges that again tested the skills, tenacity and agility of Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC) staff. The Government's progress of electoral reform since June 2022 saw the Parliament pass legislation to expand the House of Assembly to 35 members and to make the local government elections compulsory for electors on the State roll. Also, the first ever funding and disclosure scheme for the Parliament of Tasmania passed the House of Assembly, and draft legislation is being prepared for significant changes to the enrolment process for the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania.

The first half of the financial year was dominated by the changes to local government elections. The way our staff and external suppliers quickly adjusted to produce an additional awareness campaign and revamp the operational processes required to handle the extraordinary return, was commendable. The highest participation rate in the country for local government elections (84.79%) is also a credit to the Tasmanian people and their respect for, and engagement in, our vibrant and critically important democracy. Regarding these elections, this report provides a snapshot of the key election statistics, details two innovations in regard to the awareness campaign and a new impartial assisted voting service, and includes an appendix listing all elected councillors, mayors and deputy mayors.

Changes to the political dynamics within the House of Assembly in the second half of the year triggered the earlier-than-expected preparation of a range of statewide election items. The scarcity of suitable physical spaces to conduct major events in southern Tasmania meant that securing additional multiple smaller premises over the short and medium period was particularly important. Following the success of the northern election office, the Commission is in discussions with the Department of Justice regarding the long-term provision of a secure and suitable election office in the broader Hobart region.

Internationally, storm clouds that did not exist a decade or more ago are testing and shaking democratic foundations. The growing evidence of mis- and disinformation in the digital environment within Australia and across the democratic world is at the forefront of discussions between Australian and New Zealand electoral commissioners. It is also an issue taken seriously by Australian security agencies. The Australian Electoral Commission has taken significant strides in addressing the impact of mis- and disinformation on the integrity of their electoral events. The TEC is keeping abreast of this changing environment and is considering what needs to be done in the Tasmanian context moving forwards.

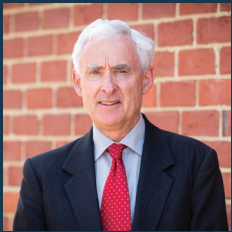
For the fourth time in five annual reports, we include the passing of highly respected TEC staff: the Communications Manager, Wendy Polzin, and former Manager of Non-Statutory Elections, Bob Batchelor. Their contributions to the growth and development of this office were extensive across different areas and over different eras. Both are remembered in this report.

The year also included the completion of my first seven-year term in the position of Electoral Commissioner and the commencement of my second term.

Finally, I thank the TEC staff and election casuals who, once again, displayed great ingenuity and professionalism to deliver some remarkable achievements. They continue to provide excellent electoral services to the people of Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission

This annual report of the Commission covers the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. 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 and staffing reports are included in the Department of Justice Annual Report.



Mike Blake
Chairperson



Andrew Hawkey
Electoral Commissioner



Karen Frost
Member

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

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.
- (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 Tasmanian Electoral Commission (cont'd)

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*

Electoral roll management

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 TEC 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.

Purpose, vision and values

Purpose

To provide independent, impartial and high-quality electoral services to the people of Tasmania.

Vision

To maintain confidence in the integrity of Tasmania's electoral processes and make it simple for people to understand and participate.

Values

Respect

We will:

- » be actively inclusive
- » be broadly accessible
- » be accountable
- » be mindful and considerate
- » support diversity

We will not:

- » be biased

Integrity

We will:

- » be impartial
- » uphold our independence
- » be accurate
- » be transparent
- » comply with electoral law

We will not:

- » comment on political matters
- » hide errors

Adaptability

We will:

- » be responsive
- » be flexible
- » be prepared
- » commit to improvement
- » work to find a solution

We will not:

- » be stuck in our ways
- » take unnecessary risks

Collaboration

We will:

- » be supportive
- » be consultative
- » engage
- » empower
- » share knowledge

We will not:

- » set unrealistic expectations
-

Core business

Advice

We provide appropriate and expert electoral advice.

Management

We conduct accurate, transparent and accessible electoral events.

Awareness and engagement


We provide clear and impartial electoral information that enhances understanding and participation.

Organisation building

We develop and maintain an agile, creative and cyber secure organisation that empowers, supports and develops staff.

Enforcement

We ensure compliance with electoral legislation.



Significant events of 2022–23

Legislative Council elections

On Friday 31 March, Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania, issued the writs for the 2023 Legislative Council elections for the divisions of Launceston, Murchison and Rumney.

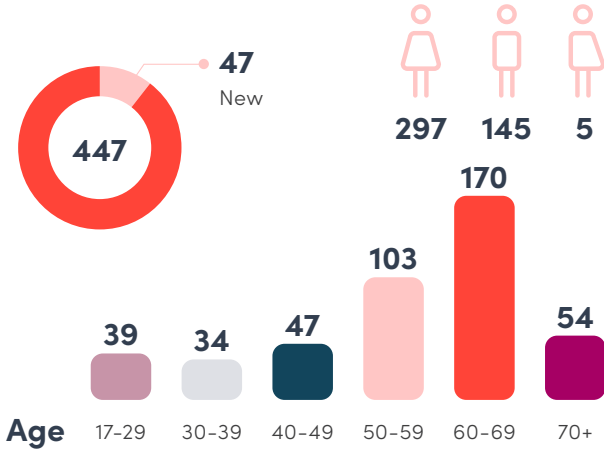
Jenny Hart (Launceston), Michael Leyden (Murchison) and Peter Moore (Rumney) were appointed as returning officers for these elections.

When nominations closed at 12 noon on Thursday 13 April, 10 candidates (5 women and 5 men) had been nominated – 2 candidates for Launceston, 4 candidates for Murchison and 4 candidates for Rumney.

Rosemary Armitage was re-elected as the Member for Launceston, Ruth Forrest was re-elected as the Member for Murchison, and Sarah Lovell was re-elected as the Member for Rumney.

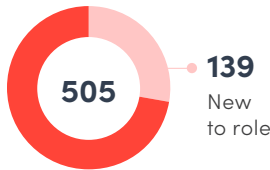
Legislative Council results are provided in Appendix B.

Election staff



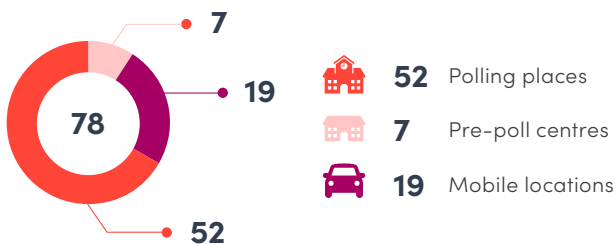
Roles

Staff may occupy multiple roles



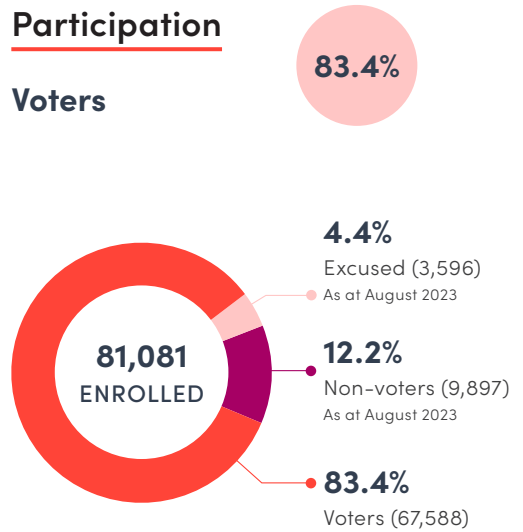
Returning officers and assistant returning officers	2	4	0	New to TEC	0	New to role	0
Polling place managers and polling place liaison officers	58	31	0	New to TEC	0	New to role	16
Issuing staff	192	71	4	New to TEC	47	New to role	81
Non-polling place staff	81	61	1	New to TEC	2	New to role	42

Polling locations



Participation

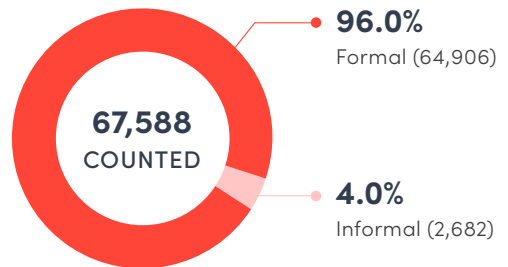
Voters



Candidates

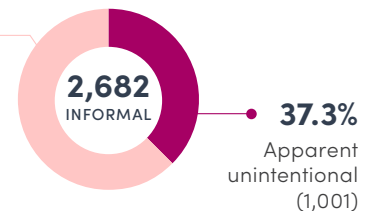
Candidates stood	5	5	0
Candidates elected	3	0	0

Ballot papers

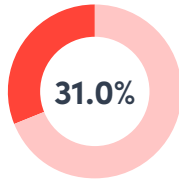


62.7%

Apparent intentional (1,681)



Voted early



Pre-poll	21.00%
Interstate pre-poll	0.13%
Postal	7.37%
Telephone voting service	1.76%
Mobile	0.78%

Postal returns

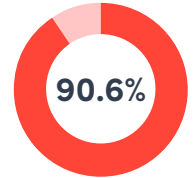
(excludes general postal votes)



	WA	AU	Global	Total
Issued	3,868	110	1	3,979
Returned	3,645	88	0	3,733

Voted in person

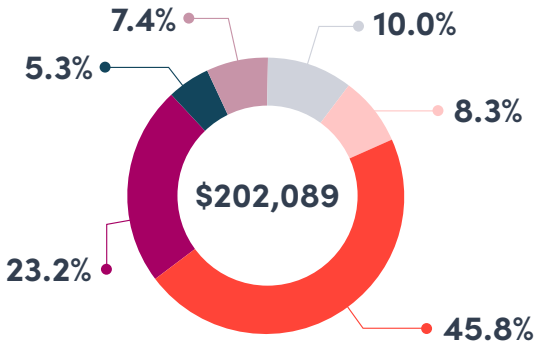
	Mobile	Pre-poll	Polling day
In division	521	14,072	46,303
Out of division	4	119	185



Election awareness

Elector cards presented when attendance voting

24,791



- TV
- Radio
- Social media
- Newspaper
- Production
- Elector mailout

Cost per elector

2023 LC	\$14.51
2022 LC	\$17.71
2022 Fed	\$25.94
2021 LC & HoA*	
2020 LC COVID-19	\$22.08

\$14.51

*Legislative Council & House of Assembly elections held concurrently, actual costs difficult to quantify

Legislative Council

casual vacancies

Detail of this by-election is provided in Appendix C.

2022 Pembroke by-election (Siejka)

On 10 September 2022, the TEC conducted a by-election to fill a vacancy in the Legislative Council for the division of Pembroke, created by the resignation of Jo Siejka.

Five candidates nominated and Luke Edmunds was elected as a member of the Legislative Council for the division of Pembroke until the next election.

House of Assembly

casual vacancies

Detail of this recount is provided in Appendix C.

2022 Franklin recount (Petrusma)

On 15 August 2022, the TEC completed a recount to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly for the Division of Franklin, created by the resignation of Jacquie Petrusma.

Five candidates nominated for the recount.

Dean Young was elected as a member of the House of Assembly for the division of Franklin until the next general election.

2022 local government elections

In the months leading up to the October 2022 local government elections (2022 elections), the Tasmanian Parliament passed the *Local Government Amendment (Elections) Act 2022* that brought in two significant changes:

- » voting at local government elections was now compulsory for all electors listed on the State roll, and
- » formality requirements for all councillor ballot papers were simplified to only marking preferences 1 to 5, regardless of the number of councillors being elected.

These changes introduced a range of operational complexities to this postal ballot, which required a significant adjustment in how these elections were conducted, managed and communicated.

Compulsory voting

Compulsory voting created three distinct risks to the integrity of the 2022 elections:

- » the Commission could run out of election material due to a possible late surge of requested supplementary ballot paper material towards the end of the polling period,
- » a significant number of ballot papers could be returned after the close of the polling period, and
- » a late surge of returned postal votes would create an unmanageable workload that could result in either significant counting errors or delays.

The Commission implemented the following new elements to mitigate the risks:

- » creating an additional communication strategy that would assist electors to identify and retain the initial postal ballot paper envelopes,
- » expanding the ways electors could return their completed ballot papers, including changing the time the polling period closed, and
- » changing the post close-of-poll processes, resourcing and timing to enable better control and management of the returned envelopes and votes.

2022 local government elections (cont'd)

With such a short lead in time, informing all Tasmanian electors of the compulsory nature of these elections would be a priority. The first point of urgency was to roll out a new awareness campaign prior to the commencement of the elections, which could be linked directly to the envelope all electors received in the mail. More details of this campaign are outlined on page 32 of this report.

Statistical data from previous statewide local government postal ballots show that around half the returned postal votes are received by the Commission within the first week of the polling period with roughly the second half received in the final two-and-a-half days. Changes in Australia Post delivery time frames in recent years also increased the possibility that postal votes returned through the mail may miss the usual 10 am Tuesday deadline.

For the 2022 elections, in the final days of the polling period, the advertised message changed to “Too late to post, not too late to vote” and greater resources were provided at council offices to better accommodate the hand delivery of completed votes and issuing of supplementary postal vote packs. The changing of the close of poll time from 10 am (as had been the case since 1994) to 2 pm was also critical. These changes saw over 35,000 postal votes being delivered to councils over the Monday – Tuesday 2 pm period.

The late surge of returned postal votes resulted in the participation level for the 2022 elections rising to 84.79% - a national record for local government elections.

With the expectation of a high number of hand-delivered postal votes at councils, the schedule of post close-of-poll tasks was also changed. While previously all mayor and deputy mayor ballot papers were allocated to first preferences on the Tuesday evening, at the 2022 elections the administrative tasks were limited to the return of all postal envelopes to the returning officers, marking electors' names off the roll, the removal of elector details and then opening of the envelope, and the extraction and balancing of ballot papers.

Hand counting of mayoral and deputy mayoral ballot papers did not commence until Wednesday morning. Bar a small batch run of a few of the larger councils, the data entry of councillor ballot papers for all councils also did not commence until Wednesday morning. All counts were completed by Tuesday 1 November.

The TEC's new purpose-built election office in Launceston played a critical role in this revised approach to post-poll logistics, allowing scrutiny processes to be conducted in singular locations in both the north and south of the state.

Changes to formality rules for councillor ballot papers

The reduction in formality requirements for councillor ballot papers was a simpler change to implement. Previously, the minimum number of preferences required to cast a formal ballot was equal to the number of councillors to be elected, which varies from 7 to 12 councillors depending on the council.

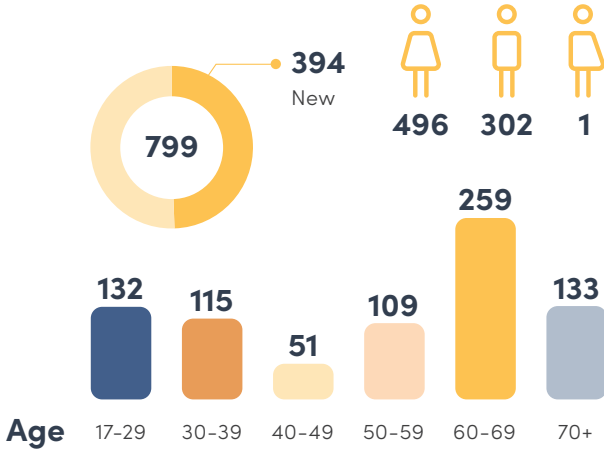
To accommodate the change in formality rules, a coding change was required for the ComputerCount program used to count the councillor votes. The system was audited by an independent mainland company prior to the commencement of the 2022 elections.

The changed requirements have made an immediate impact:

- » the informality rate for the councillor ballots reduced to 4.03% in 2022, compared to 5.13% in 2018 and 4.49% in 2014, and
- » the percentage of informal ballot papers missing, or repeating a required preference, reduced to 35.9% in 2022, compared to 80.4% in 2018 and 75.2% in 2014.

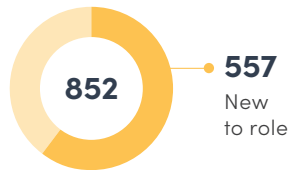
2022 local government elections snapshot

Election staff



Roles

Staff may occupy multiple roles



Returning officers and assistant returning officers	6	6	0	New to TEC 3 New to role 10
Logistics assistants	4	0	0	New to TEC 0 New to role 4
Postal staff	56	26	0	New to TEC 10 New to role 18
Data entry operators	161	114	0	New to TEC 235 New to role 251
Hand count staff	272	144	1	New to TEC 130 New to role 266
Other staff	23	39	0	New to TEC 5 New to role 8

Elections

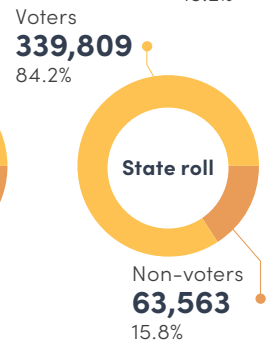
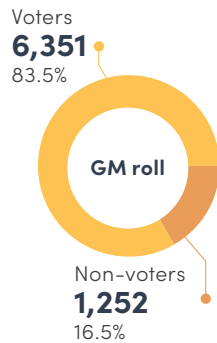
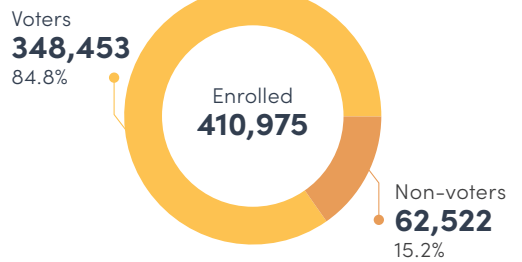
82 across 29 councils

	Councillor	Mayor	Deputy Mayor
Contested	29	25	28
Uncontested	0	4	1
Nominations	510	97	136

Participation

Voters

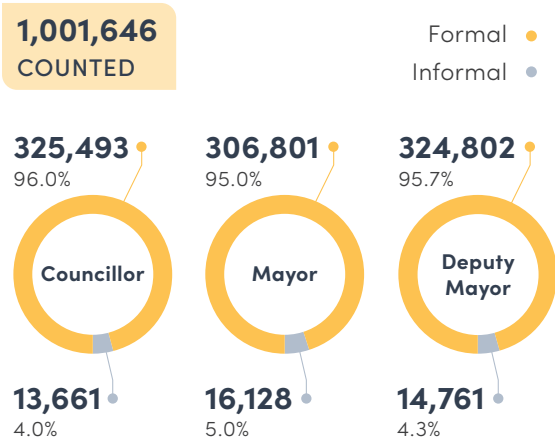
84.8%



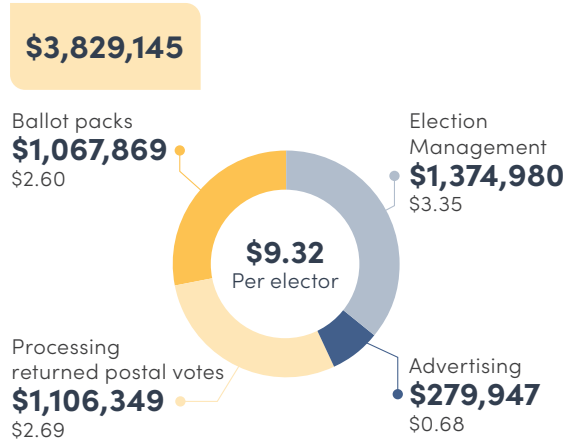
Candidates

	Stood			Elected		
Councillor	184	323	3	106	157	0
Mayor	33	64	0	15	14	0
Deputy Mayor	45	91	0	18	11	0

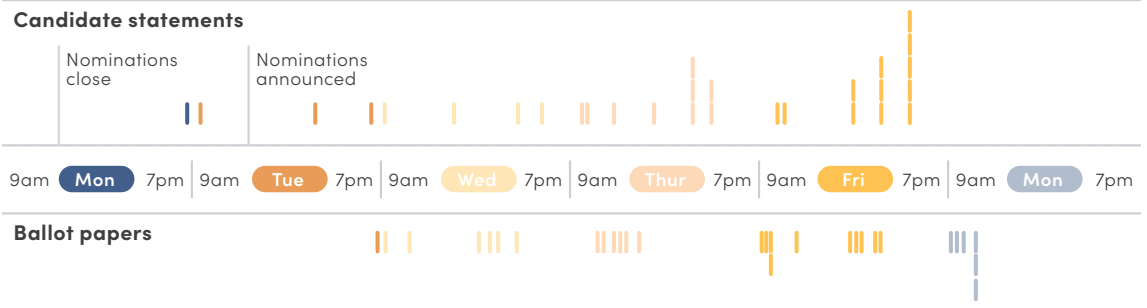
Ballot papers



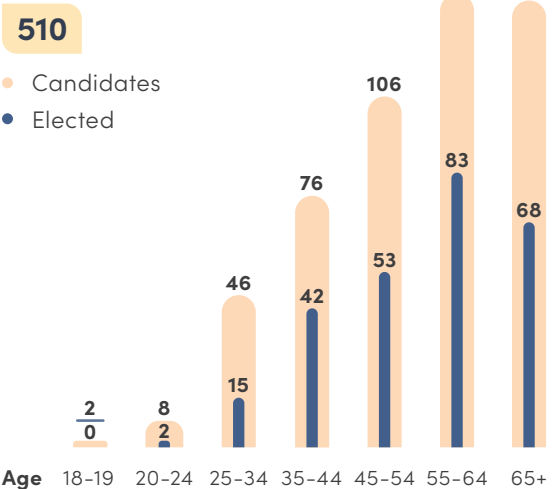
Costs



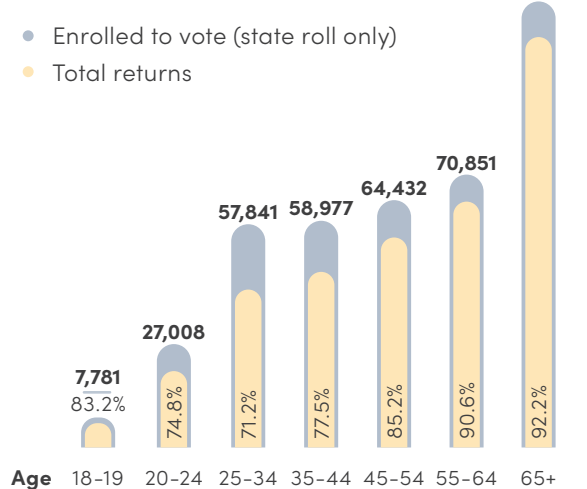
Ballot pack preparation



Candidates by age



Electors by age



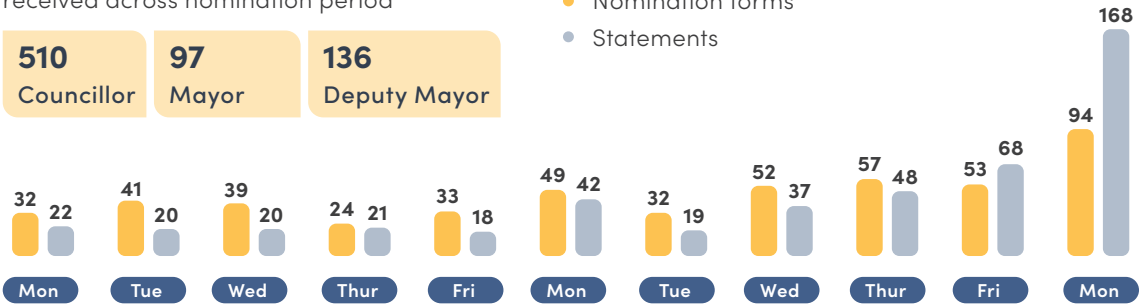
2022 local government elections snapshot cont'd

Nominations and statements

received across nomination period

- Nomination forms
- Statements

510 Councillor
97 Mayor
136 Deputy Mayor

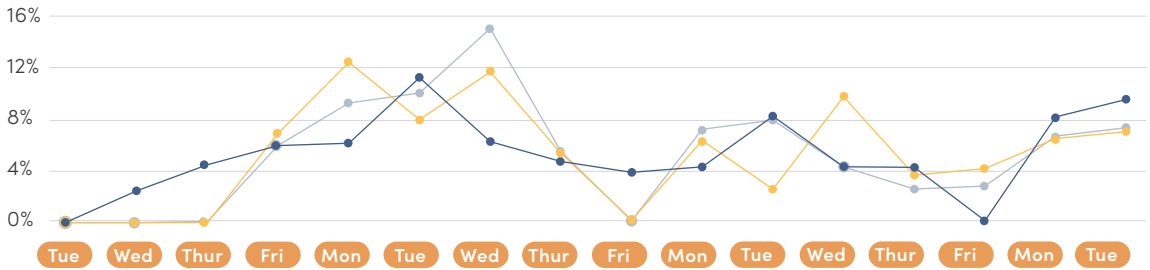


Postal vote returns

as percentage of enrolment in each region

348,453

- Northwest region
- Northern region
- Southern region

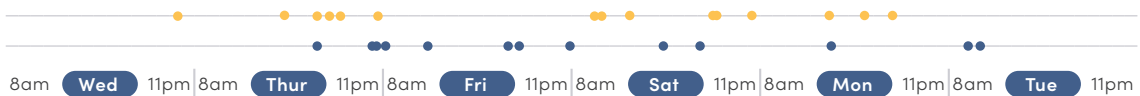


Data entry

28 councils **2** Locations **90** Terminals **180** Operators **80** Hours **339,154** Ballot papers **35,613,856** Key strokes

Double data entry completed for each council

- Northern region
- Southern region

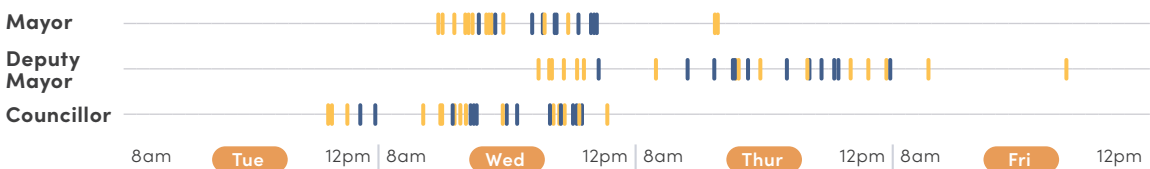


Results

First results for each election received

248 Results published

- Northern region
- Southern region



Local government casual vacancies

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

During 2022-23, the TEC conducted recounts to fill councillor vacancies for the following local government councils:

- » Huon Valley Council
- » Meander Valley Council

In June 2023, polling commenced for the Launceston City Council mayoral by-election.

Other elections and ballots

During 2022-23, the TEC conducted the following non-parliamentary elections:

Statutory elections

- » Elizabeth Macquarie Irrigation Trust (August 2022, June 2023)
- » Togari Drainage Trust

Non-statutory elections

- » Tasmanian Rock Lobster Fishermen's Association
- » Local Government Association of Tasmania (North West and West Coast Region by-election)
- » Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council
- » Local Government Association of Tasmania

Assisting other electoral authorities

The TEC assists other electoral commissions by issuing pre-poll votes for their elections. Ballot papers were issued for the following elections:

New South Wales Electoral Commission

- » 2023 State election

Electoral Commission of South Australia

- » 2022 Bragg by-election

Victorian Electoral Commission

- » 2022 State election

Western Australian Electoral Commission

- » 2022 North West Central by-election

Legislative changes

Increase to the size of the House of Assembly

On 14 December 2022, the *Expansion of House of Assembly Act 2022* received Royal Assent.

This Act amends the *Constitution Act 1934* and the *Electoral Act 2004* to:

- » increase the number of members in each House of Assembly division from 5 to 7
- » change the formality requirements for a House of Assembly ballot paper from “...must mark preferences 1 to 5” to “...must mark preferences 1 to 7”
- » increase the limit on the number of Ministers of the Crown from 9 to 11
- » amend the quorum of the House of Assembly from 10 to 14 members.

The increase in the size of the House of Assembly will take effect at the next State election.

Electoral advice

During 2022-23, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission has provided technical electoral advice in relation to the following legislation:

- » Electoral Disclosure and Funding Bill 2022
- » Electoral Matters (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2022
- » *Aboriginal Lands Act 1995* review
- » *Local Government Act 1993* review



Innovations

Opening of the northern election office

In March 2021, the TEC commenced a long-term lease of a light industrial commercial site in the Launceston suburb of Invermay. The establishment of this new northern election office was a key achievement in the TEC's strategic plan to create a northern hub capable of centralising the management of all north and north-west elections.

The existing footprint of the site was immediately set up to accommodate the management of the 2021 Legislative Council elections for the northern division of Windermere and the north-western division of Mersey. With the Premier announcing the early State election on 26 March, the site was reorganised to also accommodate the Bass and Braddon House of Assembly division election offices and a support site for the northern region of the division of Lyons. The overlay of multiple elections saw additional off-site premises required for the large scrutinies over polling weekend.

To enable the long-term suitability of the site to accommodate all parliamentary and local government elections, the TEC worked closely with designers and architects from S Group to make maximum use of the existing footprint and create fit-for-purpose spaces that embraced security, accessibility, connectivity, and multiple uses.

The TEC commenced a tender process in July 2021 to progress fit-out works on the site. The contract was awarded to Launceston-based Tas City Building, who commenced works in January 2022.

With an initial expected completion of mid-June 2022, the impact of post-covid supply chain constraints saw occupancy being granted in August 2022 ahead of the commencement of the 2022 local government elections.

Opening of the northern election office (cont'd)

The now-completed site provides modern, election spaces that include:

- » a secure front reception
- » a secure election office work area
- » a postal vote processing room
- » a multi-layer secure ballot paper storage facility
- » expansive scrutiny spaces
- » a data-entry facility capable of accommodating up to 40 operators plus management team
- » multi-purpose areas which can be adapted to support candidate nominations receipt; election public announcements; training sessions; inward and outward logistics; materials preparation, pack down and staff meetings
- » warehousing with full truck access
- » employee lockers and break-out space with kitchen facilities, and
- » multiple storage areas.

The site was also upgraded to ensure full accessibility for the public, election employees and scrutineers. This includes compliant car parking spaces, step-free building access, automatic door entry, a public lift to first floor scrutiny spaces and fully accessible bathroom and shower facilities.

The 2022 local government elections saw 16 of the state's 29 council elections based from the newly-upgraded site. The introduction of compulsory voting for local government elections brought about a large





increase in the volume of returned postal packs, particularly on the final two days before the close of the poll.

Despite that impact, the site was able to accommodate the staff and processes required to see the completion of both mayor and deputy mayor hand counts and councillor double data entry processes within the expected timeframes.

The site has since accommodated the successful management of the 2023 Legislative Council elections for the divisions of Launceston and Murchison.

The northern election office will continue to be a vital asset in the management of parliamentary and local government elections and will also be available for a range of other uses, including:

- » TEC training
- » TEC Commission meetings
- » ongoing storage of election equipment
- » hosting of Electoral Council of Australia and New Zealand (ECANZ) meetings, and
- » accommodating training and meetings for other Department of Justice outputs.

Impartial assisted voting for local government elections

The introduction of compulsory voting for the 2022 local government elections brought to light the impact that a universal postal voting election has on Tasmanian electors who require some level of assistance in completing their ballot papers.

Compulsory parliamentary elections for the House of Assembly and Legislative Council are classified as attendance voting. For these events, the TEC provides two elector assistance services: staff assisted voting at all polling places and the vision-impaired independent voting system (VI-Vote), which is available to all electors at designated voting locations.

During the nomination period of the 2022 local government elections, several electors and Tasmanian support networks for people with a print disability publicly raised their concern that compulsory voting in a postal-only election discriminates against these electors as they are unable to complete a private and independent postal vote.

As the postal voting process requires the completion of a physical ballot paper, and the sealing and signing of a declaration envelope, these electors must rely on family or support services to vote. This reliance on others would see the secrecy of their vote removed and their political preferences revealed within their home or support environment. It can also undermine their assurance that preferences have been marked as they requested.

In response to these concerns, the TEC consulted with representatives from the community to better understand the potential range of impacts and to identify an appropriate support service that could be stood up quickly for the elections, which were already underway.

It was agreed that the TEC would design and make available an impartial assisted voting service which, like voter assistance in a polling place, would allow electors to receive professional and impartial assistance in marking the ballot papers and sealing and signing the declaration envelope.

The Commission placed information about the new service on its website and in other forms of communication. Representatives of print disability communities were also asked to share this information with the people they represent.

The impartial assisted voting service was rolled out to all 29 local government councils for one or two days during the final weeks of the polling period. Bookings for the service, which could be made via phone or internet, provided each elector a 30-minute period in a private space, where an experienced TEC staff member could provide assistance as requested and directed by the elector. This assistance included reading out candidate statements, marking ballot papers, providing guidance on formality, assistance in placing and sealing ballot papers into elector declaration envelopes, and the successful completion of the elector declaration signature/mark.

The impartial assisted voting service could also take place at the elector's car where needed.

During the voting period, 11 electors used the service across six of the councils.

Understanding barriers to engagement

In May 2023 the TEC invited stakeholder organisations to participate in a short-term working group to provide advice on the accessibility of secret independent voting processes in local government elections for people with a print disability. This group has met on four occasions and will make recommendations on how the *Local Government Act 1993* can be improved to facilitate this accessibility.

In response to concerns about the accessibility of candidate statements for local government elections, TEC staff developed materials in an accessible HTML format as a companion to print publications that are included with postal ballot packs. This process has informed the ongoing development of online content following these elections.

The TEC continues to work to understand barriers to enrolment, voting and electoral employment for the broader Tasmanian community. A strong working relationship has been established with the Department of Justice's Human Resources Organisational Development and Design team to access the member benefits of the Australian Network on Disability. TEC staff have also been encouraged and supported to participate in relevant development opportunities.

A supplementary awareness campaign for compulsory voting

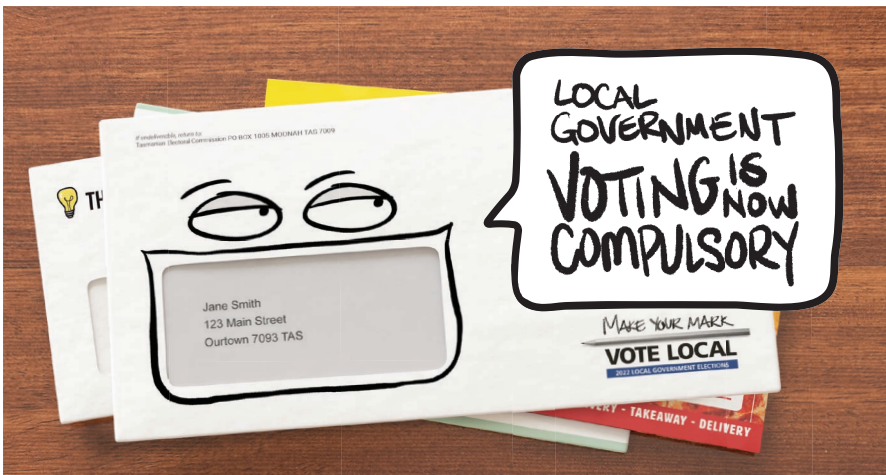
To increase the likelihood of electors engaging with the change to compulsory voting for the 2022 local government elections, a supplementary awareness campaign and associated communication tools were developed.

While the “Make your mark, vote local” advertising campaign used for the 2014 and 2018 elections would again run on a similar schedule during the main election period, an earlier awareness campaign directly promoting the compulsory nature was created to complement and overlap with the original campaign.

In addition to creating early elector awareness, the campaign needed to link the message to the postal ballot material that would be delivered to each elector.

When local government elections were not compulsory, the awareness campaign looked to entice the elector to vote by connecting them to the services that councils provided. Previously, the postal pack outer envelopes sent to electors were covered with a pencil-drawn artistic image of activities that occurred at a local community level, which also mirrored the simple messages and visuals of the broader election awareness campaign. The change to compulsory voting required the use of a more direct message on the outer envelopes.





Local Government elections are being held soon.

Keep an eye out for Eddie the envelope when he arrives in October. He has your postal ballot pack with all the information you need, so you can make your mark on your community.



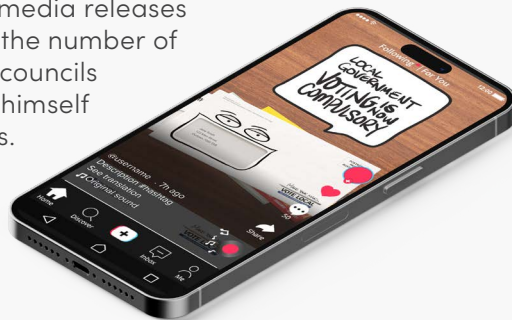
www.tec.tas.gov.au | 1800 801 701



In the six weeks leading up to the commencement of the elections, the TEC developed the character “Eddie the envelope” and the artwork on all postal vote outer envelopes was changed to show Eddie shouting “...voting is now compulsory”.

The campaign first appeared on buses, billboards and in social media prior to the commencement of the elections. A large surge of television, radio, newspaper and social media campaigning occurred when the postal votes were delivered to electors.

To raise the profile of the elections towards the end of the polling period, regular media releases gave progressive updates on the number of ballot papers returned for all councils and the Commissioner made himself available for media interviews. There was also an increased connection with live radio across the state in the final days of the polling period.



Report on performance



Report on performance

Table 1: Electoral enrolment

As at 30 June	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Tasmanian enrolment (excluding provisional enrolments)	387,466	389,227	396,792	403,200	405,042
Voting eligible population (VEP)	397,159	403,081	407,391	416,565	417,619
Enrolment rate (% of VEP)	97.58%	96.58%	97.40%	96.79%	96.99%

Table 2: House of Assembly elections statistics

Election year	2010	2014	2018	2021	
Close of roll enrolment	357,315	366,442	381,183	394,432	
Ballot papers cast	335,353	342,595	352,180	359,805	
Turnout	93.85%	93.49%	92.39%	91.22%	
Number of candidates	89	126	109	105	
Total number of counts	194	330	253	203	
Formal ballot papers	320,438	326,163	334,871	341,350	
Informality	Rate	4.45%	4.80%	4.91%	5.13%
	Apparent intentional	6,378	8,787	8,468	7,862
	Apparent unintentional	8,324	7,435	8,731	10,593

Table 3: Legislative Council elections statistics by division

Election year	2022			2022		2023	
	Elwick	Huon (by-election)	McIntyre	Pembroke (by-election)	Launceston	Murchison	Rumney
Close of roll enrolment	23,925	26,876	29,391	23,286	25,361	28,114	27,606
Ballot papers cast	18,668	23,166	24,394	18,905	20,895	23,949	22,744
Turnout	78.03%	86.20%	83.00%	81.19%	82.39%	85.19%	82.39%
Number of candidates	3	5	3	5	2	4	4
Formal ballot papers	17,988	22,551	23,525	18,331	19,875	23,013	22,018
Informality rate	3.64%	2.65%	3.56%	3.04%	4.88%	3.91%	3.19%

Table 4: Legislative Council elections participation and informality rates

Election year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 (Pembroke by-election)	2023	
	Close of roll enrolment	74,979	53,551	53,960	80,192	23,286	81,081
Ballot papers cast	62,929	45,613	44,090	66,228	18,905	67,588	
Turnout	83.93%	85.18%	81.71%	82.59%	81.19%	83.36%	
Informality	Rate	3.29%	2.26%	5.22%	3.27%	3.04%	3.97%
	Apparent intentional	1,504	707	1,211	1,257	379	1,681
	Apparent unintentional	564	326	1,090	907	195	1,001

Table 5: Local government elections statistics

Election year		2009	2011	2014	Glenorchy City ¹	2018 ²	2022 ⁷
Close of roll enrolment ³		362,890	366,906	375,355	33,283	356,810	410,975
Declarations returned		201,550	199,153	204,875	18,236	209,522	348,453
Turnout		55.54%	54.28%	54.58%	54.79%	58.72%	84.79%
Total ballot papers ⁴		526,117	510,563	591,180	53,818	596,450	1,001,646 ⁸
Number of candidates ⁴		449	421	716 ⁵	32	718	743
Number of counts ⁴		553	489	1,365 ⁵	71	1,319	1,373
Formal ballot papers ⁴		516,524	500,410	574,335	51,716	575,279	957,096
Informality	Rate	1.82%	1.99%	2.85%	3.91%	3.55%	4.45%
	Apparent intentional	4,994	5,471	7,378	164 ⁶	7,597	33,413
	Apparent unintentional	4,599	4,682	9,367	777 ⁶	13,574	11,137

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.

7. On 16 June 2022 the *Local Government Amendment (Elections) Act 2022* received Royal Assent. This Act made two significant changes to local government elections:

- » voting became compulsory for all electors who appeared on the State electoral roll for the forthcoming and future local government elections and by-elections, and
- » formality for councillor ballot papers was changed to marking 1-5 preferences on the ballot paper regardless of the number of councillor positions being elected.

8. Largely attributed to the introduction of compulsory voting in 2022.



Financial performance 2022-23

Financial performance

This section contains breakdowns of election costs and historical comparisons. Expenditure and revenue statements can be found in the 2022–23 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 staff are not included in these calculations.

Table 6: Cost of House of Assembly elections

Election year	2006	2010	2014	2018	2021
Total cost (\$'000)	1,897	2,271	2,743	3,039	3,937 ¹
Number of electors on the roll	341,481	357,315	366,442	381,183	394,432
Cost per elector on the roll	\$5.56	\$6.36	\$7.49	\$7.97	N/A ²

Table 7: Cost of Legislative Council elections

Election year	2020	2021	2022	2022 (Pembroke by-election)	2023
Total cost (\$'000)	1,183	N/A	1,420	271	1,176
Number of divisions	2	3 ³	3	1	3
Number of electors for these elections	53,551	82,587	80,192	23,286	81,081
Cost per elector	\$22.08 ⁴	N/A ²	\$17.71	\$11.66	\$14.51

1. Combined cost for the 2021 Parliamentary elections where polling day and associated electoral services were shared for the State election and the 2021 periodic Legislative council elections.
2. Costs per elector for the 2021 Parliamentary elections are not clearly quantifiable and are inconsistent with other years, due to sharing of costs related to overlapping elections.
3. A ballot was not required for one of these divisions.
4. The cost per elector for the 2020 elections included \$5.78 cost per elector due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Table 8: Cost of local government elections

Election year	2009	2011	2014	Glenorchy City	2018 ⁵	2022 ⁷
Total cost (\$'000)	1,248	1,337	2,098	233	2,470	3,829
Number of electors on the roll	362,890	366,906	375,355	33,283	356,810	410,975
Cost per elector on the roll	\$3.44	\$3.65	\$5.59 ⁶	\$6.99	\$6.92	\$9.32

Table 9: Cost of federal elections

Election year	2007	2010	2013	2016	2019	2022
Cost per elector on the roll	\$8.36	\$7.68	\$9.48	\$14.28	\$18.44 ⁸	\$25.94

These figures were obtained from the Australian Electoral Commission website, www.aec.gov.au. 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	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Expenditure on roll (\$'000)	449	501	476	495	542
Number of electors on the roll at 30 June	387,466	389,227	396,792	403,200	405,042
Cost per elector on the roll	\$1.16	\$1.29	\$1.20	\$1.23	\$1.34

These costs include the cost to the State of the State/Commonwealth joint roll arrangement, associated IT infrastructure and the provision of rolls to members of the Tasmanian Parliament, registered parties and other organisations approved by the Commission under section 40 of the *Electoral Act 2004*.

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

6. Increase in cost reflects the move to "all-in, all-out" elections in 2014.

7. Compulsory voting introduced in local government elections.

8. Cost amended. Public funding payment excluded from recalculation.



TEC staff



Remembering Wendy Polzin

After a time of ill health, the Commission's Communications Manager, Wendy Polzin passed away in February 2023.

Wendy joined the Tasmanian Electoral Commission in September 2010 to take up a three-month position to develop some electoral education material. Wendy quickly became an invaluable member of the team, contributing to many projects. Some of Wendy's major achievements include:

- » the establishment of the TEC's Education Gateway. This was an online tool that supported civics and citizenship education, with curriculum-based resources for students from Kindergarten to Year 12
- » the development of a teaching resource focused on local government elections—a hands-on mock postal ballot election kit for schools
- » the development of the TEC app for mobile phones and iPad, which was the first of its kind in Australia
- » the development of the TEC's educational animation series on aspects of elections
- » the development of an eLearning system for election staff.

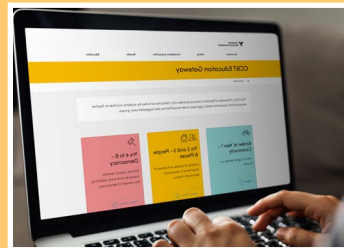
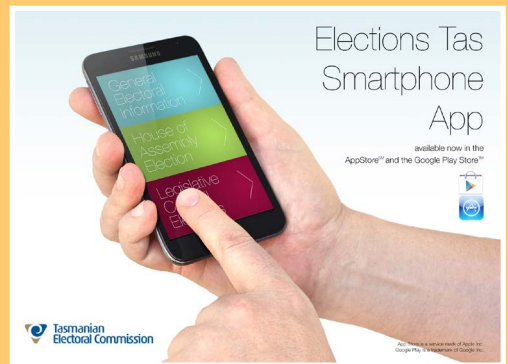
Outside the Commission, Wendy also assisted the state public service through her design work for the Public Information Unit for the state government's printed COVID-19 messages, and the artistic design of the Department of Justice values framework.

Wendy's knowledge of educational curricula, her ability to distil complex information into a clear and engaging form and language, her work ethic, aptitude for emerging technology and systems and her great sense of design and style helped transform many communication aspects of the Commission's work.

Remembering Wendy Polzin (cont'd)

“Wendy was a great manager, who was brilliant at anything she touched or created. How intelligent she was, but also humble. Wendy took a genuine interest in developing and producing electoral products to high standards. She accepted mistakes and respected others. Wendy is deeply missed here and I will cherish the warmth of her smile and all her support.”

The Elections Tas smartphone app (top), a mock ballot kit for schools (left) and an online education gateway (bottom), were just some of the innovations Wendy introduced in her time with the TEC.



“Wendy was a wonderfully warm, bright and caring colleague and friend, and could almost be described as the ‘heart’ of the office. She was the first to offer support or a kind or positive word.”

“Wendy would have to be up there if I ever made a list of genuinely nice people! She always had such a positive attitude and treated everyone with respect. I’m sure all who knew her would agree – she was a great role model. We had a close working relationship, learning a lot from each other and sharing many a laugh along the way. Cheers to Wendy!”

Remembering Bob Batchelor

February 2023 saw the passing of Bob Batchelor, a key electoral administrator of the 1990s and early 2000s. Bob joined the Tasmanian State Service in 1986, moving to the Tasmanian Electoral Office in 1989.

Affectionately nicknamed “The Maestro” for his ability to run up to 60 different community elections over a three-month period, Bob was the Manager of non-parliamentary elections at the Tasmanian Electoral Office from 1997 until his retirement in 2005.



Known for his expansive whiteboard on which he kept track of all community elections, his skills for conducting many overlapping and various electoral processes are unmatched.

Playing a central role in the early rounds of the statewide local government elections, Bob was highly respected across the electoral fraternity. Bob possessed a wealth of electoral knowledge and an excellent ability to read election rules and regulations, together with a dry sense of humour, dapper style and a twinkle in his eye that instilled confidence and a sense of collegiality in the workplace.

Years after his retirement, Bob would produce lovely artwork that he kindly gifted to new staff who joined the Commission, which is still proudly displayed around the office.

Thank you Sarah Ketchell

Sarah first joined the TEC as a casual employee in September 2017 and continued to cover ICT support responsibilities full time across 2018 and 2019, before her appointment as the TEC's permanent ICT Officer in 2020.



With her high level of skill in research, software development and problem solving, along with her organisational skills and attention to detail, Sarah has been a valued member of the team and made several significant contributions during her time with the TEC. These include the development of a new telephone voting system, improvements to election management systems, and updates to the ComputerCount system to accommodate a change in formality requirements in local government elections. Sarah also provided an excellent support service to TEC staff and we wish her well in her new role.



Appendices

Appendix A

Appointments, approvals, determinations and delegations

The Commission met formally five 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*.

The Commission made the following appointments, approvals and determinations.

Appointments (*Electoral Act 2004*)

Section no.	Subject	Date approved
24(1)	Appointment of returning officer for the 2022 Pembroke by-election	20/07/2022
24(1)	Appointment of returning officers for the 2023 Legislative Council elections	08/03/2023
92(4), 93(1) & 93(2)	Appointment of polling places for the 2023 Legislative Council elections	08/03/2023
93(1)	Appointment of polling places required for the 2022 Pembroke by-election	20/07/2022

Approvals (*Electoral Act 2004*)

Section no.	Subject	Date approved
38(1), 97(10), 111, 128(1)(a), 139, 141, 142(1), 142(2) & 228(1)	Review and update of approvals and approved forms	14/12/2022
131(1)(b), 131(1)(c), 131(2), 132(a), 132(b) & 132(c)	Approval of procedures under sections 131 and 132 for COVID-19 telephone voting	20/07/2022
132	Telephone voting procedures for voting while outside Tasmania	24/01/2023
151	Opening sealed parcels forwarded under section 149	14/12/2022

Determinations *(Electoral Act 2004)*

Section no.	Subject	Date determined
27(1)	Determination of remuneration and allowances	24/01/2023
27(2)	Political neutrality and employment with the TEC	20/07/2022

Delegations *(Electoral Act 2004)*

Section no.	Subject	Date approved
141	To the Electoral Commissioner – the power to approve the manner of undertaking tasks listed in this section, to be undertaken by an election official at the conclusion of polling at an ordinary polling place	14/12/2022
142(1)	To the Electoral Commissioner – the power to approve the manner of undertaking tasks listed in this section, to be undertaken by an election official at the conclusion of pre-poll or mobile polling	14/12/2022
142(2)	To the Electoral Commissioner – the power to approve the manner of undertaking tasks listed in this section, to be undertaken by the returning officer after the conclusion of pre-poll or mobile polling	14/12/2022

Approvals *(Local Government Act 1993)*

Section no.	Subject	Date determined
255(2)(a) & 257(2)	Approval of new general manager enrolment forms for local government elections	20/07/2022
271	Approval of new nomination forms for local government elections	20/07/2022
279	New approval of candidate's electoral advertising return	23/05/2023 (out of session)
284(4)	Approval of candidate statement requirements	20/07/2022

Appendix B

Legislative Council elections

Periodic cycle as at 30 June 2023

Year	Division	Current Member
2024	Hobart	Rob Valentine
	Prosser	Jane Howlett
2025	Montgomery	Leonie Hiscutt
	Nelson	Meg Webb
	Pembroke	Luke Edmunds
2026	Huon	Dean Harriss
	Rosevears	Jo Palmer
2027	Derwent	Craig Farrell
	Mersey	Michael Gaffney
	Windermere	Nick Duigan
2028	Elwick	Josh Willie
	McIntyre	Tania Rattray
2029	Launceston	Rosemary Armitage
	Murchison	Ruth Forrest
	Rumney	Sarah Lovell

Elections are conducted on a six-year periodic cycle.

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

2023 periodic elections calendar

Friday 31 March	6pm	Issue of the writs and close of roll
Thursday 13 April	12 noon	Nominations close
Friday 14 April	12 noon	Announcement of nominations
Friday 28 April	4pm	Postal vote applications close
Saturday 6 May	8am–6pm	Polling day

Launceston election summary

Retiring member – Rosemary Armitage	Electors enrolled	25,361
Returning officer – Jenny Hart	Electors who voted	20,895 (82.39%)
Rosemary Armitage elected to serve until May 2029	Informal votes	1,020 (4.88%)

Murchison election summary

Retiring member – Ruth Forrest	Electors enrolled	28,114
Returning officer – Michael Leyden	Electors who voted	23,949 (85.19%)
Ruth Forrest elected to serve until May 2029	Informal votes	936 (3.91%)

Rumney election summary

Retiring member – Sarah Lovell	Electors enrolled	27,606
Returning officer – Peter Moore	Electors who voted	22,744 (82.39%)
Sarah Lovell elected to serve until May 2029	Informal votes	726 (3.19%)

2023 Legislative Council elections - Launceston

First preference votes and informal ballot papers by polling place

LAUNCESTON	Independent	Tasmanian Greens	Total formal votes	Informal	Total ballot papers counted
	ARMITAGE Rosemary	ROSOL Cecily			
Agfest	345	66	411	20	431
East Launceston	801	345	1,146	26	1,172
Five Ways	499	176	675	30	705
Hadspen	1,061	194	1,255	83	1,338
Kings Meadows	1,004	303	1,307	86	1,393
Launceston	267	169	436	11	447
Launceston Central	398	282	680	53	733
Newstead	622	264	886	45	931
Norwood	1,434	368	1,802	98	1,900
Prospect Vale	1,875	328	2,203	192	2,395
South Launceston	496	221	717	43	760
Youngtown	1,365	277	1,642	97	1,739
Total ordinary	10,167	2,993	13,160	784	13,944
Mobile	175	36	211	15	226
Pre-poll	3,208	852	4,060	156	4,216
Pre-poll (out of division)	18	4	22	0	22
Postal	1,911	410	2,321	60	2,381
Provisional	36	16	52	1	53
Out of division	33	16	49	4	53
Totals	15,548	4,327	19,875	1,020	20,895
% Formal vote	78.23%	21.77%	informal 4.88%		

ARMITAGE
elected

2023 Legislative Council elections - Murchison

First preference votes and informal ballot papers by polling place

MURCHISON	Independent	Independent	Independent	Shooters, Fishers, Farmers TAS	Total formal votes	Informal	Total ballot papers counted
	BURNETT Gaffy	FORREST Ruth	HUTCHISON Codie	JONES Brenton			
Agfest	10	250	30	48	338	13	351
Boat Harbour	8	320	49	49	426	10	436
Burnie	56	754	149	166	1,125	60	1,185
Calder	6	97	9	25	137	2	139
Cooee	26	510	80	92	708	26	734
Currie	14	491	43	85	633	37	670
Edith Creek	4	54	17	35	110	8	118
Elliott	8	260	53	49	370	24	394
Forest	13	283	19	55	370	10	380
Grassy	4	82	6	17	109	6	115
Irishtown	7	133	21	43	204	7	211
Marrawah	13	94	13	52	172	8	180
Montello	37	532	127	139	835	45	880
Moorleah	2	115	44	34	195	12	207
Queenstown	36	286	36	91	449	17	466
Rocky Cape	4	206	33	37	280	5	285
Rosebery	24	187	28	75	314	25	339
Shorewell Park	36	670	127	119	952	41	993
Sisters Beach	3	157	65	16	241	9	250
Sisters Creek	2	66	24	13	105	3	108
Smithton	42	739	100	207	1,088	54	1,142
Somerset	61	1,042	179	186	1,468	67	1,535
Stanley	10	266	33	35	344	14	358
Strahan	14	187	11	67	279	10	289
Tullah	6	59	8	16	89	9	98
Waratah	8	84	23	29	144	2	146
Wynyard Central	58	1,412	239	165	1,874	92	1,966
Wynyard West	32	870	143	118	1,163	43	1,206
Yolla	11	172	33	53	269	9	278
Zeehan	18	189	36	51	294	23	317
Total ordinary	573	10,567	1,778	2,167	15,085	691	15,776
Mobile	14	206	22	30	272	8	280
Pre-poll	199	4,308	511	675	5,693	195	5,888
Pre-poll (out of division)	5	47	8	9	69	3	72
Postal	67	1,301	160	196	1,724	32	1,756
Provisional	4	49	13	11	77	1	78
Out of division	3	64	16	10	93	6	99
Totals	865	16,542	2,508	3,098	23,013	936	23,949
% Formal vote	3.76%	71.88%	10.90%	13.46%	informal 3.91%		
		FORREST elected					

2023 Legislative Council elections - Rumney

First preference votes and informal ballot papers by polling place

RUMNEY	Liberal Party	Australian Labor Party	Independent	Shooters, Fishers, Farmers TAS	Total formal votes	Informal	Total ballot papers counted
	BROWN Gregory	LOVELL Sarah	MULDER Tony	PICKIN Adrian			
Agfest	53	74	32	15	174	4	178
Cambridge	461	754	302	116	1,633	55	1,688
Clarendon Vale	372	532	151	52	1,107	41	1,148
Lauderdale	756	1,128	373	112	2,369	72	2,441
Midway Point	407	890	250	122	1,669	50	1,719
Old Beach	480	969	294	175	1,918	89	2,007
Richmond	217	414	164	78	873	36	909
Risdon Vale	327	1,047	288	156	1,818	108	1,926
Rokeby	482	915	306	110	1,813	60	1,873
Sandford	334	562	191	75	1,162	24	1,186
Seven Mile Beach	197	406	173	39	815	27	842
South Arm	179	360	85	28	652	14	666
Total ordinary	4,265	8,051	2,609	1,078	16,003	580	16,583
Mobile	0	10	4	1	15	0	15
Pre-poll	1,024	1,918	728	201	3,871	97	3,968
Pre-poll (out of division)	8	8	6	3	25	1	26
Postal	517	978	395	126	2,016	44	2,060
Provisional	14	27	14	3	58	1	59
Out of division	10	11	4	5	30	3	33
Totals	5,838	11,003	3,760	1,417	22,018	726	22,744
% Formal vote	26.51%	49.97%	17.08%	6.44%	informal 3.19%		

Distribution of preferences

RUMNEY		Liberal Party	Australian Labor Party	Independent	Shooters, Fishers, Farmers TAS	Exhausted votes	Formal votes	Absolute majority	Remarks
		BROWN Gregory	LOVELL Sarah	MULDER Tony	PICKIN Adrian				
Count 1	Total votes	5,838	11,003	3,760	1,417	22,018	11,010	First preferences	
Count 2	Votes transferred	383	450	584	-1,417			PICKIN excluded	
	Total votes	6,221	11,453	4,344	0	22,018	11,010	LOVELL elected	
Percentages		28.25%	52.02%	19.73%					

2022 Pembroke Legislative Council by-election

2022 Pembroke by-election calendar

Wednesday 3 August	6pm	Issue of the writ and close of roll
Thursday 11 August	12 noon	Nominations close
Friday 12 August	12 noon	Announcement of nominations
Friday 2 September	4pm	Postal vote applications close
Saturday 10 September	8am–6pm	Polling day

Pembroke by-election summary

Retiring member — Jo Siejka	Electors enrolled	23,286
Returning officer — Kylee Rumble	Electors who voted	18,905 (81.19%)
Luke Edmunds elected to serve until May 2025	Informal votes	574 (3.04%)

First preference votes and informal ballot papers by polling place

PEMBROKE	Tasmanian Greens	Liberal Party	Shooters, Fishers, Farmers TAS	Australian Labor Party	Independent			
	BREWER Deborah	BROWN Gregory	Di FALCO Carlo	EDMUNDS Luke	WILLINK Hans Jurriaan	Total formal votes	Informal	Total ballot papers counted
Bellerive	295	347	34	417	112	1,205	41	1,246
Clarence	297	423	33	567	108	1,428	46	1,474
Geilston Bay	223	253	29	359	104	968	31	999
Howrah	458	844	74	1,005	236	2,617	103	2,720
Lindisfarne	258	321	35	487	152	1,253	43	1,296
Lindisfarne Village	308	315	36	440	152	1,251	33	1,284
Montagu Bay	235	246	32	355	96	964	25	989
Mornington	55	91	22	148	22	338	16	354
Tranmere	106	189	9	161	64	529	7	536
Warrane	266	338	88	672	126	1,490	79	1,569
Total ordinary	2,501	3,367	392	4,611	1,172	12,043	424	12,467
Pre-poll	756	1,363	128	1,903	388	4,538	122	4,660
Postal	276	523	60	699	144	1,702	28	1,730
Provisional	7	12	0	26	3	48	0	48
Totals	3,540	5,265	580	7,239	1,707	18,331	574	18,905
% Formal vote	19.31%	28.72%	3.16%	39.49%	9.31%	informal 3.04%		

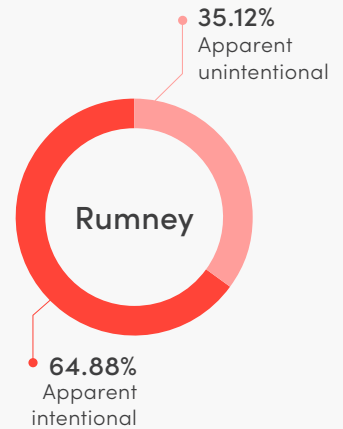
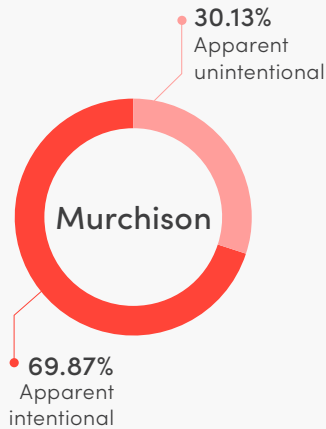
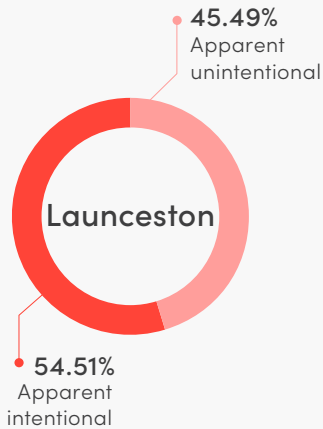
Distribution of preferences

PEMBROKE		Tasmanian Greens	Liberal Party	Shooters, Fishers, Farmers TAS	Australian Labor Party	Independent	Exhausted votes	Formal votes	Absolute majority	Remarks
		BREWER Deborah	BROWN Gregory	Di FALCO Carlo	EDMUNDS Luke	WILLINK Hans Jurrriaan				
Count 1	Total votes	3,540	5,265	580	7,239	1,707		18,331	9,166	First preferences
Count 2	Votes transferred	69	177	-580	124	210				Di FALCO excluded
	Total votes	3,609	5,442	0	7,363	1,917		18,331	9,166	
Count 3	Votes transferred	593	650		674	-1,917				WILLINK excluded
	Total votes	4,202	6,092		8,037	0		18,331	9,166	
Count 4	Votes transferred	-4,202	612		3,539		51			BREWER excluded
	Total votes	0	6,704		11,576		51	18,331	9,141	EDMUNDS elected
Percentages			36.67%		63.33%					

2023 Legislative Council elections

Informal ballot paper analysis

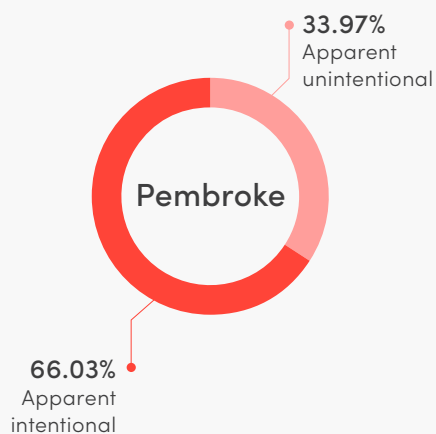
	Launceston	Murchison	Rumney	Total
Apparent intentional informal voting				
Blank	221	276	188	685
Deliberate informal or scribble/messages only	335	378	283	996
Total	556	654	471	1,681
Apparent unintentional informality				
Contains writing identifying elector	3	0	0	3
Contains only ticks or crosses	402	156	143	701
No first preference	38	29	17	84
Repetitions or omissions	14	96	91	201
Two or more first preferences	7	1	4	12
Total	464	282	255	1,001
Total	1,020	936	726	2,682



2022 Pembroke Legislative Council by-election

Informal ballot paper analysis

	Pembroke
Apparent intentional informal voting	
Blank	168
Deliberate informal or scribble/messages only	211
Total	379
Apparent unintentional informality	
Contains writing identifying elector	0
Contains only ticks or crosses	109
No first preference	8
Repetitions or omissions	61
Two or more first preferences	17
Total	195
Total	574



Appendix C

House of Assembly recounts

Franklin Recount (Petrusma)

On 15 August 2022, a recount was conducted to fill the vacancy in the House of Assembly created by the resignation of Jacquie Petrusma MP on 25 July 2022.

FRANKLIN		Tasmanian Greens	Australian Labor Party	Liberal Party	Ungrouped	Exhausted votes	Lost by Fraction	Total votes (the quota)	Absolute majority	Remarks	
		CORDOVER Gideon	BRUMBY Amy	ENDERS Bec	YOUNG Dean	FLANNERY Francis					
Counts 1 - 7	Petrusma distributed	54	164	5,281	5,808	60	175	2	11,544	5,685	YOUNG elected
Percentages		0.5%	1.4%	46.5%	51.1%	0.5%					

Appendix D

Party register

Political parties may apply to “register” under the *Electoral Act 2004* with the TEC.

Party registration enables endorsed candidates to be listed under the name of the party on parliamentary ballot papers.

As at 30 June 2023, the following 8 parties were registered under the Act (alphabetical order):

- » Animal Justice Party
- » Australian Federation Party Tasmania
- » Australian Labor Party
- » Jacqui Lambie Network
- » The Liberal Party of Australia, Tasmania Division
- » The Local Party
- » Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party Tasmania
- » Tasmanian Greens

In June 2023, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission received applications from both the Australian Federation Party Tasmania and The Local Party to change their registered and ballot paper names. Following the publication of notices regarding these applications, a 30-day objection process commenced. As at 30 June 2023 this process was underway.

Appendix E

Elected councillors, mayors and deputy mayors

As at November 2022

Councillors are listed in order of their election.



Break O'Day Council

Mayor

TUCKER, Mick

Deputy Mayor

CHAPPLE, Kristi

9 Councillors

TUCKER, Mick

DRUMMOND, Janet

CHAPPLE, Kristi

LEFEVRE, Barry

BARNES, Gary

JOHNSTONE, Liz

WRIGHT, Kylie

CARTER, Ian

OLDHAM, Vaughan



Brighton Council

Mayor

GRAY, Leigh

Deputy Mayor

CURRAN, Barbara

9 Councillors

GRAY, Leigh

CURRAN, Barbara

OWEN, Phil

IRONS, Greg

MURTAGH, Tennille

DE LA TORRE, Aaron

GEARD, Peter

WHELAN, Michael

McMASTER, John



Burnie City Council

Mayor

BRUMBY, Teeny

Deputy Mayor

SIMPSON, Giovanna

9 Councillors

BRUMBY, Teeny

KONS, Steven

SIMPSON, Giovanna

PEASE, David

LYNCH, Chris

AITKEN, Trent

KEYGAN, Amina

DORSEY, Ken

GRAVE, Justin



Central Coast Council

Mayor

FULLER, Cheryl

Deputy Mayor

BESWICK, John

9 Councillors

- FULLER, Cheryl
- CARPENTER, Garry
- HISCUTT, Casey
- BESWICK, John
- VINEY, Philip
- DIPROSE, Amanda
- SMITH, Michael
- LEHMANN, Sophie
- WYLIE, Kate



Circular Head Council

Mayor

BLIZZARD, Gerard

Deputy Mayor

DAWES, Annette

9 Councillors

- BLIZZARD, Gerard
- DAWES, Annette
- OLDAKER, John
- POPOWSKI, Ashley
- COLLINS, Sally
- PILKINGTON, Steve
- HINE, Tony
- DABNER, Mark
- FLOWERS, Rodney



Derwent Valley Council

Mayor

DRACOULIS, Michelle

Deputy Mayor

BROWNING, Luke

8 Councillors

- DRACOULIS, Michelle
- BROWNING, Luke
- COSGROVE, Jessica
- LOWE, Sara
- HILL, Matt
- BINGLEY, Phillip
- BINNY, Peter
- DERKSEN, Justin



Central Highlands Council

Mayor

TRIFFITT, Loueen (Lou)

Deputy Mayor

ALLWRIGHT, Jim

9 Councillors

- TRIFFITT, Loueen (Lou)
- ALLWRIGHT, Jim
- BAILEY, Anthony (Tony)
- CASSIDY, Robert L
- HALL, John
- HONNER, Julie
- BOWDEN, Scott
- MILLER, Yvonne
- MEACHEAM, David



Clarence City Council

Mayor

BLOMELEY, Brendan

Deputy Mayor

RITCHIE, Allison

12 Councillors

- MULDER, Tony
- BLOMELEY, Brendan
- CHONG, Heather
- RITCHIE, Allison
- KENNEDY, Wendy
- WARREN, Beth
- HUNTER, Bree
- DARKO, Jade
- HULME, Daniel
- JAMES, Richard
- WALKER, James
- GOYNE, Emma



Devonport City Council

Mayor

JARMAN, Alison

Deputy Mayor

SHEEHAN, Stacey

9 Councillors

- MARTIN, Steve
- JARMAN, Alison
- MURPHY, Leigh
- ENNISS, Gerard
- VINEY, Damien
- SHEEHAN, Stacey
- HOLLISTER, Peter Graham
- MOORE, Alison
- WILCZYNSKI, Janene



Dorset Council

Mayor

HOWARD, Greg

Deputy Mayor

JESSUP, Dale

9 Councillors

HOWARD, Greg

DONOGHUE, Beth

JESSUP, Dale

SIMMONS, Kahlia

NICHOLS, Jerrod

COXEN, Anna Curtayne

STEIN, Leonie

POWELL, Edwina

CHILCOTT, Mervyn



George Town Council

Mayor

KIESER, Greg

Deputy Mayor

DAWSON, Greg

9 Councillors

KIESER, Greg

LOWE, Simone

DAWSON, Greg

HARRIS, Tim

BARWICK, Heather

MASON, Winston

ORR, Jason

ASHLEY, Heather

ARCHER, Winston



Glenorchy City Council

Mayor

THOMAS, Bec

Deputy Mayor

HICKEY, Sue

10 Councillors

THOMAS, Bec

HICKEY, Sue

SIMS, Kelly

KENDALL, Molly

DUNSBY, Jan

KING, Steven

COCKSHUTT, Josh

QUICK, Harry

YAXLEY, Russell

SLADE, Stuart



FLINDERS
COUNCIL

Flinders Council

Mayor

SUMMERS, Rachel

Deputy Mayor

GRACE, Vanessa

7 Councillors

SUMMERS, Rachel

COX, Carol Denise

RHODES, Peter

GRACE, Vanessa

BURKE, Aaron

BLINKHORN, Garry

STOCKTON, Ken



Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council

Mayor

ARNOL, Cheryl

Deputy Mayor

SYMONS, Michael

8 Councillors

ARNOL, Cheryl

SYMONS, Michael

WOODS, Jenny

FORBES YOUNG, Robert

EDWARDS, Neil (Teddy)

LUCK, Greg

CHURCHILL, Rob

McQUEENEY, Carole



City of **HOBART**

Hobart City Council

Lord Mayor

REYNOLDS, Anna

Deputy Lord Mayor

BURNET, Helen

12 Councillors

REYNOLDS, Anna

KELLY, John

ZUCCO, Marti

BURNET, Helen

ELLIOT, Louise

BEHRAKIS, Simon

DUTTA, Mike

BLOOMFIELD, Louise

HARVEY, Bill

POSSELT, Ryan

SHERLOCK, Zelinda

LOHBERGER, Ben



Huon Valley Council

Mayor

DOYLE, Sally

Deputy Mayor

THORPE, Toby

9 Councillors

THORPE, Toby

DOYLE, Sally

GIBSON, Paul

ARMSTRONG, Debbie

O'NEILL, David

WILSON, Mike

JESSOP, Mark

CAMBERS-SMITH, Jenny

TEMBY, Cathy



King Island Council

Mayor

BLACKIE, Marcus

Deputy Mayor

PHILBEY, Vernon

9 Councillors

ALLAN, Ian

BLACKIE, Marcus

BOWDEN, David

COOKE, Ira

GREEN, Gina

LAIDLER, Sarina

McFIE, Duncan

PHILBEY, Vernon

HELY, Anna



Latrobe Council

Mayor

FRESHNEY, Peter

Deputy Mayor

MEAD, Vonette

9 Councillors

FRESHNEY, Peter

MEAD, Vonette

BROWN, Graeme

WICKS, Gerrad

METSKE, Sommer

MARTIN, Jacki

SIMS, Garry

FIDLER, David

BALDOCK, Claudia



Kentish Council

Mayor

HABERLE, Kate

Deputy Mayor

LANE, Penny

9 Councillors

HABERLE, Kate

LANE, Penny

RICHARDS, Phillip

THWAITES, Don

CASSIDY, Linda

BLENKHORN, Rodney

HAIGH, Simone

HUGHES, Terry

DICKINSON, Phil



Kingborough Council

Mayor

WRIEDT, Paula

Deputy Mayor

GLADE-WRIGHT, Clare

10 Councillors

WRIEDT, Paula

ANTOLLI, Aldo

RICHARDSON, Mark

GLADE-WRIGHT, Clare

DEANE, Kaspar

CORDOVER, Gideon

STREET, Christian

MIDGLEY, Amanda

FOX, Flora

BAIN, David



Launceston City Council

Mayor

GIBSON, Danny

Deputy Mayor

GARWOOD, Matthew

12 Councillors

GIBSON, Danny

GARWOOD, Matthew

RAZAY, George

PENTRIDGE, Joe

McKENZIE, Hugh

DAWKINS, Andrea

PALMER, Andrew

McMAHON, Lindi

HARRIS, Alan

WALKER, Tim

CAI, Susie

BRITTON, Alex



Meander Valley Council
Working Together

Meander Valley Council

Mayor

JOHNSTON, Wayne

Deputy Mayor

CAMERON, Stephanie

9 Councillors

JOHNSTON, Wayne

DORNAUF, Lochie

CAMERON, Stephanie

KELLY, Michael

DUDMAN, Ben

LOADER, Anne-Marie

HOUSE, Kevin

TEMPLE, John

LEE, Barry



NORTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL

Northern Midlands Council

Mayor

KNOWLES, Mary

Deputy Mayor

LAMBERT, Janet

9 Councillors

KNOWLES, Mary

ARCHER, Richard

LAMBERT, Janet

ADAMS, Dick

GOSS, Richard

McCULLAGH, Andrew

BROOKS, Matthew

ANDREWS, Alison

TERRETT, Paul



Sorell Council

Mayor

VINCENT, Kerry

Deputy Mayor

WOOLEY, Charles

9 Councillors

VINCENT, Kerry

WOOLEY, Charles

REYNOLDS, Natham

MIRO QUESADA LE ROUX,
Marisol

TORENIUS, Carmel

REED, Melinda

BROWN, Meg

GATEHOUSE, Janet

CAMPBELL, Shannon



Southern Midlands Council

Mayor

BATT, Edwin

Deputy Mayor

DUDGEON, Karen

7 Councillors

DUDGEON, Karen

BATT, Edwin

BLACKWELL, Donna

BISDEE, Tony

McDOUGALL, Rowena

FISH, Donald Frank

MILLER, Fraser



Tasman Council

Mayor

MACDONALD, Rod

Deputy Mayor

STACEY, Maria

7 Councillors

MACDONALD, Rod

SPAULDING, Kelly

STACEY, Maria

KNOTT, Angela

BEARD, David

FIELDER, Hannah

KELLEHER, Daniel



Waratah-Wynyard Council

Mayor

DUNIAM, Mary

Deputy Mayor

EDWARDS, Celisa

8 Councillors

HYLAND, Kevin

DUNIAM, Mary

ROBERTS, Dillon

EDWARDS, Celisa

BRAMICH, Gary

JOHNSTONE, Michael

COURTNEY, Andrea

RAW, Leanne



West Coast Council

Mayor

PITT, Shane

Deputy Mayor

BUTTERFIELD, Robert

9 Councillors

PITT, Shane

NEWMAN, Lindsay

BUTTERFIELD, Robert

IWANICKI, Vikki

McKAY, Annie

HAMER, Liz

STRINGER, Scott

JORDAN, Dwayne K A

GRAHAM, Kerry



West Tamar Council

Mayor

HOLMDAHL, Christina

Deputy Mayor

GREENE, Jess

9 Councillors

HOLMDAHL, Christina

SHEGOG, Rick

GREENE, Jess

ALLEN, Joy

LYONS, Geoff

MANTICAS, Joshua

IRELAND, Richard

FERGUSON, Lynden

SLADDEN, Julie

