

REF: EC22-000009

Ms Sarah Redden Secretary Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Email: fpa.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Redden

Correction

I am writing to correct a response provided by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to a question asked during the Budget Estimates hearing of the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee on 5 April 2022.

During the hearing Senator Ayres asked about polling places impacted by recent floods in Queensland and New South Wales.

The AEC indicated that three polling places were impacted by floods in Queensland (one in the division of Petrie and two in the division of Fisher) and seven in New South Wales (one in the division of Richmond, one in the division of Lyne and five in the division of Page). I wish to correct this evidence and advise that these 10 polling places were general abolitions. They were abolished due to construction and/or confirmed unavailability, not floods.

The AEC can confirm that:

- In Queensland, 36 polling places were impacted by floods. Thirty-one remain available as damage was minor. The AEC has found alternative premises for the five in doubt. There will be no reduction in the number of polling places due to flood impacts.
- In New South Wales, 10 polling places were impacted by floods. The AEC has found alternative premises for four and voters that would usually vote at the other six will be directed to nearby locations.

The flood impact and response has been an evolving situation and the AEC appreciates the Committee's understanding at this time.

Yours sincerely

Kath Gleeson A/g First Assistant Commissioner

14 April 2022