

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
Department of House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

I recently tried to trace some friends living in Tasmania but was told that I had to go into Perth to the Australian Electoral Commission to look them up. I emailed the Electoral Commission with a complaint regarding this service and they advised that I needed to write to yourselves and recommend a change be made to the legislation. A copy of my original email is appended below. a reply would be appreciated.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I went out of my way today to go to our local Electoral Office in Karrinyup to try and locate some friends who we have lost contact with and their last known abode was in Tasmania.

I was shocked to find out that the local Electoral Offices no longer can help with other States and it is necessary to go into the main office in Perth to find out information. This is a very difficult office to get to as it is in the centre of Perth and it is impossible to just "pop" in to find out any information.

I am at a loss to understand why this service has been removed from our local office and only available at a place that is very difficult to get to. I don't call this a "service". To do this one needs to set aside at least half a day which is impossible if one has other commitments.

Why is it not possible to find people by searching via the internet? or even over the phone?

A reply would be appreciated.

Jennifer Collett