

From: Phil Paterson [philpats@inet.net.au]  
Sent: Wednesday, 24 August 2005 4:37 PM  
To: Committee, EM (REPS)  
Subject: Further brief submission on Hollywood Hospital after 3 August Public Hearing in Perth

Further to questions raised at the 3 August Public Hearing in Perth, I contacted a volunteer who had expressed concerns to me about the time taken to conduct the Mobile polling at Hollywood Hospital in Perth in the week prior to Election Day.

He has advised that there were a total of four teams of Liberal scrutineers of 4 people each, working from early morning to late evening working on different floors and wards, and following the AEC staff. I do not have the names of these other volunteers.

Incapacitated and bed-ridden residents were serviced separately. No information was provided by him on whether some healthier voters came to central locations to vote, but no doubt the AEC will be able to explain this in more detail if required.

He considered the AEC staff were quite well organised and managed, but under resourced.

In his view as an experienced manager the AEC staff should at least be doubled in the future.

Perhaps in combination with better co-ordination with the hospital this then would allow the process to be speeded up.

Both AEC staff and volunteer Liberal scrutineers put in very long hours on this occasion (8-10 hours or more, with additional time for AEC staff to complete other tasks once voting was complete). This was considered too long, and the delays would have affected patients and hospital staff too.

In summary, more AEC resources and better co-ordination would help reduce the time taken next time for the benefit of all.

Thanks again for the opportunity to make my submission and appear at the Public Hearing in Perth.

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