

AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION

**THIRD SUBMISSION TO THE INQUIRY BY THE
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL
MATTERS INTO THE 2007 FEDERAL ELECTION**

11 November 2008

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1. Introduction

1.1 This is the third submission from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to the inquiry into the conduct of the 2007 Election and matters related thereto being undertaken by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (JSCEM).

1.2 This submission provides responses to requests for information either taken on notice at the public hearing attended by the AEC in Melbourne on 11 or 12 August 2008, Adelaide on 20 August 2008 and Perth on 21 August or made to the AEC by the JSCEM, its Chair or its Secretary.

2. Informal Senate voting – South Australia

2.1 On page EM16 of the transcript of the public hearing of 20 August 2008, Senator Birmingham requested data regarding the informality rate of above the line (ATL) and below the line (BTL) Senate voting in South Australia.

Senator BIRMINGHAM—Do you have a breakdown of the informal Senate vote or above the line versus below the line?

Dr Drury—A breakdown—

Senator BIRMINGHAM—Of the rate of informality.

Dr Drury—By?

Senator BIRMINGHAM—By above-the-line versus below-the-line voting?

Dr Drury—No, I do not.

Senator BIRMINGHAM—Could you see whether you have some type of comparative data?

Dr Drury—Yes.

AEC Response

2.2 Each Senate ballot paper essentially contains two different voting systems on the one ballot paper, which creates difficulties in clearly separating informal ATL votes and informal BTL votes. Some types of informal votes, such as blank ballot papers or a ballot paper incorrectly marked both above and below the line cannot be inferred to be informal ATL or informal BTL. Inferring intention in other types of informally marked ballot papers is also problematic – is a ballot paper marked with only a ‘1’ next to the first candidate of a below the line grouping an informal ATL vote or an informal BTL vote?

2.3 Nevertheless, the AEC has previously conducted research into voting informality for the Senate. In 2001 a national informal ballot paper survey was conducted and table 2.1 below outlines the results for South Australia. Over one-half of the informal votes cast in South Australia's 2001 half Senate election resist categorisation as either informal ATL or BTL¹ and another quarter of informal votes could be interpreted as being either informal ATL or informal BTL.²

Table 2.1 Types of informal voting - South Australian Senate, 2001

Category	Number	Proportion
Blank Ballot Paper	10375	33.95%
1st Pref Only marked BTL	7742	25.34%
Writing, slogans, poetry	2854	9.34%
Less than 90% of boxes numbered BTL	2690	8.80%
Other	2623	8.58%
More than one number 1 ATL	1346	4.41%
More than one number 1 BTL	845	2.77%
Large number of repeating numbers or missing numbers BTL	830	2.72%
Ticks and crosses BTL	617	2.02%
Combination of Ticks and crosses ATL	413	1.35%
Use of letters ATL	154	0.50%
No 1st preference BTL	67	0.22%
Total	30556	100.00%

2.4 What is clear from aggregated informality data is that informal voting at Senate elections is either at, or near, historic lows. As Section 4 of the AEC's Second Submission noted, the catalyst for much of the reduction in the level of informal voting was the introduction of ATL voting in 1984. An examination of South Australia's Senate elections clearly reflects this, with the 2007 election yielding the second lowest level of informality in the last thirty years (see table 2.2).

¹ That is, the categories of "Blank Ballot Paper"; "Writing, slogan, poetry," and; "Other".

² Ballot papers marked with a first preference only below the line.

Table 2.2 Informal voting in Federal Senate elections for South Australia

1977	10.4
1980	8.7
1983 ³	8.8
1984	5.0
1987	3.8
1990	2.5
1993	2.3
1996	3.3
1998	2.8
2001	3.1
2004	3.5
2007	2.4

3. Declaration Votes

Declaration voting statistics for Western Australia - 2004 and 2007

3.1 On page EM9 of the transcript of the public hearing of 21 August 2008, Senator Birmingham requested information regarding the number and increase of declaration votes in Western Australia between 2004 and 2007 and the proportion of pre-poll and postal votes in Swan.

Senator BIRMINGHAM—You had a couple of extremely close results in Western Australia, from memory. What was the increase and what was the number of votes in envelopes in those seats with very close results?

Mr Stringall—We would have to take that on notice. I do not believe we have got those figures.

CHAIR—Swan had an increase in postal votes.

Mr Nagle—So what we are looking for is: was there an increased proportion of prepolls and postals for Swan?

Mr Stringall—We will take that on notice. From my memory, I do not believe that there was a particular increase in Swan.

AEC Response

3.2 Please refer to **Annex 1**. The tables in this annex break down by Western Australian division the type, number and proportion of votes received in the 2004 and 2007 elections and the change in number and proportion of each vote type from the 2004 election to the 2007 election.

³ 1983 figures include missing and discarded votes.

Postal Votes - Division of Holt

Total Postal Votes⁴

3.3 On page EM7 of the transcript of the public hearing of 11 August 2008, the Chair requested information regarding the source of all postal votes issued for the Division of Holt.

AEC Response

3.4 The following table details the number and source of all postal votes issued for the Division of Holt. Of the 7,976 total postal votes issued, 7,452 were returned.

Table 3.1 - Number and source of all postal votes for the Division of Holt

Source of all postal votes issued	Number
AEC	2,311
Other	1
Liberal	1,225
Labor	3,644
Country Libs	0
National	0
Greens	0
Democrat	0
General Postal Votes (GPVs)	795
Total Postal Votes (incl. GPVs)	7,976

Increase in volume

3.5 On page EM8 of the transcript of the public hearing of 11 August 2008, Senator Bob Brown requested information on the increase in postal votes in the Division of Holt between the 2004 and 2007 elections.

⁴ Paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4 of this Submission use the term 'total postal votes' or 'all postal votes' to refer to the sum of postal votes *plus* General Postal Votes (GPVs). Ordinarily, these two terms are used and reported on separately.

AEC Response

3.6 At the 2004 election the Division of Holt counted 4,047 postal votes, which represented 4.74 per cent of the total vote. At the 2007 election this climbed to 6,993 postal votes,⁵ representing 7.26 per cent of the total vote.

Postal Votes issued in Western Australia by division

3.7 On page EM4 of the transcript of the public hearing of 21 August 2008, the Chair requested information regarding the number of postal votes issued by divisions in Western Australia.

Mr Stringall—.... The number of postal votes in the division of Kalgoorlie, for example, increased from 3.46 per cent in the 2001 election. There was an increase in 2007. The number actually counted rather than issued was 3.76 per cent. So there was a marginal increase between 2001 and 2007. In 2004 the percentage of postal votes counted was 3.2 per cent, so again a 0.5 per cent increase.

CHAIR—How did that compare to other electorates in the state?

Mr Stringall—We would have to take that on notice.

AEC Response

3.8 Please refer to **Annex 1**.

Rejected provisional votes by division

3.9 On page EM10 of the transcript of the public hearing of 21 August 2008, Mr Sullivan requested information on the number of provisional votes disallowed by division.

Mr SULLIVAN—While we are on that issue, could we have the number of provisional votes that were disallowed and the proportion of those that would have been disallowed because people did not return with identification within the period allowed?

Mr Stringall—Yes, there was an increase.

Mr SULLIVAN—A significant increase?

Mr Stringall—Again, I will take that on notice. I would say that that would be the case, yes, but could I take that on notice?

⁵ See footnote 4. This figure does *not* include GPVs.

AEC Response

3.10 Please refer to the 2007 table in **Annex 2**.

Rejected provisional votes for 2004 and 2007

3.11 The JSCEM has requested that the AEC provide data regarding the numbers of provisional votes excluded by state and division for the 2007 and 2004 elections and the reason they were excluded.

AEC Response

3.12 Analysis of the reasons for the reduction in the number of provisional votes admitted at preliminary scrutiny is covered in part 4.6 of the AEC's First Submission to the JSCEM. 3.13 Please refer to **Annex 2**.

4. Dealing with electoral offences

Disclosure of candidates that have not lodged election returns

4.1 On page EM56 of the transcript of the public hearing of 27 June 2008, Mr Morrison, in discussing Recommendation 16 of the AEC's First Submission requested that the AEC consider and make available to the JSCEM, legal advice regarding the disclosure of candidates that have not lodged election returns.

AEC Response

4.2 The AEC wishes to clarify that it is yet to consider obtaining external legal advice regarding this matter. The issues surrounding the disclosure of candidates that have not lodged election returns may well receive further consideration in the context of issues discussed in the government's forthcoming Green Paper.

Options for enforcing electoral obligations

4.3 On page EM57 of the transcript of the public hearing of 27 June 2008, the Chair requested that the AEC provide further information regarding the range of options suggested for dealing with electoral offences in Recommendation 16 of its First Submission.

Mr Campbell—Would you like us to come back with some further work on this with a bit more detail of the particulars?

CHAIR—Yes, of course, and that is all-encompassing. I am not going to sit down and give

you carte blanche unless I know what you are talking about, what it is you say the penalty is or what you should be allowed to do. Just particularise the sorts of things you are talking about.

Mr Campbell—We will do that

AEC Response

4.4 The contents of recommendation 16 are largely based on the need to establish a compliance regime that is not completely reliant on a single criminal law type enforcement process.

4.5 As indicated in the AEC's First Submission, the offence provisions in the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (CEA) are solely criminal offences. As such the involvement of external agencies such as the Australian Federal Police and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions are required for such matters to be pursued. Given the relatively low penalties that exist, the use of scarce law enforcement resources to deal with these matters is a major issue.

4.6 What recommendation 16 is seeking, is the support of the JSCEM to amend the CEA to include a compliance regime which is based on a hierarchy of graduated responses to noncompliance. This is based on the well known Braithwaite Enforcement Pyramid that was developed in the 1980s. The lowest level of the Enforcement Pyramid involves a softer approach which is employed more frequently to the less serious matters of noncompliance. The toughest sanctions (eg criminal penalties) at the apex of the pyramid and are applied less frequently. Braithwaite stated that the policy goal in developing the Enforcement Pyramid was to find the method of punishment that would achieve the greatest reduction in the prohibited activity. This does not mean that the regulator should not retain the ability to use the toughest sanction possible to a flagrant violation of the regulatory laws, merely that a range of sanctions often results in making lower-level sanctions more effective in preventing the noncompliance without needing to escalate the sanctions up the pyramid to the more serious levels of punishment. The levels in the Enforcement Pyramid are usually expressed from the bottom up as Persuasion, Warning letter, Civil penalty, Criminal penalty, License suspension, License revocation.

4.7 The AEC sees that the key challenge in this area of electoral compliance is to ensure that there is a comprehensive regulatory framework which provides the right mixture of tools to enable the AEC to respond adequately and promptly to the circumstances of each case. The AEC's experience is that the current criminal law only framework does not provide the necessary mixture of tools to enable an effective compliance regime to be successfully implemented.

4.8 The matters that were outlined in recommendation 16 reflect the range of options that Elections Canada has in place for dealing with issues of noncompliance with electoral laws. These mechanisms are contained in the

Canada Elections Act and provide an effective and transparent framework in which compliance matters are able to be handled.

4.9 The first enforcement tool in the proposed Enforcement Pyramid that is available is the publication of information about the requirements of electoral laws. This is currently dealt with on an administrative basis by the AEC with the publication of a range of information in such documents as the Electoral Backgrounders and other Fact Sheets that are freely available on the AEC's website .

4.10 The second level in the proposed Enforcement Pyramid is the use of warning letters. While this is currently an administrative practice within the AEC, it is proposed that the CEA should be amended to clearly reflect this process and to remove any suggestion that the only action that is available to the AEC to deal with noncompliance is criminal action.

4.11 The third level in the proposed Enforcement Pyramid is the ability to publish public announcements of the details of complaints and undertakings and agreement that have been given that noncompliant action will be remedied. This would provide a transparent and accountable process for the handling of complaints. This process is reflected in section 517 of the *Canada Elections Act*. The AEC notes that there is currently a limited power contained in section 17 of the CEA for the AEC to include noncompliance with Part XX of the Act in reports to the Parliament. The AEC is of the view that this power should be extended to specifically include other areas of non-compliance, including the electoral offences contained in Part XXI of the Act.

4.12 The fourth level in the proposed Enforcement Pyramid would be the ability to impose civil sanctions/penalties. Such civil action is already contained in other Commonwealth legislation. The Australian Law Reform Commission ALRC in their 2002 discussion paper entitled *Securing Compliance: Civil and Administrative Penalties in Federal Regulation* (DP 65), identified some 2,400 federal regulatory penalties in legislative categories including administrative law, aged care, aviation, banking, border control, customs, discrimination and human rights, environmental law, licensing regimes, marketplace regulation, revenue, social security, communications and trade practices.

4.13 The ALRC noted that civil penalty is one imposed by courts applying civil rather than criminal court processes. Many offences allow the prosecuting authority the choice of pursuing either criminal or civil processes (and occasionally both). Civil penalty provisions have been described as a hybrid between the criminal and the civil law. They are clearly founded on the notion of preventing public harm. The offence itself may be similar to a criminal offence (for example, breaches of a company director's duties) and the purpose of imposing a sanction may include an element of punishment of the offender; however, the procedure by which the offender is sanctioned is based on civil court processes.

4.14 Associated with civil sanctions/penalties would be the power for a Court to order that payments of election funding should be withheld to offset any non-payment of the civil penalty. This would assist of addressing the issue where the actions of a registered political party are in breach of the act and no person is able to be identified with that party who undertook or authorised the illegal action that resulted in noncompliance.

4.15 The fifth level of the proposed Enforcement Pyramid would be the imposition of criminal sanctions and penalties as is currently provided for in the Electoral Act.

5. Electronic Voting

Antarctic electors

5.1 On page EM24 of the transcript of the public hearing of 12 August 2008, Senator Bob Brown requested information regarding the possible provision of electronic voting to Antarctic electors.

Senator BOB BROWN—What would be involved in getting electronic voting to the Antarctic stations?

...

Mr Pickering—... the challenges for electronic voting are mainly around the issues of the connectivity to the Antarctic bases and doing that inside a firewall that enables a high degree of trust of the transmission of the votes. The two key things that you will hear about from other witnesses in relation to e-voting are authentication of the voter and also the security of the transmission of the vote.

The thing that made the trials for the Australian Defence Force so successful in the 2007 election was that we were able to use the Defence restricted network, which was an intranet, not using the internet. That made a big difference in regard to confidence of the security of the transmission.

...

Senator BOB BROWN—Can it be used then? The question is: can this be applied to Antarctica?

Mr Pickering—I am not aware of there being a secure network in place with Antarctica at the moment, but that is something we could take on notice and advise the committee.

AEC Response

5.2 The AEC has undertaken preliminary discussions with the Australian Antarctic Division on their communication network with the Antarctic bases. This has revealed that they have an "In-Confidence" rating on their network.

5.3 The Australian Antarctic Division has a Standard Computer Operating Environment which appears to provide the capacity for secure voting to take place, and which we believe could be configured to run similar technology as was used for the Defence Trial of Electronic Voting. It should be noted however that this network is not as secure as the Defence Restricted Network, which was used for the Defence trial of electronic voting.

5.4 The AEC believes that secure electronic voting for Australian Antarctic personnel is technically achievable. However, more detailed investigation would need to be undertaken to determine suitability of the network for electronic voting, and which would also involve working with the successful voting application contractor. For the Defence Trial of electronic voting PINs were issued by mail. An alternate means of delivery would need to be implemented to cater for Antarctic electors.

Electronically assisted voting for electors who are blind or have low vision

5.5 Following witness evidence before the public hearing of 20 and 21 August 2008 concerning the electronic voting trials for people who are blind or have low vision, the JSCEM asked the AEC if it would like to provide comment.

AEC Response

5.6 The AEC notes the feedback from Mr Frost provided at the Adelaide JSCEM hearings in relation to the electronic voting trials for people who are blind or have low vision. Mr Frost provided comments in relation to the suitability of electronic magnifiers for the "partially sighted population". He points out the high purchase cost and related storage issues if the AEC were to provide one for every polling place in South Australia.

5.7 For the 2007 election, electronic magnifiers (Closed Circuit TVs) were available at a number of the 29 trial sites. These were either hired or loaned for the trial period, and they were utilised by some electors to cast their votes. Purchasing and storing these machines for a 2 week voting period every three years is not practical, or cost effective. The AEC could consider making this equipment available at more locations in the future, subject to appropriate hire equipment being available, but this technology provides no aid to voters who are completely blind.

6. Population growth in Western Australia

6.1 On page EM6 of the transcript of the public hearing of 21 August 2008, Mr Sullivan requested information concerning population growth in Western Australia from 2004 to 2007.

Mr SULLIVAN—On the same issue, I have noted here that your growth in enrolment was modest, despite some fairly vigorous efforts to encourage enrolment. In fact, by my very quick calculations—and I do not expect it to be perfect—it is about four per cent over three years. I would be very surprised if the population growth in Western Australia were that low. Mr Stringall mentioned demographics, but have you got a population figure for Western Australia over that period? In my electorate, for example, it is running at about six per cent a year. That is enrolment.

Mr Nagle—I had attempted yesterday to get comparative figures, particularly at division level. I would have to take on notice giving you precise population growth figures over the electoral period.

AEC Response

6.2 The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reports that from June 2004 to June 2007 Western Australia's population grew by 5.9 per cent.⁶ When considering Western Australia's population, the AEC is chiefly concerned with ensuring that all persons eligible to enrol are enrolled. As not all of the population are eligible to enrol, the AEC have collaborated with the ABS to develop a methodology for calculating an eligible enrolment population. The proportion of Western Australia's population eligible to enrol grew by 3.7 per cent from June 2004 to June 2007. By contrast, the federal electoral roll for the state grew by 6.1 per cent over the same period – resulting in a statistically small but significant net increase in persons enrolled.

7. British subjects

Number on roll

7.1 On page EM13 of the transcript of the public hearing of 21 August 2008, the Chair requested information regarding the number of British subjects on the electoral roll.

CHAIR—So the commission is able to advise this committee of how many of those electors are in each electorate.

Mr Nagle—Yes.

CHAIR—That is possible, nationwide?

Mr Nagle—Yes, and I can give you national and WA figures now, if you wish.

CHAIR—If you can. I will get division by division later on.

Mr Nagle—Nationally, there are currently 159,809 British subjects on the roll and, in Western Australia, 22,277.

CHAIR—Are you able to identify the electorates in Western Australia where they have the

⁶ See 3101.0 – Australian Demographic Statistics, Table 4.

highest number of such electors or have you just got your global figure? We can get that later on.

Mr Nagle—Yes.

CHAIR—I will ask this of the commission, but I will put it on notice: I know that there was a policy decision back then to keep those people on the roll who were on the roll prior to 26 January 1984. I am really interested in the impact that the Australia Act of 1986 has. I know of the High Court decision in relation to Heather Hill, who was a senator disqualified from taking her position because British citizens were regarded as aliens. So it is a commission policy question and I think it was a government policy as well. It was obviously done without the Australia Act and the Heather Hill case. I want to revisit this situation and look at the policy. That is a lot of votes. I am not prejudging it. I am doing it as a result of Senator Murray's submission. He has raised it and I think it should be explored.

AEC Response

7.2 Please refer to **Annex 3**, which provides details of electors enrolled on the federal electoral roll on the basis of being an eligible British subject; that is, on the grounds set out in section 93(1)(b)(ii)(A). Please note that the figures provided in **Annex 3** will:

- (i) *not include* any British subject electors who enrolled prior to the AEC commencing to record British subject status *and* who have not changed their enrolment since that time; and
- (ii) *include* electors recorded as British subjects who have since taken out Australian citizenship *and* not updated their enrolment.

Age profile

7.3 On page EM20 of the transcript of the public hearing of 21 August 2008, Senator Birmingham requested information regarding the age profile of British subjects on the electoral roll.

Senator BIRMINGHAM—Firstly, for the benefit of the AEC officials, on the British citizenship data it would be interesting to also, if possible, have an average age profile, if they can extract that from the data, or alternatively at least the trend line, because there is a natural phase-out, I suspect, that is occurring as well. It is not that I do not have some sympathy for the view that has been put, but it would be interesting to see that.

CHAIR—If that is possible, that would be good.

AEC Response

7.4 As noted in **paragraph 7.2**, please refer to **Annex 3**, which provides details of electors enrolled on the federal electoral roll on the basis of being an eligible British subject; that is, on the grounds set out in section 93(1)(b)(ii)(A). Please note that the figures provided in **Annex 3** will:

- (i) *not include* any British subject electors who enrolled prior to the AEC commencing to record British subject status *and* who have not changed their enrolment since that time; and

- (ii) *include* electors recorded as British subjects who have since taken out Australian citizenship *and* not updated their enrolment.

8. Electors experiencing homelessness

8.1 On page EM85 of the transcript of the public hearing of 11 August 2008, Senator Bob Brown requested information regarding material provided to electors experiencing homelessness and organizations representing their interests.

Senator BOB BROWN—You just mentioned that the AEC had mock-ups for campaigns for homeless voters. When was that?

Mr Keenan—It was around September, from memory.

Senator BOB BROWN—Of?

Mr Keenan—Last year, prior to the election. There was artwork and they were quite good. They were as good as the printed intervention can be but they were aimed at being used in homeless agencies, as I understand. We saw them and they asked us for feedback. They were quite well put together.

Senator BOB BROWN—Chair, I wonder if the committee could ask to see those mock-ups.

CHAIR—Of course. There is no problem with that.

Senator BOB BROWN—That would need a note to the Australian Electoral Commission.

Senator CAROL BROWN—It was different then to what was actually put out.

Mr Keenan—In the end all we got was an emailed letter on AEC letterhead that we could download—

Senator CAROL BROWN—Sorry, just a follow up: did that mock-up campaign include only posters?

Mr Keenan—I think there were meant to be leaflets and enrolment brochures that went with it. We were happy to be there. We went with Mrs Mirabella and then we met with the Electoral Commission on the same day; they asked us what we thought and what this material looked like.

CHAIR—We will get to look at that.

Senator BOB BROWN—I would be interested to know why that did not surface.

AEC Response

8.2 In early 2007, the AEC contacted several peak and other homeless and welfare organisations including Homelessness Australia, the Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH), the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, the Big Issue, Centacare, Uniting Care Australia and Hanover Welfare Services

as part of its considerations about how the AEC could assist people experiencing homelessness to enrol and vote in the 2007 federal election.

8.3 A range of views were provided to the AEC, with common themes being the need for materials to raise awareness of the availability of no fixed address enrolment and to address barriers to electoral enrolment for people experiencing homelessness. The consultations identified Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) provider organisations as a way to effectively disseminate no fixed address enrolment forms and information to electors experiencing homelessness.

8.4 In mid-August 2007, two staff from the AEC's media and communications area had an informal meeting in Canberra with Tony Keenan and a colleague from Hanover Welfare Services at Hanover's invitation.

8.5 The AEC participants advised of the AEC's intention to conduct a direct mail campaign through SAAP funded organisations, based on feedback obtained from earlier consultations.

8.6 At the meeting the AEC participants sought feedback from Mr Keenan and his colleague on ideas for materials for possible inclusion in the mail package, including fact sheets and posters. The AEC staff members showed two enrolment posters being used in other AEC activities, one targeting Indigenous electors (see **Annex 4, part 1**) and the other targeting general electors (see **Annex 4, part 2**). Feedback was provided on which of the two approaches might be most effective if a poster targeting people experiencing homelessness were to be adapted. It is the recollection of AEC staff that Mr Keenan and his colleague indicated that the Indigenous elector poster would be more effective, provided that a suitable and appropriate photographic image could be obtained. The AEC participants have no recollection of any other material being presented at the meeting or making any undertaking that a poster would be produced.

8.7 A direct mail package was designed and dispatched to over 1300 SAAP organisations between 27 September and 5 October 2007, and consisted of a covering letter from the Electoral Commissioner, multiple no fixed address enrolment forms and return addressed envelopes,⁷ and two fact sheets: the first being directed to SAAP provider staff and the second directed toward SAAP clients who were experiencing homelessness (see **Annex 4, part 3**).

8.9 After consideration, the AEC decided not to include a poster in the direct mail package. The AEC decided that a poster using a single representative image of this diverse group was problematic and may not add sufficient value to the existing mail package. As people experiencing homelessness are a transient group of electors, the also AEC decided to time the mailout as close as possible to the election date. This timing also recognised the fact that the AEC's mainstream enrolment campaign that had

⁷ No fixed address enrolment forms and reply paid envelopes are not included in Annex 4

commenced in May 2007 included extensive television, press, radio, as well as outdoor and other advertising targeting all eligible electors.

8.10 In support of the direct mail strategy, peak organisations, including Hanover, were sent a letter advising of the approach, also enclosing a copy of the fact sheet being directed to SAAP provider staff referred to above (see **Annex 4, part 4**). The AEC is aware that Homelessness Australia circulated information to its stakeholders about the availability of the fact sheets and other information on the AEC website and provided a link to this material.

8.11 The AEC will be reviewing its communication methods to eligible electors, including special groups, as part of developing its enrolment communication leading up to the next federal election.

8.12 At the August 2007 meeting with the AEC, Mr Keenan from Hanover Welfare Services also raised the issue of mobile polling at homeless shelters. As the *Commonwealth Electoral Act* precludes this activity taking place, Mr Keenan was advised that this was a legislative issue his organisation may wish to raise with the federal Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.

9 Provision of date of birth information

9.1 On page EM35 of the transcript of the public hearing of 12 August 2008, Mr Edward Sedgley, representing The Global Data Company, raised the issue of providing date of birth information to prescribed persons or organisations under Item 7 of S90B(4) of the CEA.

Mr MORRISON—Which department are you dealing with on this matter? The AEC, I assume.

Mr Sedgley—Yes.

Mr MORRISON—Did they indicate to you when they might review the arrangement in terms of providing potential access to other information?

Mr Sedgley—No, they did not give definitive dates. We have had a number of discussions with them, and obviously it is one data element which is suppressed, but I think they thought it was out of their hands.

AEC Response

9.2 Under S90B(7) of the CEA the AEC cannot provide details of occupation, sex or date of birth to prescribed persons or organisations defined in Items 1, 3, 5, 6 or 7 of S90B(4) of the CEA. Given that the AEC does not currently have the authority to provide this information there are no plans to review access at this time.

10. Change of address data received from Centrelink

10.1 On page EM41 of the transcript of the public hearing of 6 August 2008, Mr Scott requested information regarding the volume of change of address data received from Centrelink.

CHAIR—How many transfers from Centrelink to you are we talking about?

Ms Bright—I am not able to answer that question. I would have to take it on notice.

AEC Response

10.2 As the AEC confirmed to the JSCEM in testimony on 6 August 2008, a monthly download is received from Centrelink that includes a Change of Address data file. An examination of the Change of Address data files received in 2007 reveals that these files contained a total of 765,380 change of address records, averaging 63,782 per month.

11. Enfranchisement of Australians abroad

11.1 A large number of individual submissions have been received regarding enrolment and voting arrangements for Australians resident outside Australia. This note outlines the current state of the law and AEC practice.

AEC Response

Background

11.2 At present Australians resident abroad have two specific classes of enrolment available to them:

11.2.1 'Eligible overseas elector' status is available for existing enrolled electors, under the following conditions:

- the status must be applied for either three months before the elector departs Australia or within three years of departure;
- is only possible for those currently on the roll;
- the status is granted for six years initially; and
- the status can be extended by informing the relevant DRO every year from year six onwards that the elector retains an intention to resume permanent residency in Australia.

11.2.2 'Enrolment from outside Australia' is for those who have left Australia and are not currently enrolled. Acceptance of an application for enrolment from outside Australia confers automatic eligible overseas elector status if the applicant:

- meets the standard age and citizenship qualifications;

- applies within three years of departure; and
- intends to resume residence in Australia within six years of departure.

11.3 There are also at any given time two further groups of Australian electors outside Australia:

11.3.1 Ordinary electors who are resident abroad and who have not applied for eligible overseas elector status. Some such electors will retain their ordinary elector status through arranging for appropriate responses to AEC roll review activities and through voting at federal events.

11.3.2 Ordinary electors temporarily abroad who may require overseas voting services at a federal event but who are permanently resident in Australia.

11.4 All four groups will include Australian Defence Force personnel and Australian and State Government public servants. There are no specific enrolment provisions for such occupations. There are specific provisions for children and spouses of eligible overseas electors.

11.5 There are two distinct sets of issues related to the enfranchisement of Australian electors abroad – those related to principle and those related to logistics. The AEC has not been asked to consider the principles relating to the franchise for Australians abroad, and this may well be covered in the Government's green paper on electoral reform.

Logistics of enfranchising Australians abroad

11.6 There are a variety of mechanical issues raised in enfranchising and providing electoral services for Australians abroad. Some of these could be expected to be alleviated by wider electoral modernisation initiatives, such as electronic update of details and the removal of the paper form requirements in the CEA. Others may be possible, but only with longer term technological improvements in AEC systems. The AEC's summary responses to issues raised in submissions to this Committee follow below.

The AEC uses letters to communicate, which does not suit electors abroad

11.7 The AEC is currently legislatively required to communicate some processes to electors by post. Legislative change could allow for more official communication to be by email. The AEC is investigating technological change that would allow for storage of email addresses, enabling more automated communication through electors' preferred medium.

Electors have to use forms to advise of changed details

11.8 Again, this is a legislative requirement. The AEC canvassed new ways of updating electors' enrolled details in its Second Submission to the JSCEM.

The AEC does not cross reference electoral roll data with DIAC arrivals and departure information

11.9 This is correct. Use of departure information would not help, as departers do not need to provide contact details or accurate absence details. Arrivals information does not differentiate between permanently returning Australians and temporarily returning Australians.

The AEC does not provide information to electors on enrolment abroad

11.10 The booklet provided with Australian passports provides information on enrolment supplied by the AEC. The DFAT smart traveller website includes information and a link to the AEC, and displays information on current electoral events (including federal by-elections). Some DFAT posts use their email and contact networks to advise of federal electoral events. Given the emphasis submissions have placed on the use of the internet by Australians abroad to 'stay in touch' the use of the AEC and DFAT websites as information sources appears appropriate to the AEC.

(Potential) electors should be proactively contacted by AEC

11.11 There is a clear theme in submissions that the AEC should be proactively contacting potential electors abroad. While the AEC will continue discussions with DFAT as to any new information sources on Australians abroad, and any new mechanisms for communicating with them, it is simply not feasible for the AEC to 'track' electors leaving Australia. It is not unreasonable that electors abroad should advise the AEC of their circumstances and contact details; any streamlined enrolment system such as that discussed in submission two would enable more prompt AEC response or action in such cases.

Electors abroad are very mobile

11.12 The submissions received back up the belief that electors abroad move frequently – some relate multiple residences in one country and other multiple international moves. The AEC is not equipped or resourced to track such electors, and it may not appear appropriate to divert more resources to an elector group that is not covered by the compulsory enrolment or voting provisions, and away from assisting those that are so covered to comply with the law.

Related issues

Joint Rolls

11.13 Much of the discussion of enrolment for Australians abroad concentrates only at the federal level, and ignores the existence of joint rolls. Some states enforce compulsory voting on elections where overseas voting services are not able to be provided, and so this can disadvantage electors abroad.

Provision of voting services

11.14 The AEC provides probably the world's most extensive overseas voting service, and at a significant cost, despite the lack of compulsion on Australians abroad.

Elector intent

11.15 Some Australians abroad will not wish to retain electoral or political links with Australia. It is not possible to generalise about the electoral interest of electors abroad.

Country of residence

11.16 Some Australians abroad wish to vote in Australian elections because they can not vote in their country of residence. However, some countries allow voting by Australian residents, either on the basis of their citizenship or their permanent residency. It is not possible to generalise about the electoral situation of electors abroad.

12. 'Unsound' mind provisions

12.1 Several submissions and witness have referred to the process for ascertaining the capacity of electors to enrol, or more commonly, the removal of electors from the roll for having lost capacity.

AEC Response

12.2 Section 93(8)(a) of the CEA provides that a person who, by reason of being of unsound mind is incapable of understanding the nature and significance of enrolment and voting, is not entitled to have his or her name placed or retained on any Roll or to vote at any Senate election or House of Representatives election.

12.3 Electors are only removed from the roll under this section following receipt of both:

- an objection by an enrolled elector (often a family member or friend)
- a medical certificate

Information relating to the removal of an elector from the roll on the grounds of unsound mind may be forwarded to Joint Roll Partners by the AEC depending on their respective legislation regarding unsound mind, but is not otherwise shared with other organisations. 4,812 people were removed from the roll by objection on the grounds of unsound mind between 1 January 2007 and the federal election Close of Roll.

12.4 JSCEM submissions and evidence relating to the non-enrolment and removal of electors by reason of being of unsound mind can be broadly grouped into two issues groups – those related to principle and those related to the current legislation. There are no individual cases referred to in submissions.

12.5 While the AEC appreciates that some electors find the process of removing electors from the roll cumbersome the need for two documents - an objection (often from a family member) and a medical certificate is designed to balance the concerns of the objector with the rights of the elector. The AEC have received no suggestions that medical certificates are being improperly issued for this purpose, and would discuss such a serious allegation with the Australian Medical Association as a matter of urgency.

12.6 The AEC is aware of the wider policy debate around approaches to capacity and changes to legislative and policy environments that adopt a sympathetic and non-discriminatory approach to the assessment of a person's capacity. At present the CEA does not allow this, and the AEC are aware that the prescribed terms cause offence and distress. The AEC agrees with some submissions that the current legislation in the area is in need of review to integrate new legislative approaches into the electoral context.

13. Mobile booth activities – Western Australia

13.1 On page EM8 of the transcript of the public hearing of 21 August 2008, Senator Birmingham requested information regarding mobile booth activities in Western Australia.

Senator BIRMINGHAM—In terms of other mobile booths, particularly those targeting Indigenous communities, did you have any particular problems in relation to the operation of those booths? Can you take me through the process that you undertake to get language assistance for the operation of those mobile booths?

Mr Stringall—What we do with the mobile booths is employ, where we possibly can, someone from the community on a one-off basis. When the team flies in or drives in to the community, they will identify an appropriate person who speaks the language to assist with the process. In actual fact, with our mobile polling for this particular event, we had evaluated it and we rejigged our whole mobile polling.

We reduced the number of teams to about 19, because it was a bit like a jigsaw puzzle. We reduced that down to five teams: two fly-in teams and three drive-in teams. As far as I am aware, we did not come across any particular problems in our remote mobile polling. There were the usual logistical problems—for example, when you arrive at an Indigenous community, whether you are able, for various reasons, to mobile poll at all. I will take that on notice, if you wish, but certainly as far as I am aware, at all our sites we mobile polled and took votes.

AEC Response

13.2 Remote Mobile Team Returns and Mobile Team Diaries of the five polling teams have been re-examined to determine if there were any particular issues they encountered during the 2007 election. A summary of relevant activities have been outlined by team below.

13.3 In addition to the issues outlined below, Remote Mobile Teams 1, 3 and 5 visited a number of communities whose voter turnout was reduced by the death of a person in, or known to, the community. A death in a community may result in a significant proportion of members from a number of communities temporarily relocating to a “sorry” camp to mourn. This scenario often affects polling activities in remote communities. As an example of the extent to which this affected Western Australia’s mobile polling in 2007, eight of the fourteen communities visited by Remote Mobile Team 1 had some proportion of their community temporarily absent, mourning.

Remote Mobile Team 1

	Ordinary Votes (WA)	Absent/Provisional Declaration Votes	Pre-poll Declaration Votes
Remote Team 1	487	21	54

13.4 At Blackstone, the team encountered language difficulties which required locally-sourced assistance in votes being cast. Blackstone took a total of 57 ordinary votes, 43 of which required assistance.

Remote Mobile Team 2

	Ordinary Votes (WA)	Absent/Provisional Declaration Votes	Pre-poll Declaration Votes
Remote Team 2	150	21	2

13.5 Mine workers expected to vote at a mobile stop at Auski Roadhouse on 18 November 2008 did not attend, which caused the team to stay longer than scheduled. Due to the extended period spent at the stop, the team ran slightly behind schedule.

13.6 At the community of Yulga Jinna on 19 November 2008, community members appeared unaware that the mobile team was visiting. As community staff were expecting the team, the team assumed that polling notices and information had not been disseminated.

Remote Mobile Team 3

	Ordinary Votes (WA)	Absent/Provisional Declaration Votes	Pre-poll Declaration Votes
Remote Team 3	949	72	41

13.7 On 20 November 2008 the team's transportation from the Mindivungu (Bililuna) airstrip did not arrive on time due to a misunderstanding. The minor delay did not significantly affect scheduled polling.

Remote Mobile Team 4

	Ordinary Votes (WA)	Absent/Provisional Declaration Votes	Pre-poll Declaration Votes
Remote Team 4	784	49	21

13.8 No issues were raised.

Remote Mobile Team 5

	Ordinary Votes (WA)	Absent/Provisional Declaration Votes	Pre-poll Declaration Votes
Remote Team 5	345	7	6

13.9 Interstate ballot papers for ACT and Tasmania were not in the Mobile Team ballot paper stock due to an oversight. This affected electors at two stops: Gibb River Station on 13 November 2008 and Home Valley Station on 14 November 2008. These were supplied to the team at Kununurra on the morning of 15 November 2008.

14. Senate ballot paper layout

14.1 The JSCEM requested the AEC provide information on potential difficulties in Senate ballot paper production.

AEC Response:

14.2 The AEC has periodically raised with the JSCEM the concern that increases in the number of Senate nominations, particularly for groups, may provide difficulties in the design and production of the Senate ballot paper. The JSCEM in its *Report of the Inquiry into the conduct of the 1998 Federal Election and matters related thereto* recommended the CEA be amended to allow “an alternate layout for the Senate ballot paper and that the AEC consult with the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters on the design”.⁸ The AEC’s response to this recommendation was presented to the JSCEM initially in August 2004 and then again in April 2005.

14.3 The AEC’s key concern is that increases in the number of candidates and groups contesting Senate elections increasingly puts at risk the AEC’s ability to fit all the candidates and groups on the Senate ballot paper in accordance with the restrictions currently set out in the CEA, combined with the limitations of current printing technology.

14.4 Form E in Schedule 1, and sections 209 to 211A of the CEA, specify the format for the layout and printing of Senate ballot papers. Currently the Senate ballot paper must be printed horizontally with no layering of groups down the ballot paper. In addition, there is no provision for the AEC to adopt an alternative format to accommodate changing circumstances.

14.5 In the lead up to the 2007 election, the AEC was particularly concerned over the number of groups that could appear on the NSW Senate ballot paper. Testing had revealed that to fit more than 35 groups within the maximum possible paper width of 1020 millimetres would require the utilisation of a very small font size, which would have had a detrimental impact on the legibility of the ballot paper.

14.6 An alternative to reducing the font size of candidate and party names is the potential for the production of wider Senate ballot papers, subject to changes in printing technology since 2007. The AEC is investigating the feasibility of this approach as part of a national ballot paper printing procurement process, which the AEC expects to finalise early in 2009.

14.7 Should the procurement process not reveal a solution to existing production constraints, the AEC will look to the JSCEM to recommend, where necessary, the adoption of an alternative ballot paper format to accommodate the production of a legible Senate ballot paper for large numbers of candidates and groups.

⁸ JSCEM, *Report of the Inquiry into the 1998 Federal Election and matters related thereto*, June 2000, paragraph 2.82.

15. Trends in postal vote applications

15.1 On page EM47 of the transcript to the public hearing of 27 June 2008, Senator Birmingham requested information regarding trends in telephone calls and website hits in relation to postal votes.

Senator BIRMINGHAM – It might be useful to see whether there were some discernible trends in terms of calls and website hits that relate to volumes of download of postal votes –

Mr Campbell -We will give you a paper on that, which we will try not to overwhelm you with.

AEC Response

15.2 The AEC is unable to provide analysis of trends in telephone or web-based enquiries in relation to postal votes. For the 2007 election period, telephone requests for all AEC products received by the election call centre were aggregated to report the total number of product requests. The AEC is able to provide data regarding the total number of downloads of the postal vote application from the AEC website and is set out in the table below.

Table 15.1 – Total downloads of postal vote applications by week from the AEC website

Week beginning	Downloads
14/10/2007	40,281
21/10/2007	28,880
28/10/2007	28,827
04/11/2007	40,228
11/11/2007	62,901
18/11/2007	30,905*

*The PVA was removed from the website during this week.

Annex 1 – Declaration voting in Western Australia, 2004 and 2007

2004

WA Division	Declaration Votes										Total Declaration Votes
	Ordinary	Ordinary Proportion	Absent	Absent Proportion	Provisional	Provisional Proportion	PrePoll	PrePoll proportion	Postal	Postal Proportion	
Brand	64,415	81.88%	5,444	6.92%	1,238	1.57%	4,949	6.29%	2,624	3.34%	14,255
Canning	65,297	82.51%	7,062	8.92%	897	1.13%	3,233	4.09%	2,649	3.35%	13,841
Cowan	67,858	84.39%	6,423	7.99%	753	0.94%	3,021	3.76%	2,359	2.93%	12,556
Curtin	63,035	80.38%	6,218	7.93%	779	0.99%	5,057	6.45%	3,329	4.25%	15,383
Forrest	67,693	82.50%	6,904	8.41%	1,239	1.51%	4,151	5.06%	2,061	2.51%	14,355
Fremantle	65,355	83.78%	5,870	7.52%	911	1.17%	3,472	4.45%	2,402	3.08%	12,655
Hasluck	62,528	83.04%	6,633	8.81%	674	0.90%	2,951	3.92%	2,512	3.34%	12,770
Kalgoorlie	53,228	77.72%	7,384	10.78%	877	1.28%	4,808	7.02%	2,190	3.20%	15,259
Moore	58,800	82.48%	5,766	8.09%	539	0.76%	3,957	5.55%	2,226	3.12%	12,488
O'Connor	61,393	79.47%	9,777	12.66%	981	1.27%	2,717	3.52%	2,386	3.09%	15,861
Pearce	63,742	80.46%	8,415	10.62%	854	1.08%	3,459	4.37%	2,754	3.48%	15,482
Perth	64,507	82.46%	6,993	8.94%	861	1.10%	2,897	3.70%	2,971	3.80%	13,722
Stirling	65,984	81.63%	7,051	8.72%	873	1.08%	3,818	4.72%	3,105	3.84%	14,847
Swan	59,485	81.12%	6,314	8.61%	1,004	1.37%	3,517	4.80%	3,010	4.10%	13,845
Tangney	64,739	82.95%	5,992	7.68%	598	0.77%	4,071	5.22%	2,648	3.39%	13,309
WA Total	948,059	81.82%	102,246	8.82%	13,078	1.13%	56,078	4.84%	39,226	3.39%	210,628
WA Divisional Average	63,204	81.78%	6,816	8.84%	872	1.13%	3,739	4.86%	2,615	3.39%	14,042

2007

WA Division	Declaration Votes										Total Declaration Votes
	Ordinary	Ordinary Proportion	Absent	Absent Proportion	Provisional	Provisional Proportion	PrePoll	PrePoll proportion	Postal	Postal Proportion	
Brand	69,007	80.25%	4,963	5.77%	240	0.28%	8,691	10.11%	3,085	3.59%	16,979
Canning	72,973	82.25%	6,983	7.87%	242	0.27%	5,017	5.65%	3,508	3.95%	15,750
Cowan	74,039	83.62%	6,605	7.46%	310	0.35%	4,383	4.95%	3,200	3.61%	14,498
Curtin	65,009	80.56%	5,956	7.38%	173	0.21%	5,636	6.98%	3,920	4.86%	15,685
Forrest	75,289	84.88%	4,992	5.63%	167	0.19%	5,576	6.29%	2,680	3.02%	13,415
Fremantle	70,146	84.06%	5,817	6.97%	249	0.30%	4,382	5.25%	2,855	3.42%	13,303
Hasluck	63,129	82.14%	6,517	8.48%	144	0.19%	3,817	4.97%	3,252	4.23%	13,730
Kalgoorlie	54,365	79.53%	5,532	8.09%	194	0.28%	5,693	8.33%	2,572	3.76%	13,991
Moore	60,393	83.39%	4,798	6.63%	188	0.26%	4,392	6.06%	2,651	3.66%	12,029
O'Connor	66,313	83.13%	6,685	8.38%	107	0.13%	3,463	4.34%	3,201	4.01%	13,456
Pearce	71,812	81.43%	8,152	9.24%	277	0.31%	4,468	5.07%	3,479	3.94%	16,376
Perth	67,101	81.81%	7,178	8.75%	248	0.30%	3,952	4.82%	3,544	4.32%	14,922
Stirling	69,521	81.67%	6,848	8.04%	283	0.33%	4,656	5.47%	3,821	4.49%	15,608
Swan	61,659	80.95%	5,988	7.86%	134	0.18%	4,478	5.88%	3,914	5.14%	14,514
Tangney	66,028	82.87%	5,099	6.40%	235	0.29%	5,083	6.38%	3,232	4.06%	13,649
WA Total	1,006,784	82.21%	92,113	7.52%	3,191	0.26%	73,687	6.02%	48,914	3.99%	217,905
WA Divisional Average	67,119	82.17%	6,141	7.53%	213	0.26%	4,912	6.04%	3,261	4.00%	14,527

Change in vote type, 2004 – 2007

WA Division	Declaration Votes										Total Declaration Votes
	Ordinary	Ordinary Proportion	Absent	Absent Proportion	Provisional	Provisional Proportion	PrePoll	PrePoll proportion	Postal	Postal Proportion	
Brand*	4,592	-1.63%	-481	-1.15%	-998	-1.29%	3,742	3.82%	461	0.25%	2,724
Canning*	7,676	-0.26%	-79	-1.05%	-655	-0.86%	1,784	1.57%	859	0.61%	1,909
Cowan*	6,181	-0.76%	182	-0.53%	-443	-0.59%	1,362	1.19%	841	0.68%	1,942
Curtin	1,974	0.18%	-262	-0.55%	-606	-0.78%	579	0.54%	591	0.61%	302
Forrest*	7,596	2.37%	-1,912	-2.79%	-1,072	-1.32%	1,425	1.23%	619	0.51%	-940
Fremantle	4,791	0.28%	-53	-0.55%	-662	-0.87%	910	0.80%	453	0.34%	648
Hasluck*	601	-0.90%	-116	-0.33%	-530	-0.71%	866	1.05%	740	0.90%	960
Kalgoorlie*	1,137	1.81%	-1,852	-2.69%	-683	-1.00%	885	1.31%	382	0.56%	-1,268
Moore	1,593	0.91%	-968	-1.46%	-351	-0.50%	435	0.51%	425	0.54%	-459
O'Connor	4,920	3.66%	-3,092	-4.28%	-874	-1.14%	746	0.82%	815	0.92%	-2,405
Pearce	8,070	0.97%	-263	-1.38%	-577	-0.76%	1,009	0.70%	725	0.47%	894
Perth	2,594	-0.65%	185	-0.19%	-613	-0.80%	1,055	1.11%	573	0.52%	1,200
Stirling*	3,537	0.03%	-203	-0.68%	-590	-0.75%	838	0.75%	716	0.65%	761
Swan*	2,174	-0.17%	-326	-0.75%	-870	-1.19%	961	1.08%	904	1.03%	669
Tangney	1,289	-0.08%	-893	-1.28%	-363	-0.47%	1,012	1.16%	584	0.66%	340
WA Total	58,725	0.39%	-10,133	-1.30%	-9,887	-0.87%	17,609	1.18%	9,688	0.61%	7,277
WA Divisional Average	3,915	0.38%	-676	-1.31%	-659	-0.87%	1,174	1.18%	646	0.62%	485

* These seats are classified as marginal

Annex 2 - Provisional votes rejected by reason, state and division

2004

Provisional votes rejected by reason, state and division, 2004										
	Multi Voter	Not Authenticated	Not Enrolled	Not Signed	Signature match failed	State/territory only	Wrongly declared	Total Rejected	Total Provisional Votes Received	Proportion Rejected
BANKS	0	0	199	1	1	0	4	205	718	28.55%
BARTON	0	0	391	5	0	0	14	410	1,284	31.93%
BENNELONG	0	0	233	0	0	0	3	236	740	31.89%
BEROWRA	0	0	192	2	0	0	6	200	653	30.63%
BLAXLAND	0	0	421	2	0	0	6	429	1,231	34.85%
BRADFIELD	0	0	328	2	0	0	10	340	772	44.04%
CALARE	0	0	259	8	0	0	9	276	1,105	24.98%
CHARLTON	0	0	347	8	0	0	1	356	883	40.32%
CHIFLEY	0	0	374	5	0	0	2	381	1,101	34.60%
COOK	0	0	267	4	0	0	9	280	913	30.67%
COWPER	0	0	334	8	0	0	13	355	1,151	30.84%
CUNNINGHAM	0	0	44	2	0	0	0	46	238	19.33%
DOBELL	0	0	267	8	0	0	7	282	950	29.68%
EDEN-MONARO	0	0	315	1	0	0	81	397	911	43.58%
FARRER	0	0	209	2	0	0	46	257	812	31.65%
FOWLER	0	0	247	11	0	0	3	261	869	30.03%
GILMORE	0	0	209	3	0	0	9	221	868	25.46%
GRAYNDLER	1	0	579	8	0	0	8	596	1,558	38.25%
GREENWAY	0	0	290	8	0	0	7	305	1,043	29.24%
GWIDYR	0	0	366	5	0	0	26	397	1,061	37.42%
HUGHES	0	0	232	5	0	0	3	240	707	33.95%
HUME	0	0	264	0	0	0	22	286	884	32.35%
HUNTER	0	0	158	3	0	0	3	164	609	26.93%
KINGSFORD SMITH	0	0	442	2	0	0	12	456	1,387	32.88%
LINDSAY	0	0	189	3	0	0	2	194	683	28.40%
LOWE	0	0	374	3	0	0	5	382	1,077	35.47%
LYNE	0	0	147	0	0	1	6	154	713	21.60%
MACARTHUR	0	0	303	4	1	0	10	318	1,059	30.03%
MACKELLAR	0	0	247	0	0	0	3	250	857	29.17%
MACQUARIE	0	0	135	4	0	0	4	143	596	23.99%
MITCHELL	0	0	308	3	0	0	2	313	880	35.57%

NEW ENGLAND	0	0	276	4	1	0	28	309	1,090	28.35%
NEWCASTLE	0	0	248	8	0	0	10	266	1,035	25.70%
NORTH SYDNEY	0	0	354	0	0	0	24	378	1,110	34.05%
PAGE	0	0	250	5	0	0	26	281	1,146	24.52%
PARKES	0	0	291	4	0	0	22	317	1,087	29.16%
PARRAMATTA	1	0	484	3	0	0	14	502	1,328	37.80%
PATERSON	0	0	219	3	0	0	7	229	725	31.59%
PROSPECT	0	0	293	6	0	0	3	302	998	30.26%
REID	0	0	246	1	0	0	5	252	799	31.54%
RICHMOND	0	0	312	8	0	0	51	371	1,185	31.31%
RIVERINA	0	0	276	1	1	0	41	319	1,310	24.35%
ROBERTSON	0	0	271	2	0	1	12	286	1,035	27.63%
SHORTLAND	1	0	235	9	0	0	10	255	955	26.70%
SYDNEY	0	0	771	22	1	0	50	844	2,311	36.52%
THROSBY	1	0	174	5	0	0	3	183	798	22.93%
WARRINGAH	0	0	277	1	0	0	9	287	838	34.25%
WATSON	0	0	567	22	0	0	7	596	1,527	39.03%
WENTWORTH	0	0	545	4	0	0	36	585	1,578	37.07%
WERRIWA	0	0	482	8	0	0	11	501	1,415	35.41%
NSW Total	4	0	15,241	236	5	2	705	16,193	50,583	32.01%

ASTON	0	0	259	0	0	0	2	261	683	38.21%
BALLARAT	0	0	455	5	0	0	17	477	1,338	35.65%
BATMAN	0	0	618	3	0	0	7	628	1,338	46.94%
BENDIGO	0	0	471	8	0	0	25	504	1,320	38.18%
BRUCE	0	0	467	3	1	0	11	482	1,195	40.33%
CALWELL	0	0	779	12	0	0	13	804	1,858	43.27%
CASEY	0	0	340	0	0	0	14	354	1,071	33.05%
CHISHOLM	0	0	349	2	2	0	7	360	834	43.17%
CORANGAMITE	0	0	367	4	0	0	11	382	1,151	33.19%
CORIO	0	0	566	1	0	0	18	585	1,407	41.58%
DEAKIN	0	0	311	3	0	0	10	324	875	37.03%
DUNKLEY	0	0	579	3	0	0	21	603	1,440	41.88%
FLINDERS	0	0	484	8	0	0	16	508	1,265	40.16%
GELLIBRAND	0	1	693	14	0	0	27	735	1,992	36.90%
GIPPSLAND	0	0	427	0	0	0	41	468	1,258	37.20%
GOLDSTEIN	0	0	466	4	0	0	12	482	1,078	44.71%
GORTON	0	0	860	12	0	0	14	886	2,253	39.33%
HIGGINS	0	0	473	3	0	0	22	498	1,233	40.39%
HOLT	1	0	900	1	2	0	11	915	2,022	45.25%
HOTHAM	0	0	574	8	0	0	4	586	1,411	41.53%
INDI	0	0	354	4	0	0	77	435	920	47.28%
ISAACS	2	0	535	4	0	0	4	545	1,462	37.28%

JAGAJAGA	0	0	229	5	0	0	8	242	736	32.88%
KOORYONG	0	0	307	1	0	0	10	318	754	42.18%
LA TROBE	0	0	432	11	0	0	9	452	1,145	39.48%
LALOR	0	0	580	7	0	0	11	598	1,591	37.59%
MALLEE	0	0	348	2	0	0	42	392	917	42.75%
MARIBYRNONG	0	0	574	8	0	0	11	593	1,589	37.32%
MCEWEN	0	0	464	3	0	0	34	501	1,267	39.54%
MCMILLAN	0	0	363	0	0	0	12	375	1,055	35.55%
MELBOURNE	0	0	802	10	0	0	48	860	2,007	42.85%
MELBOURNE PORTS	0	0	735	0	0	0	44	779	1,679	46.40%
MENZIES	0	0	309	0	1	0	13	323	820	39.39%
MURRAY	0	0	517	6	0	0	19	542	1,272	42.61%
SCULLIN	0	0	445	8	0	0	10	463	1,226	37.77%
WANNON	0	0	415	7	0	0	24	446	1,268	35.17%
WILLS	0	0	652	8	0	0	4	664	1,563	42.48%
VIC Total	3	1	18,499	178	6	0	683	19,370	48,293	40.11%

BLAIR	0	0	267	2	0	3	9	281	880	31.93%
BONNER	0	0	273	0	0	3	11	287	825	34.79%
BOWMAN	0	0	349	0	0	4	19	372	857	43.41%
BRISBANE	0	0	341	2	0	5	24	372	936	39.74%
CAPRICORNIA	0	0	335	0	0	6	19	360	1,096	32.85%
DAWSON	0	0	450	7	0	6	18	481	1,287	37.37%
DICKSON	0	0	300	2	0	2	10	314	729	43.07%
FADDEN	0	0	458	3	0	2	28	491	1,398	35.12%
FAIRFAX	0	0	364	4	0	11	7	386	1,098	35.15%
FISHER	0	0	452	1	0	3	8	464	1,171	39.62%
FLYNN										
FORDE	0	0	405	2	0	21	5	433	1,096	39.51%
GRIFFITH	0	0	426	4	0	7	29	466	1,363	34.19%
GROOM	0	0	351	1	0	4	15	371	761	48.75%
HERBERT	0	0	465	8	0	4	18	495	1,176	42.09%
HINKLER	0	0	261	0	0	2	14	277	878	31.55%
KENNEDY	0	0	525	1	0	4	35	565	1,569	36.01%
LEICHHARDT	0	0	704	4	0	5	28	741	1,727	42.91%
LILLEY	1	0	358	2	0	5	30	396	964	41.08%
LONGMAN	0	0	367	2	0	7	10	386	1,039	37.15%
MARANOVA	0	0	313	1	0	5	16	335	986	33.98%
MCPHERSON	0	0	288	3	0	0	27	318	759	41.90%
MONCRIEFF	0	0	299	1	0	2	38	340	850	40.00%
MORETON	0	0	370	4	1	4	15	394	1,029	38.29%
OXLEY	0	0	423	3	0	1	7	434	1,149	37.77%
PETRIE	0	0	282	3	0	1	4	290	743	39.03%
RANKIN	0	1	557	6	0	7	3	574	1,402	40.94%

RYAN	0	0	207	4	0	1	11	223	699	31.90%
WIDE BAY	0	0	275	9	0	8	49	341	949	35.93%
QLD Total	1	1	10,465	79	1	133	507	11,187	29,416	38.03%

BRAND	0	0	560	4	0	0	49	613	2,139	28.66%
CANNING	0	0	582	6	0	0	17	605	1,779	34.01%
COWAN	0	0	530	5	7	0	17	559	1,617	34.57%
CURTIN	0	0	343	6	0	0	31	380	1,465	25.94%
FORREST	0	0	445	5	0	0	17	467	1,867	25.01%
FREMANTLE	1	0	443	2	0	0	21	467	1,595	29.28%
HASLUCK	0	0	519	9	0	0	7	535	1,454	36.80%
KALGOORLIE	0	0	633	14	0	0	54	701	1,830	38.31%
MOORE	0	0	360	3	0	0	12	375	1,126	33.30%
O'CONNOR	0	0	417	1	0	0	22	440	1,661	26.49%
PEARCE	0	0	467	13	0	0	23	503	1,650	30.48%
PERTH	3	0	501	8	0	0	19	531	1,652	32.14%
STIRLING	0	0	618	12	0	0	24	654	1,899	34.44%
SWAN	0	0	559	8	0	0	16	583	1,918	30.40%
TANGNEY	0	0	384	4	0	0	13	401	1,180	33.98%
WA Total	4	0	7,361	100	7	0	342	7,814	24,832	31.47%

ADELAIDE	0	3	846	2	1	1	33	886	1,679	52.77%
BARKER	0	0	1,002	7	0	0	43	1,052	1,691	62.21%
BOOTHBY	0	0	511	3	0	0	22	536	1,018	52.65%
GREY	0	0	852	3	0	0	16	871	1,379	63.16%
HINDMARSH	0	0	578	8	0	1	27	614	1,281	47.93%
KINGSTON	0	0	963	4	0	0	15	982	1,621	60.58%
MAKIN	0	0	624	3	0	0	10	637	1,198	53.17%
MAYO	0	0	613	5	0	1	25	644	1,104	58.33%
PORT ADELAIDE	0	0	1,010	4	0	0	31	1,045	1,901	54.97%
STURT	0	0	678	1	0	2	15	696	1,358	51.25%
WAKEFIELD	0	0	980	6	0	1	29	1,016	1,925	52.78%
SA Total	0	3	8,657	46	1	6	266	8,979	16,155	55.58%

BASS	0	0	162	0	0	0	36	198	969	20.43%
BRADDON	0	0	153	5	0	0	39	197	1,051	18.74%
DENISON	0	0	265	4	1	0	18	288	1,074	26.82%
FRANKLIN	0	0	274	2	0	0	55	331	1,103	30.01%
LYONS	0	2	310	3	0	0	29	344	911	37.76%
TAS Total	0	2	1,164	14	1	0	177	1,358	5,108	26.59%

CANBERRA	0	0	487	3	0	0	113	603	1,798	33.54%
FRASER	0	0	659	5	0	0	139	803	2,517	31.90%
ACT Total	0	0	1,146	8	0	0	252	1,406	4,315	32.58%

LINGIARI	0	0	432	6	1	0	74	513	1,149	44.65%
SOLOMON	0	0	135	1	0	0	112	248	1,027	24.15%
NT Total	0	0	567	7	1	0	186	761	2,176	34.97%

Grand Total	12	7	63,100	668	22	141	3,118	67,068	180,878	37.08%
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2007

Provisional votes rejected by reason, state and division, 2007

- see endnote; * These rejection codes were new for the 2007 election

	Multi Voter	Not Authenticated	Not Enrolled	Not Signed	OR# *	POI not supplied *	POI supplied late*	Provisional claimed as silent elector*	Singature match failed	State/territory only	Too Young*	Wrongly declared	Total Rejected	Total Provisional Votes Received	Proportion Rejected
BANKS	0	0	415	9	0	113	0	0	0	5	0	4	546	919	59.41%
BARTON	0	1	727	8	0	102	0	0	0	1	0	8	847	1,328	63.78%
BENNELONG	0	0	381	3	0	102	0	1	0	1	0	7	495	781	63.38%
BEROWRA	0	2	257	2	0	77	0	0	0	2	0	6	346	594	58.25%
BLAXLAND	0	0	1,094	8	0	223	0	1	2	1	1	12	1,342	2,122	63.24%
BRADFIELD	0	5	310	1	0	149	0	0	0	0	1	1	467	766	60.97%
CALARE	0	0	703	1	0	89	0	0	0	0	0	21	814	996	81.73%
CHARLTON	0	0	398	0	0	56	0	1	0	2	0	7	464	670	69.25%
CHIFLEY	0	0	655	7	0	264	0	4	0	3	0	5	938	1,245	75.34%
COOK	0	0	500	1	0	115	0	2	1	18	0	4	641	881	72.76%
COWPER	0	0	500	7	0	155	0	0	0	11	0	11	684	833	82.11%
CUNNINGHAM	0	0	149	0	0	51	0	1	0	0	0	3	204	295	69.15%
DOBELL	0	0	295	1	12	135	0	0	0	0	0	1	444	617	71.96%
EDEN-MONARO	0	0	532	0	0	71	0	0	0	4	1	35	643	796	80.78%
FARRER	0	0	479	4	2	115	0	0	0	12	0	35	647	776	83.38%
FOWLER	0	0	544	1	0	181	0	0	0	10	0	5	741	1,173	63.17%
GILMORE	0	0	537	3	0	28	0	0	0	15	0	10	593	723	82.02%
GRAYNDLER	0	0	757	8	0	229	0	0	0	3	0	14	1,011	1,547	65.35%

GREENWAY	0	0	332	3	0	152	0	1	0	4	0	5	497	748	66.44%
GWIDYR															
HUGHES	0	0	370	5	0	98	0	1	0	0	0	3	477	824	57.89%
HUME	0	0	520	1	0	90	0	0	0	18	1	15	645	883	73.05%
HUNTER	0	0	595	5	0	171	0	0	0	16	0	9	796	1,051	75.74%
KINGSFORD SMITH	0	0	732	1	1	213	0	0	0	1	0	9	957	1,337	71.58%
LINDSAY	0	0	481	2	4	136	0	3	3	23	0	2	654	932	70.17%
LOWE	0	0	519	1	2	69	0	0	0	18	0	2	611	958	63.78%
LYNE	0	0	359	4	0	68	0	2	0	14	1	4	452	591	76.48%
MACARTHUR	0	0	375	5	0	179	0	3	1	6	0	4	573	799	71.71%
MACKELLAR	0	0	375	0	0	81	0	0	0	8	0	2	466	631	73.85%
MACQUARIE	0	0	430	3	0	151	0	3	0	26	0	5	618	855	72.28%
MITCHELL	0	0	254	1	0	59	0	4	0	13	1	4	336	567	59.26%
NEW ENGLAND	0	0	650	6	0	107	0	0	0	14	0	17	794	939	84.56%
NEWCASTLE	0	0	473	5	0	123	0	2	0	4	0	2	609	848	71.82%
NORTH SYDNEY	0	2	415	1	0	147	0	1	0	4	0	7	577	887	65.05%
PAGE	0	0	570	0	0	134	0	1	0	28	0	19	752	999	75.28%
PARKES	0	0	800	4	0	176	0	0	0	22	0	26	1,028	1,215	84.61%
PARRAMATTA	0	0	514	7	0	202	0	5	0	0	0	0	728	1,203	60.52%
PATERSON	0	0	403	5	0	113	2	6	0	15	1	5	550	716	76.82%
PROSPECT	0	0	590	2	0	105	0	0	0	0	0	6	703	1,214	57.91%
REID	0	1	724	10	0	134	0	0	1	1	0	2	873	1,598	54.63%
RICHMOND	0	0	739	3	0	163	2	1	0	12	0	27	947	1,158	81.78%
RIVERINA	0	0	779	1	0	25	0	0	0	14	0	19	838	1,053	79.58%
ROBERTSON	0	0	495	3	4	95	0	1	0	0	1	6	605	826	73.24%
SHORTLAND	0	0	339	2	0	77	0	2	0	15	0	6	441	664	66.42%
SYDNEY	1	0	562	7	0	431	0	0	0	20	0	19	1,040	1,535	67.75%
THROSBY	0	0	355	3	1	156	0	0	0	7	0	3	525	694	75.65%
WARRINGAH	0	0	390	3	0	139	0	0	0	14	0	3	549	740	74.19%

WATSON	0	0	778	5	0	372	0	0	0	12	0	0	1,167	1,743	66.95%
WENTWORTH	0	0	834	6	0	231	0	0	0	5	0	16	1,092	1,476	73.98%
WERRIWA	0	0	652	5	0	87	2	0	0	15	1	6	768	1,289	59.58%
NSW Total	1	11	25,637	173	26	6,739	6	46	8	437	9	442	33,535	48,035	69.81%

ASTON	0	0	247	1	0	45	0	0	0	15	0	2	310	465	66.67%
BALLARAT	0	6	642	0	14	131	0	0	0	17	0	5	815	995	81.91%
BATMAN	0	0	625	1	0	99	0	0	0	17	0	2	744	965	77.10%
BENDIGO	0	0	651	3	0	170	1	0	0	30	0	9	864	1,107	78.05%
BRUCE	0	0	539	1	11	61	0	1	0	11	0	3	627	1,000	62.70%
CALWELL	0	0	1,131	8	0	213	0	1	0	20	1	15	1,389	1,845	75.28%
CASEY	0	0	411	2	0	110	0	1	0	13	0	9	546	780	70.00%
CHISHOLM	0	0	259	1	0	148	0	0	0	18	1	5	432	637	67.82%
CORANGAMITE	0	0	499	2	0	166	0	0	0	19	0	10	696	882	78.91%
CORIO	0	0	696	5	0	131	0	3	0	44	1	6	886	1,143	77.52%
DEAKIN	0	0	280	1	0	117	0	2	0	26	0	10	436	631	69.10%
DUNKLEY	0	0	565	2	0	90	0	3	0	18	0	5	683	919	74.32%
FLINDERS	0	0	500	1	0	171	1	0	0	23	0	10	706	908	77.75%
GELLIBRAND	0	1	761	0	0	285	0	2	0	7	0	8	1,064	1,419	74.98%
GIPPSLAND	0	0	604	2	0	210	0	1	0	27	0	20	864	1,000	86.40%
GOLDSTEIN	0	0	388	0	0	136	0	3	0	6	0	4	537	732	73.36%
GORTON	0	0	1,087	2	0	209	0	0	0	50	0	12	1,360	2,121	64.12%
HIGGINS	0	0	423	3	0	207	0	0	0	20	0	12	665	934	71.20%
HOLT	0	0	1,048	3	2	445	0	1	0	20	2	10	1,531	1,915	79.95%
HOTHAM	0	1	536	3	0	168	0	1	0	5	0	4	718	1,030	69.71%
INDI	0	0	483	3	8	95	0	0	0	22	0	35	646	758	85.22%
ISAACS	0	0	595	3	1	265	0	3	0	18	0	12	897	1,319	68.01%
JAGAJAGA	0	0	312	3	0	61	0	0	0	8	0	6	390	555	70.27%
KOOYONG	0	0	274	7	0	65	0	2	0	16	0	6	370	559	66.19%

LA TROBE	0	0	447	2	0	184	0	3	0	18	1	6	661	911	72.56%
LALOR	0	0	893	5	0	197	1	1	0	32	0	13	1,142	1,489	76.70%
MALLEE	0	0	524	1	0	109	0	1	0	14	0	17	666	771	86.38%
MARIBYRNONG	0	0	442	2	0	247	0	1	0	15	0	5	712	1,033	68.93%
MCEWEN	0	0	557	2	1	188	0	4	0	33	0	15	800	1,091	73.33%
MCMILLAN	0	0	444	4	0	193	0	1	0	23	0	8	673	822	81.87%
MELBOURNE	0	0	907	11	0	608	0	3	0	48	0	22	1,599	2,160	74.03%
MELBOURNE PORTS	0	0	742	3	1	381	0	2	0	75	0	35	1,239	1,615	76.72%
MENZIES	0	0	282	2	0	97	0	1	0	22	0	2	406	580	70.00%
MURRAY	0	0	640	3	0	161	1	0	0	23	0	20	848	979	86.62%
SCULLIN	1	0	428	3	0	131	2	3	0	9	0	7	584	865	67.51%
WANNON	0	0	547	1	0	71	0	1	0	12	0	14	646	751	86.02%
WILLS	0	0	761	9	0	125	0	0	0	31	0	8	934	1,309	71.35%
VIC Total	1	8	21,170	105	38	6,490	6	45	0	825	6	392	29,086	38,995	74.59%

BLAIR	0	0	681	2	0	188	0	1	0	7	0	17	896	1,105	81.09%
BONNER	0	0	501	2	0	121	0	2	0	3	0	1	630	859	73.34%
BOWMAN	0	0	608	4	4	188	0	2	0	23	0	5	834	1,052	79.28%
BRISBANE	0	0	513	4	0	239	0	0	0	29	0	11	796	1,118	71.20%
CAPRICORNIA	0	0	772	1	0	228	0	0	0	24	0	15	1,040	1,270	81.89%
DAWSON	0	0	901	2	0	325	0	2	0	9	0	10	1,249	1,522	82.06%
DICKSON	0	0	337	1	1	146	0	2	0	10	0	10	507	681	74.45%
FADDEN	0	0	798	4	0	141	0	0	0	5	0	7	955	1,255	76.10%
FAIRFAX	1	0	731	4	0	189	1	0	0	36	0	7	969	1,189	81.50%
FISHER	0	0	639	0	2	192	0	2	0	13	0	12	860	1,070	80.37%
FLYNN	0	0	734	1	0	215	0	0	0	19	0	17	986	1,179	83.63%
FORDE	0	0	636	1	50	122	0	2	0	16	0	17	844	1,079	78.22%
GRIFFITH	0	0	667	3	0	210	0	0	1	34	0	14	929	1,214	76.52%
GROOM	0	0	644	0	0	157	0	1	0	0	0	2	804	943	85.26%

HERBERT	0	0	986	7	20	315	0	2	0	35	0	36	1,401	1,686	83.10%
HINKLER	0	0	592	1	0	41	0	1	0	16	0	17	668	843	79.24%
KENNEDY	1	0	1,251	9	0	443	0	2	0	5	0	7	1,718	1,983	86.64%
LEICHHARDT	0	2	1,551	3	0	542	3	0	0	16	0	13	2,130	2,450	86.94%
LILLEY	0	0	707	1	0	252	0	4	0	15	0	5	984	1,296	75.93%
LONGMAN	0	0	716	3	5	270	1	5	0	36	0	2	1,038	1,410	73.62%
MARANOVA	0	0	772	0	0	295	0	0	0	5	0	9	1,081	1,281	84.39%
MCPHERSON	0	0	670	1	21	193	1	1	0	28	1	40	956	1,244	76.85%
MONCRIEFF	0	0	623	1	6	265	0	1	0	29	0	31	956	1,299	73.60%
MORETON	0	0	505	1	0	134	0	3	1	25	0	12	681	958	71.09%
OXLEY	0	0	918	8	0	241	0	0	0	6	0	11	1,184	1,540	76.88%
PETRIE	0	0	433	1	0	104	0	2	0	8	0	10	558	769	72.56%
RANKIN	0	0	756	2	0	176	0	6	0	18	0	16	974	1,318	73.90%
RYAN	0	0	379	0	0	121	0	0	0	26	0	8	534	725	73.66%
WIDE BAY	0	4	562	2	0	205	0	1	0	23	0	12	809	1,054	76.76%
QLD Total	2	6	20,583	69	109	6,258	6	42	2	519	1	374	27,971	35,392	79.03%

BRAND	0	0	885	4	0	419	0	5	0	78	0	13	1,404	1,838	76.39%
CANNING	0	0	648	3	1	311	0	7	0	63	1	13	1,047	1,495	70.03%
COWAN	0	0	636	18	0	215	0	5	0	76	0	6	956	1,479	64.64%
CURTIN	0	0	518	4	0	252	3	5	0	63	0	10	855	1,176	72.70%
FORREST	0	0	971	5	3	331	2	3	0	88	0	9	1,412	1,714	82.38%
FREMANTLE	1	0	657	2	0	293	0	4	0	27	1	8	993	1,387	71.59%
HASLUCK	0	0	571	7	0	298	0	3	0	45	0	10	934	1,333	70.07%
KALGOORLIE	0	0	1,037	1	9	439	0	14	0	23	0	33	1,556	1,842	84.47%
MOORE	0	0	422	1	0	147	0	4	0	33	0	10	617	978	63.09%
O'CONNOR	0	0	840	7	0	290	0	3	0	50	0	21	1,211	1,475	82.10%
PEARCE	0	0	620	7	0	374	1	6	0	51	0	10	1,069	1,559	68.57%
PERTH	0	0	592	4	0	279	1	4	0	45	1	24	950	1,371	69.29%

STIRLING	0	0	723	2	1	242	3	7	0	54	1	23	1,056	1,638	64.47%
SWAN	0	0	719	4	47	260	0	1	0	77	0	19	1,127	1,489	75.69%
TANGNEY	0	0	503	1	9	116	0	3	0	46	0	6	684	1,079	63.39%
WA Total	1	0	10,342	70	70	4,266	10	74	0	819	4	215	15,871	21,853	72.63%

ADELAIDE	0	0	734	1	0	220	0	8	0	33	0	13	1,009	1,394	72.38%
BARKER	0	0	908	5	0	243	0	0	0	4	0	11	1,171	1,316	88.98%
BOOTHBY	0	0	384	6	0	192	3	3	0	26	0	8	622	936	66.45%
GREY	0	0	938	3	0	260	0	3	0	40	0	3	1,247	1,439	86.66%
HINDMARSH	0	0	577	1	0	222	0	1	0	15	1	5	822	1,126	73.00%
KINGSTON	0	0	749	3	0	234	0	3	0	36	0	10	1,035	1,313	78.83%
MAKIN	0	0	466	2	33	181	0	10	0	23	0	9	724	1,067	67.85%
MAYO	0	0	517	5	0	107	0	4	0	16	0	11	660	894	73.83%
PORT ADELAIDE	0	0	1,064	1	0	304	0	3	0	31	0	8	1,411	1,975	71.44%
STURT	1	0	502	0	0	183	0	5	0	32	0	3	726	1,084	66.97%
WAKEFIELD	0	0	1,070	4	0	310	0	1	0	19	0	12	1,416	1,800	78.67%
SA Total	1	0	7,909	31	33	2,456	3	41	0	275	1	93	10,843	14,344	75.59%

BASS	0	0	430	5	0	110	0	0	0	12	0	11	568	716	79.33%
BRADDON	0	0	548	1	2	150	0	0	0	10	2	25	738	846	87.23%
DENISON	0	0	583	3	0	162	0	3	0	5	0	8	764	954	80.08%
FRANKLIN	0	0	521	1	0	167	0	1	0	4	0	16	710	861	82.46%
LYONS	0	0	493	4	0	148	0	0	0	1	0	7	653	785	83.18%
TAS Total	0	0	2,575	14	2	737	0	4	0	32	2	67	3,433	4,162	82.48%

CANBERRA	0	0	773	3	0	140	0	6	0	29	0	42	993	1,348	73.66%
FRASER	0	0	928	1	0	45	0	5	0	32	0	59	1,070	1,378	77.65%

ACT Total	0	0	1,701	4	0	185	0	11	0	61	0	101	2,063	2,726	75.68%
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LINGIARI	0	0	401	10	1	254	0	1	0	7	0	31	705	939	75.08%
SOLOMON	0	0	785	3	0	144	0	0	0	24	0	86	1,042	1,236	84.30%
NT Total	0	0	1,186	13	1	398	0	1	0	31	0	117	1,747	2,175	80.32%

Grand Total	6	25	91,103	479	279	27,529	31	264	10	2,999	23	1,801	124,549	167,682	74.28%
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- Valid for declaration votes where after investigation an objection is found to be a mistake of fact (error) and the elector is reinstated to the notebook roll for the address from which they were removed and in any event, where a person has been objected pursuant to s118(4A) of the CEA, the person's vote will be excluded from further scrutiny (see subparagraph 12(b)(iii) of Schedule 3)

Annex 3 – Electors on AEC Roll Management System with ‘British subject’ categorisation as at 30 September 2008

Electors enrolled with British subject categorisation, by state / territory and division

NSW	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
Banks	486	93,577	0.52%	-0.40%
Barton	472	92,384	0.51%	-0.41%
Bennelong	551	98,058	0.56%	-0.36%
Berowra	774	92,727	0.83%	-0.08%
Blaxland	299	93,279	0.32%	-0.60%
Bradfield	722	94,893	0.76%	-0.16%
Calare	644	89,640	0.72%	-0.20%
Charlton	826	91,926	0.90%	-0.02%
Chifley	732	93,857	0.78%	-0.14%
Cook	748	94,213	0.79%	-0.12%
Cowper	1,216	94,045	1.29%	0.38%
Cunningham	1,224	92,082	1.33%	0.41%
Dobell	1,353	91,475	1.48%	0.56%
Eden-Monaro	1,051	92,425	1.14%	0.22%
Farrer	742	94,427	0.79%	-0.13%
Fowler	453	90,701	0.50%	-0.42%
Gilmore	1,651	88,386	1.87%	0.95%
Grayndler	454	96,329	0.47%	-0.45%
Greenway	984	90,048	1.09%	0.18%
Hughes	540	92,152	0.59%	-0.33%
Hume	1,272	91,759	1.39%	0.47%
Hunter	635	91,332	0.70%	-0.22%
Kingsford Smith	668	98,569	0.68%	-0.24%
Lindsay	1,438	91,205	1.58%	0.66%
Lowe	334	88,743	0.38%	-0.54%
Lyne	1,255	88,315	1.42%	0.50%
Macarthur	1,303	85,970	1.52%	0.60%
Mackellar	889	93,478	0.95%	0.03%
Macquarie	1,377	95,608	1.44%	0.52%
Mitchell	882	89,781	0.98%	0.07%
New England	494	92,446	0.53%	-0.38%
Newcastle	592	94,019	0.63%	-0.29%
North Sydney	784	94,978	0.83%	-0.09%
Page	871	94,230	0.92%	0.01%
Parkes	525	90,365	0.58%	-0.34%
Parramatta	643	97,243	0.66%	-0.26%
Paterson	1,226	91,661	1.34%	0.42%
Prospect	622	92,774	0.67%	-0.25%
Reid	298	95,251	0.31%	-0.60%
Richmond	1,483	91,321	1.62%	0.71%
Riverina	404	92,541	0.44%	-0.48%
Robertson	1,354	95,145	1.42%	0.51%
Shortland	1,092	93,836	1.16%	0.25%
Sydney	560	89,319	0.63%	-0.29%

Throsby	1,851	89,161	2.08%	1.16%
Warringah	790	95,179	0.83%	-0.09%
Watson	321	96,558	0.33%	-0.58%
Wentworth	742	101,039	0.73%	-0.18%
Werriwa	882	91,734	0.96%	0.04%
Total	41,510	4,550,184	0.91%	
Average	847	92,861	0.92%	

VIC	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
Aston	1,179	92,140	1.28%	0.08%
Ballarat	1,209	94,430	1.28%	0.09%
Batman	433	88,298	0.49%	-0.70%
Bendigo	1,140	97,849	1.17%	-0.03%
Bruce	706	88,809	0.79%	-0.40%
Calwell	887	97,676	0.91%	-0.29%
Casey	1,959	90,019	2.18%	0.98%
Chisholm	689	85,903	0.80%	-0.39%
Corangamite	1,356	96,678	1.40%	0.21%
Corio	1,321	90,350	1.46%	0.27%
Deakin	1,059	87,572	1.21%	0.01%
Dunkley	2,659	93,565	2.84%	1.65%
Flinders	2,595	96,357	2.69%	1.50%
Gellibrand	907	93,995	0.96%	-0.23%
Gippsland	1,604	95,431	1.68%	0.49%
Goldstein	924	92,371	1.00%	-0.19%
Gorton	897	107,019	0.84%	-0.36%
Higgins	777	89,266	0.87%	-0.32%
Holt	1,775	103,146	1.72%	0.53%
Hotham	680	88,938	0.76%	-0.43%
Indi	866	91,300	0.95%	-0.25%
Isaacs	1,509	99,429	1.52%	0.32%
Jagajaga	759	93,961	0.81%	-0.39%
Kooyong	735	87,899	0.84%	-0.36%
La Trobe	1,940	93,304	2.08%	0.88%
Lalor	1,830	106,609	1.72%	0.52%
Mallee	571	90,135	0.63%	-0.56%
Maribyrnong	575	88,069	0.65%	-0.54%
McEwen	1,845	106,986	1.72%	0.53%
McMillan	1,779	88,281	2.02%	0.82%
Melbourne	642	98,606	0.65%	-0.54%
Melbourne Ports	785	95,746	0.82%	-0.38%
Menzies	667	90,192	0.74%	-0.46%
Murray	796	89,140	0.89%	-0.30%

Scullin	561	89,563	0.63%	-0.57%
Wannon	743	91,284	0.81%	-0.38%
Wills	383	96,295	0.40%	-0.80%
Total	41,743	3,466,611	1.20%	
Average	1,128	93,692	1.20%	

QLD	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
Blair	1,018	91,836	1.11%	-0.01%
Bonner	763	90,527	0.84%	-0.27%
Bowman	1,193	89,625	1.33%	0.22%
Brisbane	609	91,898	0.66%	-0.45%
Capricornia	689	93,275	0.74%	-0.38%
Dawson	724	87,748	0.83%	-0.29%
Dickson	1,014	90,311	1.12%	0.01%
Fadden	1,565	95,239	1.64%	0.53%
Fairfax	1,456	91,721	1.59%	0.47%
Fisher	1,458	88,608	1.65%	0.53%
Flynn	788	88,407	0.89%	-0.22%
Forde	1,690	88,498	1.91%	0.79%
Griffith	640	91,472	0.70%	-0.42%
Groom	589	90,604	0.65%	-0.47%
Herbert	713	90,892	0.78%	-0.33%
Hinkler	1,445	90,962	1.59%	0.47%
Kennedy	685	92,455	0.74%	-0.37%
Leichhardt	871	95,589	0.91%	-0.20%
Lilley	734	91,294	0.80%	-0.31%
Longman	1,494	91,570	1.63%	0.52%
Maranoa	648	87,294	0.74%	-0.37%
McPherson	1,432	91,983	1.56%	0.44%
Moncrieff	1,338	90,516	1.48%	0.36%
Moreton	522	88,608	0.59%	-0.53%
Oxley	1,103	90,643	1.22%	0.10%
Petrie	1,078	90,490	1.19%	0.08%
Rankin	1,078	89,814	1.20%	0.09%
Ryan	700	90,371	0.77%	-0.34%
Wide Bay	1,323	89,770	1.47%	0.36%
Total	29,360	2,632,020	1.12%	
Average	1,012	90,759	1.12%	

WA	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
Brand	2,870	94,849	3.03%	1.39%
Canning	2,665	97,778	2.73%	1.09%
Cowan	1,440	96,161	1.50%	-0.14%
Curtin	873	87,084	1.00%	-0.64%
Forrest	1,610	96,033	1.68%	0.04%
Fremantle	1,290	90,810	1.42%	-0.22%
Hasluck	1,923	83,412	2.31%	0.67%
Kalgoorlie	747	81,020	0.92%	-0.72%
Moore	1,040	78,714	1.32%	-0.32%
O'Connor	1,230	85,701	1.44%	-0.20%
Pearce	1,928	97,586	1.98%	0.34%
Perth	1,161	89,286	1.30%	-0.34%
Stirling	941	92,190	1.02%	-0.62%
Swan	1,237	82,882	1.49%	-0.15%
Tangney	1,232	85,238	1.45%	-0.19%
Total	22,187	1,338,744	1.66%	
Average	1,479	89,250	1.64%	

SA	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
Adelaide	1,225	97,333	1.26%	-1.34%
Barker	1,306	103,206	1.27%	-1.33%
Boothby	1,307	96,604	1.35%	-1.25%
Grey	1,588	98,567	1.61%	-0.99%
Hindmarsh	1,175	99,263	1.18%	-1.42%
Kingston	2,784	98,959	2.81%	0.21%
Makin	2,540	95,347	2.66%	0.06%
Mayo	2,522	97,630	2.58%	-0.02%
Port Adelaide	1,651	101,448	1.63%	-0.97%
Sturt	1,360	98,715	1.38%	-1.22%
Wakefield	3,693	96,621	3.82%	1.22%
Total	21,151	1,083,693	1.95%	
Average	10,576	541,847	2.60%	

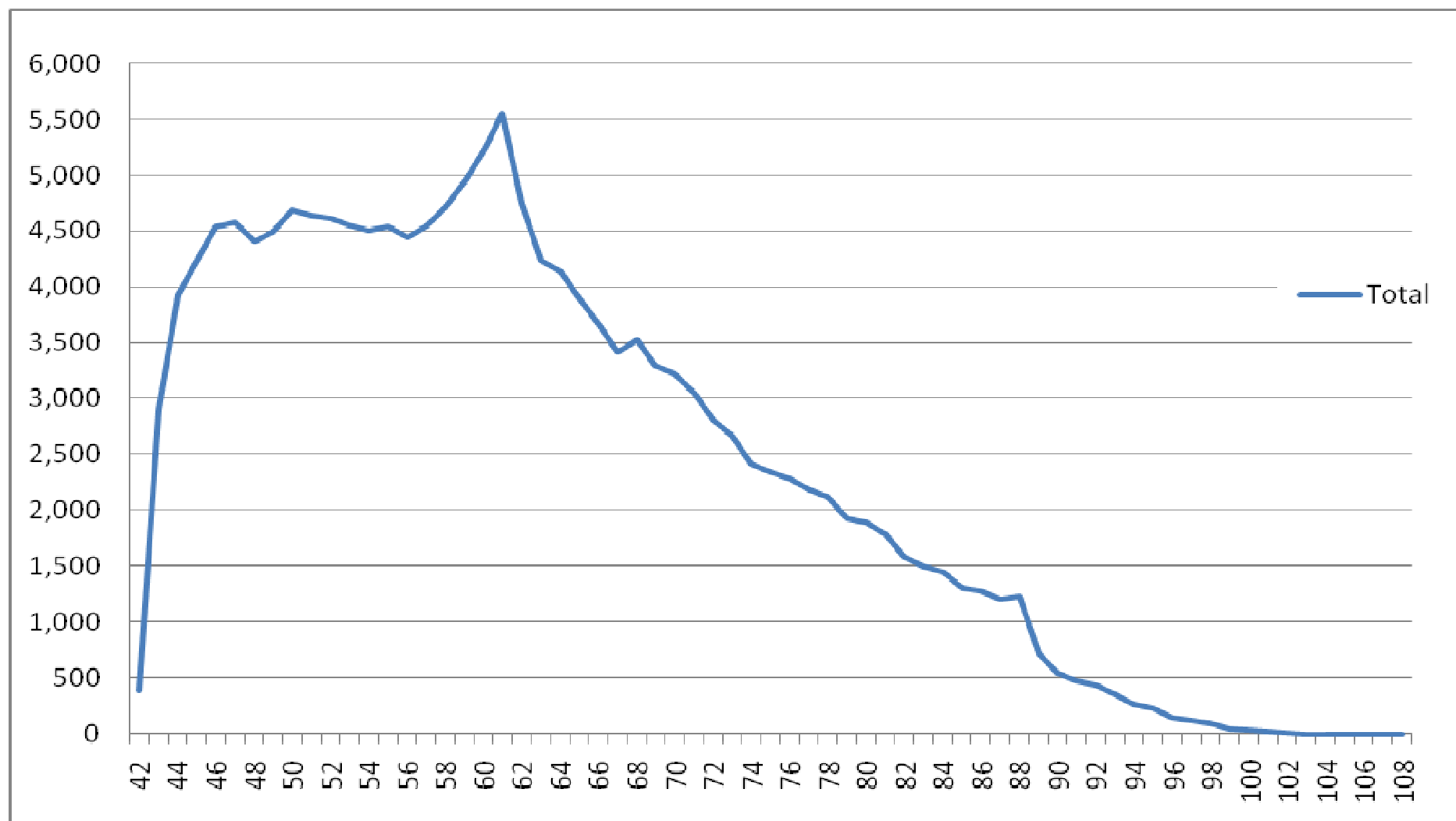
	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
TAS				
Bass	756	69,008	1.10%	-0.12%
Braddon	888	71,554	1.24%	0.03%
Denison	689	68,980	1.00%	-0.22%
Franklin	879	73,137	1.20%	-0.01%
Lyons	1,060	68,977	1.54%	0.32%
Total	4,272	351,656	1.21%	
Average	854	70,331	1.21%	

	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
ACT				
Canberra	993	123,103	0.81%	0.06%
Fraser	801	118,121	0.68%	-0.06%
Total	1,794	241,224	0.74%	
Average	897	120,612	0.74%	

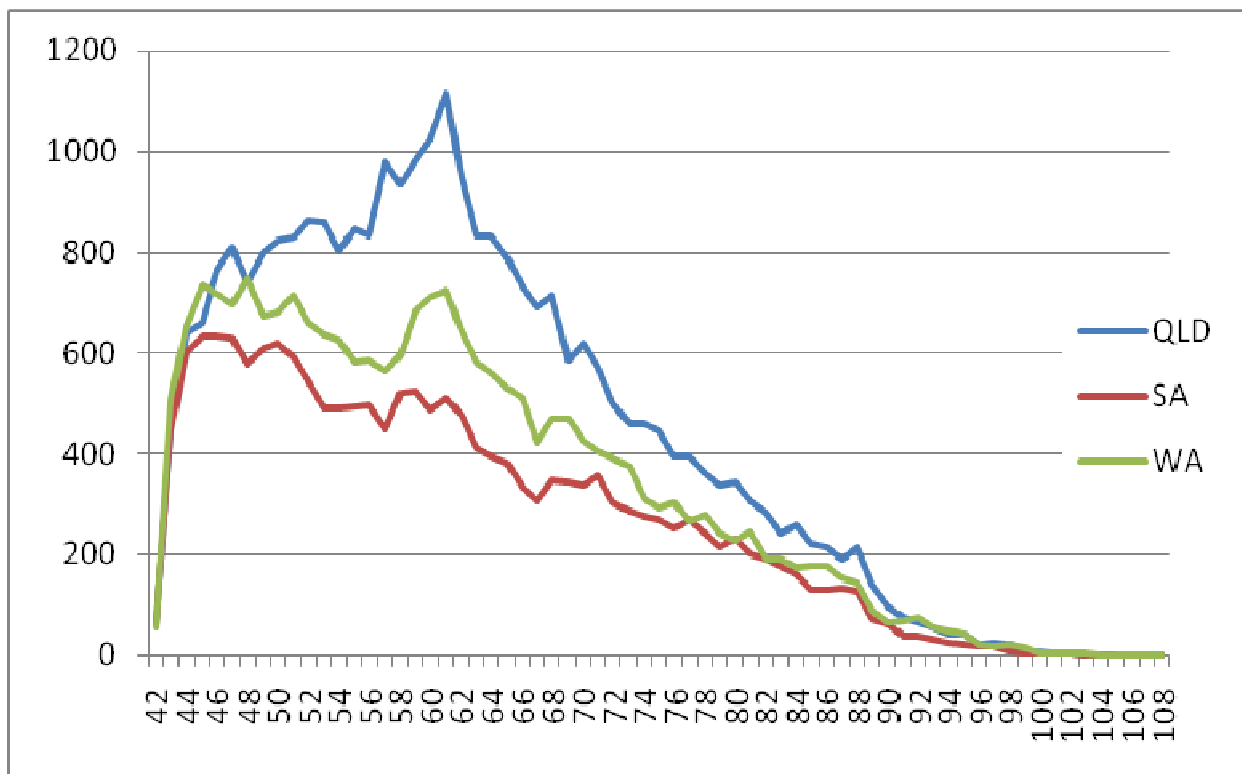
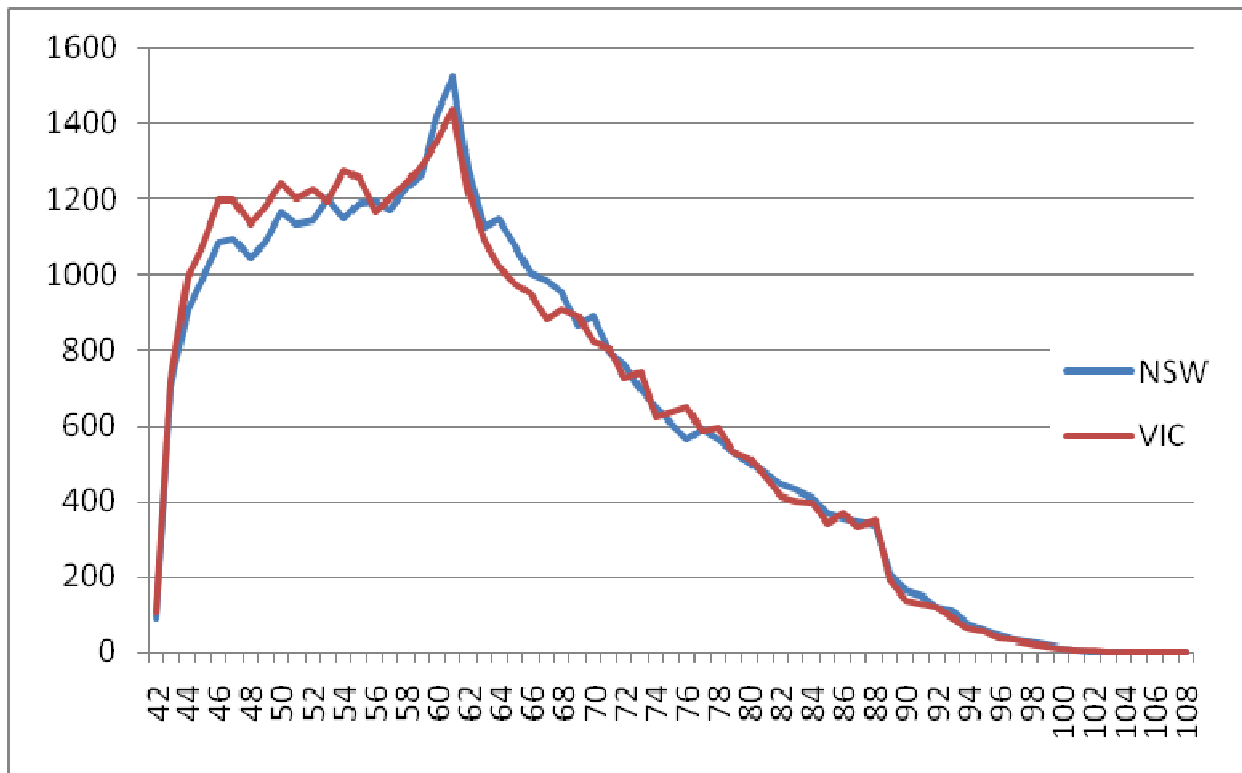
	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation	% deviation from divisional average
NT				
Lingiari	383	61,744	0.62%	-0.14%
Solomon	530	59,229	0.89%	0.14%
Total	913	120,973	0.75%	
Average	457	60,487	0.76%	

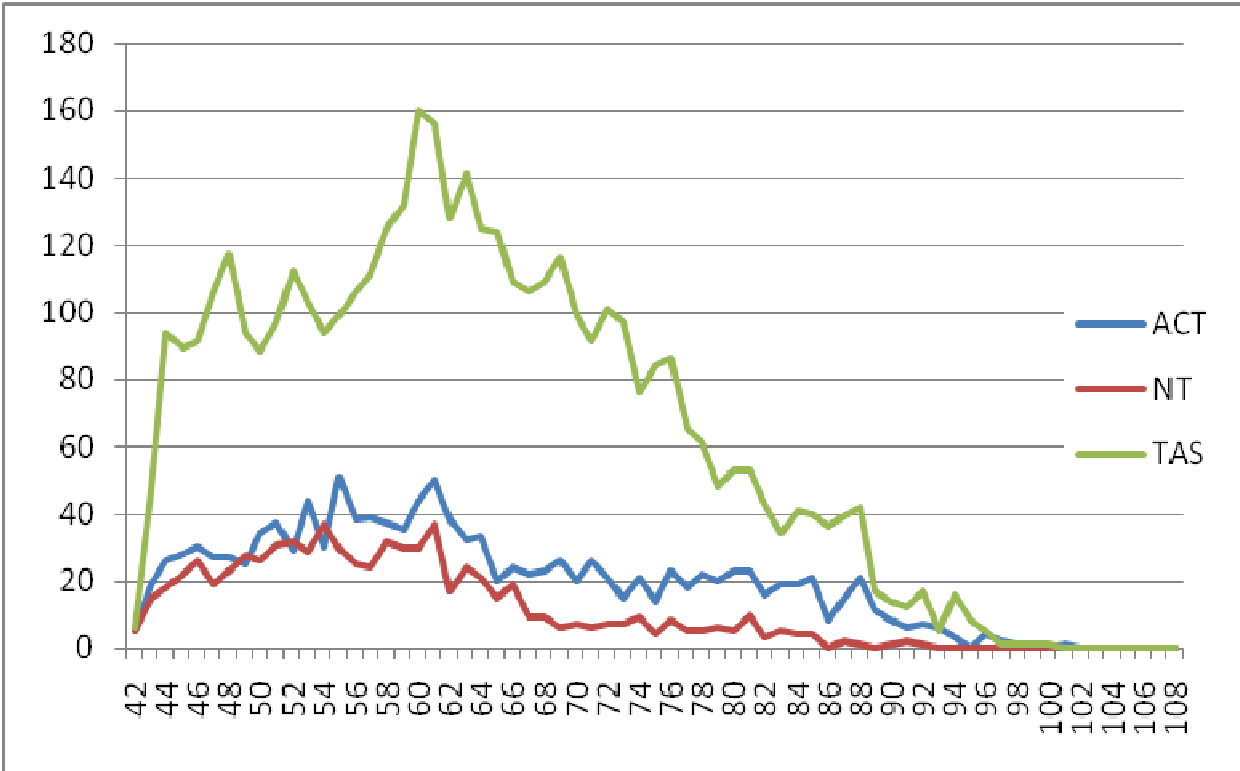
	British subject notation	Enrolment	Proportion of electors with British subject notation
National total	159,095	13,783,688	1.15%

Electors enrolled with British subject categorisation by age



Electors enrolled with British subject categorisation by state / territory and age





Annex 4 – Materials provided to organisations assisting electors experiencing homelessness

1. Poster targeting enrolment of Indigenous electors

Advertisement



**Winning a grand final is pretty special.
So is your Vote.**

Winning a grand final isn't something that happens every day, you'll always remember your part in that game, it will always be special.

We all have a vote. We don't use it every day either, it's one of the most valuable things we possess. Remember all Australian citizens over 18 are required by law to vote.

For an enrolment form visit www.aec.gov.au, any post office, AEC office or call 13 23 26. Or SMS your full name and address to 0413 33 67 65 and we'll send you a form (standard SMS rates apply).



Authorised by Gail Urbanski, West Block, Queen Victoria Terrace, Parkes, ACT.

2. Poster targeting enrolment of all electors



**The Federal election
is coming.....**

**ARE YOU
READY?
FOR IT?**

All Australian citizens 18 years or more must be correctly enrolled to vote.

If you aren't enrolled already or have moved since October 2004 and haven't updated your details—you could miss out.

You no longer have a week to enrol to vote or to update your details once the election is called.

So, if you need to, grab an enrolment form from any post office, AEC office or download one from www.aec.gov.au.

Look at our website or call 13 23 26 for information about enrolling or voting. If you wait you could miss out.

*Your vote is
a valuable thing*



3. Contents of direct mail package provided to Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) organisations

Cover letter



No fixed address direct mail campaign cover letter for SAAP providers' package

Our Ref: 06/1277-2

Dear

One of the most valuable things about being an Australian is our right to vote in elections. However, people experiencing homelessness are less likely to be enrolled to vote because of their circumstances.

Earlier this year, the AEC held consultations with a number of homelessness and welfare organisations, which told us that in many cases there is a mistaken belief amongst people experiencing homelessness that it is not possible to enrol or vote without having a fixed address, and that enrolling might lead to penalties for not having enrolled or voted previously. We are also aware of the need to provide clear information about access to personal information on the electoral roll.

I am writing to seek your assistance to distribute information on these issues so that we can provide as many Australian citizens experiencing homelessness as possible with an opportunity to have their say in this year's federal election. I understand that your work brings with it many demands, but I hope that with your support we can promote the positive message that enrolling and voting, whilst not compulsory for people without a fixed address, represent opportunities rather than burdens.

The AEC is seeking in particular to promote the existence of 'no fixed address' enrolment. As such, I enclose an information package to help your clients to enrol to vote before the upcoming federal election is called. This package contains:

- 10 copies of the no fixed address enrolment form for your state/territory
- 10 reply paid envelopes
- 10 copies of a fact sheet for clients and workers about no fixed address enrolment

To obtain more enrolment forms, envelopes and/or fact sheets, or if you would like someone from the AEC to visit your centre and provide an information session for your clients, please call us on 13 23 26. Please note that you will need to specify that you require **no fixed address** forms, fact sheets or information. Alternatively, no fixed address enrolment forms and the fact sheets can be found on the AEC website: www.aec.gov.au

As the election may be called very soon, please note that if you run out of reply paid envelopes you can also send enrolment forms in any envelope to: **Australian Electoral Commission, Reply Paid 9867, IN YOUR CAPITAL CITY** or by fax to: **(02) 6271 4558**.

Given some of the difficulties we face in trying to reach people experiencing homelessness the AEC is greatly reliant on, and grateful for, your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Ian Campbell
Electoral Commissioner

September 2007

West Block Offices
Queen Victoria Terrace
Parkes ACT 2600

PO Box 6172
Kingston ACT 2604

Tel 02 6271 4411
Fax 02 6271 4558

www.aec.gov.au
ABN 21 133 285 851

You do not need a home address to enrol and vote

<p>You can enrol to vote using no fixed address enrolment</p> <p>if you:</p> <p>are experiencing homelessness – including living in crisis accommodation, sleeping rough, living in transitional or SAAP accommodation, or do not have access to safe and secure housing</p> <p>and you:</p> <p>do not have a permanent home you intend to return to</p> <p>and you:</p> <p>are 18 years of age or older and an Australian citizen</p> <p>This fact sheet has more information for you on no fixed address enrolment.</p>	<p>You must enrol as an ordinary elector if you:</p> <p>have a permanent home address but are temporarily living somewhere else until you return</p> <p>or</p> <p>you have experienced homelessness but now have a permanent place of living where you have lived for one month</p> <p>and you:</p> <p>are 18 years of age or older and an Australian citizen</p> <p>You can call the AEC on 13 23 26 or visit www.aec.gov.au for more information on how to enrol.</p>
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HOW DO I APPLY FOR NO FIXED ADDRESS ENROLMENT?

If you are enrolling for the first time, or you have enrolled before and are now eligible for no fixed address enrolment, you need to fill out a **no fixed address enrolment form** and return it to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). There are tips for completing the form on the next page.

WHICH FORM DO I USE?

There is a different enrolment form for every state and territory. You should use the no fixed address enrolment form for the state or territory for which you are claiming enrolment, even if it is not the state or territory in which you are currently living. The one no fixed address enrolment form enrolls you to vote in federal, state/territory and most local government elections.

Continued over the page

IF I ENROL CAN I VOTE IN THIS YEAR'S FEDERAL ELECTION?

To vote in the federal election, your enrolment form must be correctly completed and received by the AEC before the close of the electoral rolls.

The electoral rolls for the upcoming federal election will close for new no fixed address enrolments at 8pm on the day that the writs are issued. The writs are the legal documents necessary to commence the official timetable and process for the federal election. For recent federal elections, the writs have been issued between one and four days after the Prime Minister announces the election date.

An election can be called at any time now so you should enrol today or risk missing out on being able to vote.

TIPS FOR COMPLETING YOUR NO FIXED ADDRESS ENROLMENT FORM

The enrolment form provides information and step-by-step instructions, and you can ask someone to help you if you need assistance. Some tips are:

- in the section of the form which asks for a short statement to support your application you should state that you are experiencing homelessness.
- even though you do not have a permanent home address, you will need to be enrolled to vote, and vote, for an electoral division (also called an electorate). The form asks you to identify a residential address for which you can claim enrolment, and has instructions on which address you should use.
- you will need to provide proof of your identity. There are **three** ways in which you can do this.

1. Provide your Australian driver's licence number, learner's permit number or provisional licence number and the state/territory of issue on the enrolment form. The law is that if you have a current Australian driver's licence you **must** use it to prove your identity when filling in the enrolment form.

2. If you don't have a driver's licence you can show an original version of one identification document to an authorised person who is on the electoral roll, who will then sign a declaration on your enrolment form.

There are several types of identification documents that can be used, including:

- an Australian birth certificate (or an extract) issued at least 5 years ago
- a Concession card from Centrelink (must be current), or
- a Medicare card.

There is a wide variety of **authorised persons, including managers of a women's refuge or crisis and counselling centre (including SAAP services).**

3. If you don't have a driver's licence or an acceptable identity document you can have two people who are already on the electoral roll, and who have known you for at least a month, confirm your identity by signing the enrolment form. **This includes SAAP services staff or workers.**

MORE ABOUT NO FIXED ADDRESS ENROLMENT

Is it compulsory to enrol and vote if I don't have a permanent home address?

No, but your vote is a valuable thing and you still have a right to have your say. If you are eligible for no fixed address enrolment you do not have to enrol. If you have no fixed address enrolment you do not have to vote.

Are there any penalties if I have not enrolled before?

The AEC wants everyone who is eligible to enrol, so if you enrol now you won't be prosecuted or penalised for not previously enrolling to vote.

Will I be fined if I enrol but do not vote in the federal election?

No. If you have no fixed address enrolment and do not vote you will not be fined. However, your enrolment may be cancelled.

Will my details be made public or passed on to other government agencies?

Under the Electoral Act the public electoral roll, containing names and addresses, is available for viewing at any AEC office. However, there is no address shown on the publicly available roll for electors with no fixed address. The information you provide is also made available under the Act to Members of Parliament, political parties, approved medical researchers and public health screening programs, certain government agencies and other electoral authorities. The enrolment form has more information on this.

WHERE CAN I GET A NO FIXED ADDRESS ENROLMENT FORM OR MORE INFORMATION?

- no fixed address enrolment forms for each state and territory can be downloaded and printed from the AEC website www.aec.gov.au or you can request forms to be sent to you by calling the AEC 13 23 26.
- completed forms can be returned to the AEC in supplied reply paid envelopes or by sending them in any envelope (no stamp required if posted in Australia) to:

**Australian Electoral Commission
Reply paid 9867
IN YOUR CAPITAL CITY**

Or by fax to: **(02) 6271 4558**.

- call the AEC on 13 23 26 or visit www.aec.gov.au to check your enrolment status and obtain more information on enrolment and voting in federal elections.
- the service where you picked up this fact sheet may have enrolment forms or may be able to print one from the AEC website.

You do not need a home address to enrol and vote

You can enrol to vote using no fixed address enrolment

if you: are experiencing homelessness – including living in crisis accommodation, sleeping rough, living in transitional or SAAP accommodation, or do not have access to safe and secure housing

and you: do not have a permanent home you intend to return to

and you: are 18 years of age or older and an Australian citizen

This fact sheet has more information for you on no fixed address enrolment.

How do I apply?

Fill out a no fixed address enrolment form and return it to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). Use the no fixed address enrolment form for the state or territory for which you are claiming enrolment, even if it is not the state or territory in which you are currently living.

- in the section of the form which asks for a short statement to support your application state that you are experiencing homelessness.
- even though you do not have a permanent home address, you will need to be enrolled to vote, and vote, for an electoral division (or electorate). The form asks you to identify a residential address for which you can claim enrolment, and has instructions on which address you should use.
- you will need to provide proof of your identity. If you do not have a driver's licence and you do not have one of the accepted identification documents, two people who are enrolled and who have known you for at least one month can confirm your identity by signing your form.

If I enrol can I vote in this year's federal election?

To vote in the federal election, your enrolment form must be correctly completed and received by the AEC before the close of the electoral rolls. An election can be called at any time now so you should enrol today or risk missing out on being able to vote in this election.

Is it compulsory to enrol if I don't have a permanent home address?

No. If you are eligible for no fixed address enrolment you do not have to enrol.

Are there any penalties if I have not enrolled before?

You won't be prosecuted or penalised for not previously enrolling to vote.

Will I be fined if I enrol but do not vote in the federal election?

No. If you have no fixed address enrolment it is not compulsory for you to vote, and if you do not vote you will not be fined. However, your enrolment may be cancelled.

What if I don't want my details to appear on the electoral roll?

Your address will not be shown on the publicly available electoral roll if you are an elector with no fixed address.

4. Contents of direct mail package provided to peak organisations

Cover letter

No fixed address direct mail campaign cover letter for peak's package



Recipient name
Organisation
Address
Address

Dear

Earlier this year, the Australian Electoral Commission engaged in consultations with peak homelessness and welfare organisations, including yours. I am writing to thank you for your participation and to seek your support for the activity we are currently undertaking as a result of those consultations.

The AEC believes that people experiencing homelessness are less likely to be enrolled to vote because of their circumstances. Feedback from our consultations suggested that in some cases this is due to a mistaken belief that it is not possible to enrol or vote without having a fixed address, or that enrolling might lead to penalties for not having enrolled or voted previously. We are also aware of the need to provide clear information about access to personal information on the electoral roll.

The AEC is seeking to promote the availability of 'no fixed address' enrolment, which allows people experiencing homelessness (amongst others) to enrol and have their say at elections.

Our consultations identified that Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) provider organisations would be able to help us in disseminating no fixed address enrolment forms and information about no fixed address enrolment and voting. The AEC has recently sent all SAAP providers an information package containing no fixed address enrolment forms and fact sheets for clients and workers.

With the support of SAAP providers and their staff, we hope to promote the positive message that enrolling and voting, whilst not compulsory for people without a fixed address, represent opportunities rather than burdens.

I have enclosed a copy of the fact sheet for people experiencing homelessness for your information, and encourage you to use this information as appropriate in your publications and other work to help promote the availability of no fixed address enrolment. The fact sheet can also be viewed and downloaded (along with no fixed address enrolment forms) from the AEC website: www.aec.gov.au

If you have further questions or would like to be provided with an article for your publications, please contact Assistant Director, Media and Communications Strategies on telephone (02) 6271 4404.

I hope that your organisation will support us in encouraging SAAP providers to participate in this activity and look forward to continuing to work together to ensure that as many Australians experiencing homelessness as possible are able to exercise their right to enrol and vote.

Yours sincerely

Ian Campbell
Electoral Commissioner
October 2007

You do not need a home address to enrol and vote

<p>You can enrol to vote using no fixed address enrolment</p> <p>if you:</p> <p>are experiencing homelessness – including living in crisis accommodation, sleeping rough, living in transitional or SAAP accommodation, or do not have access to safe and secure housing</p> <p>and you:</p> <p>do not have a permanent home you intend to return to</p> <p>and you:</p> <p>are 18 years of age or older and an Australian citizen</p> <p>This fact sheet has more information for you on no fixed address enrolment.</p>	<p>You must enrol as an ordinary elector if you:</p> <p>have a permanent home address but are temporarily living somewhere else until you return</p> <p>or</p> <p>you have experienced homelessness but now have a permanent place of living where you have lived for one month</p> <p>and you:</p> <p>are 18 years of age or older and an Australian citizen</p> <p>You can call the AEC on 13 23 26 or visit www.aec.gov.au for more information on how to enrol.</p>
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HOW DO I APPLY FOR NO FIXED ADDRESS ENROLMENT?

If you are enrolling for the first time, or you have enrolled before and are now eligible for no fixed address enrolment, you need to fill out a **no fixed address enrolment form** and return it to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). There are tips for completing the form on the next page.

WHICH FORM DO I USE?

There is a different enrolment form for every state and territory. You should use the no fixed address enrolment form for the state or territory for which you are claiming enrolment, even if it is not the state or territory in which you are currently living. The one no fixed address enrolment form enrolls you to vote in federal, state/territory and most local government elections.

Continued over the page

IF I ENROL CAN I VOTE IN THIS YEAR'S FEDERAL ELECTION?

To vote in the federal election, your enrolment form must be correctly completed and received by the AEC before the close of the electoral rolls.

The electoral rolls for the upcoming federal election will close for new no fixed address enrolments at 8pm on the day that the writs are issued. The writs are the legal documents necessary to commence the official timetable and process for the federal election. For recent federal elections, the writs have been issued between one and four days after the Prime Minister announces the election date.

An election can be called at any time now so you should enrol today or risk missing out on being able to vote.

TIPS FOR COMPLETING YOUR NO FIXED ADDRESS ENROLMENT FORM

The enrolment form provides information and step-by-step instructions, and you can ask someone to help you if you need assistance. Some tips are:

- in the section of the form which asks for a short statement to support your application you should state that you are experiencing homelessness.
- even though you do not have a permanent home address, you will need to be enrolled to vote, and vote, for an electoral division (also called an electorate). The form asks you to identify a residential address for which you can claim enrolment, and has instructions on which address you should use.
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