



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission

MEDIA RELEASE

Delivery of Local Government Postal Voting Packages Commences this Week

Australia Post has commenced delivering voting papers to eligible electors in local government districts where the Western Australian Electoral Commission has been contracted to conduct a postal election.

The Commission has divided the State into four delivery zones with the initial focus on local government customers in the zone covering the North-West and more isolated areas including Ashburton, East Pilbara, Menzies, Roebourne and Shark Bay. Election packages have started to arrive at destinations throughout these localities.

WA Electoral Commissioner, Warwick Gately said that by next Tuesday 27 September 2011 electors across the 74 local governments undertaking postal elections should have received their voting packages in the mail. Electors in most of the more populous metropolitan districts should receive their package on Friday 23 September or Monday 26 September.

“Excluding those local government districts or wards where candidates have been elected unopposed, the Commission has printed, compiled and posted a total of 1,122,309 election packages.”

“Electors who were on the electoral roll as at roll close on 26 August 2011 will receive a package containing a ballot paper (or two if their local government is holding a Mayoral election in addition to the vote for Councillors) and profiles of candidates, ballot paper envelope and declaration, reply paid envelope, and instruction pamphlet,” said Mr Gately.

“While electors have about three weeks to complete and return their ballot paper, I would encourage electors to keep an eye out for their package in the mail and to ‘vote and post’ early, before life’s various distractions result in papers being misplaced.”

“It is also vital that electors sign the declaration attached to the ballot paper envelope in order for their vote to be accepted into the count. The signed declaration is removed well in advance of the ballot paper being removed from the envelope, in order to maintain the secrecy of the ballot’, he said.

Election day is Saturday 15 October 2011. Electors need to ensure their completed package is returned in sufficient time for it to be with the Returning Officer by the close of polling at 6.00pm. If needs be they can be hand delivered to the relevant Council office.

Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 21 September 2011

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