



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission

MEDIA RELEASE

GERALDTON BALLOT PAPERS FOUND

The Western Australian Electoral Commission has today found the parcel of ballot papers from the Queen Elizabeth Centre in Geraldton that was previously unlocated.

They will be included in the Geraldton count before the result is declared tomorrow.

The ballot papers were located in the Fremantle counting centre after an extensive and thorough search of boxes from around the State.

Whilst a search had been undertaken earlier this week, this final search revealed the parcel of just over 1,000 ballot papers in a box for the district of Wagin, which itself had previously been examined.

Deputy Electoral Commissioner Lyn Sirkett said how they came to be in the Wagin box was inexplicable and a review required.

In the future a form of surveillance may be needed in Commission storage areas.

"It is the responsible course of action now that they have been located to include them in the count, notwithstanding that the result will not change," she said.

"It is owed to the electors of Geraldton, particularly those who cast their vote at the Queen Elizabeth Centre, and to the Returning Officer, to ensure the right action is taken in respect to their votes,"

ENDS

Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner. 18th September 2008

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