

Victorian Electoral Commission

**Report on the Albert Park District and Williamstown District  
By-elections held on 15 September 2007**

December 2007



**VIEC**

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## Report on the Albert Park District & Williamstown District By-elections 15 September 2007

The Hon. Robert Smith, MLC  
President of the Legislative Council

The Hon. Jenny Lindell, MP  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

I am pleased to submit to you, for presentation to Parliament, my report on the administration of the Albert Park and Williamstown by-elections held on 15 September 2007.

The report is presented as required by section 8(2)(b) of the *Electoral Act 2002*.



**Steve Tully**  
Electoral Commissioner

4 December 2007

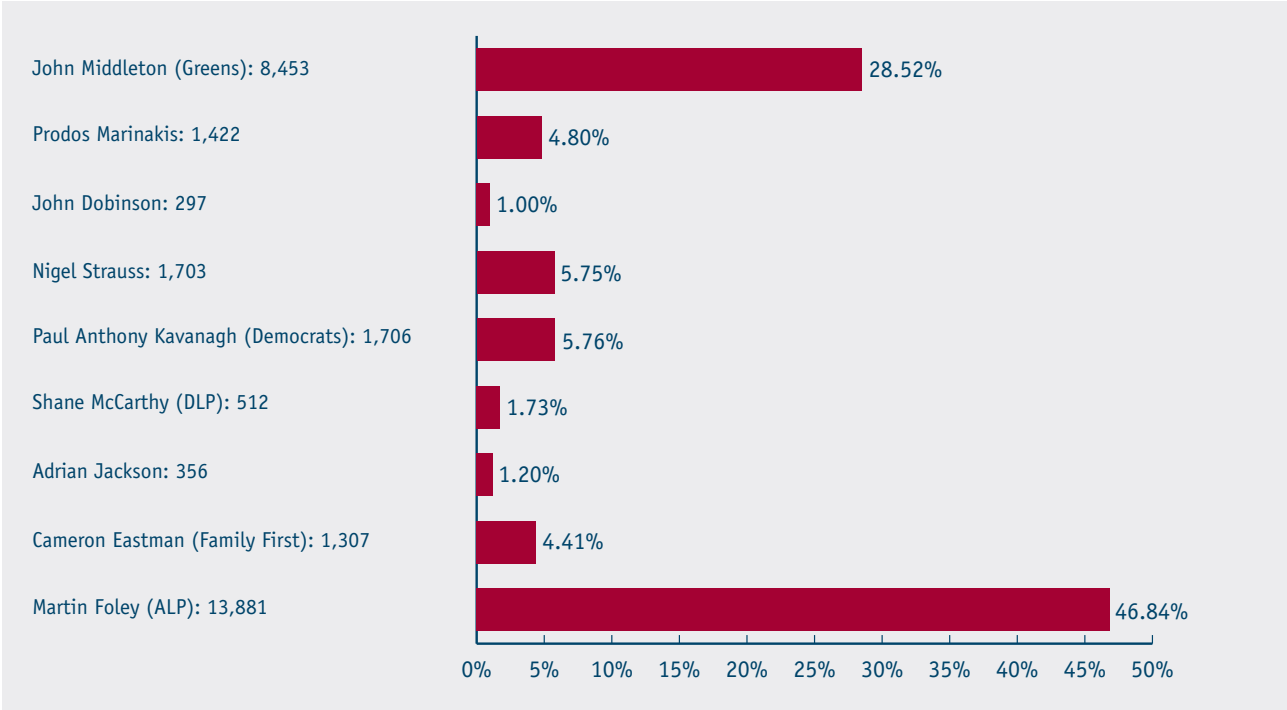
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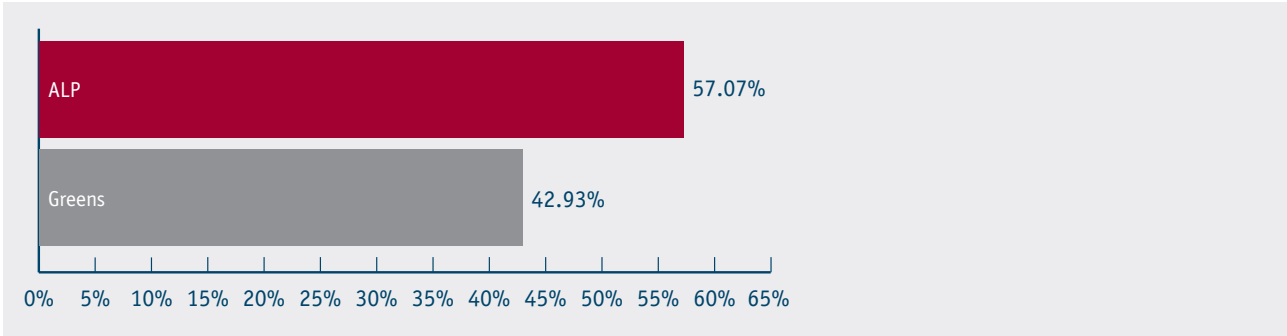
# INDICATORS

## Results at a glance

### First preference votes – Albert Park District

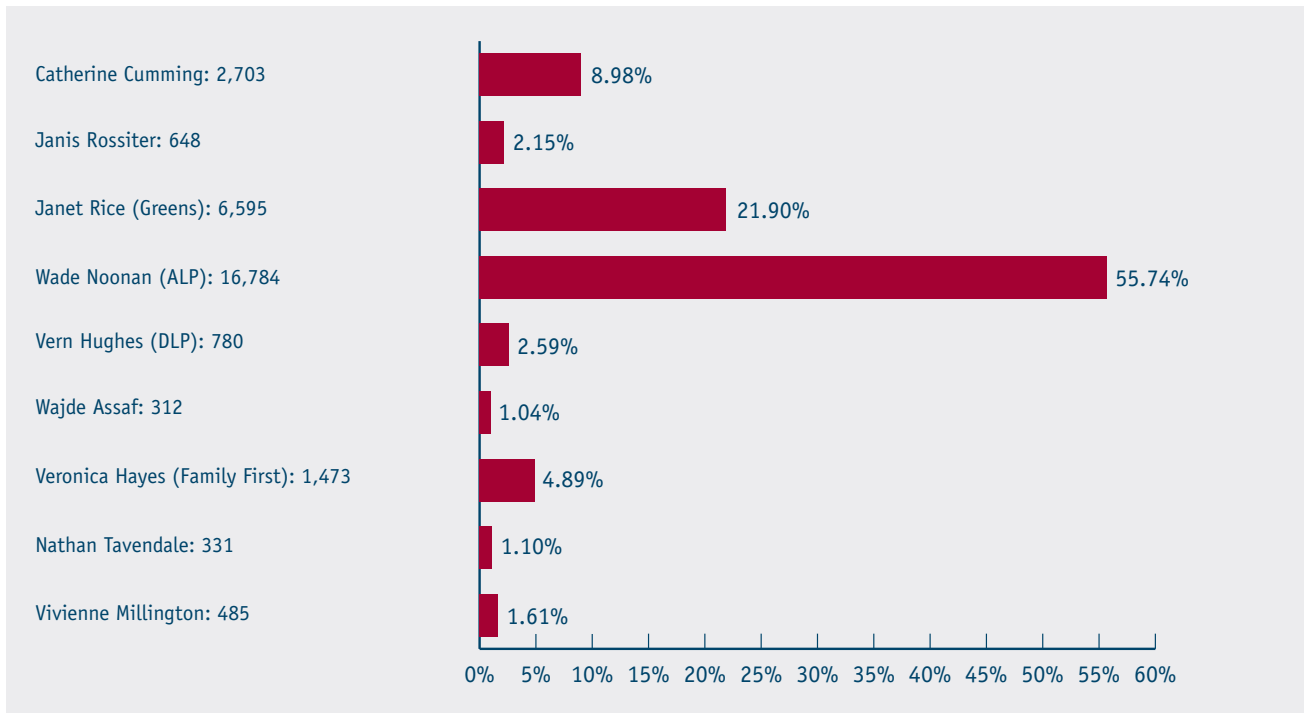


### Two-candidate-preferred vote (ALP vs Greens) – Albert Park District

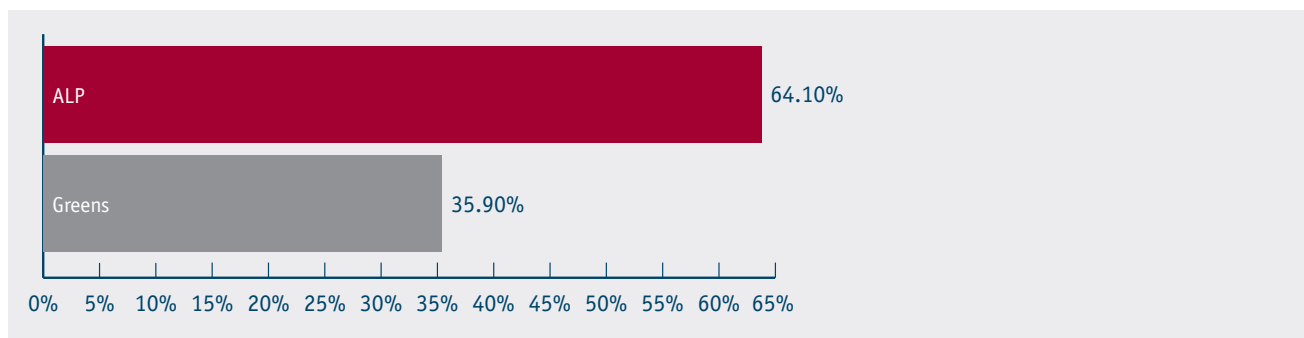


# INDICATORS

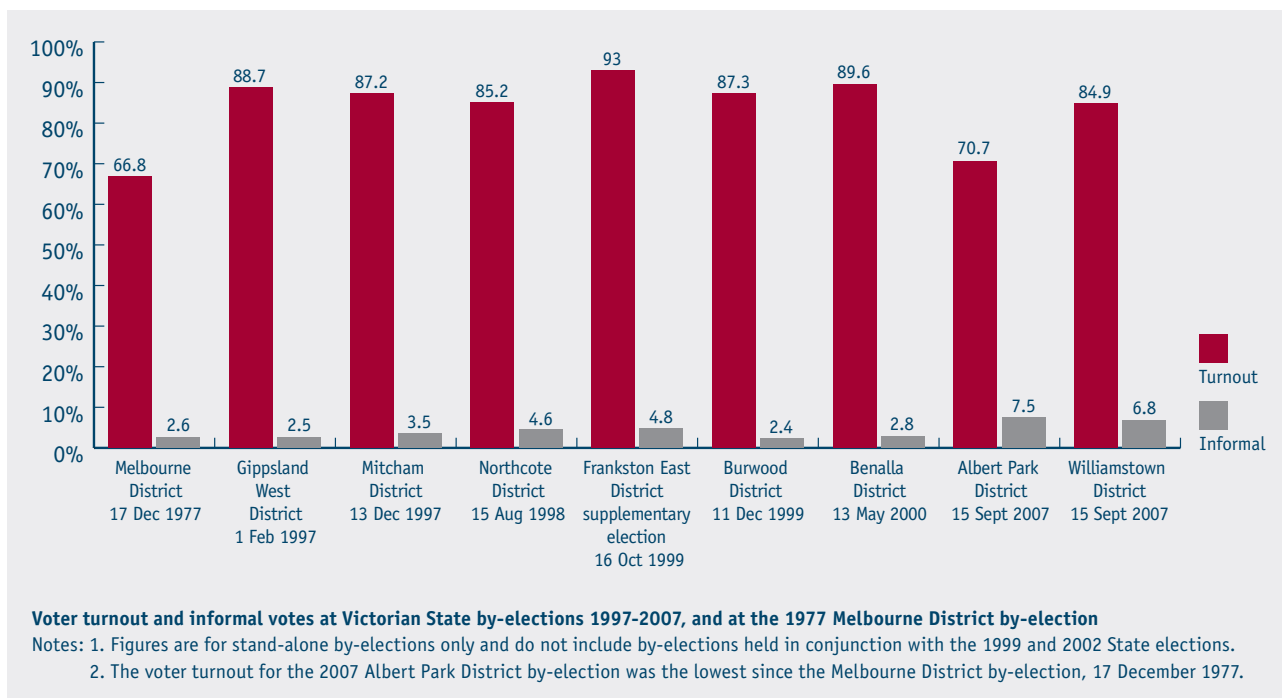
## First preference votes – Williamstown District



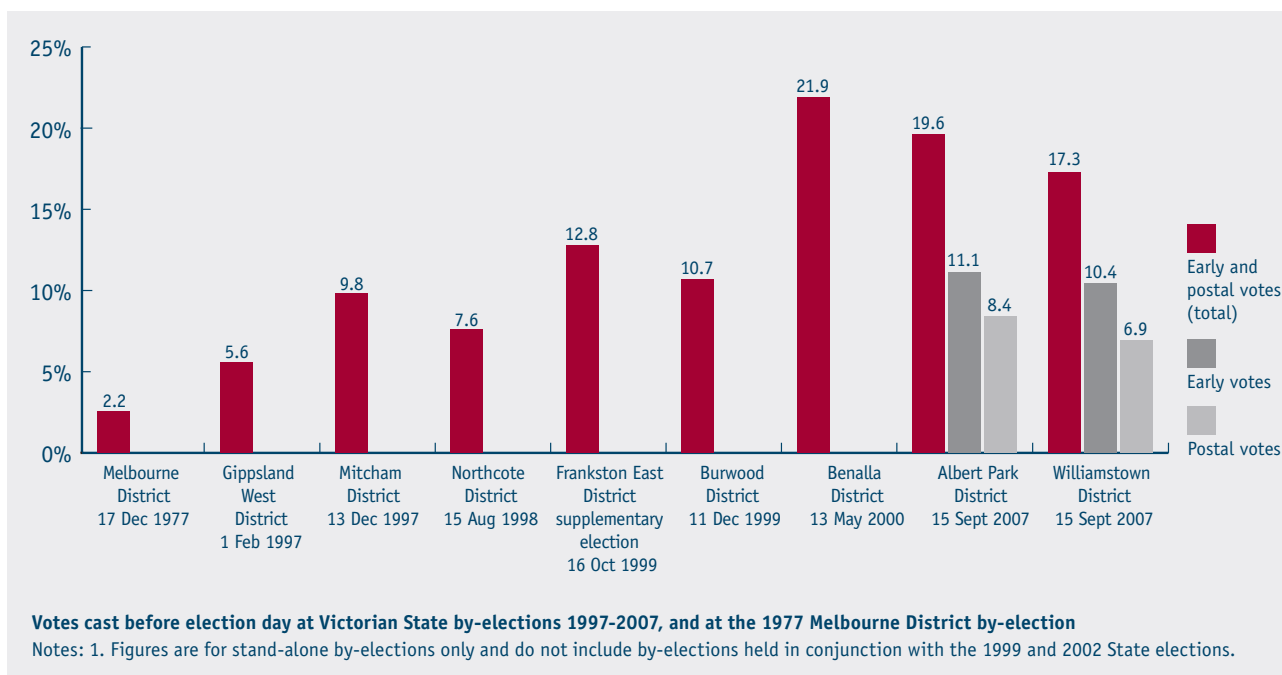
## Two-candidate-preferred vote (ALP vs Greens) – Williamstown District



### By-election voter turnout and informal votes



### By-election votes before election day



### By-elections budget

The VEC received a special appropriation of \$600,000 for the payment of expenses and obligations related to the conduct of the by-elections, and \$100,000 for the payment of electoral entitlements.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The resignations of the Premier of Victoria, the Hon. Steve Bracks, Member for Williamstown District, and the Deputy Premier, the Hon. John Thwaites, Member for Albert Park District on 6 August 2007 necessitated by-elections for their two Lower House seats.

The Speaker of the Assembly issued writs for the by-elections for Williamstown District and Albert Park District respectively on Monday, 20 August 2007. The writs set out the timetables for the by-elections.

At the close of nominations, nine candidates had nominated for each by-election. The Liberal Party chose not to stand candidates in either of the Districts. The Australian Labor Party (ALP), the Democratic Labor Party (DLP), the Greens and Family First stood candidates in both Districts, along with independent candidates. The Australian Democrats stood a candidate in Albert Park only.

The ALP was returned in both Districts with 47% of the first preference vote in Albert Park and 56% of the first preference vote in Williamstown. The Greens gathered 29% of the first preference vote in Albert Park and 22% of the first preference vote in Williamstown. For detailed voting statistics, see Appendix 1.

The participation rates for the by-elections were lower than the participation rates for the State election held in November 2006. Albert Park had a participation rate of 70.67% (85.72% in 2006) and Williamstown's participation rate was 84.93% (91.79% in 2006). The Albert Park participation rate was the lowest by-election participation rate in 30 years (1977 Melbourne by-election 66.82%).

Informality rates were up on the 2006 State election results, with 2,392 (7.47%) informal votes recorded in Albert Park (1,630 or 4.33% in 2006) and 2,193 (6.79%) in Williamstown (1,933 or 5.63% in 2006). An analysis of the informal votes was conducted and the results can be found in Chapter 7 Further analysis on page 22.

## Pre-arrangements with other agencies

### Victorian Government Solicitor's Office (VGSO)

The VEC made preliminary arrangements with the Victorian Government Solicitor's Office (VGSO) to have a senior legal advisor on standby 24 hours a day during the election period, to ensure that any matters were dealt with in a timely fashion. The VEC would like to thank the VGSO and in particular, Mr James Ruddle, Deputy Victorian Government Solicitor, for his support and responsiveness during the elections.

### Victoria Police

The VEC contacted the Chief Commissioner of Police to request a discreet police presence at all voting centres during the hours of voting on election day. The VEC provided a full list of all voting venues to Victoria Police to assist with this request. The VEC would like to formally record its appreciation for the support received from the Chief Commissioner.

### Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT)

Arrangements were made with the Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal to have arrangements in place to deal with any application for review of the Electoral Commissioner's decision in relation to the registration of a how-to-vote card.

Section 82A of the *Electoral Act 2002* provides that if an application for review of a how-to-vote card decision is received, the Tribunal has until 5.00pm on the next working day after receiving the application to determine the application.



## The former members

### Steve Bracks

Elected to the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) seat of Williamstown at the 1994 by-election, Mr Bracks served as Victorian Premier and Minister for Multicultural Affairs from October 1999 until 30 July 2007. Mr Bracks served as Treasurer between October 1999 and May 2000, and as Minister for Veterans' Affairs from December 2006 until 30 July 2007. Before becoming Premier, Mr Bracks was Opposition Leader and Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs between March and October 1999. During his Parliamentary career, Mr Bracks also served as Shadow Treasurer between 1996 and 1999, Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations from 1996 to 1999, and Shadow Minister for Finance from 1996 to 1997. Between December 1994 and March 1996, Mr Bracks also held the positions of Shadow Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, and Shadow Minister for Tourism. Before being elected to Parliament, Mr Bracks worked as a secondary school teacher in Ballarat, and, later, as a ministerial adviser to Victorian Premiers John Cain and Joan Kirner.

### John Thwaites

Elected to the Legislative Assembly (Lower House) seat of Albert Park in 1992, Mr Thwaites served as Deputy Premier from October 1999 until 30 July 2007. During his Parliamentary career, Mr Thwaites served as Minister for the Environment and Minister for Water from December 2002 to 30 July 2007 (known as Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change since December 2006), Minister for Victorian Communities from December 2002 to December 2006, Minister for Planning and Minister for Health from 1999 to 2002. Earlier in his Parliamentary career, Mr Thwaites worked as the Shadow Minister for Health from 1993 to 1996, and between February and October 1999, the Shadow Minister for Health and Community Services from 1996 to 1999, Shadow Minister for Planning from February to October 1999, and was Deputy Leader of the Opposition from 1997 to 1999. A solicitor and barrister before entering Parliament, Mr Thwaites served as a councillor on South Melbourne City Council between 1985 and 1993, and was Mayor during 1991 and 1992.

## The Districts

### Albert Park District

Approximately one kilometre from Melbourne, Albert Park District forms part of the Southern Metropolitan Region. Covering 23 square kilometres, the District includes the suburbs of Albert Park, Port Melbourne, Middle Park, South Melbourne, and parts of St Kilda and Elwood.



### Williamstown District

Approximately four kilometres from Melbourne, Williamstown District forms part of the Western Metropolitan Region. Covering 33 square kilometres, the District includes the suburbs of Altona East, Brooklyn, Newport, Seaholme, Spotswood, Williamstown, Williamstown North, and parts of Altona and Altona North.



# 1. INTRODUCTION

## Election timetable

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly announced the following dates for the by-elections for the districts of Albert Park and Williamstown, which were held concurrently:

Issue of writs	20 August 2007
Close of rolls	27 August 2007
Close of nominations	30 August 2007 (registered political parties) 31 August 2007 (independent candidates)
Election day	15 September 2007
Return of writs	on or before 6 October 2007

## Past results for Districts

### 2006 State election results

#### Albert Park

Electors enrolled	43,926	
Total votes	37,655	85.72%
Informal votes	1,630	4.33%
<i>First preference vote</i>		
David Reece (CEC*)	269	0.75%
John Thwaites (ALP)	14,787	41.05%
Adrian Jackson	458	1.27%
John Middleton (Greens)	6,871	19.07%
Clive Smith (Lib)	12,479	34.64%
Sam Robertson (Family First)	390	1.08%
Stratos Pavlis (People Power)	771	2.14%

#### Williamstown

Electors enrolled	37,437	
Total votes	34,364	91.79%
Informal votes	1,933	5.63%
<i>First preference vote</i>		
Veronica Hayes (Family First)	1,443	4.45%
Steve Bracks (ALP)	20,010	61.70%
Alan Evers-Buckland (Lib)	6,706	20.68%
Michael Faltermaier (Greens)	4,008	12.36%
Wajde Assaf	264	0.81%

\*CEC – Citizens Electoral Council

### 2002 State election results

#### Albert Park

Electors enrolled	38,726	
Total votes	34,262	88.47%
Informal votes	928	2.71%

#### *First preference vote*

Melanie Oke	571	1.71%
John Middleton (Greens)	5,774	17.32%
Virginia Browne (Lib)	10,936	32.81%
John Thwaites (ALP)	16,053	48.16%

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#### Williamstown

Electors enrolled	37,526	
Total votes	34,596	92.19%
Informal votes	1,178	3.41%

#### *First preference vote*

John Westbury	2,122	6.35%
Michele Finey (Greens)	3,422	10.24%
Steve Bracks (ALP)	21,600	64.64%
Alan Evers-Buckland (Lib)	6,274	18.77%

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### 1999 State election results

#### Albert Park

Electors enrolled	39,365	
Total votes	34,657	88.04%
Informal votes	989	2.85%

#### *First preference vote*

John Thwaites (ALP)	18,997	56.42%
Rob Rushford (Lib)	14,671	43.58%

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#### Williamstown

Electors enrolled	34,501	
Total votes	31,841	92.29%
Informal votes	1,155	3.63%

#### *First preference vote*

Noel Dyson	1,341	4.37%
Alan Evers-Buckland (Lib)	8,877	28.93%
Steve Bracks (ALP)	20,468	66.70%

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## Historical Pattern

### Albert Park

1889-93	Liberal
1893-02	Conservative
1902-27	Australian Labor Party
1927-29	National Party
1929-32	Australian Labor Party
1932-37	United Australia Party
1937	Independent United Australia Party
1937-45	United Australia Party/ Liberal
1945	Ministerial Liberal
1945-47	Australian Labor Party
1947-50	Liberal/Liberal and Country Party
1950-present	Australian Labor Party

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### Williamstown

1859	Unaffiliated
1859-67	Liberal
1868-71	Unaffiliated
1871-91	Liberal
1891-94	Australian Labor Party
1894	Conservative
1894-97	Australian Labor Party
1897-1900	Liberal
1900	Australian Labor Party
1900-04	Liberal
1904-present	Australian Labor Party

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## 2. SERVICES TO VOTERS



### Enrolment

Soon after the resignations of the members for Albert Park and Williamstown Districts, the Victorian Electoral Commission sent notification of the by-elections to every householder in both Districts. It advised that as a by-election would soon be held, people who were not on the electoral roll should enrol and those who had recently moved should update their enrolment details. This provided voters with several weeks to ensure they were correctly enrolled and eligible to vote in the by-elections.

A further enrolment reminder was sent to each householder after the issue of the writs (see Appendix 2). Enrolment advertisements were placed in both the daily papers and the local papers within each electorate (see Appendix 2).

Enrolment forms were available from the VEC's website at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au), post offices, Coles supermarkets, Australian Electoral Commission divisional offices or by contacting the VEC's election offices or head office.

During the enrolment promotion period, 1,487 voters enrolled or updated their enrolment details, 1,117 of these taking place between the issue of the writs and the close of rolls. At the close of rolls, there were 45,320 voters enrolled in Albert Park (43,926 in 2006) and 38,034 enrolled in Williamstown (37,437 in 2006).

### Voting

A letter was sent to all electors on the roll (at roll close) advising them of their voting options prior to election day (see Appendix 2).

#### Arrangements for voting before election day

**Early voting** – Voters unable to vote on election day had the opportunity to vote early at the election office in either district, or at the VEC's head office in Melbourne.

#### Albert Park

Level 2, 71 Palmerston Crescent, South Melbourne

#### Williamstown

19 Parker Street, Williamstown

#### VEC

Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

Offices were open from 8.30am to 5.00pm weekdays during business hours for the two weeks of early voting, and were also open on the Saturday morning the week before the election (9.00am to 2.00pm), until 8.00pm on the Thursday evening prior to the election, and until 6.00pm on election eve.

A total of 3,571 voters voted early in person for Albert Park and 3,349 for Williamstown. This compares with 4,192 and 1,017 respectively to the early voting figures for the 2006 State election.

## 2. SERVICES TO VOTERS



Reasons for early voting included having to work, or being interstate or overseas on election day.

**Mobile voting** – A total of 163 voters across both districts (54 in Albert Park and 109 in Williamstown) took advantage of mobile voting, with mobile voting teams visiting aged care facilities, hostels and hospitals in the fortnight prior to election day.

**Voting interstate and overseas** – Early voting in person was possible at 11 interstate and one overseas location. These locations and the number of votes taken at each are listed in Appendix 3. A total of 76 early votes were cast outside Victoria (49 for Albert Park and 27 for Williamstown). This compares with 180 and 59 respectively for the districts in 2006.

**Postal voting** – Voters unable to attend a voting centre on election day were able to apply for a postal vote. Postal vote applications were available to download at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or could be obtained by calling the VEC, at any post office in each district, or through applications letterbox dropped by the Australian Labor Party (ALP).

A total of three postal votes (one for Albert Park and two for Williamstown) were issued outside the State for the by-elections as compared to 44 for both electorates in 2006 (35 for Albert Park and nine for Williamstown).

Postal vote applications were scanned and electronically processed on the day that they were received by the VEC, to ensure the efficient delivery of ballot packs. A total of 6,194 (3,471 for Albert Park and 2,723 for Williamstown) postal vote applications were processed during the 24 days of postal voting. This is an increase on the comparative figures from 2006 where a total of 4,802 (2,782 for Albert Park and 2,015 for Williamstown) postal vote applications were processed.

### Services for voters with special needs

Prior to the scheduled review of the VEC's Disability Action Plan, the VEC continued a number of initiatives put in place for the 2006 State election, including:

- a text telephone (TTY) hotline for the provision of by-election information to voters with a hearing impairment;
- extra large pencils for use by voters with arthritis;
- provision of magnifying sheets for voters with a vision-impairment;
- wheelchair-height voting booths at each voting centre;
- chairs made available within the voting centre for those unable to queue or stand for any length of time; and
- training of staff to assist voters who may be in need of assistance in terms of provision of seating, mobility issues or those having difficulty voting.

The lack of accessible voting centres for lease continues to be a major concern to the VEC. As the organisation does not own any property reserved specifically for voting centres, it is reliant on leasing properties that meet most of its criteria e.g. space requirements, accessibility, proximity to public transport and availability for a very short-term lease.

The VEC could not locate a single 'Fully Wheelchair Accessible' venue available for lease at short notice in the Albert Park District and had to settle for voting centres rated 'Assisted Wheelchair Access' for 10 of the 11 election day voting centres. Negotiations did take place with the local council to organise a temporary accessible carpark bay in front of the Albert Park election office.

Of the 15 election day voting centres in Williamstown, two were 'Fully Wheelchair Accessible', seven were 'Assisted Wheelchair Access' and the remainder had no wheelchair access.

The rating of all voting centres was advertised in press advertisements, on the voting leaflet sent to every elector and on the VEC's website.

Most voting centres are located in older public buildings such as schools, town halls, and community centres, which were built prior to accessibility standards being incorporated into building guidelines.

Prior to the 2008 council elections, the VEC will write to the heads of relevant government departments with a request to review public buildings used as voting venues from an accessibility standpoint, and retrofit as many buildings as possible to increase the level of wheelchair accessibility.

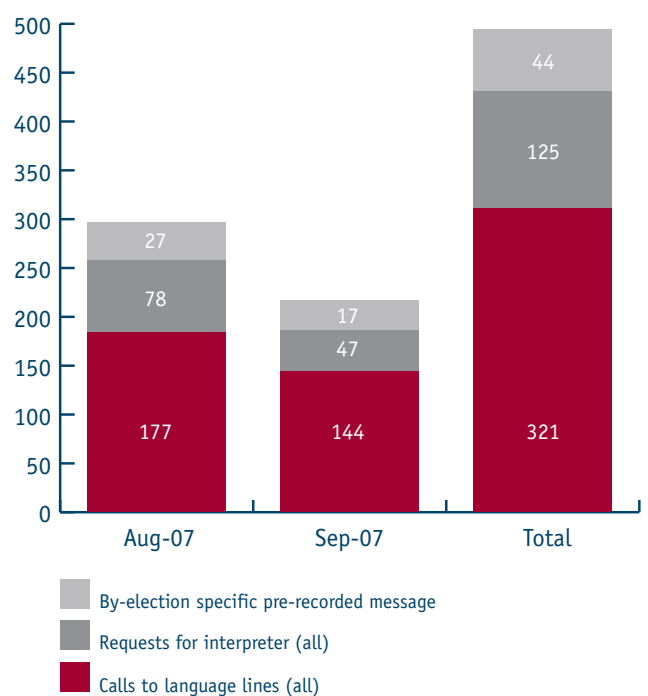
## Services for voters from non-English speaking backgrounds

Both districts have relatively small populations of residents with low proficiency in English (4% in Albert Park and 7% in Williamstown – source Australian Bureau of Statistics).

Advertising in print media included the VEC's 19 multi-lingual telephone enquiry service numbers that operate all year round. These numbers were also incorporated

on each of the enrolment and voting mailouts sent to householders/voters in both districts. Translated introductory information on the by-elections was recorded in each of the languages advertised, with callers able to hold the line for interpreter assistance via a three-way phone call between the staff at the Victorian Interpreting and Translating Service, the VEC and the caller.

Figure 1 – Use of telephone interpreter telephone lines (August-September 2007)



Voters could access a leaflet with voting instructions translated into 19 languages plus English at each of the appointed voting centres. In addition, a total of 33 election staff (over 26 election day voting centres) spoke a language other than English and were on hand to assist with interpreting where required (15 in Albert Park and 18 in Williamstown).

## Communication services

The voter information campaign consisted of direct mail, newspaper advertising, website, media relations and a telephone enquiry service.

## 2. SERVICES TO VOTERS

### Direct mail

The VEC took the opportunity to write to householders within Albert Park and Williamstown Districts after the resignations of the Premier and Deputy Premier were announced, prior to the issue of the writs on Monday, 20 August 2007.

From Wednesday, 8 August, the VEC distributed 38,691 leaflets to householders in Albert Park District and 24,835 leaflets in Williamstown District. This was the first of two mailouts reminding people to enrol or to update their enrolment. The second took place from Thursday, 23 August, four days prior to the close of rolls.

From Tuesday, 4 September, following the close of rolls, the VEC sent an EasyVote letter to those on the roll (excluding general postal voters). This letter detailed early voting, postal voting, overseas and interstate voting, and election day voting arrangements, including the location and accessibility rating of all voting centres. Letters were lodged for distribution on Tuesday, 4 September, with a total of 44,454 sent to people on the roll for Albert Park District and 37,403 letters sent to people on the roll for Williamstown District.

### Newspaper advertising

A series of advertisements that met requirements set out in the *Electoral Act 2002* ran in local newspapers, as well as in *The Age* and *Herald Sun* throughout the election period (see Appendix 2 for placement details and advertisement samples).

### Telephone enquiry service

The VEC operated a telephone enquiry service from its head office until election offices opened, on 21 August 2007. From this time, public telephone enquiries were received at each election office, with the head office operating as an 'overflow' service. Calls to the offices peaked each time a mailout occurred, with electors calling to check enrolment details, to ask for advice on what to do if they could not attend a voting centre on election day and the location of election day voting centres.

### Website

Once the writs for the by-elections were issued, the VEC's website provided specific information for voters in both districts. Traffic to the website increased from late August through to election day.

Electors were advised of the close of rolls date, and 'quick download' versions of the enrolment form were available for those needing to enrol or update their enrolment details.

Information detailed who had to vote and what electors could do if they could not vote on election day. Postal vote applications were available for download and the location of early voting centres, including interstate and overseas, were listed. Postal vote applications were the most popular download from the website during this period (221 downloaded).

Candidate information and nomination forms were also available for download through the website.

Each election day voting centre was listed, along with its relevant accessibility rating. Maps showing the physical location of each centre were also accessible at the click of a mouse. Albert Park District voting centre locations were more frequently accessed than those for Williamstown District.

Electors could also email any request or query through the VEC via its [info@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@vec.vic.gov.au) email service. A total of 66 by-election related emails were processed over the period 20 August to 20 September 2007. The main types of queries received related to postal voting (Victoria and overseas) and notification of being overseas and unable to vote.

## Complaints

The VEC received two formal complaints from electors in the Albert Park District regarding what they believed to be false and misleading information distributed by the ALP and therefore a breach of section 84 of the *Electoral Act 2002* (the Act). Both referred to a 'letter' placed in their letterboxes regarding the alleged intent of the Greens to close MacRobertson Girls' High School. As the letter did not mislead electors as to how to cast their actual ballot, the VEC advised that it considered that the relevant section of the Act had not been breached.



### 3.

## SERVICES TO REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

### Appointment of Election Managers

Ms Michelle Templeton was appointed the Election Manager for Albert Park District and Ms Heather Oke the Election Manager for Williamstown District.

The Election Managers were responsible for:

- staffing the election office;
- receiving independent candidates' nominations;
- conducting the draw for ballot paper positions;
- dealing with electoral enquiries;
- issuing postal votes;
- employing voting centre managers and election officials;
- training voting centre managers;
- receiving how-to-vote cards for registration;
- supervising voting, and receiving and recording results; and
- declaring the election.

Both Election Managers were assisted by several VEC core staff and experienced election officials who had worked at the 2006 State election.

### Candidate support

A total of nine candidates nominated for each of the District by-elections. This compares with seven nominating in Albert Park District and five in Williamstown District for the 2006 State election.

Candidate nomination forms were available for download from the VEC's website or could be obtained by calling the VEC directly. Parties nominated their candidates directly to the VEC and independent candidates nominated through the election offices. Candidates were provided with a handbook, which explained those aspects of electoral law that directly related to them. In addition, candidates also received a 'Candidates' Kit' which contained:

- a how-to-vote card declaration;
- one *'Appointment of Scrutineer'* as a sample;
- an Electoral Roll Confidentiality Agreement;
- a list of voting centres in their district (and early voting centre);
- estimated votes and the number of issuing points at each voting centre;
- Election Manager contact details;
- a Nomination form; and
- a District fact sheet.

Upon nominating and upon request, candidates were also provided with a copy of the electoral roll for their District on CD-ROM, for the purposes of campaigning – as per section 33(6) of the *Electoral Act 2002*.

### 3.

## SERVICES TO REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

### Registration of how-to-vote cards

All how-to-vote cards distributed within 400 metres of a voting centre on election day must be registered. Political parties were required to register how-to-vote cards directly with the VEC, while independent candidates could submit their cards with the Election Manager for their respective election for registration by the VEC.

A how-to-vote card checklist was provided in each candidate's handbook, to ensure that all cards were correct, authorised and properly registered. A total of 29 how-to-vote cards were registered for the by-elections. One how-to-vote card submitted for registration was rejected.

#### **The VEC registered the following fourteen how-to-vote cards for the Albert Park District.**

Family First Victoria Inc	1 card
John Dobinson	1 card
The Australian Greens – Victoria	1 card
Australian Labor Party – Victorian Branch	1 card
Australian Democrats (Victorian Division)	1 card
Democratic Labor Party (DLP) of Australia	1 card
Prodos Marinakis	6 cards
Nigel Strauss	2 cards

#### **The VEC registered the following fifteen how-to-vote cards for the Williamstown District.**

Family First Victoria Inc	1 card
Janis Rossiter	2 cards
Catherine Cumming	1 card
Nathan Tavendale	2 cards
Vivienne Millington	3 cards
Wajde Assaf	3 cards
Australian Labor Party – Victorian Branch	1 card
The Australian Greens – Victoria	1 card
Democratic Labor Party (DLP) of Australia	1 card

### Party/Candidate briefings

All registered political parties were invited to attend an individual by-election briefing on 2 August. Five parties participated. A further two by-election briefings were held for parties between 21 August and 24 August 2007.

Independent candidates were invited to attend a briefing session conducted at the VEC on Sunday, 26 August. One independent candidate attended.

The Electoral Commissioner prepared a circular to keep registered political party officials informed of election arrangements until the close of nominations.

All communication with candidates after the close of nominations was via the respective Election Managers. The Election Managers were then fully responsible for the communication of relevant matters.

### Complaints

The VEC received a complaint from a party worker regarding the fact that party workers had to stay outside the election office in Palmerston Crescent in Albert Park to hand out how-to-vote cards. The front of the building had been designated the entrance of the voting centre and therefore legislative requirements were followed.

Two complaints were made by party officials about other parties' materials with regard to lack of proper authorisation of electoral material. No further action was taken.

## 4. SERVICES TO THE MEDIA

### Media releases

The VEC distributed five media releases throughout the election period – to local and statewide media.

### Media enquiries

A total of 20 enquiries were received from journalists with regard to the by-elections. The majority of the enquiries related to when results would be available and what the results might indicate (in terms of the low turnout in Albert Park). Four calls were from journalists who wished to film in the voting centres – either people voting or the counting of ballot papers.

The Electoral Commissioner conducted three pre-recorded interviews for election day – on FOX FM, 3AW and the ABC.

### Provision of results

Progressive generation of results was communicated through the VEC's website on the night of the election, every 15 minutes, from 7.00pm until 10.15pm.

## 5. VEC PERSONNEL



### VEC support

After appointing the Election Managers, the role of the VEC was to support the Election Managers through the provision of:

- advice on election management;
- equipment and furniture, computers, telephone and fax machines, ballot boxes, voting screens and voting centre furniture;
- HelpDesk support and assistance for the VEC's Election Management System and other technical issues;
- electoral materials, including voting centre and office forms and manuals;
- a voter information campaign for the by-elections;
- assistance with public and media relations; and
- electoral rolls for use in voting centres.

### Employment of staff

A total of 267 staff were employed to work as election officials on election day – 127 (33 casuals and 94 officials) at Albert Park and 140 (23 casuals and 117 officials) at Williamstown.

Three training sessions were conducted for the Albert Park and Williamstown District election officials. Election Managers and Assistant Election Managers also completed a one-day training session.

Three VEC staff provided HelpDesk support to the Election Managers and Assistant Election Managers during the election period.

## 6. COUNTING THE VOTES AND RETURN OF THE WRITS



After the 6.00pm close of voting, the first preference count took place in the voting centres and the results were phoned through to the respective election offices. In Albert Park District, there was no clear majority, so a preference distribution was required.

Wade Noonan (ALP) had an absolute majority in the seat of Williamstown and no preference distribution was required; he was declared provisionally elected on Wednesday, 19 September.

A two-candidate-preferred count to distribute preferences to the two candidates considered most likely to be in the lead after the distribution of preferences was conducted following each count of first preference votes. The purpose of the two-candidate-preferred count was to provide detailed information for political parties and analysts.

In Albert Park District on the Monday following the election, a recheck was conducted on all ballot papers, followed by a preference distribution on Tuesday to determine the successful candidate. Martin Foley (ALP) was declared the successful candidate on Wednesday, 19 September 2007.

Postal and early votes were counted in the election offices on election night in the same count order as in the voting centres. Primary and two-candidate-preferred results are included in Appendix 1.

Declaration votes were checked on the Monday after election day. Declaration votes are all votes other than 'ordinary votes', where the voter 'declares' their entitlement to vote. There are several different types of declaration votes:

- early votes cast outside Victoria;
- absent votes cast at voting centres outside the voter's district; and
- unenrolled votes cast by voters whose details cannot be found on the electoral roll on election day, but who sign a written declaration that they are entitled to vote.

### Refund of nomination deposits

Upon nominating for an election, candidates (or their party) must provide a deposit of \$350. This deposit is refunded if the candidate obtains at least 4% of the first preference vote or is elected. Deposits were refunded on 25 September 2007. Two political party candidates and six independent candidates forfeited their deposits as they did not achieve at least 4% of first preference votes in their particular election.

## 6. COUNTING THE VOTES AND RETURN OF THE WRITS

### Electoral entitlements

An amount of \$1.34897 per vote is payable to political parties and independent candidates where candidates obtain at least 4% of the first preference votes. A total of seven party candidates and three independent candidates were in this position.

An amount of \$75,578.76 was accrued to be paid to political parties and independent candidates for election entitlements.

At the end of November, a total of \$43,663.47 had been paid to the Australian Labor Party and Nigel Strauss, with the remaining parties and candidates yet to lodge their claims. All claims must be lodged by 4 February 2008.

Figure 2 – Accrued electoral entitlements

Australian Labor Party	\$41,366.17
Family First	\$3,750.14
Democrats	\$2,301.34
Australian Greens	\$20,299.30
Prodos Marinakis	\$1,918.24
Nigel Strauss	\$2,297.30
Catherine Cumming	\$3,646.27
	<hr/>
	\$75,578.76

### Compulsory voting

The first stage of the non-voter follow-up process commenced in late September. Postal vote declarations received too late for the count and elector information reports completed at voting centres on election day detailing elector excuses for not voting were processed through the compulsory voting module of the election management system. Scanning of 75 marked rolls for Albert Park District and 87 marked rolls for Williamstown District from election day voting centres also took place at this time.

In early October, 9,720 'Apparent Failure to Vote' notices were generated and mailed to electors in Albert Park District and 3,589 notices were generated and mailed to electors in Williamstown District. The first stage of the non-voter follow up process is conducted under Part 9, Division 2 of the *Electoral Act 2002*.

Subsequent follow-up of electors who did not respond to or provided an invalid response to the 'Apparent Failure to Vote' notice is conducted under the *Infringements Act 2006*.

Non-voters may receive two further notices from the VEC. The first is an *Infringement Notice*; this stage incurs a penalty amount currently set at \$55. Infringement notices are due to be mailed to non-voters in late November with an anticipated completion date of early January 2008.

Payment of penalties by non-voters may be by cheque, money order, cash, via the internet using BPAY, EFTPOS or by visiting any Australia Post outlet using the PostBillPay facility.

## 7. FURTHER ANALYSIS

### Unenrolled analysis

A total of 280 declaration votes were received for the by-elections, the majority of which were unenrolled votes. For a variety of reasons, these voters thought that they were on the roll but were not e.g. had either changed their name or address and had failed to update their details and had been removed from the roll. Following checking of entitlements for declaration voters casting an unenrolled vote, 18 votes (6%) were admitted to the count.

Electors claiming an unenrolled vote were issued with an enrolment form at the voting centre and as a result, 42% of those electors in Albert Park and 50% of those electors in Williamstown had updated their enrolment details by mid-October.

### Analysis of informal votes

The informal voting rate was higher at the by-elections than in those districts at the 2006 State election. Informal voting increased in Albert Park from 4.33% at the State election to 7.47% at the by-election, and in Williamstown from 5.63% at the State election to 6.79% at the by-election. Immediately after the by-elections there was public conjecture that the increase in informal votes was the result of the absence of Liberal candidates in the by-elections. The VEC decided to examine the informal ballot papers from the by-elections. The aims of the survey were to ascertain whether the patterns of informal voting were different at the by-elections from those at the State election, and to shed light on the reasons for the increase in informal voting. This assists the VEC to design strategies to reduce the level of informal voting.

For the sake of comparability, the VEC used the same categories as in its analysis of informal ballot papers at the 2006 State election (see the VEC's *Report to Parliament on the 2006 Victorian State election*, p. 91).

These categories were:

Blank	The bulk of these ballot papers were presumably deliberately informal, though they might include ballot papers lodged by people who had difficulties with the whole voting process.
Numbers – 1 only	
Numbers – insufficient	Ballot papers including insufficient numbers to constitute a formal vote.
Numbers – apparently deliberate	Ballot papers including number sequences such as all '1's, or '0', or '1', '10', '300', which indicate an intention to cast an informal vote.
Numbers – other	
Ticks/crosses – preference	Ballot papers indicating a clear preference for a candidate through a single tick or cross.
Ticks/crosses – apparently deliberate	Ballot papers with ticks or crosses in every square, indicating an intention to reject all the candidates.
Ticks/crosses – other	
Writing – apparently deliberate	Ballot papers with writing or drawings indicating opposition to all the candidates, including those with a cross over the whole paper.
Writing – other	Vague scrawls not indicating any intention.
Administrative error	Ballot papers which are really formal, or which have been issued for the wrong district.

## 7. FURTHER ANALYSIS

Figure 3 – Informality survey results

Category	Albert Park	Williamstown	TOTAL
Blank	973 40.68%	464 21.15%	1,457 31.78%
Nos – 1 only	128 5.35%	173 7.89%	301 6.56%
Nos – insufficient	112 4.68%	413 18.82%	525 11.45%
Nos – deliberate	181 7.57%	254 11.58%	435 9.49%
Nos – other	405 16.93%	53 2.42%	458 9.99%
Ticks/crosses – preference	108 4.52%	128 5.83%	236 5.15%
Ticks-crosses – deliberate	164 6.86%	180 8.2%	344 7.5%
Ticks/crosses – other	21 0.88%	0	21 0.46%
Writing – deliberate	274 11.45%	502 22.88%	776 16.92%
Writing – other	20 0.84%	20 0.91%	40 0.87%
Admin error	6 0.25%	7 0.31%	13 0.28%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>4,585</b>

The results for the two districts differ considerably in some categories. Blank ballot papers made up more than 40% of the informal votes in Albert Park, and just over half that proportion in Williamstown. Conversely, ballot papers with writing indicating a deliberate informal vote were 22.88% of the total in Williamstown and only 11.45% in Albert Park. One variation appears to be the consequence of different decisions in the two districts about how to categorise ballot papers. Ballot papers with insufficient numbering constituted 18.82% of the total in Williamstown, but only 4.68% in Albert Park. Ballot papers with other numbering errors were 16.93% of the total in Albert Park but only 2.42% in Williamstown. If the two categories are combined, the totals for each district are very similar (21.61% in Albert Park and 21.24% in Williamstown).

One significant aspect of the survey is the small number of ballot papers with a single number '1'. Only 6.56% of the by-election informal votes were marked in this way, compared with 26.38% of the 2006 State election ballot papers surveyed (see the VEC's *Report to Parliament on the 2006 Victorian State election*, p. 93). This difference reinforces the conclusion of the State election survey: that voters in the State election were influenced by the fact that they could vote '1' above the line on their Upper House ballot paper, and misapplied this method to their district ballot papers. In the absence of an Upper House ballot paper at the by-elections, very few voters made this mistake.

Ballot papers in the 'Writing – apparently deliberate' category made up 16.92% of the total in the by-elections, compared with 11.53% in the State election. Reports from election managers indicate that a significant number of the votes in this category referred to the lack of a Liberal candidate.



Figure 4 – Informality survey results: broader categories

Category	Albert Park	Williamstown	TOTAL
Blank	973 40.68%	464 21.15%	1,457 31.78%
Numbers	826 34.53%	893 40.7%	1,719 37.49%
Ticks/crosses	293 12.25%	308 14.04%	601 13.11%
Writing	294 12.29%	522 22.79%	816 17.8%
Admin error	6 0.25%	7 0.31%	13 0.28%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>4,585</b>

Numbering errors was a substantial category, with 37.49% of the total. However, this percentage was less than at the State election, when 53.16% of informal votes were the result of numbering errors. Ticks and crosses comprised 13.11% of the total at the by-elections, which was close to the 12.25% in this category at the State election.

A key question is how many of the by-election votes appeared to be deliberately informal. Figure 5 shows the results of the survey on this matter, and also the number of ballot papers that indicated a clear preference.

Figure 5 – Deliberate informal votes

Category	Albert Park	Williamstown	TOTAL
Apparently deliberate	619 25.88%	936 42.66%	1,555 33.91%
Apparently deliberate including blank	1,592 66.56%	1,400 63.81%	2,992 65.26%
Indicating preference	348 14.55%	714 32.54%	1,062 23.16%

Almost two-thirds of the ballot papers appear to have been deliberately informal. This is very different from the State election, when 40.82% of the informal votes were probably deliberate. Conversely, only 23.16% of the by-election informal votes indicated a clear preference (either through the number '1' or a single tick or cross) compared with 41.47% of the votes in the State election survey.

Analysis of the informal ballot papers at the Albert Park and Williamstown by-elections reveals that a large majority appear to have deliberately cast an informal vote. There can be no definitive answer to the question of why so many voters spoiled their vote, but it is likely that the absence of Liberal candidates at least contributed to the high proportion. Comments on ballot papers point in this direction, as does the fact that this was the biggest single difference from the range of candidates at the 2006 State election.

There were substantial numbers of accidental informal votes, and the VEC needs to maintain its efforts to inform voters how to vote correctly. However, the survey indicates that the phenomenon of 'just voting 1' was not a serious problem at these by-elections.

## Two-candidate-preferred

After the by-elections, the VEC conducted a further two-candidate-preferred count with the 2006 election ballot papers for both Albert Park District and Williamstown District for comparison purposes.

On a two-candidate-preferred basis for the Albert Park District by-election, the results were ALP (Martin Foley) 57.07% and the Greens (John Middleton) 42.93%. The same comparison for this electorate at the 2006 State election shows a result of ALP 67.7% and Greens 32.3%.

On a two-candidate-preferred basis for the Williamstown District by-election, the results were ALP (Wade Noonan) 64.1% and the Greens (Janet Rice) 35.9%. The same comparison for this electorate at the 2006 State election shows a result of ALP 79.7% and Greens 20.3%.

However, any comparisons are problematic given that the conditions were substantially different between the two events. Swing analysis is most relevant between general election results.

## 8. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

### Party postal vote applications

As mentioned in the VEC's *Report to Parliament on the 2006 Victorian State election*, party postal vote applications continued to be an issue for the VEC, as they caused some confusion on the part of recipients. Some recipients believed that this application was their actual vote, or that it was a vote for the party who had distributed it.

Most importantly, the VEC had to contact a total of 43 electors to make alternative voting arrangements as applications from these electors were delivered to the VEC after the closing date for postal vote applications. Some of these applications were signed by the applicant or witness as much as 13 days prior to the date the party submitted them to the VEC.

This is not just an issue of concern to the VEC, but also other electoral commissions as was recently stated in a Canberra Times article:

"..of concern is the damage this practice does to the standing of the AEC as an independent administrator of elections. The "official" application forms sent out by the party representatives are combined with campaigning material. This creates a perception of a close connection between the AEC and a party's election campaign. This perceived connection with the AEC undermines the AEC's independent position...."

The number of postal votes cast has doubled in the past four elections (1993 337,144; 2004 – 660,324), and it can be expected that this trend will continue. As this type of voting increases in importance, it becomes even more critical for it to be removed from party involvement."

Extract from article in *The Canberra Times*, 31 October 2007, 'Slippery slope of going postal' by Norm Kelly. Norm Kelly is a member of the Democratic Audit at the Australian National University.

### Recommendation

These party postal vote application issues mirror the issues and concerns raised by the VEC during the 2006 State election and which are being raised again for the AEC with regard to the 2007 Federal election. To reiterate, the VEC recommends that the *Electoral Act 2002* be amended so that the VEC is the only body permitted to distribute postal vote applications.

### Public access to roll

Prior to the advent of the *Electoral Act 2002*, the previous governing act, *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958* contained section 60 in respect of the inspection of rolls:

"The Electoral Commissioner must ensure that copies of the latest print of the roll for any district or province are –

- a) open for public inspection without fee at the office of the Electoral Commissioner during office hours and at such other places as are prescribed; and
- b) on payment of the price fixed by the Electoral Commissioner obtainable at such places as the Electoral Commissioner appoints."

This meant that the rolls could be quite out of date at any point in time, by as much as 3-4 years between major electoral events (assuming no by-elections). However, common practice at that time was that the VEC updated the roll every six months. When the Act was being reviewed for the purpose of amendments, it was proposed to go back to the original practice as described in the Act – latest print of the roll for any district or region. Concern was expressed at the time that this would unduly reduce public access to enrolment information and thus section 32 (1) of the *Electoral Act 2002* prescribes:

"The Commission must prepare every 6 months a list of the names of electors (other than silent electors) in alphabetical order and their addresses."

And section 32 (2) of the same Act states:

"The Commission must ensure that copies of the latest list of electors are available for public inspection free of charge at the office of the Commission during office hours."

The provision of access to this information was intended to enable electors and political parties to object to enrolments. Current practices ensure the regular provision of roll information to political parties for enrolment objection and campaigning purposes. However, there is little evidence that electors utilise the public access copy of the roll for electoral-related purposes. The primary users of the public access copy of the roll are employees of debt collection agencies trying to trace bad debtors and to a lesser degree, electors trying to trace family members – neither of these activities is electoral-related.

#### Recommendation

That consideration be given to the intended and actual use of the public access copy of the electoral roll and determine whether there is validity in retaining access in its current form.

### How-to-vote cards displayed in voting centre only

During the 2006 State election and again as a result of the by-elections, paper wastage has been raised as an environmental issue by voters and in some cases, members of Parliament. In particular, the distribution of how-to-vote cards is seen to be the item causing most concern. There have been some calls for how-to-vote cards to be displayed at the back of the voting compartments, as is done in another Australian state, rather than have party workers handing them to electors directly. The VEC provided specially marked recycling receptacles for the by-elections and encouraged the recycling of materials. This was not successful.

Prior to the 2006 State election, the VEC did encourage the parties to consider asking electors to return the cards to them on the way out of the voting location. This seemed to be unsuccessful.

#### Recommendation

The VEC recommends that consideration be given to limiting the printing and distribution of how-to-vote cards by candidate supporters in an effort to be seen to be conforming with community expectations on responsible environmental management and the State's Sustainability Action Plan (Section 16: Leading by Example – Resource Efficiency in Operations).

### Timing of next State election

The date of the next Victorian State election is Saturday, 27 November 2010 as prescribed by legislation. The next Federal election is likely to be on or very close to that date. This may mean overlap in postal vote applications and potential confusion on the part of the voter. In addition, due to the continuing drought conditions, November is now becoming prime bushfire season.

#### Recommendation

That it be noted that the next State election will probably be in close proximity to the Federal election and that the election will be held when the possibility of bushfires is high.

## 8. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

### Compulsory voting

The VEC is of the opinion that the penalty for failing to vote – currently set at 50% of one penalty unit (\$55) – could be reviewed. At the 2006 State election a total of 2% of the enrolled voters failed to vote or provide a sufficient explanation for not voting, resulting in almost 75,000 individuals being pursued for collection of penalties.

In addition, the introduction of the *Infringements Act 2006* has had a significant impact on the administrative burden for the VEC of managing compulsory voting. The timing of the steps in the process has been expanded and the continuing necessary involvement of the organisation, even after handing over the outstanding infringements to the Infringements Court, has escalated the cost of the administration. A further complication is that the Infringements Court is not used to receiving such large numbers of infringements to be pursued en masse. The matter is not closed once the infringements are sent to the Court as individuals may still pay their penalties to the VEC and it must provide details to the Court regarding those enforcement orders that must therefore be revoked. The Court will also seek the VEC's assistance in determining the validity of the explanations it receives in response to the enforcement orders, and requires the VEC to be present at those cases which proceed in the courts.

### Recommendations

That Parliament consider the appropriateness of the current penalty arrangements and quantum.

That Parliament consider removing the compulsory voting process from the *Infringements Act 2006* due to significant administrative difficulties (particularly given the lack of consultation regarding its inclusion initially) and the inability for the Infringements Court to handle large volumes of infringements at a given point in time. Compulsory voting does not sit comfortably within the jurisdiction of the *Infringements Act 2006* as the Act is primarily geared to motor vehicle offences, as is the associated enforcement order paperwork.

### Disclosure of donations to political parties

Section 216 of the *Electoral Act 2002* (the Act) prohibits gaming institutions covered by the *Casino Control Act 1991* or the *Gambling Regulations Act 2003* from making donations in excess of \$50,000 to political parties.

To ensure that section 216 of the Act has been observed, registered political parties are required to give the VEC copies of the disclosure documents that the parties provide to the Australian Electoral Commission each year.

There were no donations in excess of \$50,000 in 2005-06 made by gaming institutions to any of the political parties in Victoria.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1 – Detailed voting statistics

### Detailed Voting Statistics

#### Albert Park District By-election: 15 September 2007

Member elected: **Martin Foley**

Total number of electors enrolled:	45,320
Formal votes:	29,637
Informal votes:	2,392 (7.47% of the total votes)
Total votes:	32,029 (70.67% of the total enrolment)

### Albert Park District Recheck Results

#### Number of first preference votes polled by each candidate

Voting Centre	MIDDLETON, John AUSTRALIAN GREENS	MARINAKIS, Prodos	DOBINSON, John	STRAUSS, Nigel	KAVANAGH, Paul Anthony DEMOCRATS	McCARTHY, Shane DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY	JACKSON, Adrian	EASTMAN, Cameron FAMILY FIRST	FOLEY, Martin AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	Informal Votes	Total Votes Polled
Bridport	887	158	30	481	274	37	20	97	1524	278	3786
Elwood North	943	143	17	63	113	36	27	121	1382	175	3020
Kerferd South	894	174	23	179	148	59	38	166	1352	281	3314
Middle Park	211	7	6	49	38	14	8	15	252	58	658
Port Melbourne East	271	73	7	18	55	34	6	57	564	97	1182
Port Melbourne West	674	180	22	165	139	53	29	163	1553	294	3272
Sandridge South	251	20	8	40	50	30	18	66	880	111	1474
Melbourne Southbank	584	152	24	139	90	53	32	126	983	222	2405
Southbank	515	127	30	94	100	35	22	167	754	154	1998
St Kilda Park	752	74	18	192	111	30	20	62	1060	178	2497
St Kilda South	680	67	11	148	89	27	15	42	846	177	2102
<b>Total Ordinary Votes</b>	<b>6662</b>	<b>1175</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>1568</b>	<b>1207</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>1082</b>	<b>11150</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>25708</b>
Absent	18	2	1	0	0	2	1	3	16	1	44
Postal Vote	701	67	60	72	150	47	68	121	1267	140	2693
Unenrolled	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	1	13
Early Vote	1066	178	40	62	349	55	52	100	1444	225	3571
<b>Total Declaration Votes</b>	<b>1791</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>2731</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>6321</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL VOTE TYPES</b>	<b>8453</b>	<b>1422</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>1703</b>	<b>1706</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>1307</b>	<b>13881</b>	<b>2392</b>	<b>32029</b>
Percentage of Formal Vote Polled by Candidate	28.52 %	4.80 %	1.00 %	5.75 %	5.76 %	1.73 %	1.20 %	4.41 %	46.84 %		

## APPENDICES

Albert Park District two-candidate-preferred (based on primary results)

<b>Voting Centre</b>	<b>MIDDLETON, John Australian Greens</b>	<b>FOLEY, Martin Australian Labor Party</b>	<b>Mis-sorts</b>	<b>Informal Votes</b>	<b>Total</b>
BRIDPORT	1702	1829	0	255	3786
ELWOOD NORTH	1184	1678	0	157	3019
KERFERD SOUTH	1335	1729	2	238	3304
MIDDLE PARK	320	287	0	50	657
PORT MELBOURNE EAST	374	715	0	93	1182
PORT MELBOURNE WEST	1058	1927	0	274	3259
SANDRIDGE	379	989	0	96	1464
SOUTH MELBOURNE	908	1283	0	214	2405
SOUTHBANK	805	1049	0	144	1998
ST KILDA PARK	1102	1232	0	163	2497
ST KILDA SOUTH	961	972	0	167	2100
Ordinary Votes	10128	13690	2	1851	25671
Absent	24	19	0	1	44
Declaration	6	6	0	1	13
Postal Vote	1072	1490	0	131	2693
Early Vote	1558	1795	3	215	3571
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12788</b>	<b>17000</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2199</b>	<b>31992</b>
Percentage of formal vote	42.93%	57.07%			

### Albert Park District Preference Distribution

Total valid first preference votes polled for all candidates: 29637

Number of votes required to constitute an absolute majority on first count: 14819

Number of informal votes: 2392

	MIDDLETON, John	MARINAKIS, Prodos	DOBINSON, John	STRAUSS, Nigel	KAVANAGH, Paul Anthony	McCARTHY, Shane	JACKSON, Adrian	EASTMAN, Cameron	FOLEY, Martin	TOTAL
Total first preference votes recorded for each candidate	8453	1422	297	1703	1706	512	356	1307	13881	<b>29637</b>
Transfer of 297 ballot-papers of DOBINSON, John (1st excluded candidate)	35	82		106	12	5	23	13	21	<b>297</b>
Progressive Total	8488	1504		1809	1718	517	379	1320	13902	<b>29637</b>
Transfer of 379 ballot-papers of JACKSON, Adrian (2nd excluded candidate)	49	52		128	45	26		48	31	<b>379</b>
Progressive Total	8537	1556		1937	1763	543		1368	13933	<b>29637</b>
Transfer of 543 ballot-papers of McCARTHY, Shane (3rd excluded candidate)	70	26		28	77			239	103	<b>543</b>
Progressive Total	8607	1582		1965	1840			1607	14036	<b>29637</b>
Transfer of 1582 ballot-papers of MARINAKIS, Prodos (4th excluded candidate)	255			1037	104			80	106	<b>1582</b>
Progressive Total	8862			3002	1944			1687	14142	<b>29637</b>
Transfer of 1687 ballot-papers of EASTMAN, Cameron (5th excluded candidate)	220			230	968				269	<b>1687</b>
Progressive Total	9082			3232	2912				14411	<b>29637</b>
Transfer of 2912 ballot-papers of KAVANAGH, Paul Anthony (6th excluded candidate)	1201			763					948	<b>2912</b>
FINAL TOTAL	10283			3995					15359	<b>29637</b>

Name of ELECTED candidate: FOLEY, Martin

# APPENDICES

## Detailed Voting Statistics

### Williamstown District By-election: 15 September 2007

Member elected: **Wade Noonan**

Total number of electors enrolled: 38,034  
 Formal votes: 30,111  
 Informal votes: 2,193 (6.79% of the total votes)  
 Total votes: 32,304 (84.93% of the total enrolment)

### Williamstown First Preference Results

#### Number of first preference votes polled by each candidate

Voting Centre	CUMMING, Catherine	ROSSITER, Janis	RICE, Janet AUSTRALIAN GREENS	NOONAN, Wade AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	HUGHES, Vern DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY	ASSAF, Wajde	HAYES, Veronica FAMILY FIRST	TAVENDALE, Nathan	MILLINGTON, Vivienne	Informal Votes	Total Votes Polled
Altona East	220	16	240	1508	31	28	88	23	18	261	2433
Altona Gate	101	40	212	1483	63	25	157	32	11	256	2380
Brooklyn Kingsville	35	13	123	406	11	9	19	5	40	47	708
South	183	69	452	1079	80	9	114	5	30	164	2185
Newport	115	34	315	794	29	14	84	11	34	96	1526
Newport East	138	42	360	788	62	13	52	12	42	72	1581
Newport West	148	9	276	1076	43	27	76	30	13	112	1810
Seaholme	120	7	203	564	11	3	77	8	6	72	1071
Spotswood	101	32	239	559	26	20	38	22	7	71	1115
West	130	14	257	683	27	13	64	16	7	109	1320
Williamstown	203	28	576	1038	40	20	111	25	67	112	2220
Williamstown South	218	60	732	1304	64	19	110	27	53	183	2770
Williamstown West	268	36	516	1124	65	27	149	24	51	192	2452
Yarraville	70	19	191	242	6	6	24	3	1	37	599
Yarraville Central	191	115	758	1122	84	14	42	24	14	156	2520
Total Ordinary Votes	2241	534	5450	13770	642	247	1205	267	394	1940	26690
Absent	1	1	9	13	0	0	1	0	0	0	25
Marked as Voted	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Postal Vote	134	27	391	1368	57	26	106	23	45	58	2235
Unenrolled	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Early Vote	327	86	744	1630	80	39	161	41	46	195	3349
Total Declaration Votes	462	114	1145	3014	138	65	268	64	91	253	5614
TOTAL ALL VOTE TYPES	2703	648	6595	16784	780	312	1473	331	485	2193	32304
Percentage of Formal Vote Polled by Candidate	8.98 %	2.15 %	21.90 %	55.74 %	2.59 %	1.04 %	4.89 %	1.10 %	1.61 %		



Williamstown District two-candidate-preferred

<b>Voting Centre</b>	<b>RICE, Janet Australian Greens</b>	<b>NOONAN, Wade Australian Labor Party</b>	<b>Mis-sorts</b>	<b>Informal Votes</b>	<b>Total</b>
ALTONA EAST	495	1675	2	261	2433
ALTONA GATE	404	1718	2	256	2380
BROOKLYN	220	441	0	47	708
KINGSVILLE SOUTH	751	1269	1	164	2185
NEWPORT	509	920	1	96	1526
NEWPORT EAST	600	909	0	72	1581
NEWPORT WEST	476	1221	1	112	1810
SEAHOLME	356	643	0	72	1071
SPOTSWOOD	370	674	0	71	1115
SPOTSWOOD WEST	412	799	0	109	1320
WILLIAMSTOWN	884	1223	1	112	2220
WILLIAMSTOWN SOUTH	1090	1497	0	183	2770
WILLIAMSTOWN WEST	923	1333	4	192	2452
YARRAVILLE	279	282	1	37	599
YARRAVILLE CENTRAL	1077	1286	1	156	2520
Ordinary Votes	8846	15890	14	1940	26690
Absent	11	14	0	0	25
Declaration	1	4	0	0	5
Postal Vote	673	1504	0	58	2235
Early Vote	1270	1876	8	195	3349
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10801</b>	<b>19288</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2194</b>	<b>32304</b>
Percentage of formal vote	35.90 %	64.10 %			

# APPENDICES

## Appendix 2 – Communication products

### Enrolment leaflet – Albert Park

State  
By-election  
**VECT**

You are already enrolled for the Albert Park District by-election if you're on the State or Federal roll for your present address within the area shown on the map.

**How do I check if I'm on the roll?**  
You can check your enrolment details to see if they are current at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or call 131 832.

**What if I'm not on the roll?**  
If you're an Australian citizen aged 18 or over and you are not enrolled, you should enrol as soon as possible to ensure that you can vote in the Albert Park District by-election.

**I recently moved...**  
If you have moved since you last voted, update your enrolment details to ensure you are eligible to vote – even if you moved within the same area.

**Albert Park District**

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

State  
By-election  
**VECT**

**Important information**

**How do I enrol or update my enrolment?**  
Download an enrolment form from [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au), collect one from any Australia Post Office, Coles supermarket or Australian Electoral Commission office, or call 131 832 to request a form. Post or fax (03 9614 2596) the completed form immediately.

**Is enrolling compulsory?**  
Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details current is compulsory. However, if you have never enrolled or have let your details lapse, you will not be penalised if you enrol for this by-election.

**When do I have to vote?**  
Details of the election date and where to vote will be available shortly and mailed to enrolled electors within Albert Park District, advertised in local newspapers and made available at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au).

**For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:**

- Arabic: 8008 0180 Arabic - 8008 0180 Arabic
- Bosnian: 8008 0181 Bosnian - 8008 0180 Croatian
- Chinese: 8008 0182 Chinese (Cantonese)
- Croatian: 8008 0183 Croatian - 8008 0180 Serb
- Greek: 8008 0184 - Ελληνικά: 8008 0185 In-Us Greek
- Italian: 8008 0186 Italian - 8008 0180 Italian
- Macedonian: 8008 0187 Macedonian
- Persian: 8008 0188 Chinese (Mandarin) - 8008 0180 Persian
- Polish: 8008 0189 Russian - 8008 0180 Serbian
- Romanian: 8008 0190 Romanian - 8008 0180 Spanish
- Turkish: 8008 0191 Turkish - 8008 0180 Vietnamese
- All other non-English languages: 8008 0182

**Information:**  
**131 832 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)**  
TTY: 9299 0570 (deaf telephone for the hearing impaired)

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner,  
505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC, 3000.

**STATE BY-ELECTION FOR ALBERT PARK DISTRICT**

A by-election will soon be held for Albert Park District.

**Make sure you're on the roll!**

To vote in the Albert Park District by-election you need to be correctly enrolled.

Enrolling to vote is important because it allows you to have a say in who will represent you in State Parliament.

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

Information:  
131 832 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

## Enrolment leaflet – Williamstown

State  
By-election  
**VEC**

You are already enrolled for the Williamstown District by-election if you're on the State or Federal roll for your present address within the area shown on the map.

**How do I check if I'm on the roll?**  
You can check your enrolment details to see if they are current at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or call 131 832.

**What if I'm not on the roll?**  
If you're an Australian citizen aged 18 or over and you are not enrolled, you should enrol as soon as possible to ensure that you can vote in the Williamstown District by-election.

**I recently moved...**  
If you have moved since you last voted, update your enrolment details to ensure you are eligible to vote – even if you moved within the same area.



Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

State  
By-election  
**VEC**

Important information

**STATE BY-ELECTION FOR WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT**

A by-election will soon be held due to the resignation of the Member for Williamstown District.

**Make sure you're on the roll!**  
To vote in the Williamstown District by-election you need to be correctly enrolled.  
Enrolling to vote is important because it allows you to have a say in who will represent you in State Parliament.



**How do I enrol or update my enrolment?**  
Download an enrolment form from [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au), collect one from any Australia Post Office, Coles supermarket or Australian Electoral Commission office, or call 131 832 to request a form. Post or fax (03 9614 1596) the completed form immediately.

**Is enrolling compulsory?**  
Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details current is compulsory. However, if you have never enrolled or have let your details lapse, you will not be penalised if you enrol for this by-election.

**When do I have to vote?**  
Details of the election date and where to vote will be available shortly and mailed to enrolled electors within Williamstown District, advertised in local newspapers and made available at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au).

**For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:**  
 - Arabic 0399 0180  
 - Chinese (Cantonese) 0399 0181  
 - Chinese (Mandarin) 0399 0182  
 - Hindi 0399 0183  
 - Indonesian 0399 0184  
 - Italian 0399 0185  
 - Japanese 0399 0186  
 - Korean 0399 0187  
 - Macedonian 0399 0188  
 - Malay 0399 0189  
 - Malayalam 0399 0190  
 - Marathi 0399 0191  
 - Nepali 0399 0192  
 - Persian 0399 0193  
 - Punjabi 0399 0194  
 - Russian 0399 0195  
 - Serbian 0399 0196  
 - Sinhala 0399 0197  
 - Spanish 0399 0198  
 - Tamil 0399 0199  
 - Telugu 0399 0200  
 - Vietnamese 0399 0201  
 - Urdu 0399 0202  
 - Other non-English languages 0399 0203

**Information:**  
131 832 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)  
TTY: 9299 0570 (text telephone for the hearing impaired)

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner,  
505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne Vic. 3000.

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

Information:  
131 832 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

# APPENDICES

## Enrolment letter – Albert Park

### Important information: Albert Park District by-election



To the householder

#### Election arrangements for Albert Park by-election

A by-election is being held due to the resignation of the Member for Albert Park District.

Election day is Saturday 15 September, and the electoral roll for this election closes at 8.00pm this Monday 27 August. If you are not enrolled, you need to complete an enrolment form and ensure that it is in our hands by **8.00pm on Monday 27 August**.

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or collected from any post office or Coles supermarket, and then personally delivered to either of the offices listed below, or faxed to the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) on 03 9277 7126.

Voting is compulsory. You will be notified by mail of election day voting centres prior to election day.

#### What if you can't vote on election day?

If you can't get to a voting centre on election day, Saturday 15 September, you can vote in advance in person, or you can apply for a postal vote.

Early voting is available from Monday 3 September at the following locations from 8.30am to 5.00pm weekdays:

- Election office, Level 2, 71 Palmerston Crescent, South Melbourne
- Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

Opening hours will be extended on Saturday 8 September from 9.00am to 2.00pm, and on Thursday 13 September from 8.30am to 8.00pm.

Postal vote applications are available at any post office in Albert Park District, online at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au), or by calling the Albert Park election office on 9645 0900.

The VEC needs to receive your postal vote application by Tuesday 11 September. This will allow us to send your ballot pack to you in time for you to complete and post the ballot paper before election day.

Yours faithfully

Steve Tully  
Electoral Commissioner

### Information: 9645 0900 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

TTY: 9299 0570 (text telephone for the hearing impaired)

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• Arabic 9209 0190 Amharic • 9209 0160 Arabic • Bosanski 9209 0191 Bosnian • 9209 0192 Cambodian • 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)  
• Hrvatski 9209 0192 Croatian • 9209 0193 Dari • 9209 0103 Greek • Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • 9209 0104 Korean  
• Македонски 9209 0105 Macedonian • 9209 0106 Chinese (Mandarin) • 9209 0196 Persian • Русский 9209 0196 Russian  
• Српски 9209 0107 Serbian • Somali 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkçe 9209 0110 Turkish • Việt ngữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese  
• All other non-English languages 9209 0112

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

**Important information:  
Albert Park District by-election**



Dear voter

**Remember: election day is Saturday 15 September 2007**

The Albert Park District by-election is being held due to the resignation of the Member for Albert Park District.

Election day is Saturday 15 September 2007. It is **compulsory for you to vote** in this by-election as you were on the roll for Albert Park District at the close of rolls, on Monday 27 August 2007.

Voting centre locations are listed on the back of this letter. Alternative options are also detailed should you be unable to get to a voting centre on election day.

If you vote in person, **take this EasyVote letter with you**. You can vote without it, but having it with you could help make your voting experience easier.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Tully".

Steve Tully  
Electoral Commissioner

# APPENDICES

## Enrolment letter – Williamstown

### Important information: Williamstown District by-election



To the householder

#### Election arrangements for Williamstown by-election

A by-election is being held due to the resignation of the Member for Williamstown District.

Election day is Saturday 15 September, and the electoral roll for this election closes at 8.00pm this Monday 27 August. If you are not enrolled, you need to complete an enrolment form and ensure that it is in our hands by **8.00pm on Monday 27 August**.

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or collected from any post office or Coles supermarket, and then personally delivered to either of the offices listed below, or faxed to the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) on 03 9277 7126.

Voting is compulsory. You will be notified by mail of election day voting centres prior to election day.

#### What if you can't vote on election day?

If you can't get to a voting centre on election day, Saturday 15 September, you can vote in advance in person, or you can apply for a postal vote.

Early voting is available Monday 3 September at the following locations from 8.30am to 5.00pm weekdays:

- Election office, 16 Parker Street (cnr Aitken Street), Williamstown
- Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

Opening hours will be extended on Saturday 8 September from 9.00am to 2.00pm, and on Thursday 13 September from 8.30am to 8.00pm.

Postal vote applications are available at any post office in Williamstown District, online at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au), or by calling the Williamstown election office on 9397 1533.

The VEC needs to receive your postal vote application by Tuesday 11 September. This will allow us to send your ballot pack to you in time for you to complete and post the ballot paper before election day.

Yours faithfully

Steve Tully  
Electoral Commissioner

### Information: 9397 1533 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

TTY: 9299 0570 (text telephone for the hearing impaired)

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• isiPLT 9209 0190 Amharic • العربية 9209 0160 Arabic • Bosanski 9209 0191 Bosnian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Cambodian • 粵語 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)  
• Hrvatski 9209 0162 Croatian • ڊيول 9209 0193 Dari • ភាសាខ្មែរ 9209 0163 Greek • Italiana 9209 0104 Italian • 한국어 9209 0104 Korean  
• Македонски 9209 0105 Macedonian • 普通话 9209 0106 Chinese (Mandarin) • فارسی 9209 0196 Persian • Русский 9209 0196 Russian  
• Српски 9209 0107 Serbian • Somali 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkçe 9209 0110 Turkish • Việt ngữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese  
• All other non-English languages 9209 0112

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

**Important information:  
Williamstown District by-election**



Dear voter

**Remember: election day is Saturday 15 September 2007**

The Williamstown District by-election is being held due to the resignation of the Member for Williamstown District.

Election day is Saturday 15 September 2007. It is **compulsory** for you to vote in this by-election as you were on the roll for Williamstown District at the close of rolls, on Monday 27 August 2007.

Voting centre locations are listed on the back of this letter. Alternative options are also detailed should you be unable to get to a voting centre on election day.

If you vote in person, **take this EasyVote letter with you**. You can vote without it, but having it with you could help make your voting experience easier.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Tully".

Steve Tully  
Electoral Commissioner

# APPENDICES

## By-election newspaper advertisements


Phase	Newspaper	Publication date
Enrolment	City Weekly	9 August
	Emerald Hill Weekly	8 August
	Caulfield Port Phillip Leader	7 August
	Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay Leader	7 August
	The Mail (Footscray)	8 August
	The Star (Footscray)	9 August
	The Star (Williamstown)	9 August
Issue of the writs	The Age	22 August
	Herald Sun	22 August
Last chance to enrol	The Age	24 August
	Herald Sun	24 August
Nominations close	City Weekly	30 August
	Emerald Hill Weekly	29 August
	Caulfield Port Phillip Leader	28 August
	Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay Leader	28 August
	The Mail (Footscray)	29 August
	The Star (Footscray)	30 August
	The Star (Williamstown)	30 August
	The Age	23 August
	Herald Sun	23 August
Voting before election day	City Weekly	6 September
	Emerald Hill Weekly	5 September
	Caulfield Port Phillip Leader	4 September
	Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay Leader	4 September
	The Mail (Footscray)	5 September
	The Star (Footscray)	6 September
	The Star (Williamstown)	6 September
Voting on election day	City Weekly	13 September
	Emerald Hill Weekly	12 September
	Caulfield Port Phillip Leader	11 September
	Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay Leader	11 September
	The Mail (Footscray)	12 September
	The Star (Footscray)	*
	The Star (Williamstown)	*
Results	The Age	22 September
	Herald Sun	22 September

\* Was booked, but did not appear due to a production oversight at the paper.



Enrolment

## State by-election Albert Park District




**Make sure you're enrolled to vote!**  
 A by-election will soon be held for Albert Park District.  
 You are already enrolled for the Albert Park District by-election if you're on the State or Federal roll for your present address within the area shown on the map.  
 If you're an Australian citizen aged 18 years or more and have never enrolled, you must enroll to vote. If you have recently moved or changed your name, you must update your enrolment.

**How do I check if I'm on the roll?**  
 You can check your enrolment details to see if they are current at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or call 131 832.

**How do I enrol?**  
 Download an enrolment form from [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au), collect one from any Australia Post Office, Coles supermarket or Australian Electoral Commission office, or call 131 832 to request a form. Post or fax (01 9654 1996) the completed form immediately.

**Enrolling is compulsory**  
 Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details current is compulsory.

**When do I vote?**  
 Details of the election date and where to vote will be available shortly and mailed to enrolled electors within Albert Park District, advertised in local newspapers and made available at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au). Voting is compulsory for all enrolled electors.




**Albert Park District**


Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000.

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting services:  
 Arabic 0208 0100 Ashraf - عربي 0208 0100 Asadi - Bosanski 0208 0101 Bosanac - Bengali 0208 0102 Cambodian  
 Chinese 0208 0103 Chinese (Cantonese) - Hindi 0208 0104 Croatian - Gujarati 0208 0105 Dai - Dinka 0208 0106  
 English 0208 0107 Greek - Italian 0208 0108 Hebrew - 0 408 0208 0109 Korean - Management 0208 0100 Newswatch  
 0208 0108 Chinese (Mandarin) - Urdu 0208 0109 Persian - Polish 0208 0108 Russian - Chinese 0208 0107 Serbian  
 Sinhalese 0208 0106 Spanish - Spanish 0208 0108 Spanish - Turkish 0208 0110 Turkish - Vietnamese 0208 0111 Vietnamese  
 All other non-English languages 0208 0112

**Information: 131 832 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)**  
 TTY: 9299 0570 (text telephone for the hearing impaired)

**Victorian Electoral Commission** 

Issue of writs



## State by-elections


### Albert Park District and Williamstown District

I have received writs from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Honourable Jenny Lindell MP, issued on Monday 20 August 2007 for the election of one member of the Legislative Assembly for Albert Park District and one member of the Legislative Assembly for Williamstown District.

The writs specify the following dates for the by-elections:

**Close of roll:** 8pm Monday 27 August 2007  
**Close of nominations:** 12 noon Friday 31 August 2007  
**Election day:** Saturday 15 September 2007  
**Return of the writ:** On or before Friday 5 October 2007

**S. H. Tully**  
 Electoral Commissioner  
 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria


**Victorian Electoral Commission** 

# APPENDICES

## Last chance to enrol

## State by-elections

### Last chance to enrol to vote



If you live in Albert Park or Williamstown Districts, have changed address, turned 18 or if you're just not on the roll, you must update your enrolment by **8.00pm this Monday 27 August**.

To vote at the Albert Park or Williamstown District by-elections you need to be correctly enrolled.

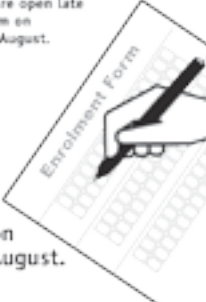
Enrol now if you're an Australian citizen aged 18 or over and you are not enrolled. Update your enrolment if you've changed your permanent residential address or other details.

Electoral law requires that you be enrolled at your permanent address. In order to vote, Enrolment is compulsory. However, if you have never enrolled before or have let your details lapse, you will not be penalised if you enrol now.

**How to enrol**

To enrol or update your enrolment, you will need to go to one of the offices listed opposite.

**To make sure your vote counts, your enrolment form must reach an election office before 8.00pm on Monday 27 August.**



**Albert Park District election office**  
Level 2, 71 Palmerston Crescent  
South Melbourne  
9.00am to 5.00pm weekdays

**Williamstown District election office**  
16 Parker Street (cnr Aitken Street)  
Williamstown  
9.00am to 5.00pm weekdays

**Australian Electoral Commission**  
Ground Floor, Casselden Place  
2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne  
9.00am to 5.00pm weekdays

Shop 2, 304 Hampshire Road, Sunshine  
9.00am to 5.00pm weekdays

**Victorian Electoral Commission**  
Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street  
Melbourne  
8.30am to 5.00pm weekdays


**All offices are open late until 8.00pm on Monday 27 August.**

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:  
 - APET: 029 010 0100 (Arabic) - 029 010 0101 (Greek) - 029 010 0102 (Cantonese) - 029 010 0103 (Chinese, Cantonese)  
 - 029 010 0104 (Dutch) - 029 010 0105 (Farsi) - 029 010 0106 (French) - 029 010 0107 (German) - 029 010 0108 (Hindi)  
 - 029 010 0109 (Japanese) - 029 010 0110 (Korean) - 029 010 0111 (Mandarin) - 029 010 0112 (Punjabi)  
 - 029 010 0113 (Sinhala) - 029 010 0114 (Spanish) - 029 010 0115 (Tamil) - 029 010 0116 (Urdu) - 029 010 0117 (Vietnamese)  
 All other non-English languages 029 010

TTY: 029 010 0118 (text telephone for the hearing impaired)

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

**Information: 13 18 32 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)**

Victorian Electoral Commission 

## Nominations close

## State by-elections

### Candidate information



**Nominations are now open**

Candidates not endorsed by a registered political party must nominate with the appropriate election manager:

**Albert Park District**  
Michelle Templeton  
Level 2, 71 Palmerston Crescent  
South Melbourne  
Tel: 9645 0900

**Williamstown District**  
Heather Oke  
16 Parker Street (cnr Aitken Street)  
Williamstown  
Tel: 9397 1533

Election managers will supply a Candidate Kit which includes a nomination form to **non-party candidates**. Nominations close at 12 noon on Friday 31 August. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

The VEC will conduct an information session for intending **non-party candidates** at 2.00pm on Sunday 26 August at the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC).

**Registered political parties** must nominate candidates at the VEC. Nominations close at 12 noon on Thursday 30 August. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

**How to vote cards**

If a person or organisation intends to distribute how-to-vote cards on election day, Saturday 15 September, the cards must be registered by the VEC.

Registered how-to-vote cards are the only form of printed electoral material that may be distributed within 400 metres of a voting centre on election day (penalties apply).

The period for submitting how-to-vote cards for registration is Monday 3 September to Friday 7 September 2007.

**Organisations or individuals** other than registered political parties can submit how-to-vote cards to the appropriate election manager or to the VEC.

**Registered political parties** must submit all their how-to-vote cards for registration to the VEC.

**How-to-vote cards submitted after 12 noon on Friday 7 September 2007 cannot be accepted or distributed on election day.**

**For more information, call the election manager in the electorate where you intend to nominate or distribute how-to-vote cards.**

The VEC is located at Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

**Information: 13 18 32 or [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)**

Victorian Electoral Commission 

Voting before election day

## State by-elections

### Williamstown District and Albert Park District

**Voting in person before election day**

Election day for the Williamstown and Albert Park by-elections is Saturday 15 September.

If you can't get to a voting centre on election day, there are two ways you can vote in advance:

**To persons vote at any one of the early voting centres listed below between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday:**

- **Williamstown election office**  
18 Parker Street (corner Alden Street)  
Williamstown
- **Albert Park election office**  
Level 2, 71 Palmerston Crescent  
South Melbourne
- **Victorian Electoral Commission**  
Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street  
Melbourne

Extended opening hours are:

- Saturday 8 September, 9.00am to 2.00pm
- Thursday 13 September, 8.30am to 8.00pm
- Friday 14 September, 8.30am to 8.00pm

**By post:** pick up a postal vote application at any post office within Williamstown or Albert Park Districts, download one from [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or call 9397 1533 (Williamstown) or 9645 0900 (Albert Park) and we'll send you one.

Mail or fax your completed application immediately and we will mail your ballot papers as soon as possible.

Your completed ballot paper must be in the mail before 8.00pm (Victorian time) on election day.

**Voting if you are going interstate or overseas**

If you will be outside Victoria on election day, you can vote before you leave or while you're away.

**Before you leave:** you can vote by post or in person as described above.

**While you're away:** you can vote at Victoria House, London (UK) or at an interstate location.

For locations, visit [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au) or call your nearest election office.

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:  
 - Hindi 020 0100 Arabic 020 0100 Urdu 020 0100 Gujarati 020 0100 Spanish 020 0100 Cantonese 020 0100 Chinese (Mandarin) 020 0100  
 - Vietnamese 020 0100 Croatian 020 0100 Serbian 020 0100 Bosnian 020 0100 Slovak 020 0100 Italian 020 0100 Russian 020 0100  
 - Macedonian 020 0100 Indonesian 020 0100 Chinese (Mandarin) 020 0100 Persian 020 0100 Turkish 020 0100  
 - Greek 020 0100 Serbian 020 0100 Somali 020 0100 Spanish 020 0100 Turkish 020 0100 Urdu 020 0100 Vietnamese 020 0100  
 - For other non-English languages 020 0100  
 111 0204 2170 (text message for the hearing impaired)

Authorised by G. A. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 505-506 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

**Information:** Williamstown 9397 1533 Albert Park 9645 0900  
[www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

Victorian Electoral Commission

Voting on election day

## Albert Park and Williamstown District by-elections

Election day is today

**Where to vote for Albert Park (2007)**

**Where to vote for Williamstown District**

**Candidates for Albert Park District**

1	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
2	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
3	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
4	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
5	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
6	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
7	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
8	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
9	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
10	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
11	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
12	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
13	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
14	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT
15	ALBERT PARK DISTRICT

**Candidates for Williamstown District**

1	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
2	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
3	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
4	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
5	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
6	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
7	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
8	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
9	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
10	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
11	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
12	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
13	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
14	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT
15	WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT

**How to vote correctly**

**Voting centres are open 8.00am to 6.00pm today**

**Voting is compulsory**

**Information:** Albert Park 9645 0900 Williamstown 9397 1533  
[www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

Results

## Public Notices

### ALBERT PARK DISTRICT AND WILLIAMSTOWN DISTRICT

State by-elections

**Declaration of Results**  
 The candidates elected in the Albert Park District and Williamstown District by-elections held on Saturday 15 September 2007 were as follows:

**Albert Park District**  
 Martin Foley  
 Australian Labor Party

**Williamstown District**  
 Wade Noonan  
 Australian Labor Party

Steve Tully  
 Victorian Electoral Commission

# APPENDICES

## Appendix 3 – Interstate and overseas voting locations

Voting was available at 11 interstate voting locations for the Albert Park and Williamstown District by-elections. Voting for both by-elections was also available at Victoria House, London (UK).

Listed below are the interstate and overseas voting locations, and the number of votes lodged at each location.

Adelaide (5 early votes)

Alice Springs (1 early vote)

Brisbane (6 early votes; 2 postal votes)

Cairns (5 early votes)

Canberra (6 early votes)

Darwin (3 early votes)

Hobart (5 early votes)

Noosa (6 early votes)

Perth (11 early votes)

Southport (2 early votes)

Sydney (13 early votes)

London (13 early votes; 1 postal vote)



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