

Victorian Electoral Commission  
**Report on the Broadmeadows District  
by-election held on 19 February 2011**

June 2011



**VIEC**

# Report on the Broadmeadows District by-election

The Hon. Bruce Atkinson, MLC  
President of the Legislative Council

The Hon. Ken Smith, MP  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

I am pleased to submit to you, for presentation to Parliament, this report on the conduct of the Broadmeadows District by-election held on 19 February 2011.

The report is presented in accordance with section 8(2)(b) of the *Electoral Act 2002*.



Steve Tully  
Electoral Commissioner  
June 2011

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Honourable John Brumby, Member for Broadmeadows District, resigned on 21 December 2011, triggering a by-election for that particular Lower House seat.

The successful conduct of the Broadmeadows District by-election on 19 February 2011 once again demonstrates the capability and preparedness of the Victorian Electoral Commission, the efficacy of our processes and systems, and the effectiveness of our strong partnerships with suppliers and contractors.

Nine candidates nominated for the by-election. The Australian Labor Party, the Democratic Labor Party, the Australian Greens and the Sex Party each endorsed a candidate. Five independent candidates also nominated.

Frank McGuire, the candidate for the Australian Labor Party — Victorian Branch, was elected with 53.43% of the first preference votes. For detailed voting statistics, see Appendix A.

The turnout rate of 78.45% for the by-election was lower than the turnout rate of 88.77% for the Broadmeadows District in the 2010 State election. The turnout rate for the Broadmeadows by-election was also lower than the average turnout of 81.21% for the four most recent State by-elections. More information about the participation rate can be found in Section 9 of this report.

Factors possibly affecting the lower turnout rate include the large margin with which the seat was previously held, the lack of a Liberal candidate and election fatigue, with voters attending their third attendance election within six months.

The informality rate of 9.5%, with nine candidates, was an increase from the informality rate of 7.58% at the 2010 State election for the Broadmeadows District with five candidates. The informality rate was also higher than the average informality rate of 6.38% for the four most recent State by-elections. The factors listed above with regard to lower turnout may have had a similar impact with regard to the increase in the informality rate. An analysis of the informal votes was conducted and the results can be found in Section 13 of this report.

I take this opportunity to thank my staff and the VEC's contractors and suppliers for their contributions to the very successful conduct of the Broadmeadows District by-election.

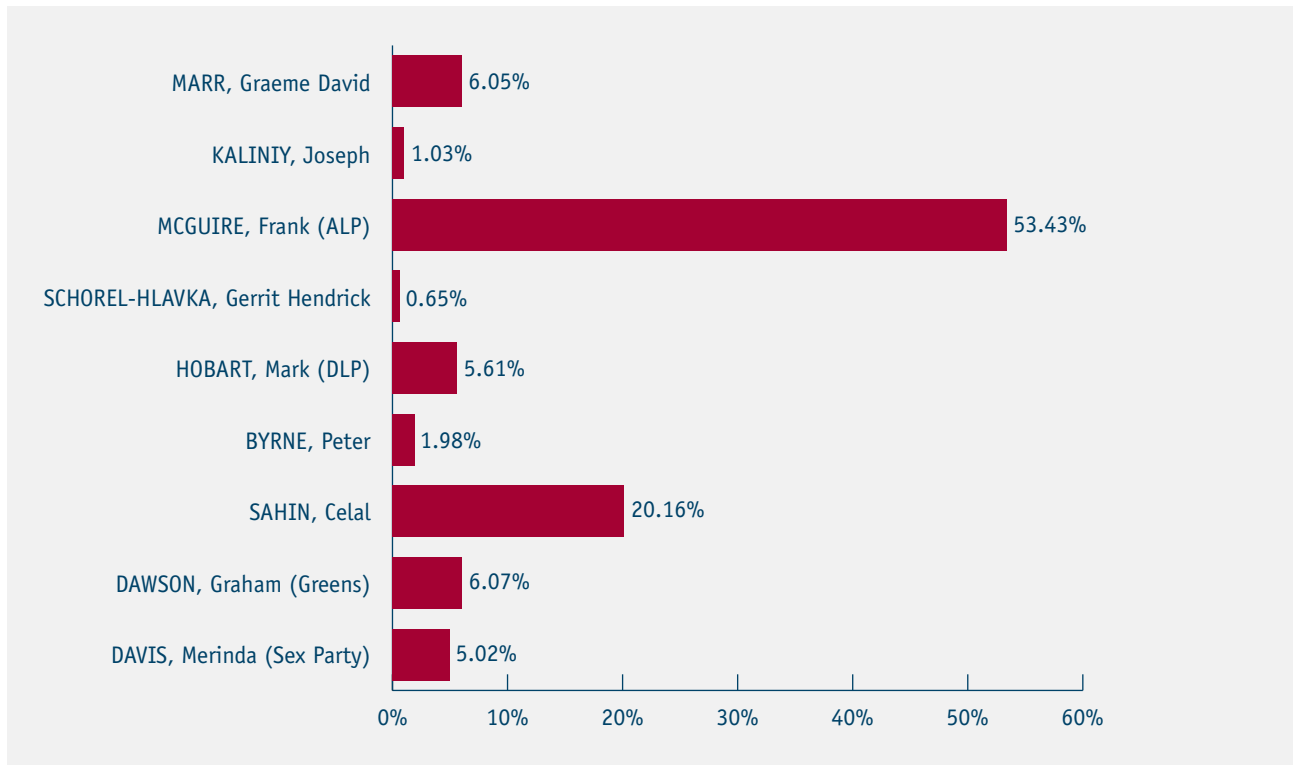


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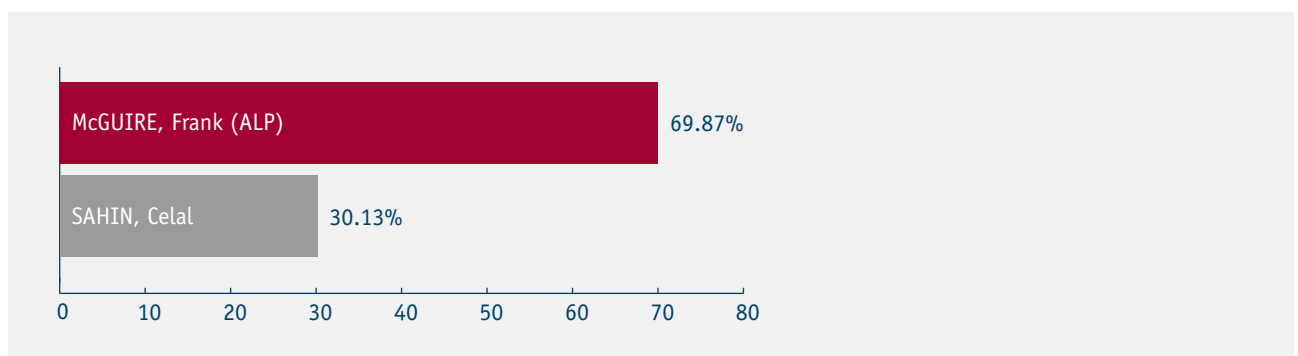
# 1. SNAPSHOT

## Results at a glance

First preference votes (% of first preference votes)



Two candidate preferred after distribution of preferences (ALP and Independent)

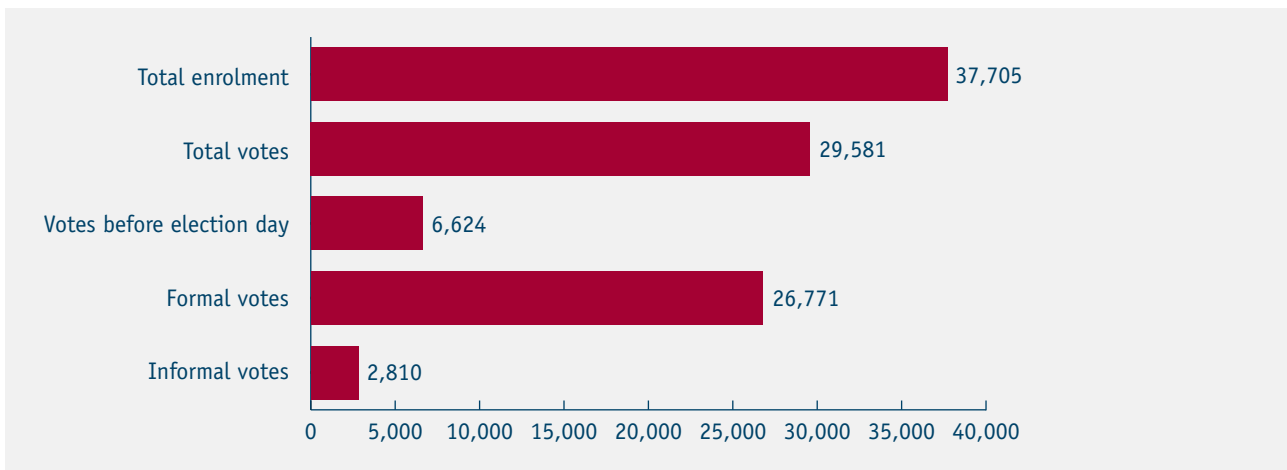


## By-election budget

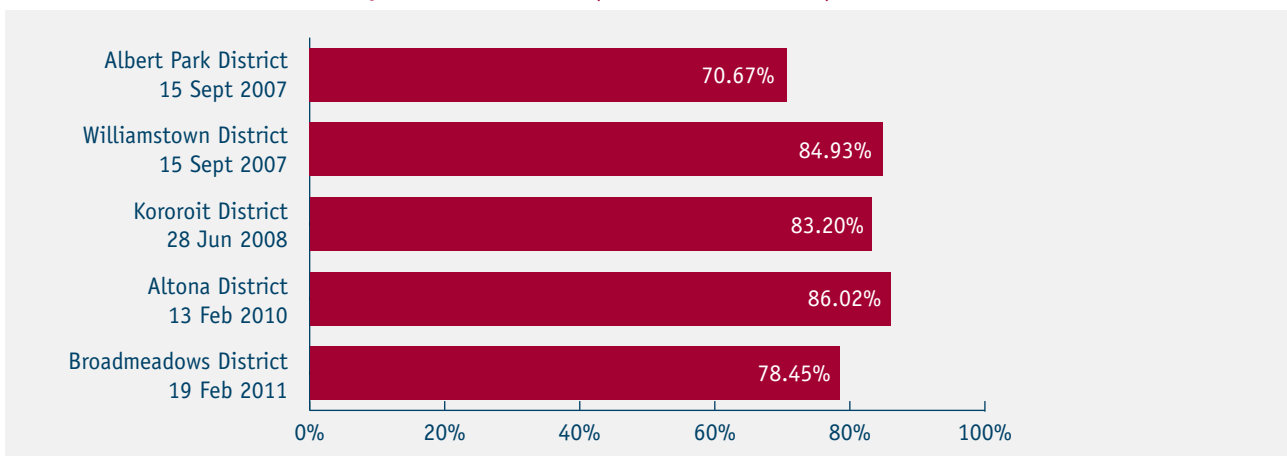
The VEC estimated a marginal cost of \$350,000 to conduct the by-election, plus electoral entitlements. At the time of printing, costs stood at \$199,022, excluding compulsory voting (approximately \$40,000) yet to be incurred and provisions for electoral entitlements (\$38,297.06) see Section 11 of this report. A full report of costs for this by-election will be provided when they are finalised.

## Participation

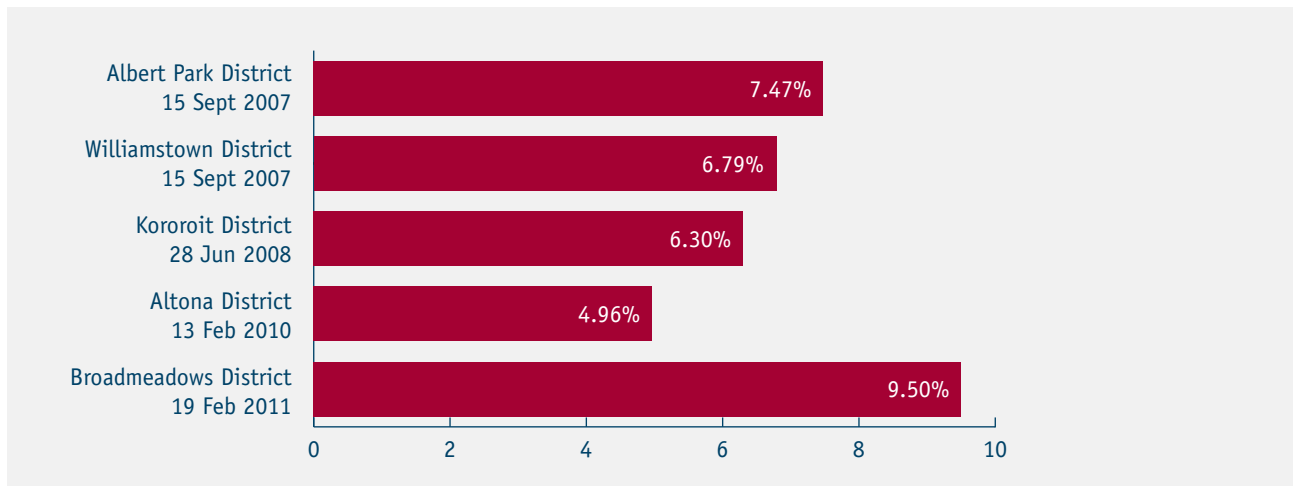
### Participation at Broadmeadows District by-election 2010



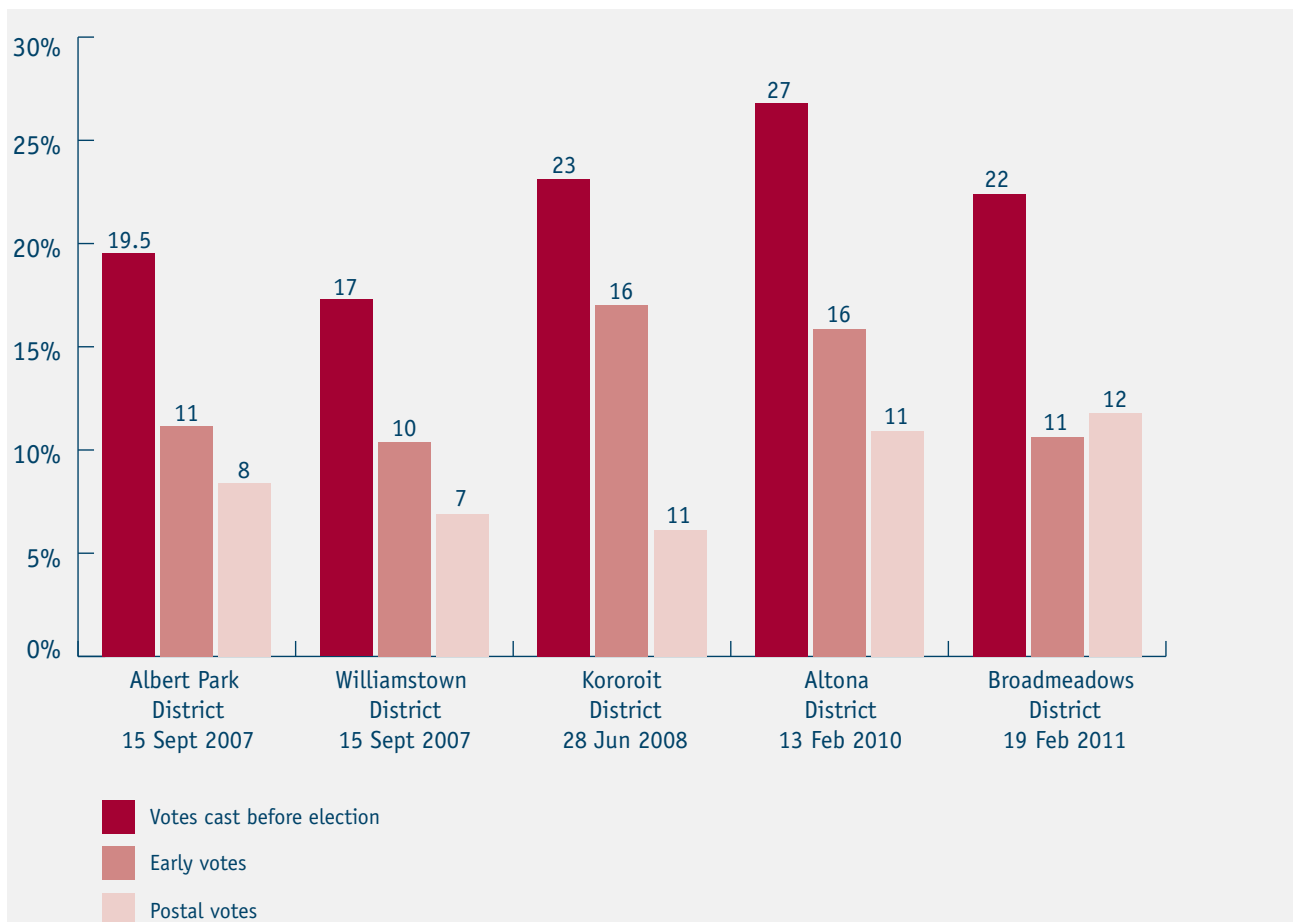
### Voter turnout at Victorian State by-elections 2007–11 (% of total enrolment)



Informal votes at Victorian State by-elections 2007–11 (% of total votes)



Votes cast before election day at Victorian State by-elections 2007–11 (% of total votes)



## 2. BACKGROUND TO THE BY-ELECTION

### The writ

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly issued a writ for the by-election for Broadmeadows District on Thursday, 20 January 2011. The writ set out the timetable for the by-election.

### Election timetable

Issue of the writ	Thursday, 20 January 2011
Nominations open	Friday, 21 January 2011
Close of Roll	8.00pm Thursday, 27 January 2011
Close of Nominations	12noon Tuesday, 1 February 2011
Early voting commences	8.30am Wednesday, 2 February 2011
Registration of how-to-vote cards opens	8.30am Wednesday, 2 February 2011
Final registration of how-to-vote cards	12noon Friday, 11 February 2011
Close of postal voting	6.00pm Thursday, 17 February 2011
Close of early voting	6.00pm Friday, 18 February 2011
Election day	Saturday, 19 February 2011

### Preliminary arrangements with other agencies

#### Victorian Government Solicitor's Office

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 thanks the VGSO for its support during the election.

#### 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 formally records its appreciation for the support received from the Chief Commissioner and Victoria Police.

### The former member

In February 1993, John Brumby was elected to the Victorian Legislative Council at a by-election for the seat of Doutta Galla Province in Melbourne's western suburbs. He resigned in August 1993 to contest the seat of Broadmeadows and was elected as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Broadmeadows on September 1993 (by-election). Mr Brumby was re-elected in 1996, 1999, 2002, 2006 and 2010. He was leader of the Opposition from 1993–99, and served as Shadow Treasurer from 1994–96, Shadow Minister for the Arts 1996–99, Agriculture and Rural Affairs 1996–99, and Shadow Minister for Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs from 1997–99.

Mr Brumby was Shadow Minister for State and Regional Development, Shadow Minister for Primary Industry and Shadow Minister for Racing from March to October 1999.

During his parliamentary career Mr Brumby held the positions of Minister for Finance and Assistant Treasurer October 1999–May 2000, Minister for State and Regional Development October 1999–December 2006, Treasurer 22 May 2000–August 2007, Minister for Innovation February 2002–August 2007 and Minister for Regional and Rural Development December 2006–August 2007.

Mr Brumby was Premier, as well as Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Multicultural Affairs from 30 July 2007 to 2 December 2010.

Mr Brumby also served in the Australian House of Representatives for the division of Bendigo, between 1983 and 1990.



## The electorate

The Broadmeadows District is a metropolitan electorate located approximately 12 kilometres north of Melbourne. It covers an area of around 46 square kilometres and takes in the suburbs of Broadmeadows, Campbellfield, Coolaroo and Dallas and parts of the suburbs of Fawkner, Glenroy, Hadfield, Roxburgh Park, Somerton and Westmeadows.

The district is a residential and industrial electorate, with rapid development in the north. Its main features include recreation reserves, the Northern Memorial Park, the Kangan and Batman Institute of TAFE and the Broadmeadows military area.

### Historical pattern of the District

1955–62	Liberal Country Party
1962–88	Australian Labor Party
1988	Independent Labor
1988–present	Australian Labor Party

## Map of Broadmeadows District



## Past results for Broadmeadows District

### 2010 State election results

Elected Member	BRUMBY, John
Total Enrolment	37,424
Formal Votes	30,705
Informal Votes	2,517 (7.58% of the total votes)
Total Votes	33,222 (88.77% of the total enrolment as at the close of rolls rechecked)

Candidate	Party	1st pref votes	% of 1st pref votes
BRUMBY, John	ALP	19,125	62.29%
DE LOMA-OSORIO, Jaime	Greens	2,304	7.50%
BYRNE, Peter		737	2.40%
OZTURK, Samli	Liberal	7,761	25.28%
BUTLER, Kevin	DLP	778	2.53%

### 2006 State election results

Elected Member	BRUMBY, John
Total Enrolment	36,713
Formal Votes	30,454
Informal Votes	2,743 (8.26% of the total votes)
Total Votes	33,197 (90.42% of the total enrolment)

Candidate	Party	1st pref votes	% of 1st pref votes
HINES, Gerard	Family First	1,444	4.74%
BRUMBY, John	ALP	20,600	67.64%
EBEJER, Marlene	People Power	632	2.08%
YOHANNA, Sleiman	CEC	1,381	4.53%
PARSONS, Daniel	Liberal	3,928	12.90%
TAYLOR, Emily Katya	Greens	2,010	6.60%
MARSHALL, Will		459	1.51%

## 3. SERVICES TO ELECTORS

### Enrolment

The day after the issue of the writ for Broadmeadows District, the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) sent written notification of the by-election to every household in the electorate. The letter advised that, since a by-election would be held soon, eligible people who were not on the electoral roll should enrol, and those who had recently moved should update their enrolment details. This provided three working days for electors to ensure that they were correctly enrolled and eligible to vote in the by-election (see Appendix B).

Enrolment advertisements were placed in both of the major daily papers (see Appendix C).

Enrolment forms could be downloaded from the VEC's website ([vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)), and printed copies were available from Australia Post offices, Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) divisional offices or by contacting the VEC's election office or head office. The VEC election office and head office remained open until 8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January. The VEC also made arrangements with the AEC Melbourne office and the AEC divisional offices in Sunbury and Glenroy to remain open until 8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January.

Between the issue of the writ and the close of rolls, 455 electors enrolled or updated their enrolment details. At the close of roll, there were 37,705 electors enrolled, 281 more than at the close of roll for the 2010 State election.

### Voting

An *EasyVote* letter was sent to all electors on the roll (at roll close) advising them of their options for voting (see Appendix B).

### Arrangements for voting before election day

**Early voting** – Electors unable to vote on election day had the opportunity to vote early at the early voting centre located within the district, and at the election office in Melbourne.

Broadmeadows Early Voting Centre  
The Gateway Business Park Office C1  
1–13 The Gateway  
Broadmeadows

Melbourne CBD Early Voting Centre  
Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street  
Melbourne

Early voting centres were open from 8.30am to 6.00pm on weekdays for the period 2–18 February. They were also open on the Saturday morning the week before the election (9.00am to 2.00pm) and until 8.00pm on the Thursday evening prior to the election.

A total of 3,139 electors voted early, in person, for the by-election, compared with 3,016 for the 2010 State election. Reasons for early voting provided by electors included having to work, or planning to be interstate or overseas on election day. Figure 1 shows the percentage of votes cast before election day.

**Mobile voting** – A total of 98 electors took advantage of mobile voting, with a mobile voting team visiting six venues in the week prior to election day.

**Voting interstate and overseas** – Early voting services were provided at seven interstate locations and at one overseas location.

A total of eight early votes were cast outside Victoria for the Broadmeadows District by-election. This compares with 31 for the District for the 2010 State election.

**Postal voting** – Electors unable to attend a voting centre on election day could apply for a postal vote. Postal vote applications were available to download at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au), and could be obtained at any post office in the district or by calling the VEC. Postal voting applications printed by the ALP were also distributed by that party.

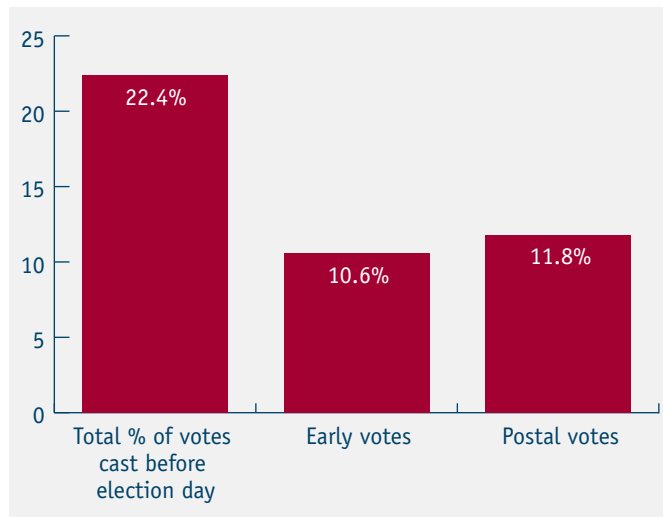
Only one postal vote was issued outside the State for the by-election. None were issued outside the State for the electorate at the 2010 State election.

To help ensure the efficient delivery of ballot packs, postal vote applications were processed on the day they were received by the VEC. As postal vote applications may be received up until 6.00pm the Thursday prior to the election, the VEC contacted anyone whose application was received on that day to advise them that their vote had to be postmarked before or on election day to be included in the count, and to inform them of their voting options.

A total of 4,353 postal vote applications were processed, and 3,485 postal votes were counted for the by-election. Some 2,026 were counted for the 2010 State election.

**Provisional votes** – This was the first by-election under which recent legislative changes meant that votes could be cast by persons who were not on the roll and who claimed to be entitled to enrol and vote. Votes cast in this manner were ‘provisional’ votes until the elector’s enrolment details could be verified through confirmation by VicRoads, an electricity utility or a council. A total of 115 votes were admitted to the count.

Figure 1 – percentage of votes cast before election day.



## Services for electors with special needs

In line with the VEC's Disability Action Plan, services provided to electors with special needs at the Broadmeadows District by-election included:

- large pencils for people with hand mobility impairment;
- provision of magnifying sheets for electors with low vision;
- wheelchair-height voting booths at each voting centre;
- chairs made available within the voting centre for those unable to queue or stand while waiting to vote;
- staff trained to assist electors with mobility issues, requiring seating or having difficulty voting.

Every early voting centre and election day voting centre is rated according to its wheelchair accessibility, using an audit tool. The audit complies with relevant Australian Standards and addresses building access as well as the availability of accessible parking and the approach to the building.

Both early voting centres, were rated as 'Assisted Wheelchair Accessible'.

Of the 13 election day voting centres in Broadmeadows District, five were 'Fully Wheelchair Accessible', three were rated 'Assisted Wheelchair Accessible' and the remainder were 'Not Wheelchair Accessible'.

The rating of all voting centres was listed in press advertisements, on the letter sent to electors and on the VEC's website.

Many premises used as 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.

The lack of accessible voting centres for lease continues to be of 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.

## Services for electors from non-English speaking backgrounds

Broadmeadows District has a significant population of residents with low proficiency in English (some 10% {seventh highest in the State} — source Australian Bureau of Statistics). In the 2006 Census, English was stated as the only language spoken at home by 37.4% of persons usually resident in Broadmeadows District. The most common languages other than English spoken at home were: Turkish 14.6%, Arabic 12.3%, Assyrian 5.6%, Italian 4.9% and Vietnamese 2.6%.

Advertising in print media included multi-lingual telephone enquiry service numbers that operate all year round. These numbers were also incorporated on the enrolment and voting letters sent to householders/electors in Broadmeadows.

Translated introductory information on the by-election 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. The number of callers to the interpreting service during the period January to February 2011 was 253. The 'background' level of VITS calls is about 72 per month.

The biggest proportional increases in terms of languages were in Arabic and Assyrian.

In addition, due to the high proportion of Turkish speakers living within the District, the VEC placed several of its election advertisements in the major Turkish newspapers.

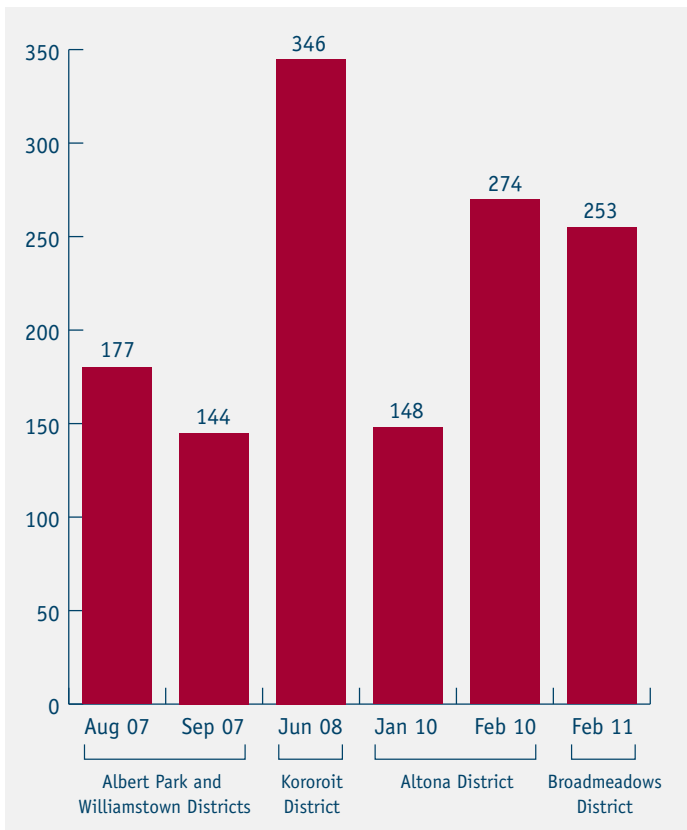


Figure 2 – interpreter assistance calls received for State District by-elections 2007–08 to 2010–11.

Electors could also access voting instructions translated into the main languages spoken in the District and placed inside each voting screen. Across 13 election day voting centres, 59 election staff spoke a language other than English and were on hand to assist with interpreting where required.

## Community and local government agencies

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) works with community and local government agencies to ensure that all eligible Victorians have the opportunity to enrol and exercise their democratic right to vote — regardless of their background, age or ability.

Shortly after the Broadmeadows District by-election was called, the VEC Education Team sent details of the by-election date, enrolment and voting options and translated information, via:

- a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) specific letter to local community groups;
- a flyer to local CALD community groups;
- an email to local CALD youth organisations; and
- an email newsletter to the VEC email list.

## 4. SERVICES TO REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

### Election Managers

Mr Bob Guest was appointed the Election Manager for Broadmeadows District, and Ms Kathy Wilson and Ms Chris Browne were appointed as Assistant Election Managers.

The Election Manager was responsible for:

- staffing the election office;
- receiving candidate nominations;
- conducting the draw for ballot paper positions;
- dealing with electoral enquiries;
- appointing voting centre managers and election officials;
- training voting centre managers;
- receipt of how-to-vote cards for registration by the Electoral Commissioner;
- supervising voting, and receiving and recording results; and
- declaring the election.

The Election Manager was assisted by VEC staff and other election officials.

### Candidate support

Nine candidates nominated for the Broadmeadows District by-election, compared with five for the District in the 2010 State election.

Candidate nomination forms were available for download from the VEC website or could be obtained by calling the VEC directly. Parties nominated their candidates directly with the VEC and independent candidates nominated through the election office. The VEC provided a handbook explaining aspects of electoral law directly relating to candidates. Candidates also received a VEC Candidates' Kit containing:

- a how-to-vote card declaration;
- one 'Appointment of Scrutineer' form;
- an Electoral Roll Confidentiality Agreement;
- a list of voting centres in the District (and early voting centres);
- estimated votes and the number of issuing points at each voting centre;
- Election Manager contact details;
- a Nomination of an Independent Candidate for the Legislative Assembly (by six electors) form; and
- a District fact sheet.

After nominating and upon request, candidates were provided with a copy of the electoral roll for the District, on CD Rom, for the purposes of campaigning – in compliance with section 33(6) of the *Electoral Act 2002*.

## Registration of how-to-vote cards

How-to-vote cards that are distributed within 400 metres of a voting centre on election day must be registered with the VEC. 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 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 15 how-to-vote cards were registered for the Broadmeadows District by-election (see Figure 3). As required by legislation, all registered how-to-vote cards were published on the VEC website.

Figure 3 – below shows the number of how-to-vote cards registered at the Broadmeadows District by-election 2011.

Party / Candidate / Stakeholder	Number of HTVCs registered
MARR, Graeme David	2
ALP	2
Greens	1
Sex Party	1
DLP	1
KALINIY, Joseph	1
SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik	5
SAHIN, Celal	1
BYRNE, Peter	1

## By-election briefings for parties and candidates

Registered political parties were invited to attend individual briefing sessions on 21 January. Three parties participated.

Independent candidates were invited to attend a briefing session conducted at the VEC on 24 January, but no candidates attended.

## 5. COMMUNICATION SERVICES

The Broadmeadows by-election communication campaign consisted of direct mail, newspaper advertising, a telephone enquiry service, media relations, and information and services provided on the VEC website.

### Direct mail

The VEC wrote to householders within Broadmeadows District after Mr Brumby's resignation was announced. These enrolment information letters were distributed to households in Broadmeadows District from 21 January.

Following the close of rolls, the VEC sent an *EasyVote* letter to each elector on the roll (excluding general postal voters). This letter detailed early voting, postal voting, overseas and interstate voting, and election day voting arrangements and included the location and accessibility rating of all voting centres. A total of 37,129 *EasyVote* letters were lodged for distribution on Wednesday 2 February. This number is fewer than the number of electors on the roll because it does not include general postal voters. General postal voters were mailed a postal vote.

### Newspaper advertising

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

### Telephone enquiry service

The VEC operated a telephone enquiry service from its head office until the election office opened on 21 January 2011. Public telephone enquiries were then received at the election office, with the head office operating as an 'overflow' service. Calls to the office peaked each time a mailout occurred, with electors calling to check enrolment details, to ask for advice about what to do if they could not attend a voting centre on election day, and the location of election day voting centres.

### Media relations

The VEC distributed seven media releases throughout the election period — to local and State-wide media. A media results advisory notice was also issued.

A total of 23 enquiries were received from journalists with regard to the by-election. The majority of the enquiries related to the timing of the by-election, the time that results would be available, and where the media could film the count.

### Website

From the day the writ for the by-election was issued, the VEC website provided specific information about the by-election for the public, for candidates and for electors in the district. Traffic to the website increased significantly from January through to election day.

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

The information online 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 locations of early (in person) voting centres were detailed, as well as all interstate and overseas locations. Postal vote applications were the most popular download from the website during this period.

Candidate information and nomination forms were also available for download through the website, as were how-to-vote cards.

Election day voting centres and their accessibility rating were listed, with maps showing the physical location of each centre accessible via links.

Electors could also email any request or query through to the VEC via its [info@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@vec.vic.gov.au) email service. The main types of queries related to postal voting (within Victoria and overseas) and requests for the locations of voting centres.

Progressive results were made available on the VEC website as they were entered into the VEC election management system.



## 6. COMPLAINTS

### Formal complaints

The VEC registered five formal complaints during the Broadmeadows by-election.

One candidate made a complaint relating to the representation of his name on the ballot paper, as he was dissatisfied with the fact that his surname was displayed in uppercase font.

A second candidate was unhappy with perceived lack of notification with regard to changes to voting centre entrances. It is not the VEC's policy to advertise specific voting centre entrances, except in situations where the voting centre is within larger premises and some route-finding is required.

A member of the public complained about the need for a by-election so soon after a general election of Parliament. The VEC advised this person to forward this view to Parliament, their local member and political parties, as the VEC's role is to implement the legislation in place.

Another member of the public complained about the fact that parties were distributing postal vote applications.

**Bribery** – A complaint was made by a political party regarding possible bribery by a candidate — a contravention of section 151(2) of the *Electoral Act 2002*, based on the candidate offering free t-shirts, mugs, caps, magnetic calendars and tote bags to voters at a shopping centre venue. The Act states:

*A person must not, in order to influence or affect any person's election conduct, give or confer, or promise or offer to give or confer, any property or benefit of any kind to the person or any other person.*

The VEC referred this matter to the Victorian Government Solicitor's Office (VGSO) for advice. The response from the VGSO was that on available evidence, it was unlikely that a magistrate or judge would find a breach of the Act due to insufficient evidence, beyond a reasonable doubt, that it was the candidate's intent to influence or affect the election conduct of voters.

## 7. VEC PERSONNEL

### VEC support for Election Manager

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

- advice on election management;
- office equipment and furniture, computers, telephones and fax machines, ballot boxes, voting screens and voting centre furniture;
- Help desk 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-election;
- assistance with public and media relations; and
- electoral rolls for use in voting centres.

### Employment of staff

A total of 135 staff (including the Election Manager and two Assistant Election Managers) were appointed for the by-election. Of these, 110 were appointed as election officials at voting centres on election day. A further three election casuals were appointed by the Election Manager to assist with early voting at the early voting centres, mobile voting, and administrative duties including counts conducted at the election office.

A three-hour training session was conducted for the voting centre managers, assistant voting centre managers, early voting centre managers and election liaison officers. Election Managers and Assistant Election Managers had previous election experience, and timing did not enable additional training prior to the by-election.

Mobile early voting centre team leaders also received training prior to commencing work.

One VEC staff-member provided dedicated help desk support to the Election Manager and Assistant Election Managers during the election period.

## 8. COUNTING THE VOTES, DECLARATION OF RESULT AND RETURN OF THE WRIT

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 election office.

A two-candidate-preferred (2CP) 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 VEC had initially selected the ALP and the Greens for the 2CP count. After election night, it became apparent that the leading two candidates were Frank McGuire (ALP) and Celal Sahin. The VEC subsequently distributed preferences between these two candidates to achieve an overall 2CP split. The purpose of the 2CP count is to provide detailed information for political parties and analysts.

Postal and early votes were counted in the election office on election night in the same count order as in the voting centres. The final 2CP results between the ALP and Independent SAHIN are included in Appendix B.

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

- postal votes;
- early votes; and
- provisional votes — cast by persons who are not on the roll and who claim to be entitled to enrol and vote.

As there was a clear majority, a preference distribution was not required to determine the result of the election.

A recheck was conducted on all ballot papers on the Monday and Tuesday following the election.

Frank McGuire (ALP) was declared the successful candidate on 23 February 2011.

The writ was returned on 1 March 2011.

## 9. PARTICIPATION

The VEC uses three measures to determine participation in the electoral system:

- 1 enrolment: the degree to which those who are eligible enrol to vote;
- 2 turn-out: the degree to which those who are enrolled vote in elections; and
- 3 informal voting: the degree to which those who vote cast an informal vote.

### Enrolment

Between the issue of the writ and the close of rolls, 455 electors enrolled or updated their enrolment details. At the close of roll, there were 37,705 electors enrolled, 281 more than at the close of roll for the 2010 State election. See Section 3 of this report for more information about enrolment.

### Turnout

The turnout rate of 78.45% for the by-election was lower than the turnout rate of 88.77% for the District in the 2010 State election. This is not an unexpected outcome for a by-election and is considered to be due to factors including the short time-frame, more localised advertising and less media coverage overall than for a State election.

The turnout rate for the Broadmeadows by-election was also lower than the average turnout of 81.21% for the four previous State by-elections. Factors which could have contributed to the lower average turnout for Broadmeadows include:

- the number and range of candidates;
- the high margin by which the seat was held by the ALP;
- the lack of a Liberal candidate;
- relatively little media attention to the by-election; and
- election fatigue given it was the third time Broadmeadows electors had been to the polls within six months.

## 10. REFUND OF NOMINATION DEPOSITS

### Informal voting

The informality rate of 9.5% was an increase from the informality rate of 7.58% at the 2010 State election for the Broadmeadows District. The informality rate for the Broadmeadows by-election is higher than the average informality rate of 6.38% for the four most recent State by-elections conducted in 2007–10. This could be attributed to factors such as:

- the higher number of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- the lack of a Liberal candidate;
- the number and range of candidates compared with those at the previous by-elections (nine for the by-election versus five for the State election); and
- election fatigue (being the third time the voters had been required to vote in six months).

An analysis of informal voting at the Broadmeadows District by-election is included in Section 13 of this report.

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 February 2011. Three candidates forfeited this deposit.

## 11. ELECTORAL ENTITLEMENTS

An amount of \$1.4849 per vote was payable to political parties and independent candidates for this election where candidates obtained at least 4% of the first-preference votes. Three (party) candidates were in this position.

Figure 4 – below shows the details of entitlements for the Broadmeadows District by-election 2011.

Candidate	Entitlement
MARR, Graeme David	\$2,405.54
KALINIY, Joseph	–
McGUIRE, Frank (ALP)	\$21,241.49
SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik	–
HOBART, Mark (DLP)	\$2,228.83
BYRNE, Peter	–
SAHIN, Celal	\$8,012.52
DAWSON, Graham (Greens)	\$2,414.45
DAVIS, Merinda (Sex Party)	\$1,994.22

## 12. ENFORCEMENT OF COMPULSORY VOTING

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. A total of 60 marked rolls for Broadmeadows District election day voting centres were scanned and processed.

The first stage of the non-voter follow-up process is conducted under Part 9, Division 2 of the *Electoral Act 2002*. On 8 April 2011, 6,519 *Apparent Failure to Vote* notices were mailed to electors who appeared to have failed to vote at the Broadmeadows District by-election.

Subsequent follow-up of electors who do not respond to the 'Apparent Failure to Vote' notice or who provide an invalid response is conducted under the *Infringements Act 2006*. Electors who are deemed to be non-voters may receive two further notices from the VEC. The first is an Infringement Notice providing notification of liability for a penalty amount (currently set at \$60). The second is a penalty reminder notice and includes costs as well as the original penalty.

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

## 13. ANALYSIS

### Analysis of provisional votes

New legislation provided for enrolment and provisional voting on the day and saw a total of 115 provisional votes cast. However, only 110 provisional votes were admitted to the count, as five electors' enrolment details were not able to be verified with either VicRoads, the nominated electricity provider or relevant council.

### Analysis of informal votes

There were 2,810 informal votes at the by-election, comprising 9.5% of total votes. Informal voting was higher in absolute and percentage terms than at the 2010 State election, when there were 2,517 informal votes in Broadmeadows District (7.58% of the total). The informal voting rate in the by-election was almost twice as high as the 4.96% for the State as a whole in the 2010 State election, and was higher than the rate for any district in the State election. This chapter attempts to explain the level of the informal voting, particularly the increase since the State election. The report also describes the types of mistakes that informal voters made and how they varied from those at the 2010 State election.

At State elections, there is a strong correlation between informal voting and the proportion of residents who are not fluent in English. Districts with the highest proportions of residents not proficient in English also tend to have the highest informal voting rates. Broadmeadows District has 10.07% of residents not fluent in English (the seventh highest in the State) compared to 3.09% for Victoria as a whole. At the State election, Broadmeadows District had the fifth-highest informal voting rate in the State. Although the VEC made significant efforts to communicate with non-English speaking electors in the by-election, through information in *EasyVote* cards, press advertisements, telephone interpreter service, translated voting instructions in voting screens, bilingual workers at voting centres and emails to community groups, the informality figure still rose.

The number and range of candidates can affect the informal voting rate. There were nine candidates for the by-election, compared with five for Broadmeadows District at the 2010 State election. A large number of candidates can increase the informal vote, through voters making numbering errors. A more important factor is that there was no Liberal candidate at the by-election, leaving Liberal supporters in a quandary. Some of the informal votes included complaints about the lack of a Liberal candidate, such as 'Liberal party! No Labour,' and 'No Liberal Candidate No Vote!'

Informal voting rates varied at voting centres within the District, ranging from 7.09% at Roxburgh Park to 15.13% at Gowrie Park. Informal voting was lowest in Roxburgh Park and Jacana and highest in Glenroy and Campbellfield. Socio-economic factors likely played a part in this variation.

The informal voting rate increased at nearly all voting centres between the State election and the by-election, though there was a very slight decrease at Broadmeadows. The rate of increase varied, with the greatest being a 5.44 percentage point increase at Gowrie Park. Generally, voting centres that had the highest informal votes at the State election also had the highest increase at the by-election.

It was a different story with votes before election day. The informal voting rate for these votes was practically static, rising only from 5.47% to 5.48%. The number of such votes increased from 5,213 at the State election to 6,624 (more than 22% of the total) at the by-election. This pattern was more apparent with postal votes in particular, whose numbers increased dramatically from 2,026 at the State election to 3,485 (11.78% of total votes) at the by-election, while the postal vote informal voting rate actually declined from 5.63% to 4.05%. Postal votes consistently have lower informal voting rates than ordinary votes, possibly because electors voting by post have more time to consider their vote. The high proportion of postal voters at the by-election prevented the overall informal voting rate from rising even more than it did.

In the survey of informal ballot papers, the VEC used the same categories as in its analysis of informal ballot papers since the 2006 State election<sup>1</sup>. These categories are described below.

Figure 5 – categories used by the VEC in analysis of ballot papers.

Category	Description
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 '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 arguably formal.

Figure 6 – results of survey of informal ballot papers cast at Broadmeadows by-election 2011 – detailed categories.

Category	Percentage
Blank	20.3%
Numbers (1 only)	8.3%
Numbers (insufficient)	9.7%
Numbers (apparently deliberate)	6.9%
Numbers (other)	21.5%
Ticks/crosses (preference)	6.2%
Ticks-crosses (apparently deliberate)	6.9%
Ticks/crosses (other)	1.7%
Writing (deliberate)	17.1%
Writing (other)	1.3%
Administrative error	0.2%
<b>TOTAL NUMBER</b>	<b>2,810</b>

The largest category of informal votes was 'numbers – other', with 21.5% of the total. This proportion is substantially higher than at the 2010 State election (12.44%). These votes were informal due to a variety of numbering errors, such as including two 1s, or skipping or duplicating numbers. The voters in this category do not seem to have spoiled their ballots on purpose, but to have made an unsuccessful attempt at a formal vote. These votes and the 9.65% in the 'numbers – insufficient' category are presumably those who had difficulty coping with the relatively large number of candidates in the by-election.

Blank ballot papers were the second largest category of informal votes, with 20.3% of the total. There was a lower incidence of blank ballot papers than at the State election (25.1%), and much lower than at the 2007 Albert Park and Williamstown by-elections (31.78%), when the absence of Liberal candidates led to many deliberately informal votes.

Informal votes in the 'writing – deliberate' category were the third largest group, comprising 17.1% of the total. Most of these voters expressed their strong objection to all the candidates, or to the by-election itself, through crossing out the entire ballot paper, or through offensive messages or drawings.

<sup>1</sup> Victorian Electoral Commission: Report to Parliament on the 2006 Victorian State election, p. 91.

The proportion of informal ballot papers with a single 1 was 8.25% — much lower than the 23.75% at the State election. At the State election, voters had two ballot papers to complete. On the Upper House ballot paper, voters had the choice of voting ‘1’ above the line for a party or group, or numbering squares below the line. The second category of Lower House informal votes at the State election was ‘1 only’; it appears that many voters misapplied the Upper House voting method to their Lower House ballot paper. At the by-election, there was no such cause for confusion, which is likely to have contributed to the proportion of ‘1 only’ votes being much lower.

Figure 7 – results of survey of informal votes cast at Broadmeadows by-election 2011 – broad categories.

Category	Percentage
Blank	20.3%
Numbers	46.3%
Ticks/crosses	14.8%
Writing	18.4%
Administrative error	0.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,810</b>

Numbering errors were by far the largest of these categories, with 46.3% of the total. This was slightly less than the 50.1% of informal votes in this category at the State election. Ticks and crosses made up 14.8% of the informal votes – more than the 10.16% in this category at the State election.

Figure 8 groups the various categories of deliberately informal votes and shows the result when the blank ballot papers are added to the marked ballot papers that were deliberately informal. It also groups the ballot papers that indicated a clear preference (either through the number ‘1’ or a single tick or cross).

Figure 8 – deliberately informal votes in grouped categories.

Category	Percentage
Apparently deliberate	31%
Apparently deliberate including blank	51.2%
Indicating preference	24.1%

About half of the ballot papers appear to have been deliberately informal. This is comparable to the State election (47.53% probably deliberate) and at the 2008 Kororoit by-election (52.3% probably deliberate), though less than the 2007 Albert Park and Williamstown by-elections, when 65.3% of the informal votes were in this group. Considering the absence of a Liberal candidate and widespread dissatisfaction with having to vote again, perhaps it is surprising that the rate of deliberate informal voting was not higher.

Voters expressing a clear preference comprised 24.1% of the informal votes at the by-election — much lower than the 37.57% in this category at the State election.

Almost half (48.5%) of the by-election votes were accidentally informal, where voters appear to have tried to vote formally but did not understand what to do or could not carry out their intention correctly. This appears to be largely the consequence of the high proportion of electors who are not proficient in English. The VEC will continue its efforts to reach this group of voters.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix A: Detailed voting statistics

First preference votes

### BROADMEADOWS DISTRICT (Recheck)

Total enrolment:	37,705
Formal votes:	26,771
Informal votes:	2,810 (9.50% of the total votes)
Total votes:	29,581 (78.45% of the total enrolment as at the close of rolls rechecked)

Recheck First preference votes

	MARR, Graeme David	KALINIY, Joseph	McGUIRE, Frank	SCHOREL- HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik	HOBART, Mark	BYRNE, Peter	SAHIN, Celal	DAWSON, Graham	DAVIS, Merinda		
Voting centres			ALP		DLP			GREENS	SEX PARTY	Informal votes	Total votes polled
Bethal	87	26	807	10	89	42	356	67	48	173	1,705
Broadmeadows	68	13	684	12	50	6	217	59	72	140	1,321
Broadmeadows North	125	16	1,018	17	88	38	608	141	92	251	2,394
Campbellfield	87	30	780	6	76	53	237	79	61	238	1,647
Coolaroo	106	10	729	3	65	14	373	67	64	164	1,595
Glenroy East	92	4	602	8	128	13	75	78	74	161	1,235
Glenroy North	104	10	959	20	163	49	196	150	156	242	2,049
Gowrie Park	64	6	629	4	84	10	90	98	120	197	1,302
Hume Central	50	9	811	13	130	18	132	103	113	127	1,506
Meadow Heights	158	31	1,303	14	127	75	1,248	179	133	347	3,615
Roxburgh Homestead	56	17	1,170	9	87	47	522	114	119	210	2,351
Roxburgh Park	31	7	343	2	34	4	129	36	43	48	677
Upfield	42	5	455	6	55	8	647	50	33	144	1,445
<b>Ordinary Votes Total</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>10,290</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>1,176</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>4,830</b>	<b>1,221</b>	<b>1,128</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>22,842</b>
Postal Votes	282	61	2,265	31	116	101	203	180	105	141	3,485
Early Votes	264	31	1,722	17	202	49	310	218	104	222	3,139
Marked As Voted Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provisional Votes	4	1	28	1	7	3	53	7	6	5	115
Absent Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>14,305</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>1,501</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>5,396</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>1,343</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>29,581</b>
Percentage of formal vote by candidate	6.05%	1.03%	53.43%	0.65%	5.61%	1.98%	20.16%	6.07%	5.02%		

Name of ELECTED candidate: Frank McGuire



## Appendix B: Distribution of preference votes for information purposes – Broadmeadows District by-election

Total formal first preference votes polled for all candidates 26,771.


Number of votes required to constitute an absolute majority 13,386. No. of Informals (2,810).

Count No.	Candidates' Names (in ballot-paper order)	MARR	KALINIY	MCGUIRE	SCHOREL-HLAVKA	HOBART	BYRNE	SAHIN	DAWSON	DAVIS	TOTAL
1	Total first preference votes recorded for each candidate after recheck	1,620	277	14,305	173	1,501	530	5,396	1,627	1,342	26,771
2	Transfer of 173 ballot-papers of SCHOREL-HLAVKA (1st excluded candidate)	31	26	33	-173	29	13	15	11	15	0
	<b>Progressive Total</b>	<b>1,651</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>14,338</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>5,411</b>	<b>1,638</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>26,771</b>
3	Transfer of 303 ballot-papers of KALINIY (2nd excluded candidate)	132	-303	66		30	37	11	16	11	0
	<b>Progressive Total</b>	<b>1,783</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,404</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,560</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>5,422</b>	<b>1,654</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>26,771</b>
4	Transfer of 580 ballot-papers of BYRNE (3rd excluded candidate)	142		110		85	-580	117	71	55	0
	<b>Progressive Total</b>	<b>1,925</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,514</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,645</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,539</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>1,423</b>	<b>26,771</b>
5	Transfer of 1423 ballot-papers of DAVIS (4th excluded candidate)	193		632		94		111	393	-1,423	0
	<b>Progressive Total</b>	<b>2,118</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,146</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,739</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,650</b>	<b>2,118</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,771</b>
6	Transfer of 1739 ballot-papers of HOBART (5th excluded candidate)	910		469		-1,739		194	166		0
	<b>Progressive Total</b>	<b>3,028</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,615</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,844</b>	<b>2,284</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,771</b>
7	Transfer of 2284 ballot-papers of DAWSON (6th excluded candidate)	560		1,058				666	-2,284		0
	<b>Progressive Total</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,673</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,510</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,771</b>
8	Transfer of 3588 ballot-papers of MARR (7th excluded candidate)	-3,588	0	2,031				1,557			0
	<b>FINAL TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18,704</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,067</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,771</b>

# APPENDICES

## Appendix C: Communication products

### Letter to households advising of election



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

To the householder

**Enrol to vote for the Broadmeadows District by-election**

A by-election is being held on Saturday, 19 February 2011 due to the resignation of the Member for Broadmeadows District.

The electoral roll for the by-election closes at 8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January.

If you are an Australian citizen aged 18 or over and you are not enrolled, you need to enrol immediately.

If you have moved since you last enrolled, you need to update your enrolment details.

**How do you enrol?**

Download an enrolment form from [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or collect one from any post office, Centrelink or Australian Electoral Commission office. Mail your completed form immediately to the Victorian Electoral Commission, Reply Paid 66506, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000 (no stamp is required). Alternatively, you can fax it to (03) 9277 7126, email a scanned copy to [elector@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:elector@vec.vic.gov.au), or deliver the form in person to one of the offices listed below:

- Australian Electoral Commission, 16 Brook Street, Sunbury
- Australian Electoral Commission, Shop 4, 830 Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy
- Australian Electoral Commission, Ground Floor, Casselden Place, 2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne
- Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

You must ensure that your completed and signed form is in our hands by 8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January.

**Do you have to enrol?**

Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details up to date 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.

**How do you check if you are on the roll?**

Check [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 805 478.

**Voting in the by-election**

The VEC will write to all enrolled voters before election day giving information about where and how to vote.

Yours faithfully,

Steve Tully  
Electoral Commissioner

**Information: 1300 551 575 or [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)**

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:  
- Arabic 9209 0100 Arabic • Bosanski 9209 0191 Bosnian • Sr 9209 0102 Cantonian • 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)  
- Hrvatski 9209 0102 Croatian • 9209 0103 Dari • Dinka 9209 0119 Dinka • Ellkrowli 9209 0103 Greek • Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • 9209 0104 Korean  
- Македонски 9209 0106 Macedonian • 9209 0106 Chinese (Mandarin) • 9209 0106 Persian • 9209 0106 Russian  
- Српски 9209 0107 Serbian • Somali 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkiye 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

Easyvote letter



Your EasyVote Guide:  
**Broadmeadows District by-election**

Dear voter,

**Important information: Election day is Saturday, 19 February 2011.**

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

Election day is Saturday, 19 February 2011. It is **compulsory** for you to vote in this by-election as you were on the roll for Broadmeadows District at the close of rolls on Thursday, 27 January 2011.

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 guide with you. You can vote without it, but having it with you could help make your voting experience easier.

Yours faithfully

Steve Tully  
Electoral Commissioner

- Arabic** فبراير/شباط 2011، للمساعدة بواسطة مترجم شفهي، اتصل هاتفياً .
- Cantonese** 請務必在2011年2月19日星期六選舉日務投票，投票是法律規定。
- Croatian** Glasovanje je obvezno dolaskom na izborno mjesto u subotu, 19. nazovite 9209 0112.
- Filipino** Ang pagboto ay sapilitan para sa halalang gaganapin sa mga sen Pebrero 2011. Kung kailangan ang tulong ng interpreter, tumawag.
- Greek** Η ψηφοφορία είναι υποχρεωτική σ' αυτή την εκλογική προσέλευση Για τη βοήθεια διερμηνέα, τηλεφωνήστε το 9209 0112.
- Italian** Votare è obbligatorio alle elezioni del 19 febbraio, 2011. Per avere chiamare al numero 9209 0112.
- Macedonian** Гласањето е задолжително за во сабота, 19 февруари 2011. 3 се на 9209 0112.
- Maltese** Il-votazzjoni hija ta' bil-fors ghal din l-elezzjoni ta' attendenza nhar ta' interpretu, ċempel 9209 0112.
- Mandarin** 請務必在2011年2月19日星期六選舉日務投票，投票是法律規定。
- Vietnamese** Việc bỏ phiếu là bắt buộc đối với cuộc bầu cử trực tiếp này vào TI Để có thông dịch viên giúp đỡ, hãy điện thoại số 9209 0112.
- English** Voting is compulsory for this attendance election on Saturday, 19 telephone 9209 0112.

**Where can I vote?**

You can vote at any one of the following voting centres within Broadmeadows District from 8.00am to 6.00pm on Saturday, 19 February 2011.



**Voting centre locations**

- VEC** – Broadmeadows The Gateway Business Park Office C1, 1–13 The Gateway, Broadmeadows **AWA**
  - 1.** Belle Vue Park Primary School, Morell Street, Glenroy **NWA**
  - 2.** Bethal Primary School, Eldorado Crescent (enter via Rockbank Court), Meadow Heights **FWA**
  - 3.** Campbellfield Heights Primary School, Laurel Crescent, Campbellfield **FWA**
  - 4.** Campmeadows Primary School, 41 Graham Street, Broadmeadows **NWA**
  - 5.** Coolaroo South Primary School, Bushfield Crescent, Coolaroo **FWA**
  - 6.** Glenroy Central Primary School, Daley Street, Glenroy **AWA**
  - 7.** Hume Central Secondary College – Blair Campus, Blair Street, Broadmeadows **FWA**
  - 8.** Hume Central Secondary College – Dimboola Campus, Dimboola Road, Broadmeadows **AWA**
  - 9.** Meadow Heights Primary School, Paringa Boulevard, Meadow Heights **FWA**
  - 10.** Roxburgh Homestead Primary School, McPherson Boulevard, Roxburgh Park **NWA**
  - 11.** Roxburgh Park Primary School, Almonds Avenue (enter via Sommeville Drive), Roxburgh Park **NWA**
  - 12.** St Thomas More School, 30 Angus Street, Hadfield **AWA**
  - 13.** Upfield Primary School, Ambrose Street, Broadmeadows **NWA**
- FWA = Fully wheelchair accessible, AWA = Assisted wheelchair access, NWA = Not wheelchair accessible

**What if I can't vote on election day?**

If you can't get to a voting centre on election day, Saturday, 19 February, you can vote at an early voting centre listed below. Early voting centres are open between 8.30am and 6.00pm and on weekdays from 2 February with extended hours on Saturday, 12 February (9.00am to 2.00pm) and Thursday, 17 February (8.30am to 8.00pm).

- VEC** The Gateway Business Park Office C1, 1–13 The Gateway, Broadmeadows; and
- VEC** Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

If you will be outside Victoria on election day, you can vote by post or in person at an early voting centre. Additional to the above early voting centres, voting is also available at Victoria House, London, UK, and at various interstate locations. Visit [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 551 575 (+ 61 3 9299 0520 from outside Australia) for locations.

**Voting by post**

If you can't get to a voting centre on election day or vote at an early voting centre before election day, you can apply for a postal vote. Postal vote applications are available at Australia Post offices in Broadmeadows District, online at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or by calling the election office on 1300 551 575.

The VEC must receive your postal vote application by 6.00pm on Thursday, 17 February. This will allow the VEC to send your ballot pack to you in time for you to complete and post the ballot paper before election day.

**Voting is compulsory**

Voting is compulsory if you were on the State or Federal roll for Broadmeadows District at 8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January 2011. You may be fined if you do not vote.

**Information: 1300 551 575 or [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)**

# APPENDICES

## Appendix D: Advertising schedule and advertisements

### Schedule of advertisements

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Newspaper</b>	<b>Publication date</b>
Notice of election: Issue of writ/enrolment/nominations	<i>The Age</i> <i>Herald Sun</i>	Friday, 21 January Friday, 21 January
Enrolment/nominations reminder	<i>Hume Leader</i> <i>Hume Star</i> <i>Hume Weekly</i>	Tuesday, 25 January Tuesday, 25 January Tuesday, 25 January
Early voting	<i>Moreland Leader</i> <i>Hume Leader</i> <i>Hume Star</i> <i>Hume Weekly</i>	Monday, 7 February Tuesday, 8 February Tuesday, 8 February Tuesday, 8 February
How to vote correctly	<i>Moreland Leader</i> <i>Hume Leader</i> <i>Hume Star</i> <i>Hume Weekly</i>	Monday, 14 February Tuesday, 15 February Tuesday, 15 February Tuesday, 15 February
How to vote correctly (in language)	<i>Turkish Report</i> <i>Dunya</i> <i>Zaman Australia</i> <i>Yeni Vatan</i> <i>Persian Herald</i>	Monday, 14 February Tuesday, 15 February Tuesday, 15 February Thursday, 17 February Thursday, 17 February
Voting on election day	<i>The Age</i> <i>Herald Sun</i>	Saturday, 19 February Saturday, 19 February
Declaration of results	<i>The Age</i> <i>Herald Sun</i>	Thursday, 24 February Thursday, 24 February
Return of the writ	<i>The Age</i> <i>Herald Sun</i>	Thursday, 3 March Thursday, 3 March

# State by-election: Broadmeadows District

I have received the writ from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Honourable Ken Smith MP, issued on Thursday, 20 January 2011, for the election of one member of the Legislative Assembly for Broadmeadows District.

The writ specifies the following dates for the by-election:

**Close of roll:** 8:00pm on Thursday, 27 January 2011

**Close of nominations:** 12 noon on Tuesday, 1 February 2011

**Election day:** Saturday, 19 February 2011

**Returns of the writ:** On or before Saturday, 12 March 2011

## S.H. Tully Electoral Commissioner

303 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

### Make sure you're enrolled to vote!

You are already enrolled for the Broadmeadows 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 enrol to vote.

If you have recently moved or changed your name, you must update your enrolment immediately.

### How do I check if I'm on the roll?

You can check your enrolment details to see if they are current at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 805 478.

### How do I enroll?

Download an enrolment form from [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au), collect one from any Centrelink, Australian Electoral Commission or Australia Post Office, or call 131 832 to request a form. Mail your completed and signed form immediately to VEC, Reply Pad 66506, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000, fax it to 9277 7126 or email a scanned copy to [electors@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:electors@vec.vic.gov.au)

Your completed and signed form must be in our hands by 8:00pm on Thursday, 27 January.

### Enrolling is compulsory

Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details current is compulsory.

### When do I vote?

Election day is Saturday, 19 February. Details of where to vote and how to vote early will be available shortly and mailed to enrolled electors within Broadmeadows District, advertised in local newspapers and made available online at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

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

- **SMPL** 8000 0180 Arabic • **AFSA** 1300 0108 Arabic • **BANABAKI** 8000 0181 Bosnian • **APL** 8000 0182 Cantonese
- **CH** 8000 0109 Chinese (Cantonese) • **HEWAKAI** 8000 0103 Croatian • **APL** 8000 0183 Dialect
- **DINKA** 8000 0112 Dinka • **ELUYEWA** 8000 0102 Greek • **NICKLON** 8000 0104 Italian • **BNKOF** 8000 0184 Korean
- **MANJAPARA** 8000 0105 Malayalam • **IBH** 8000 0106 Chinese (Mandarin) • **APL** 8000 0185 Persian
- **PRINCHAP** 8000 0107 Punjabi • **CHIKAP** 8000 0108 Turkish • **APL** 8000 0186 Vietnamese
- **APL** 8000 0109 Spanish • **CHIKAP** 8000 0110 Turkish • **APL** 8000 0187 Vietnamese
- All other non-English languages 8000 0112

Every vote will shape Victoria

### How to vote cards

If a person or organisation intends to distribute how-to-vote cards on election day, Saturday, 19 February 2011, 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 from Wednesday, 2 February to 12 noon on Friday, 11 February 2011.

**Organisations or individuals** other than registered political parties can submit how-to-vote cards to the Election Manager, Bob Guest, or to the VEC.

**Registered political parties** must submit their how-to-vote cards for registration to the VEC at Level B, 305 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

**How-to-vote cards submitted for registration after 12 noon on Friday, 11 February 2011 cannot be accepted.**



Voting is compulsory for all enrolled electors.

For more information please visit [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 551 575

Victorian Electoral Commission VEC

## State by-election: Broadmeadows District

If you live in Broadmeadows District, have changed address, turned 18 or if you're just not on the roll, you must enrol or update your enrolment by **8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January**.

To vote at the Broadmeadows District by-election 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 principal place of residence or other details.

### **Enrolling is compulsory.**

Electoral law requires that you be enrolled at your principal place of residence in order to vote.

If you have never enrolled before or have let your details lapse, you will not be penalised if you enrol now.

### **Make sure your vote counts.**

Download an enrolment form from [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or collect one from any post office, Centrelink or Australian Electoral Commission office.

Your completed and signed form must be with the Victorian Electoral Commission by 8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January.

**For more information please visit [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 551 575.**

### **How do I enrol?**

To enrol or update your enrolment, you need to complete, sign and return an enrolment form.

Signed forms can be returned by fax on 9277 7126, scanned and emailed to [elector@vec.vic.gov.au](mailto:elector@vec.vic.gov.au) or delivered in person to one of the offices listed below.

#### **Australian Electoral Commission**

- 16 Brook Street, Sunbury
- Shop 4, 830 Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy
- Ground Floor, Casselden Pl, 2 Lonsdale St, Melbourne

#### **Victorian Electoral Commission**

- Level 8, 505 Little Collins St Melbourne

**All offices are open until 8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January.**

### **How do I stand as a candidate?**

Independent candidates must nominate with the election manager, Bob Guest, at Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

Registered political party candidates must nominate directly with the VEC at Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

Nominations close at 12 noon on Monday, 31 January 2011 for party endorsed candidates and at 12 noon on Tuesday, 1 February 2011 for independent candidates.

**Late nominations cannot be accepted.**

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

• **AMCP** 9209 0190 Amharic • **عربي** 9209 0100 Arabic • **Bosanski** 9209 0191 Bosnian • **ខ្មែរ** 9209 0192 Cambodian • **粵語** 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)  
• **Hrvatski** 9209 0102 Croatian • **عربي** 9209 0193 Dari • **Dinka** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • **한국어** 9209 0194 Korean  
• **Македонски** 9209 0105 Macedonian • **普通话** 9209 0106 Chinese (Mandarin) • **فارسی** 9209 0195 Persian • **Русский** 9209 0196 Russian  
• **Српски** 9209 0107 Serbian • **Soomali** 9209 0108 Somali • **Español** 9209 0109 Spanish • **Türkçe** 9209 0110 Turkish • **Viet-ngữ** 9209 0111 Vietnamese  
• All other non-English languages 9209 0112

**Every vote will shape Victoria**

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

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

Early voting

## State by-election: Broadmeadows District Voting before election day

Election day for the Broadmeadows District by-election is Saturday, 19 February.

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

**Vote in person:** You can vote at one of the early voting centres listed below between 8.30am and 6.00pm, Monday to Friday:

- **The Gateway Business Park**  
Office C1, 1-13 The Gateway  
Broadmeadows
- **Victorian Electoral Commission**  
Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street  
Melbourne

Both early voting centres are rated as assisted wheelchair access. Extended opening hours are also available:

- Saturday, 12 February, 9.00am to 2.00pm
- Thursday, 17 February, 8.30am to 8.00pm

**Vote by post:** You can pick up a postal vote application form at any post office within Broadmeadows District, download one from [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 551 575 and we'll send you one.

To have your ballot papers sent to you, mail your correctly completed application immediately to: VEC, Reply Paid 76032, Melbourne, Vic, 8060, or fax it to 9299 0595.

Post your completed ballot papers promptly. Ballot papers posted after 6.00pm on Saturday, 19 February cannot be counted.

### 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 [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call the Broadmeadows District by-election office on 1300 551 575.

### Who can vote

All Australian citizens aged 18 or over living in Broadmeadows District will be able to cast a vote at any voting centre. If you meet these criteria but are not enrolled for your correct address, simply bring a proof of identity with you. Acceptable proofs of identity are a driver licence or learner permit, a council rates notice or an electricity invoice in your name for your home address.

**Remember, voting is compulsory**

**For more information please visit [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 551 575**

<b>Arabic</b>	المواطنون الأستراليون يجب أن يصوتوا في هذه الانتخابات يوم الانتخابات. إذا لم يكن مذكورًا التصويت في يوم الانتخابات، اتصل بنا على الرقم 1300 551 575 لمعرفة خيارات التصويت الأخرى.
<b>Cantonese</b>	所有澳洲公民在投票日前，均可親臨投票中心投票。如你符合投票資格，但沒有登記正確地址，請帶備身份證明文件。可接受的證明文件包括：駕駛執照、學車牌、市政費通知書或電力公司帳單。請於投票日前，親臨以下投票中心投票：1300 551 575 或 1300 551 575。
<b>Creeftan</b>	Australali d'itavjenti moreju glesovali na oim uborina, izbon sa ostavajgi 19. vejaba. Ako na mozele glesovali na dan izbora, naravno nas na 9200 0112 i saznav ote koje su druge mogucnosti glesovanja.
<b>Filipino</b>	Ang mga mamamayang Australyano ay kailangang bumoto sa halatang ito. Ang araw ng halalan ay sa ikalabing Pebrero. Kung hindi kayo makakuboto sa araw ng halalan tawagan kami sa 9200 0112 para sa ibang paraan ng pagboto.
<b>Greek</b>	Οι Αυστραλοί πολίτες πρέπει να ψηφίσουν τη κατάψη στις 19 Φεβρουαρίου. Αν δεν μπορείτε να ψηφίσετε την ημέρα των εκλογών καλέστε μας στα 9200 0112 για να σας πούμε άλλες επιλογές.
<b>Italian</b>	I cittadini australiani sono tenuti a votare a queste elezioni, il giorno delle elezioni e il 19 febbraio. Se non potete votare il giorno delle elezioni chiamatelo al numero 9200 0112 per conoscere altre opzioni di voto.
<b>Macedonian</b>	Komitetot na Avstralijska glesani da mozaat na oim uborina. Votovanje ot na 19 februar. Ako ne mozete da mozaete na dan izbora na ot na 9200 0112 za druge mozete na mozaete.
<b>Maltese</b>	Cittadini Australjani għandhom jivvotaw f'din l-elezzjoni. I-jum tal-elezzjoni huwa il-19 ta' Febr. Jekk ma tistax tivvota f'jum tal-elezzjoni templeni għali għażiż eħwa ta' vvotazzjoni fuq 9200 0112.
<b>Mandarin</b>	澳大利亞公民在投票日前，均可親臨投票中心投票。如你符合投票資格，但沒有登記正確地址，請帶備身份證明文件。可接受的證明文件包括：駕駛執照、學車牌、市政費通知書或電力公司帳單。請於投票日前，親臨以下投票中心投票：1300 551 575 或 1300 551 575。
<b>Vietnamese</b>	Công dân Úc phải bỏ phiếu trong cuộc bầu cử này. Ngày bầu cử là ngày 19 tháng Hai. Nếu quý vị không thể bỏ phiếu vào ngày bầu cử, hãy gọi cho chúng tôi ở số 9200 0112 để có các lựa chọn khác về việc bỏ phiếu.
<b>English</b>	Australian citizens must vote in this election. Election day is 19 February. If you cannot vote on election day call us for other voting options on 9200 0112.

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Victorian Electoral Commission 

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





## State by-election: Broadmeadows District Voting today

### How to vote correctly

For your vote to count, you must fill out your ballot paper correctly.

Put the number **1** in the box next to the candidate you most want to see elected, then number **ALL** the other boxes in order of your preference.

You must number every box for your vote to count. Use numbers only.

### Candidates

Candidates in the order in which they will appear on your ballot paper are:

- MARR, Graeme David
- KALININ, Joseph
- McGUIRE, Frank  
Australian Labor Party
- SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik
- HOBART, Mark  
D.L.P. - Democratic Labor Party
- BYRNE, Peter
- SAHIN, Celal
- DAWSON, Graham  
Australian Greens
- DAVIS, Merinda  
Sex Party

The member elected to the Victorian State Parliament Lower House (or Legislative Assembly) as a result of this by-election will serve until the next State election in November 2014.

### Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory if you were on the electoral roll for Broadmeadows District at the close of rolls (8.00pm on Thursday, 27 January 2011).

You may be fined if you do not vote.

For more information please visit [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) or call 1300 551 575



### Where to vote today

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> Belle Vue Park Primary School, Morell Street, Glenroy <b>NWA</b></p> <p><b>2</b> Bethal Primary School, Eldorado Crescent (enter via Rockbank Court), Meadow Heights <b>FWA</b></p> <p><b>3</b> Campbellfield Heights Primary School, Laurel Crescent, Campbellfield <b>FWA</b></p> <p><b>4</b> Campmeadows Primary School, 41 Graham Street, Broadmeadows <b>NWA</b></p> <p><b>5</b> Coolaroo South Primary School, Bushfield Crescent, Coolaroo <b>FWA</b></p> <p><b>6</b> Glenroy Central Primary School, Daley Street, Glenroy <b>AWA</b></p> <p><b>7</b> Hume Central Secondary College - Blair Campus, Blair Street, Broadmeadows <b>FWA</b></p> | <p><b>8</b> Hume Central Secondary College - Dimboola Campus, Dimboola Road, Broadmeadows <b>AWA</b></p> <p><b>9</b> Meadow Heights Primary School, Paringa Boulevard, Meadow Heights <b>FWA</b></p> <p><b>10</b> Roxburgh Homestead Primary School, McPherson Boulevard, Roxburgh Park <b>NWA</b></p> <p><b>11</b> Roxburgh Park Primary School, Almonds Avenue (enter via Sommerville Drive), Roxburgh Park <b>NWA</b></p> <p><b>12</b> St Thomas More School, 30 Angus Street, Hadfield <b>AWA</b></p> <p><b>13</b> Uppfield Primary School, Ambrose Street, Broadmeadows <b>NWA</b></p> |
|--|---|
- FWA** - Full wheelchair access  
**AWA** - Assisted wheelchair access  
**NWA** - No wheelchair access

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Arabic</b>     | التصويت إجباري في هذه الانتخابات في يوم السبت 19 فبراير للعام 2011 لتساعة بواسطة مترجم شفهي. اتصل هاتفياً على الرقم 1300 551 575.   |
| <b>Assyrian</b>   | ههنا مقرر ان تصوت اجباريا في يوم السبت 19 فبراير 2011 من الساعة 8:00 صباحا الى 8:00 مساء. اتصل هاتفيا على الرقم 1300 551 575.   |
| <b>Cantonese</b>  | 請務必在2011年2月19日星期六選舉日前投票。投票是法律規定，如無投票的評定將會。請電9209 0100。  |
| <b>Croatian</b>   | Glasovanje je obavezno dolaskom na izborno mjesto u subotu, 19. veljače 2011. Ako vam je potreban tumač, nazovite 9209 0100.  |
| <b>Filipino</b>   | Ang pagboto ay kapitan para sa habatang gaganapin sa mga sentrong botohan sa Sebaste, Ika-18 ng Pebrero 2011. Kung kailangan ang tulong ng interpreter, tumawag sa 9209 0112. |
| <b>Greek</b>      | Η ψηφοφορία είναι υποχρεωτική από αυτή την εκλογική διαδικασία το Σάββατο, 19 Φεβρουαρίου 2011. Για τη βοήθεια έρμηνείας, τηλεφωνήστε το 9209 0100.                           |
| <b>Italian</b>    | Votare è obbligatorio alle elezioni del 19 febbraio, 2011. Per avere l'assistenza di un interprete, chiamare al numero 9209 0104.   |
| <b>Macedonian</b> | Гласањето е задолжително за се сабота, 19 февруари 2011. За помош со интерпретер јавете се на 9209 0100.  |
| <b>Maltese</b>    | Il-votazzjoni hija ta' bid-ebb għal din l-elezzjoni ta' attendenza rhar is-Saba, 19 ta' Febr 2011. Għal għajnejha ta' interpreta, tseppal 9209 0112.                          |
| <b>Mandarin</b>   | 請務必在2011年2月19日星期六選舉日前投票。投票是法律規定，如無投票的評定將會。請電9209 0100。  |
| <b>Turkish</b>    | 19 Şubat 2011 Cumartesi günü yapılacak olan bu seçimde oy tutulmaya katılmaya zorlanırdur. Bir çevirmen yardımımdan yararlanmak için, 9209 0112 numaralı telefona arayın.     |
| <b>Vietnamese</b> | Vào tối ngày là bắt buộc đi với cuộc bầu cử trực tiếp này vào Thứ Bảy ngày 19 tháng Hai năm 2011. Để có thông dịch viên giúp đỡ, hãy điện thoại số 9209 0100.                 |
| <b>English</b>    | Voting is compulsory for this attendance election on Saturday, 19 February 2011. For interpreter assistance, telephone 9209 0112.   |

Every vote will shape Victoria

Victorian Electoral Commission

Declaration of results

## **Broadmeadows District**

### **State by-election**

#### **Declaration of result**

The candidate elected in the Broadmeadows District by-election held on Saturday, 19 February 2011 was:

Frank McGuire  
Australian Labor Party

Steve Tully  
Victorian Electoral Commission

Return of the writ

## **Broadmeadows District by-election**

I have returned the writ to the Hon Ken Smith, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The writ was issued on Thursday, 20 January 2011 for the general election of one member to the Legislative Assembly to represent Broadmeadows District.

Detailed results are now available  
at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)



**Victorian Electoral Commission**

Level 11

530 Collins Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000

Tel: +61 3 8620 1100

Fax: +61 3 9629 8632

**[vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)**

This publication is available online at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)