

Victorian Electoral Commission
**Report on the Kororoit District
By-election held on 28 June 2008**

January 2009



VIEC

Victorian Electoral Commission

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Report on the Kororoit District By-election

Held on 28 June 2008

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 Kororoit District by-election held on 28 June 2008.

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



Steve Tully
Electoral Commissioner
January 2009

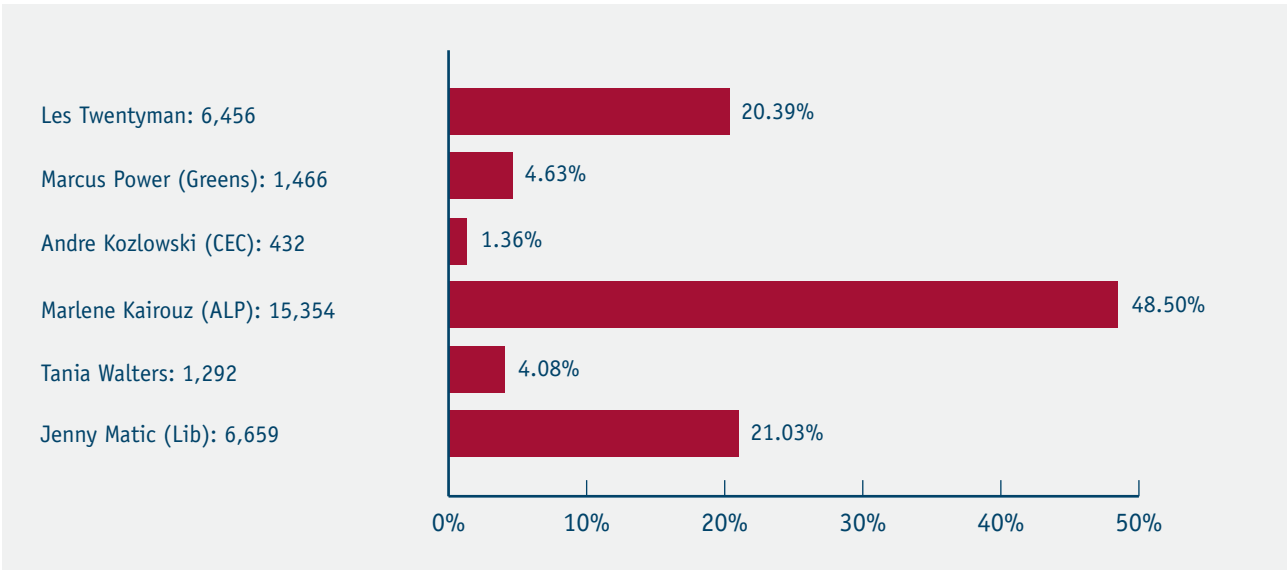
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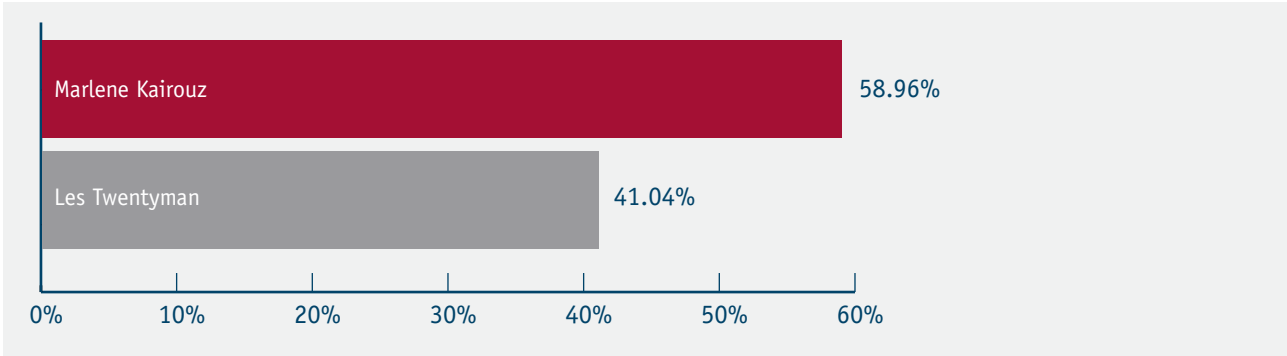
INDICATORS

Results at a glance

First preference votes – Kororoit District



Two candidate-preferred (ALP vs Independent)

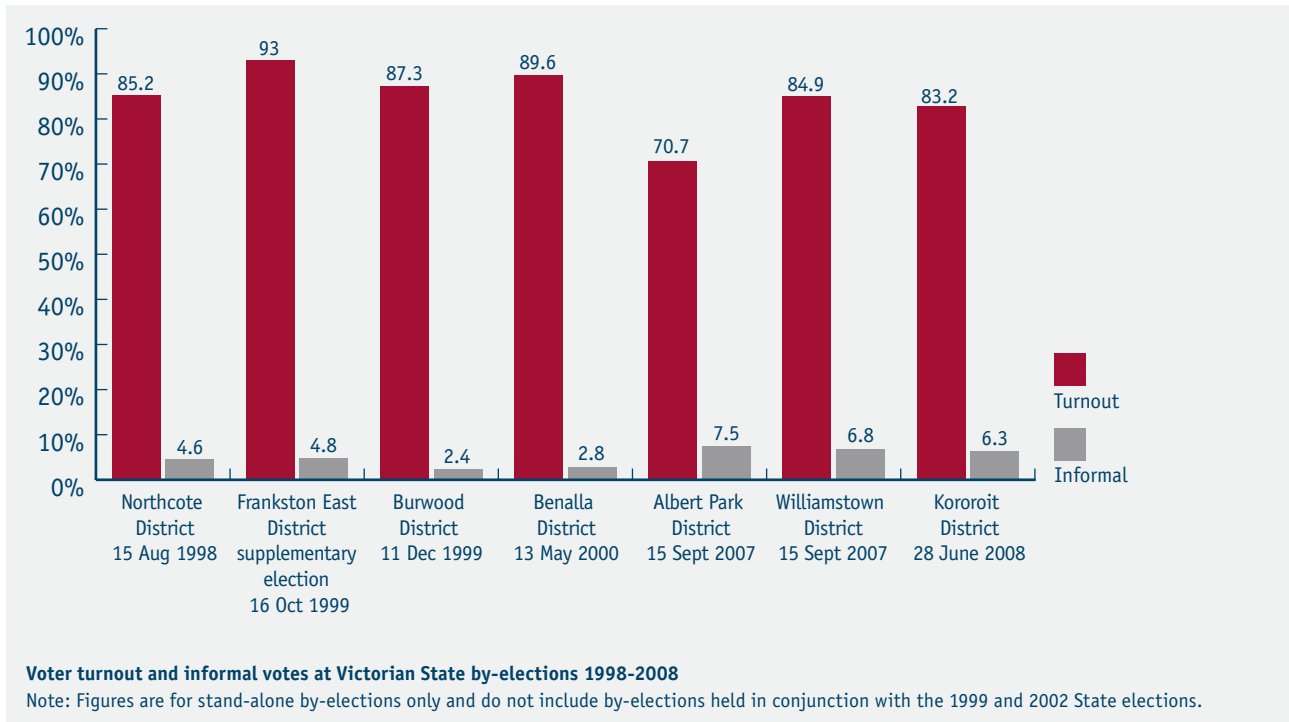


By-election budget

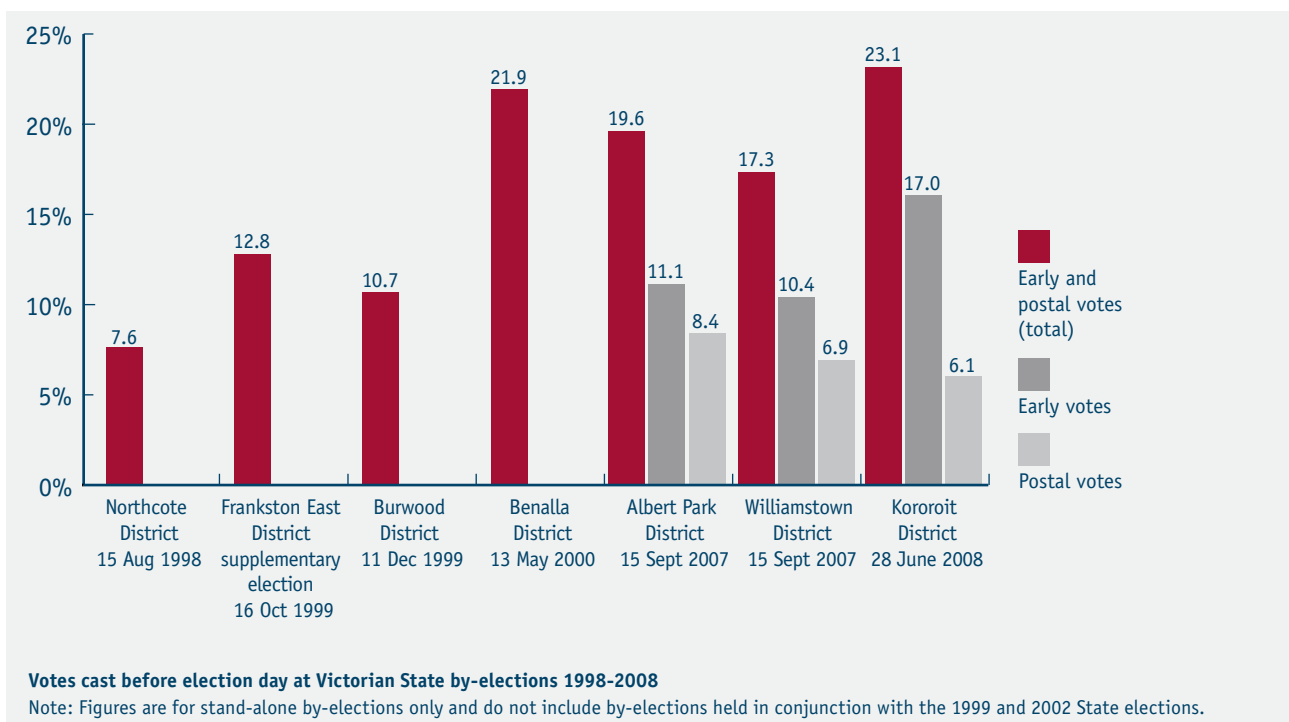
The VEC received a special appropriation of \$305,000 to conduct the by-election. At the time of printing, costs stood at \$288,310 (which includes compulsory voting costs), plus electoral entitlements paid (\$42,925). A full report of final costs for this by-election will be included in the VEC's 2008-09 Annual Report.

INDICATORS

By-election voter turnout and informal votes



By-election votes before election day



1. INTRODUCTION

The resignation of the Hon. Andre Haermeyer, Member for Kororoit District, on 2 June 2008 necessitated a by-election for his Lower House seat.

The Speaker of the Assembly issued a writ for the by-election for Kororoit District on Tuesday, 3 June 2008. The writ set out the timetable for the by-election.

Due to the short lead time, the VEC was unable to source a venue for the election office within the electorate. Therefore the election office was established on the 9th floor of 505 Little Collins Street, the VEC head office.

At the close of nominations, six candidates had nominated for the by-election. The Liberal Party (Liberals), Australian Labor Party (ALP), Greens, and Citizens Electoral Council (CEC) stood candidates in the electorate, along with two independent candidates.

The ALP was returned in with 51.07% of the vote after preference distributions. For detailed voting statistics, see Appendix 1.

The participation rate for the by-election was lower than the participation rate for the State election held in November 2006, with figures of 83.20% and 92.09% respectively.

Informality rates decreased on the 2006 State election results, with 2,129 (6.30%) informal votes recorded, compared to 2,745 or 7.81% in 2006. An analysis of the informal votes was conducted and the results can be found in section 7 Further Analysis.

Election timetable

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly announced the following dates for the by-election for the district of Kororoit:

Issue of writ	3 June 2008
Close of rolls	10 June 2008
Close of nominations	12 June 2008 (registered political parties)
	13 June 2008 (independent candidates)
Election day	28 June 2008
Return of writ	on or before 19 July 2008

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, Ms Alison O'Brien, Managing Principal Solicitor, for her support and responsiveness 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 list of 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.

The former member

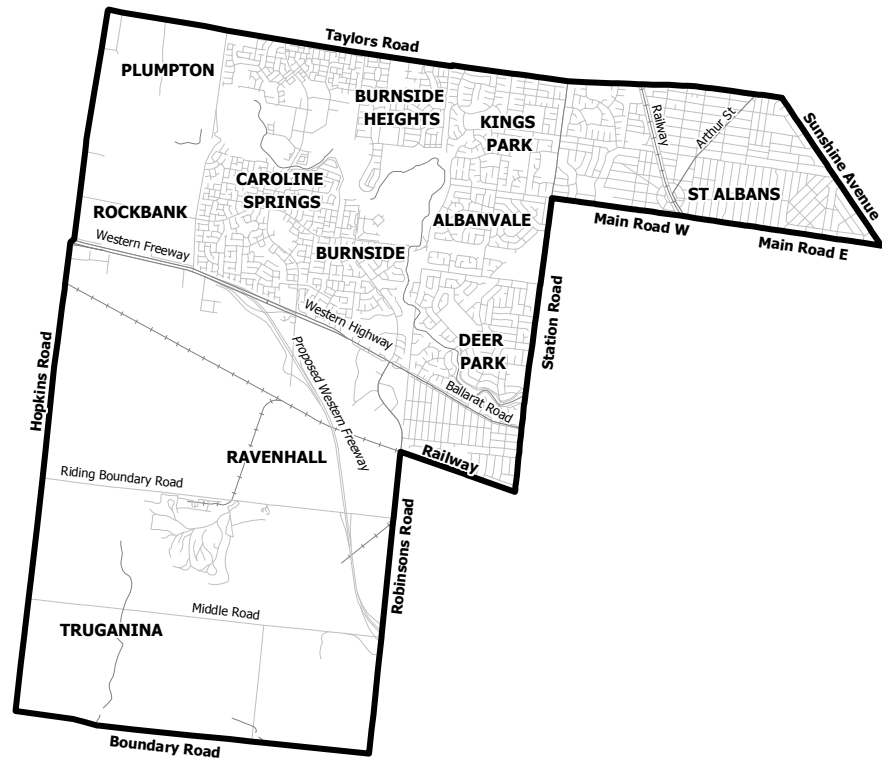
Andre Haermeyer was elected MLA for Yan Yean in October 1992 and was re-elected in March 1996 and September 1999. He was elected MLA for Kororoit in November 2002 and re-elected in November 2006, before resigning on 2 June 2008. He was Minister for Police and Emergency Services from 1999 to 2005, and Minister for Manufacturing and Export, Minister for Small Business and Minister for Financial Services from January 2005 until December 2006.

The electorate

Kororoit District is a metropolitan electorate located approximately 13 kilometres west of Melbourne. Covering some 62 square kilometres, the electorate includes residential and industrial areas, with rapid development around Caroline Springs. The southern part of the electorate is sparsely populated.

Kororoit District covers the suburbs of Albanvale, Caroline Springs and Kings Park, and parts of the suburbs of Deer Park, Rockbank, St Albans and Truganina.

Kororoit District



Past results for Kororoit District

2006 State election results

Total Enrolment:	38,186
Formal Votes:	32,421
Informal Votes:	2745
	(7.81% of the total votes)
Total Votes:	35,166
	(92.09% of the total enrolment)

First preference votes

	1st pref votes	% of 1st pref votes
WALTERS, Tania (Family First)	4,218	13.01%
KOZLOWSKI, Andre (CEC)*	702	2.17%
HAERMEYER, Andre (ALP)	19,978	61.62%
ALEXANDER, Mick (Lib)	5,177	15.97%
POWER, Marcus (Greens)	2,346	7.24%

*CEC – Citizens Electoral Council

2002 State election results

Total Enrolment:	35,235
Formal Votes:	30,390
Informal Votes:	1,924
	(5.95% of the total votes)
Total Votes:	32,314
	(91.71% of the total enrolment)

First preference votes

	1st pref votes	% of 1st pref votes
FENECH, Joe (Lib)	5,439	17.90%
HAERMEYER, André (ALP)	20,894	68.75%
GEORGE, Amanda	2,384	7.84%
REILLY, Bernard	1,673	5.51%

Historical Pattern

2002-present	ALP
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2. SERVICES TO VOTERS

Enrolment

Immediately after the resignation of the member for Kororoit District, the Victorian Electoral Commission sent notification of the by-election to every householder in the electorate (see Appendix 2). 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 a week to ensure they were correctly enrolled and eligible to vote in the by-election.

Enrolment advertisements were placed in both the daily papers and the local papers within the electorate (see Appendix 2).

Enrolment forms were available from the VEC's website at www.vec.vic.gov.au, post offices, Coles supermarkets, Australian Electoral Commission divisional offices or by contacting the VEC's head office.

Between the issue of the writ and the close of rolls, 420 electors enrolled or updated their enrolment details. At the close of rolls, there were 40,609 electors enrolled (at the 2006 State election there were 38,186 electors enrolled).

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 – Electors unable to vote on election day had the opportunity to vote early at the early voting centre in St Albans, or at the election office in Melbourne.

Kororoit District

344 Main Road West, St Albans

Election Office

Level 9, 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 5,497 voters voted early in person for the by-election. This compares with 3,981 for the 2006 State election.

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

Mobile voting – A total of 222 voters took advantage of mobile voting, with a mobile voting team visiting the Burnside Retirement Village in the week prior to election day.

Voting interstate and overseas – Early voting in person was possible at seven interstate and one overseas location. These locations and the number of votes taken at each are listed in Appendix 3. A total of 15 early votes were cast outside Victoria. This compares with 60 for the District in 2006.

2. SERVICES TO VOTERS

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 or could be obtained by calling the VEC, at any post office in the district, or through applications letterbox dropped by the Liberal Party. Applications could also be lodged by email or fax.

One postal vote was issued outside the State for the by-election as compared to 13 for the electorate in 2006.

Postal vote applications were processed on the day that they were received by the VEC, to ensure the efficient delivery of ballot packs. A total of 2,161 postal vote declarations were received during the 23 days of postal voting. This is an increase on the comparative figures from 2006 where a total of 1,386 declarations were received.

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 screens at each voting centre;
- chairs made available within the voting centre for those unable to queue or stand for any length of time;
- 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 made special accessibility provisions for the St Albans early voting centre by installing a ramp to the early voting centre during the two weeks prior to election day. The ramp was leased from and installed by Aussie Ramp Systems who ensured it met Australian Standards for accessibility. The company de-installed and removed the ramp in the week following election day.

Of the 10 election day voting centres in Kororoit, three were 'Fully Wheelchair Accessible', six were 'Assisted Wheelchair Access' and one had no disability 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, community centres etc, which were built prior to accessibility standards being incorporated into building guidelines.

Services for voters from non-English speaking backgrounds

Kororoit District has a population of residents with low proficiency in English (some 12.5% – source Australian Bureau of Statistics). Therefore, effort was directed towards multilingual communications such as radio advertising, translated voting instructions and interpreter lines.

Advertising in print media included the VEC's 20 multilingual 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/electors in Kororoit. 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 for the Kororoit by-election was higher than for the Albert Park and Williamstown by-elections combined.

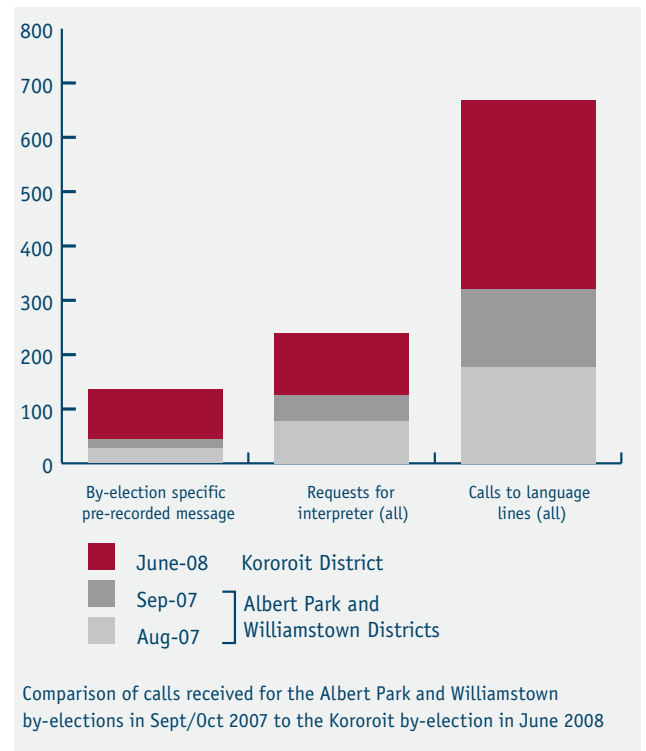
From 23-27 June, the VEC advertised the Kororoit State by-election in Cantonese, Croatian, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Maltese, Mandarin and Vietnamese with five ethnic radio broadcasters.

Translated information was direct mailed to 32 Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) groups and associations operating in Kororoit District. This information included details about voting on election day, and early and postal voting options in Cantonese, Croatian, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Maltese, Mandarin and Vietnamese.

A total of 28 election staff (over 10 election day voting centres) spoke a language other than English and were on hand to assist with interpreting where required. In addition, voting instructions translated into 20 languages were printed as large format stickers and placed on either side of each voting screen.

The VEC considers that the decrease in the rate of informality, when compared to the 2006 State election results, may in part be attributed to the concerted provision of CALD communication.

Figure 1 – Use of telephone interpreter telephone lines



2. SERVICES TO VOTERS

Communication services

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

Direct mail

As previously mentioned, the VEC took the opportunity to write to householders within Kororoit District after the resignation of Mr Haermeyer was announced.

From 4 June, the VEC distributed 22,081 enrolment information letters to households in Kororoit District.

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 Friday 13 June, with a total of 39,982 sent to people on the roll for Kororoit 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 the election office opened, on 3 June 2008. From this time, public telephone enquiries were 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 on what to do if they could not attend a voting centre on election day and the location of early and election day voting centres.

Website

Once the writ for the by-election was issued, the VEC's website provided specific information for voters in the district.

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.

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 (in person) voting centres detailed, as well as all interstate and an overseas location.

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

Each election day voting centre was listed, along with its relevant accessibility rating.

Electors could also email any request or query to the VEC via its info@vec.vic.gov.au email service. A total of 14 by-election related emails were processed over the period 3 June to 28 June 2008. The main types of queries received related to postal voting (Victoria, interstate and overseas) and requests for locations of voting centres.

3. SERVICES TO REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES



Appointment of Election Manager

Mr Michael Sullivan was appointed the Election Manager for Kororoit District. Mrs Sharon Rogowski and Mr Peter Long were appointed as Assistant Election Managers.

The Election Manager was 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 submitted for registration by the VEC;
- supervising voting, and receiving and recording results; and
- declaring the election.

The Election Manager was assisted by VEC core staff and experienced election officials who had worked at the 2006 State election.

Candidate support

A total of six candidates nominated for the by-election. This compares with five in Kororoit 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 with the VEC and independent candidates nominated at the election office. 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 form;
- one 'Appointment of Scrutineer' form as a sample;
- an Electoral Roll Confidentiality Agreement form;
- a list of voting centres in the district;
- 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.

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*.

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. Candidates endorsed by a registered political party 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 seven how-to-vote cards were registered for the by-election.

The VEC registered the following seven how-to-vote cards for Kororoit District.

Citizens Electoral Council (Victorian Division)	1 card
The Australian Greens – Victoria	2 cards
Australian Labor Party – Victorian Branch	1 card
Tania Walters	1 card
Les Twentyman	1 card
Liberal Party of Australia – Victorian Division	1 card

Party/Candidate briefings

All registered political parties were invited to attend an individual by-election briefing on Friday 6 June. Four parties participated.

Independent candidates were also invited to attend a briefing session conducted at the VEC on Friday 6 June. One prospective independent candidate attended.

All communication with candidates was via the Election Manager.

Complaints

Four complaints were received either by candidates or about candidates. One complaint related to the eligibility of a candidate to stand, which had no basis. Another related to what a candidate believed to be harassing and intimidating behaviour by an alleged party member. This was referred to police. Such behaviour has the potential to reduce candidate fields.

Two other complaints related to what the complainant believed to be false and misleading electoral material being published/distributed. In the case of one of these complaints, there was no legal basis found for the complaint.

The second complaint believed to be a contravention of the false and misleading provision in the Act related to a pamphlet authorised by the Secretary of the Labor Party, which stated that a vote for a particular independent candidate was a vote for the Liberal Party. The actual slogan was “A vote for Les Twentyman is a vote for the Liberals”.

This is not the first time in an Australian parliamentary election that a major party has indicated that a vote for one candidate is a vote for someone else. In another state it was claimed that a vote for the Democrats was a vote for Labor.

In fact, electors allocate preferences. Some choose to follow how-to-vote cards, some do not.

The VEC understands that in Australia the laws allow for robust expression of opinion and debate and that it is up to electors to make their choices in secret. The subject pamphlet was considered to be outside of that general framework.

Accordingly, the VEC invited those directly involved with this particular complaint to make submissions in relation to the law. All submissions have been fully considered with specialist legal advice.

For a successful prosecution of an offence against section 84(1) of the Act, there are two components to the statutory test:

- The pamphlet must be likely to mislead or deceive an elector; and
- The impugned effect of the pamphlet must be felt “in relation to the casting of the vote of the elector”.

Legal opinion is that the pamphlet is misleading in its suggestion of an affiliation or agreement between Mr Twentyman and the Liberal Party. Further, on current case law, it is likely to be construed as misleading electors in the formation of their judgement about their preferred candidate.

However, in Victoria, the law has been interpreted to contemplate that the misleading provisions of the *Electoral Act 2002* only apply to the actual casting of the vote. Therefore, although the electors’ views about who they would vote for may have been affected by the pamphlet, it does not clearly mislead electors in the casting of their vote and is consequently unlikely to be able to be successfully prosecuted.

Regardless of the legal consideration, such messages do conflict with messages from the electoral administrators that electors allocate preferences, and contribute to an undesirable trend for candidates to take advantage or build on community misunderstandings of preferential voting with confusing statements.

In this context, the Parliament may wish to consider whether the misleading provisions of the Act require amendment.

4. SERVICES TO THE MEDIA

Media releases

The VEC distributed five media releases throughout the election period - to local and statewide media. A media results advisory notice was also issued.

Media enquiries

A total of 34 enquiries were received from journalists with regard to the by-election. The majority of the enquiries related to when results would be available. Two calls were from journalists who wished to film in the voting centres – either people voting or the counting of ballot papers.

The VEC's Communication Manager conducted one pre-recorded interview for election day – for radio station 3AW.

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 10.45pm.

Data feeds were also available on the VEC's website for use by the media and commentators.



5. VEC PERSONNEL

VEC support

After appointing the Election Manager, the role of the VEC was to support the Election Manager 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-election;
- assistance with public and media relations; and
- electoral rolls for use in voting centres

Employment of staff

A total of 149 staff were appointed for the by-election. Of these, 115 were appointed as election officials at voting centres on election day. A further 33 election casuals were appointed by the Election Manager to assist with early voting at the Kororoit early voting centres, mobile voting, and administrative duties including counts conducted at the election office.

A four-hour training session was conducted for voting centre managers and assistant voting centre managers. The Election Managers and Assistant Election Managers had previous election experience, but timing did not allow the opportunity for additional training prior to the by-election.

Two VEC staff provided Help Desk support to the Election Manager and Assistant Election Managers during the election period.

6. COUNTING THE VOTES 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. There was no clear majority, so a preference distribution was required.

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.

Signature checking of postal votes took place in the election office from 8am on election day.

Postal and early votes were counted in the election office 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; 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.

A recheck was conducted on all ballot papers on the Monday following the election, followed by a preference distribution on Tuesday to determine the successful candidate. Marlene Kairouz (ALP) was declared the successful candidate on Wednesday, 2 July 2008.

The writ was returned on Thursday, 3 July 2008.

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 11 July 2008. One political party forfeited its deposit as it did not achieve at least 4% of first-preference votes.

Electoral entitlements

An amount of \$42,924.63 has been paid to political parties and independent candidates for election entitlements. The details of payments and entitlements appear in the table below.

Figure 2 – Electoral entitlements paid

ALP	\$21,105.61
Liberals	\$9,153.46
Australian Greens	\$2,015.16
Les Twentyman	\$8,874.42
Tania Walters	\$1,775.98

An amount of \$1.3746 per vote is payable to political parties and independent candidates where candidates obtain at least 4% of the first-preference votes. A total of three party candidates and two independent candidates were in this position.

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. Scanning of 61 marked rolls for Kororoit District election day voting centres also took place at this time.

In late July, 5,215 '*Apparent Failure to Vote*' notices were generated and mailed to apparent non-voters. The first stage of the non-voter follow up process is conducted under Part 9, Division 2 of the *Electoral Act 2002*.

It quickly became apparent that the roll for one voting centre location had not scanned correctly and as a result, the '*Apparent Failure to Vote*' notice was incorrectly sent to just under 400 electors who had voted. Within 24 hours a letter had been sent to these electors, advising of the error and apologising for the inconvenience.

Subsequent follow-up of electors who did not respond to or provided an invalid response to the '*Apparent Failure to Vote*' notice mail out 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 \$57. Some 3,282 infringement notices were mailed to non-voters on 25 August and 2,267 penalty reminder notices were mailed to non-voters on the 22 October 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.

Outstanding non-voter notices will be lodged with the Infringements Court in early February 2009.

7. FURTHER ANALYSIS

Unenrolled analysis

A total of 133 unenrolled declaration votes were received for the by-election. 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 had failed to update their details and had been removed from the roll. Following checking of entitlements for declaration voters casting an unenrolled vote, 16 votes (12%) were admitted to the count.

Analysis of informal votes

There were 2,129 informal votes at the by-election, comprising 6.3% of total votes. Informal voting was lower in absolute and percentage terms than at the 2006 State election, when there were 2,745 informal votes in Kororoit District (7.81% of the total). However, the informal voting rate was higher than the 4.56% for the State as a whole in 2006. It is important to explain both the relatively large numbers of informal votes at the by-election and the reduction since the State election. As well, the VEC surveyed the informal ballot papers to ascertain the types of mistakes that voters made and how they varied from those at the 2006 State election and at the 2007 by-elections for Albert Park and Williamstown Districts.

A key feature of Kororoit District is its high proportion of residents who speak a language other than English. Kororoit District has the sixth highest proportion of residents who were born outside Australia, at 48.9%, and the great majority of those residents come from non-English speaking countries. People who are not proficient in English make up 13.6% of the residents – the seventh highest rate in the State. At State elections, there is a strong correlation between informal voting and the proportion of residents who are not fluent in English. Recognising the challenge posed by the nature of the electorate, the VEC made a special effort to communicate with non-English speaking electors. VEC direct mail and press advertisements included contact telephone numbers for twenty languages, advertisements were broadcast on ethnic radio, and the VEC sent translated information to a range of community groups. These measures appear to have contributed to the decrease in the informal vote.

Voters in the by-election had a wide choice of candidates. In contrast, there were no Liberal candidates for the 2007 Albert Park and Williamstown by-elections, and this absence seems to have increased the informal vote at those by-elections (see the VEC's *Report on the Albert Park District and Williamstown District By-elections held on 15 September 2007*, pp 21-23).

7. FURTHER ANALYSIS

In the ballot paper survey, 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 '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.

Figure 3 – results of the survey.

Category	Number
Blank	332 15.59%
Numbers – 1 only	152 7.14%
Numbers – insufficient	127 5.97%
Numbers – deliberate	187 8.78%
Numbers – other	441 20.71%
Ticks/crosses – preference	226 10.62%
Ticks/crosses – deliberate	195 9.16%
Ticks/crosses – other	29 1.36%
Writing – deliberate	399 18.74%
Writing – other	34 1.6%
Administrative error	7 0.33%
TOTAL	2,129

The largest single category of informal votes at the Kororoit by-election were “numbers – other”. 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. A significant proportion of voters (8.78%) made deliberate numbering errors – typically a string of zeros. The proportion of Kororoit’s informal ballot papers with a single 1 was only 7.14%, comparable to 6.56% in this category at the 2007 by-elections and much less than 26.38% in this category at the State election. The lesson from Kororoit is the same as from the 2007 by-elections: without an Upper House ballot paper to mislead them, few voters are inclined to make the mistake of just voting 1.

The second largest group of informal votes were in the “writing – deliberate” category, with 399 ballot papers, or 18.74% of the total. Most of these voters expressed their strong objection to all the candidates, or possibly to the by-election itself, through crossing out the entire ballot paper, or through offensive messages or drawings. However, there were no explicit objections to compulsory voting.

At 15.59% of the total, blank ballot papers were a substantial group, but there was a lower incidence of them than at the State election (21.28%) and only half as many as at the 2007 by-elections (31.78%).

Figure 4 – results of the survey in broader categories.

Category	Number
Blank	332 15.59%
Numbers	907 42.6%
Ticks/crosses	450 21.14%
Writing	433 20.34%
Administrative error	7 0.33%
TOTAL	2,129

Numbering errors were the largest of these categories, with 42.6% of the total. What is possibly more interesting is that 21.14% of the votes were ticks and crosses – a much higher proportion than the 12.25% in this category at the State election and the 13.11% at the 2007 by-elections. These votes were divided almost equally between those indicating a clear preference through a single tick or cross, and those who deliberately spoiled their vote with a string of ticks or crosses. Possibly a tick or cross is the method of voting in the country of origin of many of these Kororoit voters. The VEC is currently researching barriers to effective voting in the Chinese and Vietnamese communities, which may throw some light on this matter.

7. FURTHER ANALYSIS

Figure 5 groups the various categories of deliberately informal votes, and also those that indicated a clear preference (either through the number '1' or a single tick or cross).

Figure 5 – Deliberately informal votes.

Category	Number
Apparently deliberate	781 36.68%
Apparently deliberate including blank	1,113 52.28%
Indicating preference	505 23.72%

Just over half of the ballot papers appear to have been deliberately informal. This is more than at the State election, when 40.82% of the informal votes were probably deliberate, but much less than at the 2007 by-elections, when 65.26% of the informal votes were in this group. Conversely, only 23.72% of the Kororoit informal votes indicated a clear preference – very similar to the score at the 2007 by-elections (23.16%) but much less than the 41.47% of the votes in this category at the State election.

The informal ballot papers at the Kororoit by-election were divided almost equally between those that were apparently deliberate and others. The wide range of candidates at Kororoit probably explains the reduction in the deliberate informal rate from the 2007 by-elections, when there were no Liberal candidates. In Kororoit, there were more than 1,100 voters who seem to have objected to all the candidates or to the by-election itself.

There were some 1,000 accidental informal votes, where voters tried to vote and got it wrong in different ways. The VEC needs to maintain its efforts to inform voters how to vote correctly. Especially in districts like Kororoit, the VEC should be alert to the particular difficulties of voters from non-English speaking backgrounds.

Two-party-preferred vote

After the by-election, the VEC re-threw the ballot papers for Kororoit District for two-party preferred information purposes.

On a two-party-preferred basis for the by-election, the results were ALP 71.5% and Liberal 28.5%. The same comparison for this electorate at the 2006 State election shows a result of ALP 75.56% and Liberal 24.44%.

Swing analysis is most relevant between general election results.

8. ISSUES

Australia Post strike

During the course of the by-election, industrial action took place at Australia Post's Dandenong Mail Centre resulting in mail delays over one to two days. This incident highlights the VEC's reliance on the postal system, particularly during the 2008 council elections, with 88% of councils opting for elections by postal voting. Mail delays when ballot packs are going out or close to election day have the potential to disenfranchise perhaps thousands of voters whose ballot papers could be received too late to be included in the count.

Whilst Australia Post has moved to reassure the VEC that this type of industrial action is rare, it cannot be totally discounted as a risk.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Detailed voting statistics

Kororoit District By-election: 28 June 2008

Total number of electors enrolled:	40,609
Formal votes:	31,659
Informal votes:	2,129
	(6.30% of total votes)
Total votes:	33,788
	(83.20% of electors enrolled)

Number of first preference votes polled by each candidate

	TWENTYMAN, Les	POWER, Marcus AUSTRALIAN GREENS	KOZLOWSKI, Andre CITIZENS ELECTORAL COUNCIL	KAIROUZ, Marlene AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	WALTERS, Tania	MATIC, Jenny LIBERAL	Informal Votes	Total Votes Polled
Albanvale	466	91	35	1167	60	453	180	2452
Brookside	919	229	54	2263	196	1127	298	5086
Creekside	297	69	13	700	56	363	74	1572
Deer Park Central	673	167	38	1674	162	584	257	3555
Deer Park West	529	101	21	1064	147	421	138	2421
Kings Park	431	158	51	1336	109	379	187	2651
St Albans East	483	128	37	1322	84	500	211	2765
St Albans North	338	90	13	893	68	477	145	2024
St Albans West	360	120	29	918	78	408	135	2048
Stevensville	228	76	22	674	75	206	114	1395
Total Ordinary Votes	4724	1229	313	12011	1035	4918	1739	25969
Postal Vote	501	94	32	815	60	540	28	2070
Early Vote	1231	143	87	2528	197	1201	362	5749
Total Declaration Votes	1732	237	119	3343	257	1741	390	7819
TOTAL ALL VOTE TYPES	6456	1466	432	15354	1292	6659	2129	33788
Percentage of Formal Vote Polled by Candidate	20.39%	4.63%	1.36%	48.50%	4.08%	21.03%		

Kororoit District Two-candidate Preferred Results

Voting Centre	TWENTYMAN, Les	KAIROUZ, Marlene Australian Labor Party	Mis-sorts	Informal Votes	Total
ALBANVALE	921	1359	1	168	2449
BROOKSIDE	2051	2748	1	281	5081
CREEKSIDE	624	881	0	67	1572
DEER PARK CENTRAL	1299	2016	2	250	3567
DEER PARK WEST	970	1320	2	129	2421
KINGS PARK	842	1643	2	164	2651
ST ALBANS EAST	975	1590	3	195	2763
ST ALBANS NORTH	809	1090	0	126	2025
ST ALBANS WEST	772	1160	7	109	2048
STEVENSVILLE	453	830	0	112	1395
Ordinary Votes	9716	14637	18	1601	25972
Postal Vote	996	1046	0	28	2070
Early Vote	2332	3055	1	348	5736
TOTAL	13044	18738	19	1977	33778
Percentage of formal vote	41.04%	58.96%			

Kororoit District Preference Distribution

Total valid first preference votes polled for all candidates 31,659

Number of votes required to constitute an absolute majority on first count 15,830

Number of informal votes 2,129

	TWENTYMAN, Les	POWER, Marcus	KOZLOWSKI, Andre	KAIROUZ, Marlene	WALTERS, Tania	MATIC, Jenny	TOTAL
Total first preference votes recorded for each candidate	6456	1466	432	15354	1292	6659	31659
Transfer of 432 ballot-papers of KOZLOWSKI, Andre (1st excluded candidate)	84	122		100	65	61	432
Progressive Total	6540	1588		15454	1357	6720	31659
Transfer of 1357 ballot-papers of WALTERS, Tania (2nd excluded candidate)	245	140		713		259	1357
FINAL TOTAL	6785	1728		16167		6979	31659
Percentage of formal vote after preferences	21.43%	5.46%		51.07%		22.04%	


Name of ELECTED candidate: KAIROUZ, Marlene

APPENDICES

Appendix 2 – Communication products

Enrolment letter – Kororoit

Important information: Kororoit District by-election

Victorian Electoral Commission 

To the householder

Enrol to vote for the Kororoit District by-election

A by-election is being held on Saturday, 28 June 2008 due to the resignation of the Member for Kororoit District.

The electoral roll for the by-election closes at 8.00pm this Tuesday, 10 June.

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 www.vec.vic.gov.au or collect one from any post office, Centrelink, Australian Electoral Commission office or Coles supermarket. Fax your completed form immediately to the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) on 03 9277 7126, or hand it to one of the offices listed below:

- Australian Electoral Commission, 348A Main Road West, St Albans
- Australian Electoral Commission, Casselden Place, 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
- Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

You must ensure that your form is in our hands by **8.00pm on Tuesday, 10 June**.

Do you have to enrol?

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.

How do you check if you're on the roll?

Check www.vec.vic.gov.au or call 13 18 32.

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: 13 18 32 or www.vec.vic.gov.au


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

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

• **ARABIC** 9209 0190 Arabic • **BAHASA** 9209 0191 Indonesian • **BIHARSKI** 9209 0192 Cambodian • **CHINESE** 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese) • **HRVATSKI** 9209 0102 Croatian • **DARI** 9209 0193 Dari • **ELLINIKI** 9209 0103 Greek • **ITALIANO** 9209 0104 Italian • **KOREAN** 9209 0104 Korean • **MACEĐONSKI** 9209 0105 Macedonian • **MANDARIN** 9209 0106 Chinese (Mandarin) • **PERSIAN** 9209 0195 Persian • **RUSSKI** 9209 0196 Russian • **SERBIAN** 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

State by-election Kororoit District

Victorian Electoral Commission 

Dear voter

Important information. Election day is Saturday 28 June.

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

Election day is Saturday 28 June 2008. It is **compulsory** for you to vote in this by-election as you were on the roll for Kororoit District at the close of rolls on Tuesday 10 June 2008.

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



Steve Tully
Electoral Commissioner

Vietnamese: Bỏ phiếu ngày Thứ Bảy 28 Tháng Sáu là điều bắt buộc. Để được sự giúp đỡ của thông dịch viên, hãy gọi 9209 0111.
Maltese: Il-votazzjoni hija ta' bil-fors nhar is-Sibt 28 ta' Ġunju. Għal għajjnuna ta' interpretu, ċempel 9209 0112.
Macedonian: Гласањето е задолжително во сабота, 28. јуни. За помош со преведувач јавете се на 9209 0105.
Greek: Το Σάββατο 28 Ιουνίου η ψηφοφορία είναι υποχρεωτική. Για βοήθεια διερμηνέα, τηλεφωνήστε στο 9209 0103.
Croatian: Glasovanje je obvezno na izborima u subotu, 28. lipnja. Za pomoć tumača nazovite 9209 0102.
Chinese: 6月28日星期六的投票各位必須參加。若需獲得傳譯員協助，請電9209 0101（廣東話）或9209 0106（普通話）。
Chinese: 6月28日星期六的投票各位必須參加。若需獲得傳譯員協助，請電9209 0101（廣東話）或9209 0106（普通話）。
Italian: Votare è obbligatorio sabato 28 giugno. Per avere l'aiuto di un interprete, chiamare al numero 9209 0104.
English: Voting is compulsory on Saturday 28 June. For enquiries, call 1300 551 575 (03 9299 0520 from outside Victoria)

For interpreter assistance in all other non-English languages, call 03 9209 0112.

Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000

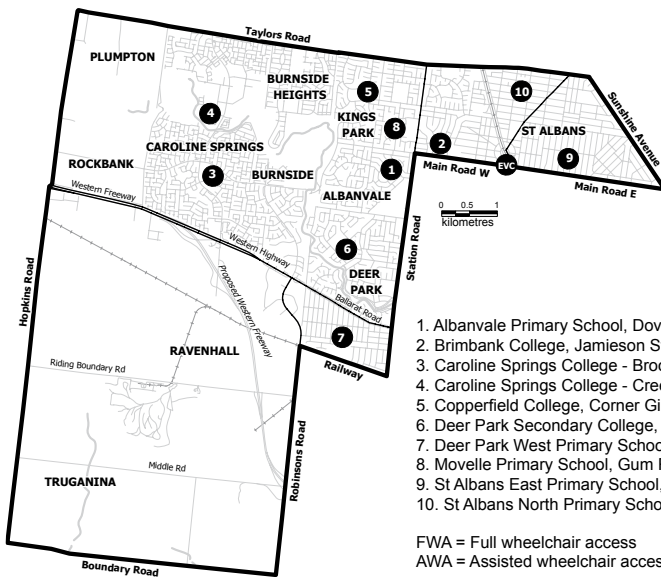
Please turn over...

APPENDICES

EasyVote letter (back) – Kororoit

Where can I vote?

You can vote at any one of the following voting centres within Kororoit District from 8.00am to 6.00pm on Saturday 28 June 2008.



1. Albanvale Primary School, Dover Street, St Albans - AWA
2. Brimbank College, Jamieson Street, St Albans - FWA
3. Caroline Springs College - Brookside Campus, Federation Way, Caroline Springs - AWA
4. Caroline Springs College - Creekside Campus, The Crossing, Caroline Springs - AWA
5. Copperfield College, Corner Gillespie Road and Kambalda Circuit, Kings Park - FWA
6. Deer Park Secondary College, 88 Billingham Road, Deer Park
7. Deer Park West Primary School, Quinn Street, Deer Park - FWA
8. Movele Primary School, Gum Road, Kings Park - AWA
9. St Albans East Primary School, Station Avenue, St Albans East - AWA
10. St Albans North Primary School, George Street, St Albans - AWA

FWA = Full wheelchair access
AWA = Assisted wheelchair access

What if I can't vote on election day?

If you can't get to a voting centre on election day, Saturday 28 June, you can vote at an early voting centre listed below from 8.30am to 5.00pm weekdays:

- Kororoit Early Voting Centre (EVC), 344 Main Road West, St Albans (accessible parking in Amy Street)
- Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

Extended opening hours are on Saturday 21 June from 9.00am to 2.00pm, Thursday 26 June from 8.30am to 8.00pm and Friday 27 June from 8.30am to 6.00pm.

If you will be outside Victoria on election day, you can vote by post or in person. Additional to the above early voting centres, voting is also available at Victoria House, London, UK and at various interstate locations. Visit www.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, you can apply for a postal vote. Postal vote applications are available at Australia Post offices in Kororoit District, online at www.vec.vic.gov.au or by calling the election office on 1300 551 575.

The VEC needs to receive your postal vote application by Tuesday 24 June. 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 Kororoit District on Tuesday 10 June 2008. You may be fined if you do not vote.

Information: 1300 551 575 or www.vec.vic.gov.au

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

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

- ግዕዝ 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 • داري 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 • Soomaali 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

By-election newspaper advertisements

Phase	Newspaper	Publication date
Issue of writ/Enrolment/Nominations	The Age	4 June
	Herald Sun	4 June
Enrolment/Nominations	The Age	6 June
	Herald Sun	6 June
	The Age	7 June
	Herald Sun	7 June
	The Weekend Australian	7 June
Enrolment reminder	The Age	10 June
	Herald Sun	10 June
Nominations	Melton Leader	10 June
	Brimbank Leader	10 June
	Star – St Albans, Deer Park & Caroline Springs	10 June
	Melton Bacchus Marsh Express Telegraph	10 June
	The Advocate / North West Advocate	10 June
Voting before election day	Melton Leader	17 June
	Brimbank Leader	17 June
	Star – St Albans, Deer Park & Caroline Springs	17 June
	Melton Bacchus Marsh Express Telegraph	17 June
	The Advocate / North West Advocate	17 June
Voting on election day	Melton Leader	24 June
	Star – St Albans, Deer Park & Caroline Springs	24 June
	Brimbank Leader	24 June
	Melton Bacchus Marsh Express Telegraph	24 June
	The Advocate / North West Advocate	24 June
Election day	The Age	28 June
	Herald Sun	28 June
Results	The Age	5 July
	Herald Sun	5 July

APPENDICES

Issue of Writ/Enrolment/Nominations

State by-election Kororoit District

I have received the writ from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Honourable Jenny Lindell MP, issued on Tuesday 3 June 2008, for the election of one member of the Legislative Assembly for Kororoit District.

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

- Close of roll:** 8.00pm on Tuesday 10 June 2008
- Close of nominations:** 12 noon on Friday 13 June 2008
- Election day:** Saturday 28 June 2008
- Return of the writ:** On or before Saturday 19 July 2008

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

Make sure you're enrolled to vote!

You are already enrolled for the Kororoit 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.

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 or call 13 18 32.

How do I enrol?

Download an enrolment form from www.vec.vic.gov.au, collect one from any Australia Post Office, Coles supermarket or Centrelink or Australian Electoral Commission office, or call 13 18 32 to request a form. Post or fax your completed form immediately.

Enrolling is compulsory

Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details current is compulsory.

When do I vote?

Election day is Saturday 28 June. Details of where to vote and how to vote early will be available shortly and mailed to enrolled electors within Kororoit District, advertised in local newspapers and made available online at www.vec.vic.gov.au. **Voting is compulsory for all enrolled electors.**

Candidate information

Registered political parties must nominate candidates at the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC), Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. Nominations close at 12 noon on Thursday 12 June 2008. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

Candidates not endorsed by a registered political party must nominate with the election manager, Michael Sullivan, at Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. The election manager will supply a Candidate Kit which includes a nomination form. Nominations close at 12 noon on Friday 13 June 2008. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

The VEC will conduct an information session for intending non-party candidates at 4.00pm on Friday 6 June 2008 at the VEC.

For more information on nominating, call the election manager, Michael Sullivan, on 9299 0572.

How to vote cards

If a person or organisation intends to distribute how-to-vote cards on election day, Saturday 28 June 2008, the cards must be registered by the VEC.

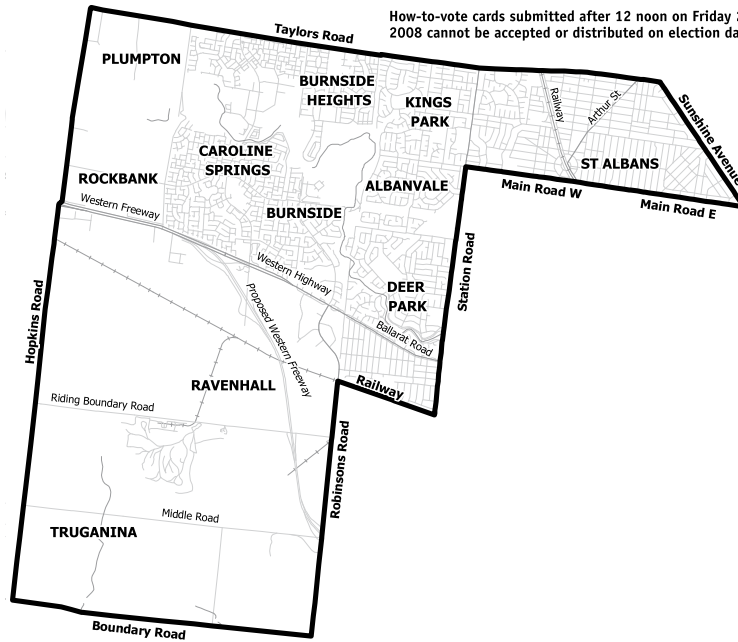
Registered how-to-vote cards are the only form of printed electoral material that may be distributed within 400 metres of a voting centre on election day (penalties apply).

The period for submitting how-to-vote cards for registration is from Monday 16 June to 12 noon on Friday 20 June 2008.

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

Registered political parties must submit their how-to-vote cards for registration to the VEC at Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

How-to-vote cards submitted after 12 noon on Friday 20 June 2008 cannot be accepted or distributed on election day.



For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:
 • 汉语 9209 0190 Amharic • 阿拉伯语 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Cambodian • 普通话 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
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 • Српски 9209 0107 Serbian • Соомали 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkçe 9209 0110 Turkish • Việt-ngữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese
 • All other non-English languages 9209 0112

TTY 9299 0570 (text telephone for the speech and 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

Victorian Electoral Commission

Enrolment / Nominations

State by-election Kororoit District

Make sure you're enrolled to vote!

You are already enrolled for the Kororoit 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.

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

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How do I enrol?

Download an enrolment form from www.vec.vic.gov.au, collect one from any Australia Post Office, Coles supermarket or Centrelink or Australian Electoral Commission office, or call 13 18 32 to request a form.

Your completed form must be received on or before **8.00pm on Tuesday 10 June 2008**.

Enrolling is compulsory

Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details current is compulsory.

When do I vote?

Election day is Saturday 28 June 2008.

Details of where to vote and how to vote early will be available shortly and mailed to enrolled electors within Kororoit District, advertised in local newspapers and made available online at www.vec.vic.gov.au

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For more information on nominating, call the election manager, Michael Sullivan, on 9299 0572.

How to vote cards

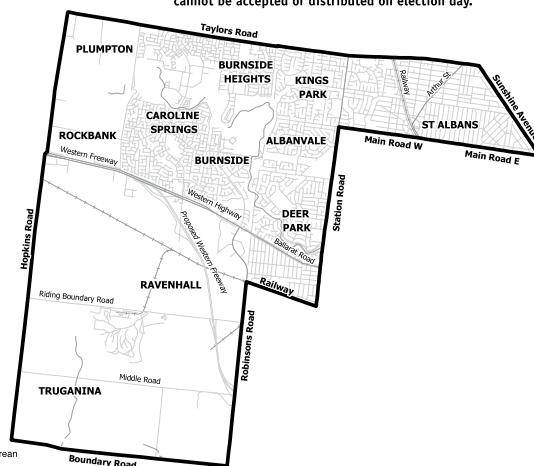
If a person or organisation intends to distribute how-to-vote cards on election day, Saturday 28 June 2008, the cards must be registered by the VEC.

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 Monday 16 June to 12 noon on Friday 20 June 2008.

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

Registered political parties must submit their how-to-vote cards for registration to the VEC, Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. **How-to-vote cards submitted after 12 noon on Friday 20 June 2008 cannot be accepted or distributed on election day.**



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

- 粵語 9209 0100 Amharic • العربية 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
- Невски 9209 0102 Croatian • داري 9209 0193 Dari • Динка 9209 0119 Dinka • Ελληνικά 9209 0103 Greek • Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • 한국어 9209 0194 Korean
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- All other non-English languages 9209 0112

TTY 9299 0570 (text telephone for the speech and 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

Victorian Electoral Commission

APPENDICES

Enrolment reminder

State by-election Kororoit District

Last chance to enrol to vote

If you live in Kororoit 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 today.

To vote at the Kororoit 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 permanent residential address or other details.

Electoral law requires that you be enrolled at your permanent address in order to vote.

Enrolling is compulsory.

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

Kororoit District includes the suburbs of Deer Park, St Albans and Caroline Springs.

How do I enrol?

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

Australian Electoral Commission
Federal Division of Gorton
348A Main Road West, St Albans

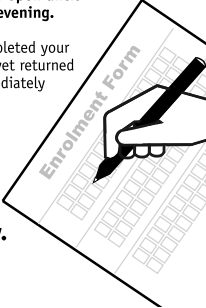
Federal Division of Maribyrnong
4 Homer Street, Moonee Ponds

Federal Divisions of Melbourne and Melbourne Ports
Ground Floor, Casselden Place
2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street
Melbourne

All offices are open until 8.00pm this evening.

If you've completed your form but not yet returned it, fax it immediately to 9277 7126.




Make sure your vote counts. Your enrolment form must reach an election office before 8.00pm today.

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:
 អរម្ភិក 9209 0190 Amharic • العربية 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian • Бгг 9209 0192 Cambodian • 粵語 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
 Hrvatiski 9209 0102 Croatian • داري 9209 0103 Dari • Dinka 9209 0119 Dinka • Елакево 9209 0103 Greek • Италиано 9209 0104 Italian • 한국어 9209 0194 Korean
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Victorian Electoral Commission 

Nominations



Victorian Electoral Commission

State by-election Kororoit District

Candidate information

Nominations are now open

Candidates not endorsed by a registered political party must nominate with the election manager, Michael Sullivan, at Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

The election manager will supply a Candidate Kit which includes a nomination form. Nominations close at 12 noon on Friday 13 June 2008. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

Registered political parties must nominate candidates at the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC), Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. Nominations close at 12 noon on Thursday 12 June 2008. 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 28 June 2008, 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 Monday 16 June to 12 noon on Friday 20 June 2008.

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

Registered political parties must submit all their how-to-vote cards for registration to the VEC, Level 8, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

How-to-vote cards submitted after 12 noon on Friday 20 June 2008 cannot be accepted or distributed on election day.

For more information on nominating, call the election manager on 9299 0572.

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:
 អរម្ភិក 9209 0190 Amharic • العربية 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian • Бгг 9209 0192 Cambodian • 粵語 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
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Information: 13 18 32 or www.vec.vic.gov.au

Voting before election day

State by-election Kororoit District

Voting before election day

Voting before election day

Election day for the Kororoit District by-election is Saturday 28 June.

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

In person: vote at one of the early voting centres listed below between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday:

- **Kororoit Early Voting Centre**
344 Main Road West, St Albans
(accessible parking in Amy Street)
- **Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC)**
Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street
Melbourne
(assisted wheelchair access)

Extended opening hours are:

- Saturday 21 June, 9.00am to 2.00pm
- Thursday 26 June, 8.30am to 8.00pm
- Friday 27 June, 8.30am to 6.00pm

By post: pick up a postal vote application at any post office within Kororoit District, download one from www.vec.vic.gov.au or call 1300 551 575 and we'll send you one.

Mail or fax your completed application immediately, to reach the VEC by Tuesday 24 June. We will mail your ballot papers as soon as possible.

Your completed ballot paper must be in the mail before 6.00pm (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 opposite.

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 or call the Kororoit District by-election office on 1300 551 575.

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


• **Арабски** 9209 0190 Arabic • **عربي** 9209 0100 Arabic • **Босански** 9209 0191 Bosnian • **ខ្មែរ** 9209 0195 Cambodian • **中文** 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
• **Хрватски** 9209 0192 Croatian • **عربي** 9209 0193 Dari • **Динка** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • **한국어** 9209 0194 Korean
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• **Српски** 9209 0107 Serbian • **Сомали** 9209 0108 Somali • **Español** 9209 0109 Spanish • **Türkçe** 9209 0110 Turkish • **Việt ngữ** 9209 0111 Vietnamese
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Information: 1300 551 575

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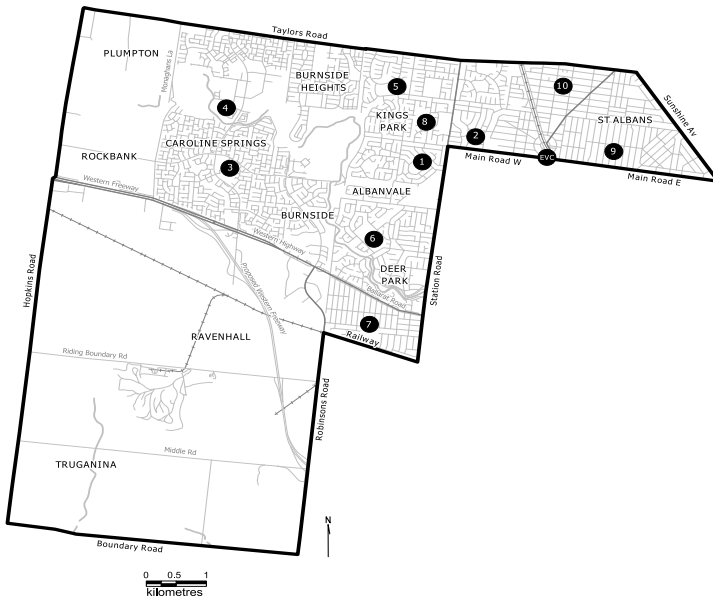
Victorian Electoral Commission 

APPENDICES

Voting on election day

Kororoit District State by-election

Voting on election day



Where to vote this Saturday

The following voting centres are open 8.00am to 6.00pm on election day, Saturday 28 June:

1. Albanvale Primary School, Dover Street, St Albans - AWA
2. Brimbank College, Jamieson Street, St Albans - FWA
3. Caroline Springs College - Brookside Campus, Federation Way, Caroline Springs - AWA
4. Caroline Springs College - Creekside Campus, The Crossing, Caroline Springs - AWA
5. Copperfield College, Corner Gillespie Road and Kambalda Circuit, Kings Park - FWA
6. Deer Park Secondary College, 88 Billingham Road, Deer Park
7. Deer Park West Primary School, Quinn Street, Deer Park - FWA
8. Movelle Primary School, Gum Road, Kings Park - AWA
9. St Albans East Primary School, Station Avenue, St Albans East - AWA
10. St Albans North Primary School, George Street, St Albans - AWA

FWA - Full wheelchair access
AWA - Assisted wheelchair access

Voting centres are open 8.00am to 6.00pm on Saturday 28 June

If you can't get to a voting centre on election day, you can vote in person at any one of the following early voting centres:

- **Kororoit Early Voting Centre (EVC)** - AWA
344 Main Road West, St Albans (accessible parking in Amy Street)
- **Victorian Electoral Commission** - AWA
Level 9, 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

Early voting opening hours:

- **Monday to Wednesday** 8.30am to 5.00pm
- **Thursday 26 June** 8.30am to 8.00pm
- **Friday 27 June** 8.30am to 6.00pm

How to vote correctly

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

There are six candidates for Kororoit District (listed below). 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.

Candidates

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

- TWENTYMAN, Les
- POWER, Marcus
Australian Greens
- KOZLOWSKI, Andre
Citizens Electoral Council
- KAIROUZ, Marlene
Australian Labor Party
- WALTERS, Tania
- MATIC, Jenny
Liberal

Remember, voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory if you were on the electoral roll for Kororoit District on Tuesday 10 June 2008.

You may be fined if you do not vote.

The Victorian State Parliament Lower House (or Legislative Assembly) member elected as a result of this by-election will serve until the next State election in November 2010.

- Vietnamese: Bỏ phiếu ngày Thứ Bảy 28 Tháng Sáu là điều bắt buộc. Để được sự giúp đỡ của thông dịch viên, hãy gọi 9209 0111.
- Maltese: Il-votazzjoni hija ta' bil-fors nhar is-Sibt 28 ta' Ġunju. Għal għajjuna ta' interpret, ċempel 9209 0112.
- Macedonian: Гласањето е задолжително во сабота, 28. јуни. За помош со преведувач јавете се на 9209 0105.
- Greek: Το Σάββατο 28 Ιουνίου η ψηφοφορία είναι υποχρεωτική. Για βοήθεια διερμηνείας, τηλεφωνήστε στο 9209 0103.
- Croatian: Glasovanje je obvezno na izborima u subotu, 28. lipnja. Za pomoć tumača nazovite 9209 0102.
- Chinese: 6月28日星期六的投票各位必須參加。若需獲得傳譯員協助，請電9209 0101 (廣東話) 或9209 0106 (普通話)。
- Chinese: 6月28日星期六的投票各位必須參加。若需獲得傳譯員協助，請電9209 0101 (廣東話) 或9209 0106 (普通話)。
- Italian: Votare è obbligatorio sabato 28 giugno. Per avere l'aiuto di un interprete, chiamare al numero 9209 0104.
- English: Voting is compulsory on Saturday 28 June. For enquiries, call 1300 551 575.

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

- 𐌲𐌿𐌸𐌹𐌺 9209 0190 Amharic • 𐎠𐎡𐎣 9209 0100 Arabic • **Bosanski** 9209 0191 Bosnian • 𑄎𑄂𑄆𑄂 9209 0192 Cambodian • 粵語 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
- **Hrvatski** 9209 0102 Croatian • 𐎠𐎡𐎣 9209 0193 Dari • **Dinka** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • 𐎠𐎡𐎣 9209 0194 Korean
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Victorian Electoral Commission

Results



Appendix 3 – Interstate and Overseas Voting Locations

Voting was available at seven interstate locations and one overseas location (Victoria House, London) for the Kororoit District by-election.

Listed below are the number of votes taken at each location:

Adelaide	(2 early votes)
Brisbane	(4 early votes)
Canberra	(1 early vote, 1 postal vote)
Darwin	(2 early votes)
Hobart	(0 votes)
Perth	(2 early votes)
Sydney	(4 early votes)
London	(0 votes)

Victorian Electoral Commission

Level 8

505 Little Collins Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000

Tel: +61 3 9299 0520

TTY: 03 9299 0570 (text telephone for the hearing impaired)

Fax: +61 3 9629 8632

Email: info@vec.vic.gov.au

www.vec.vic.gov.au

This publication is available online at www.vec.vic.gov.au