

Victorian Electoral Commission
**Report on the Niddrie District
by-election held on 24 March 2012**

April 2012



VIEC

Report on the Niddrie 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 Niddrie District by-election held on 24 March 2012.

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



Steve Tully
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April 2012

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A by-election for the Niddrie State District was triggered by the resignation, on 27 January 2012, of the sitting member, the Honourable Rob Hulls. The election-ready positioning of the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) planning, processes and systems, the strong capabilities of VEC staff, and solid partnerships with our suppliers and contractors all feature as key components of the successful conduct of the Niddrie District by-election on 24 March 2012. Compulsory voting follow up has commenced, so costs have not been finalised at the time of printing. It is anticipated that the by-election will be conducted well within budget.

A communication campaign that included a householder letter and a range of newspaper advertisements helped ensure that electors were aware of details of the by-election, their voting options and the result. Information was available in a range of languages and through an interpreter telephone service.

Nine candidates nominated for the by-election. The Australian Labor Party, the Democratic Labor Party, The Australian Greens, the Christian Party and the Sex Party each endorsed a candidate. Four independent candidates also nominated. Ben Carroll, the candidate for the Australian Labor Party — Victorian Branch, who polled 46.84% of the first preference votes, was elected at the fourth exclusion.

The turnout rate of 84.80% for the by-election was lower than the turnout rate of 93.63% for the Niddrie District in the 2010 State election. The turnout rate for the Niddrie by-election was higher than the average turnout of 80.65% for the five most recent State by-elections. More information about the participation rate can be found in Section 11 of this report.

The informality rate of 11.48%, with nine candidates, was an increase from the informality rate of 8.31% for the Niddrie District with nine candidates at the 2010 State election. The informality rate was also higher than the average informality rate of 7.00% for the five most recent State by-elections (excluding Niddrie). An analysis of the informal votes was conducted and the results can be found in Section 15 of this report.

At the by-election, scannable paper roll mark-off was for the first time replaced entirely with electronic mark-off using netbooks. This worked very well at voting centres and enabled on-line reporting of votes issued to be instantly available to voting centre managers, along with speedy ballot paper reconciliation following the close of voting. Also, the risk of a voter being marked off the roll more than once is eliminated.

An added benefit is that for the first time, the VEC is able to obtain rich data about the flow of voters through voting centres individually or as a group, which will assist with being able to estimate staffing requirements more accurately at future elections.

I take this opportunity to thank all VEC staff, contractors and suppliers, Election Manager, Chris Browne and Assistant Election Managers, Jen Missing and Ted Marks for their contributions to the very successful conduct of the Niddrie District by-election.

This is the last election report I will prepare for the Parliament, given that I will be taking up an appointment in South Australia. I acknowledge the support I have received from all those I have dealt with.

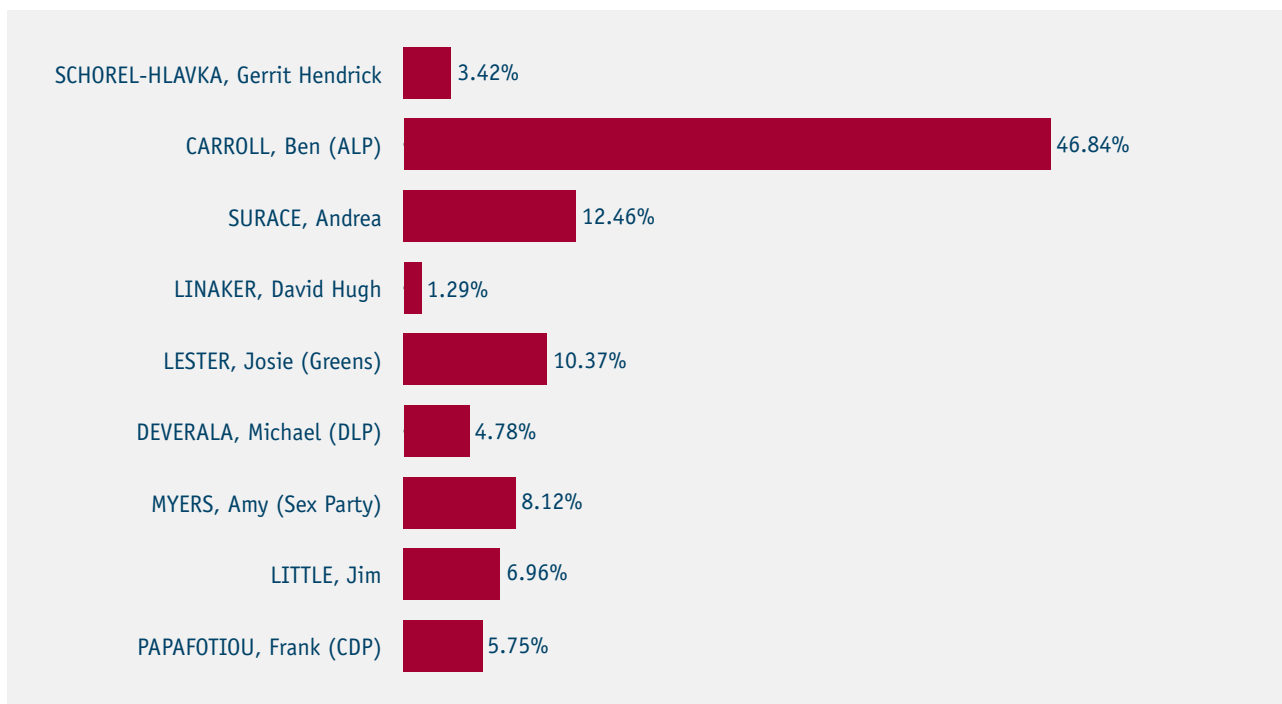


Steve Tully
Electoral Commissioner

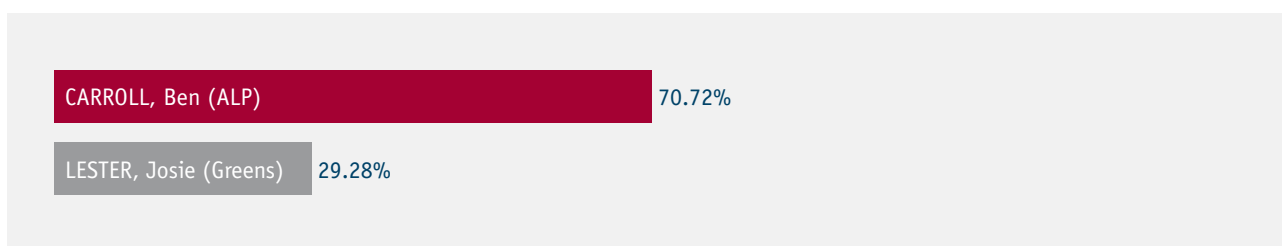
1. SNAPSHOT

Results at a glance

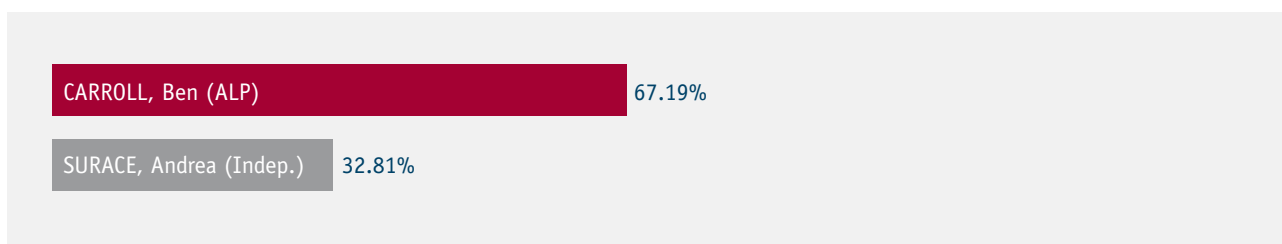
First preference votes (% of first preference votes)



Two candidate preferred (ALP and Greens)

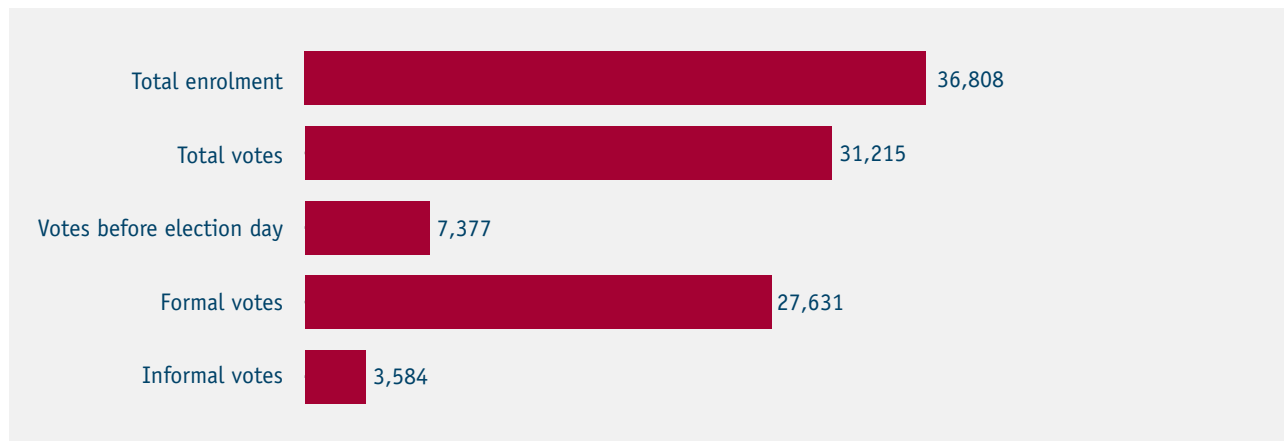


Two candidate preferred count after full distribution (see Section 10)

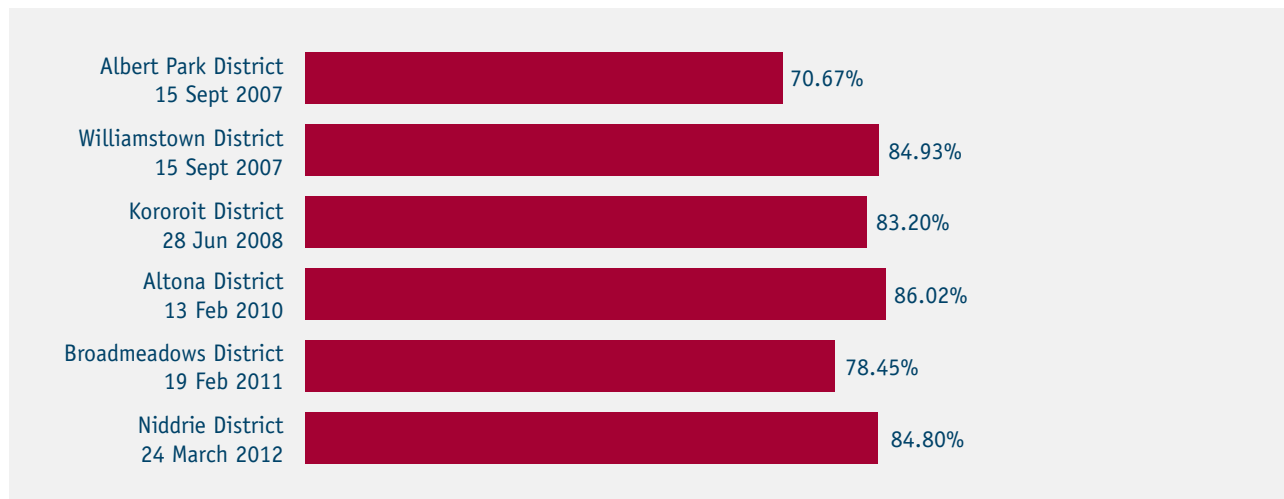


Participation

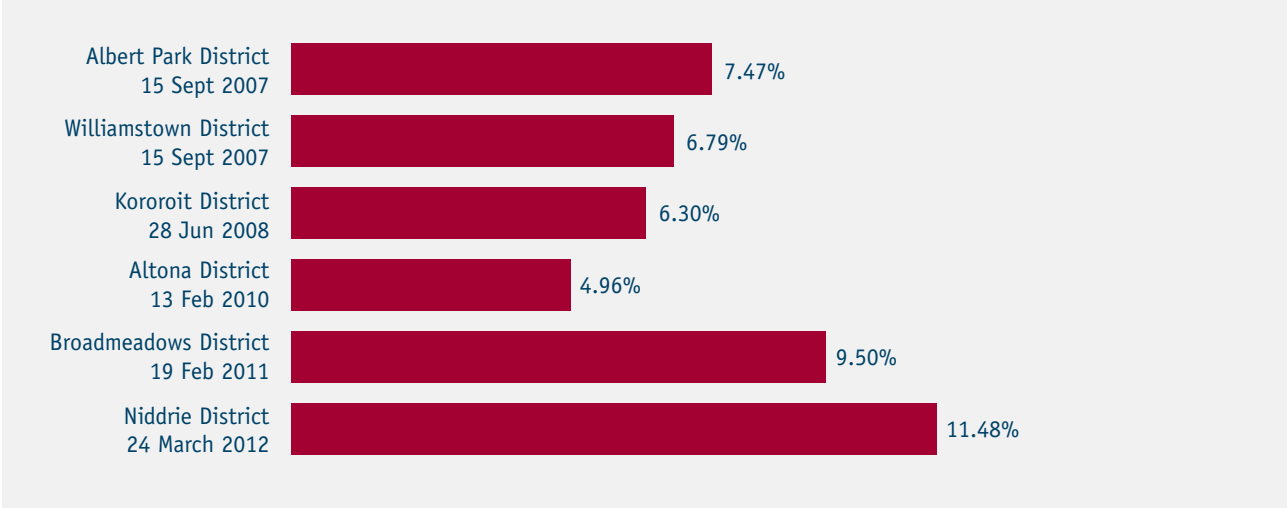
Participation at Niddrie District by-election 2012



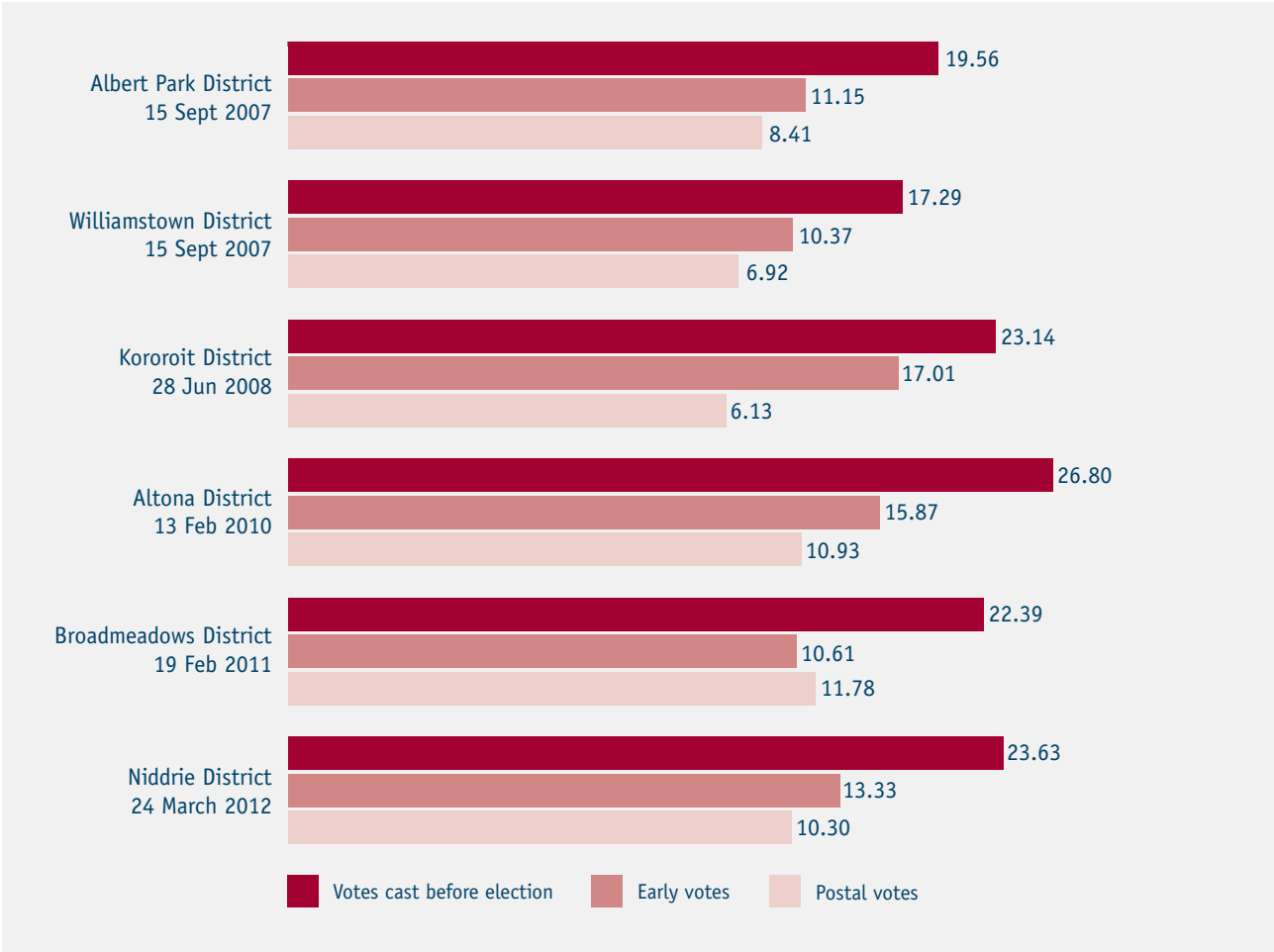
Voter turnout at Victorian State by-elections 2007–12 (% of total enrolment)



Informal votes at Victorian State by-elections 2007–12 (% of total votes)



Pre-poll votes at Victorian State by-elections 2007–12 (% 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 Niddrie District on Thursday, 23 February 2012. The writ set out the timetable for the by-election.

Election timetable

Issue of the writ	Thursday, 23 February 2012
Nominations open	24 February 2012
Close of Roll	8.00pm Thursday, 1 March 2012
Close of nominations (party candidates)	12 noon Wednesday, 7 March 2012
Close of nominations (independent candidates)	12 noon Thursday, 8 March 2012
Early voting commenced	8.30am Friday, 9 March 2012
Registration of how-to-vote cards opened	8.30am Friday, 9 March 2012
Registration of how-to-vote cards closed	12 noon Friday, 16 March 2012
Postal vote applications closed	6.00pm Thursday, 22 March 2012
Early voting closed	6.00pm Friday, 23 March 2012
Election day voting	8.00am – 6.00pm, Saturday, 24 March 2012
Results	From 6.00pm Saturday, 24 March 2012
Return of the writ	On or before 13 April (returned 29 March 2012)

Preliminary arrangements with other agencies

Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

The VEC made preliminary arrangements with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to ensure that any matters relating to how-to-vote cards could be heard within a 24 hours period. The VEC thanks VCAT for its support during the election.

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 list of 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.

Supreme Court

The VEC made preliminary arrangements with the Supreme Court, through the Department of Justice to ensure that a Practice Court and presiding judge would be available to hear any applications for injunctions as the need may arise on election day. The VEC thanks the Department and the Supreme Court for its support.

The former member

The Hon. Rob Hulls represented the District of Niddrie from 1996 to 2012. Mr Hulls was Deputy Leader of the Labor Party, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Education December 2010 – January 2012. He has held the offices of Attorney-General; Minister for Manufacturing Industry and Minister for Racing from 1999–2002; Minister for WorkCover from 2002–2005; Minister for Planning from January 2005–December 2006; Minister for Racing from December 2006 – November 2010 and Minister for Industrial Relations from December 2002 – November 2010.

Mr Hulls served one term in Federal Parliament from 1990–93 as the member for Kennedy, Queensland. In 1994 he was appointed Chief of Staff to the Victorian Opposition Leader, Jim Kennan, the former Attorney-General, who resigned from State Parliament shortly after. Mr Hulls stayed on as Chief of Staff under Mr Kennan's replacement, John Brumby, who was Victoria's State Premier from 2007–2010.

Mr Hulls was appointed as Deputy Premier on 30 July 2007 after the retirement of John Thwaites, and served as Deputy Premier under John Brumby. He held the position of Attorney-General until the change of Government at the 2010 State election.

The electorate

The Niddrie District is a metropolitan electorate located approximately eight kilometres northwest of Melbourne. It covers an area of around 34 square kilometres, and includes the suburbs or localities of Airport West, Avondale Heights, Essendon West, Kealba, Keilor East, Keilor Park, Niddrie and parts of the suburbs of Essendon, Tullamarine and Keilor.

The District encompasses residential and industrial areas, a number of recreational reserves, including Brimbank Park, and several large shopping centres. Natural features include the Maribyrnong River.

Historical pattern of the District

1976 – present: Australian Labor Party

Map of the District



3. BUDGET

Past results for Niddrie District

2010 State election results

Elected Member	HULLS, Rob
Total Enrolment at close of rolls	36,805
Formal Votes	31,597
Informal Votes	2,865 (8.31%)
Total Votes	34,462 (93.63%)

Candidate	Party votes	1st pref	%
MARKOVIC, Mark	Family First	1,263	4.00%
HULLS, Rob	ALP	14,435	45.68%
NOTT, John David		140	0.44%
ROBERTS, Brian		162	0.51%
LITTLE, Jim		1,516	4.80%
LIVESAY, Robert		131	0.41%
MEDCRAFT, Steve		499	1.58%
BAUCH, Joh	Liberal	11,000	34.81%
BLACK, Leharna	Greens	2,451	7.76%

2006 State election results

Elected Member	HULLS, Rob
Total Enrolment	36,148
Formal Votes	31,688
Informal Votes	2,113 (6.25%)
Total Votes	33,801 (93.51%)

Candidate	Party	1st pref votes	%
LEE, Gwen	Greens	2,893	9.13%
MARKOVIC, Mark	Family First	1,789	5.65%
BUONOPANE, James	Liberal	9,972	31.47%
HULLS, Rob	ALP	17,034	53.76%

The VEC estimated a marginal cost of \$350,000 to conduct the by-election, plus electoral entitlements. A full report of costs for the Niddrie District by-election will be provided in the VEC Annual Report.

4. SERVICES TO ELECTORS

Enrolment

The day after the issue of the writ for Niddrie 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 four working days for electors to ensure that they were correctly enrolled and eligible to vote in the by-election.

Enrolment advertisements were placed in both the major daily papers (see Appendix D for communication products relating to enrolment).

Enrolment forms could be downloaded from the VEC website (vec.vic.gov.au), and printed copies were available from Australia Post offices, Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) divisional offices or by contacting the VEC election office.

The VEC election office remained open until 8.00pm on Thursday, 1 March. The VEC also made arrangements with the AEC Melbourne office and the AEC divisional offices in Sunbury and Moonee Ponds to remain open until 8.00pm on Thursday, 1 March.

Between the issue of the writ and the close of rolls, 318 electors enrolled or updated their enrolment details. At the close of roll, there were 36,808 electors enrolled, three more than at the close of roll for the 2010 State election.

Voting

Election day Voting Centres

Electors could vote at any of the thirteen voting centres open across the District on election day.

The VEC used electronic roll mark-off exclusively for the first time at this by-election, and the pattern of voting at each voting centre can be seen in Appendix E.

Data collected this way will assist the VEC with assessing staffing requirements and vote issuing tables at future elections. See Section 9 for more on electronic roll mark-off.

A small number of electors attempted to vote at early voting centres, which were not open on election day. Although this information was included in communication products, the VEC will review its advertising to more clearly communicate the information and minimise confusion in the future.

Services for electors with special needs

In line with the VEC's Disability Action Plan, services provided to electors with special needs at the Niddrie 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, using an audit tool, according to its wheelchair accessibility. The audit tool complies with relevant Australian Standards and addresses building access as well as the availability of accessible parking and the approach to the building.

One early voting centre was rated as 'Fully Wheelchair Accessible', the other was rated 'Assisted Wheelchair Accessible'.

Of the 13 election day voting centres in Niddrie District, three were 'Fully Wheelchair Accessible', eight were rated 'Assisted Wheelchair Accessible', and two were rated as having 'No Wheelchair Access'.

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

The lack of fully accessible voting centres for lease continues to be of concern to the VEC.

Services for electors from non-English speaking backgrounds

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 Census results, 6.30% of the usually resident population of Niddrie District has low or no proficiency in English. At the 2006 Census, English was stated as the only language spoken at home by 59.31% of persons usually resident in Niddrie District.

The most common languages other than English spoken at home were Italian, Greek, Vietnamese, Cantonese and Mandarin, Arabic, and Maltese.

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 Niddrie.

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.

Electors could also access voting instructions translated into the main languages spoken in the District and placed inside each voting screen.

Across 12 of the 13 election day voting centres, 25 election staff spoke a language other than English and were on hand to assist with interpreting where required.

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.

The early voting centres for the Niddrie District by-election were located at:

- Niddrie Early Voting Centre (FWA)
67L Matthews Avenue
Airport West
- Melbourne CBD Early Voting Centre (AWA)
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne

Early voting centres were open between 8.30am and 6.00pm, Monday to Friday from Friday, 9 March. Extended opening hours were available on Saturday, 17 March, 9.00am to 2.00pm and Thursday, 22 March, 8.30am to 8.00pm.

There was no early voting on the Labor Day public holiday (Monday, 12 March).

A total of 4,161 electors (11.30% of total enrolment) voted early, in person, for the by-election, compared with 5,751 (15.63% of total enrolment) 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 total votes that were pre-poll votes (votes cast before election day).

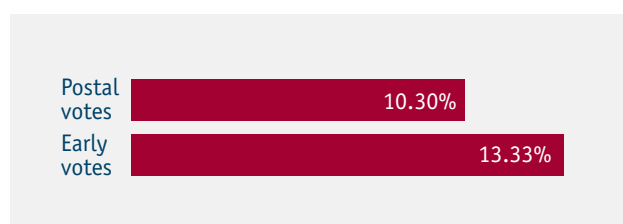


Figure 1: Pre-poll votes at Niddrie District by-election 2012 (% of total votes)

Mobile voting

A total of 46 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 17 early votes were cast outside Victoria for the Niddrie District by-election. This compares with two 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, and could be obtained at any post office in the District or by calling the VEC. Postal voting applications were also printed and distributed by the Australian Labor Party.

As was the case at the 2010 State election, no postal votes were issued outside the State for the Niddrie District by-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 3,209 postal vote applications plus 809 votes by general postal voters were processed, and 3,216 postal votes were counted for the by-election. This compares with 2,218 counted for electorate for the 2010 State election.

Provisional votes

Legislative changes introduced in 2010 enabled votes to be cast by electors who were not on the roll and who claimed to be entitled to enrol and vote.

Votes cast in this manner were classified as 'provisional' votes until the elector's enrolment details could be verified through confirmation by VicRoads, an electricity utility or a council. A total of 238 provisional votes (78.29% of the 304 provisional votes received) were admitted to the count.

5. SERVICES TO REGISTERED POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

Election Managers

Ms Chris Browne was appointed the Election Manager for Niddrie District. Ms Jen Missing and Mr Ted Marks 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 VEC
- Supervising voting, and receiving and recording results
- Declaring the election
- The Election Manager was assisted by VEC staff and other election officials.

Candidate support

Nine candidates nominated for the Niddrie District by-election, the same number as for the District in the 2010 State election.

Candidate nomination forms could be completed online on 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
- An 'Appointment of Scrutineer' form
- An Electoral Roll Confidentiality Agreement
- A list of voting centres (and early 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
- 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*.

During the nomination period, one candidate (Frank Papafotiou) changed his status from Independent to Christian Democrats. All paperwork was completed and lodged in accordance with legislation and VEC procedures.

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 16 how-to-vote cards were registered for the Niddrie District by-election (see Figure 2). As required by legislation, all registered how-to-vote cards were published on the VEC website.

Party/Candidate/Stakeholder	# HTVCs
SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik	6
Australian Greens	1
Australian Labor Party	2
LITTLE, Jim	2
SURACE, Andrea	1
Australian Sex Party	1
Christian Democratic Party	1
Linaker, David Hugh	1
Democratic Labor Party	1

Figure 2: How-to-vote cards registered at the Niddrie District by-election 2012

By-election briefings for parties and candidates

Registered political parties were invited to attend individual briefing sessions between 23 and 27 February 2012. Four parties participated.

Independent candidates were invited to attend a briefing sessions conducted on 27 February 2012 at the VEC. Three candidates attended.

6. COMMUNICATION SERVICES

The Niddrie 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 distributed 20,195 enrolment information letters to households in Niddrie District from 24 February 2012.

Following the close of rolls, an *EasyVote letter* was sent to each elector on the roll (excluding general postal voters).

The *EasyVote letter* included information about early voting, postal voting, overseas and interstate voting and election day voting arrangements. It also included the location and accessibility rating of all voting centres, and a suggestion that the elector take the letter to the voting centre to help make the voting experience easier.

A total of 35,999 *EasyVote letters* were lodged for distribution on Friday, 9 March 2012. General postal voters were sent ballot material two business days after nominations closed.

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 election office operated a dedicated telephone enquiry service from 24 February 2012.

Calls to the office peaked each time a mailout occurred, with electors calling to:

- Check enrolment details
- Ask for advice about what to do if they could not attend a voting centre on election day
- Inquire about the location of election day voting centres.

Media relations

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

Enquiries relating to the by-election were received from 11 journalists, with most contacting the VEC a number of times throughout the election period and on election night.

The majority of the enquiries concerned the timing of the by-election, where the media could film the count, and when results would be available.

Email information

The VEC received 12 emails via its *info* email address. These emails related to a range of topics including employment, candidates, voting, political parties and results.

7. COMPLAINTS

Website

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

Electors were able to update their enrolment details online via the Australian Electoral Commission website.

Information available online detailed voting obligations, and provided information on options for electors if they could not vote on election day.

Postal vote applications were available for download, and the locations of early (in person) voting centres and all interstate and overseas locations were provided. The online enrolment form was the most frequently used/downloaded item during this period.

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

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

Results were made available progressively on the VEC website as they were entered into the VEC election management system.

The VEC registered one formal complaint about the Niddrie by-election. The complaint alleged discrimination by a political party. The matter did not proceed.

8. VEC PERSONNEL

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 with 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
- Netbooks for use in voting centres.

Recruitment and training

A total of 168 staff (including the Election Manager and two Assistant Election Managers) were appointed for the by-election.

Of these, 127 were appointed as election officials at voting centres on election day. A further 38 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.

Election officials with responsibility for support of the netbooks in each voting centre attended an additional three-hour training session.

Mobile early voting centre team leaders 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.

9. ELECTRONIC ROLL MARK-OFF

The by-election for the State District of Niddrie was the first time that an entire VEC election has been conducted without a single elector being marked off on a scannable paper roll.

All electors were marked off the roll electronically with the vast majority (Early, Mobile and Ordinary) being recorded on Toshiba netbooks wirelessly connected to the VEC on the Next-G network.

The remainder of electors – largely postal, were directly marked off at the VEC using the Election Management System.

On election day, around 70 netbooks were deployed across the 13 voting centres and by close of voting 23,574 votes had been issued.

Early voting using up to three netbooks was conducted at the Early Voting Centre in Matthews Avenue, Airport West.

During the early voting period, 9–24 March, over 4,000 early votes were taken, including 46 votes at six mobile early voting venues in the district, and 151 at the Election Office – Early Voting Centre at 530 Collins St, Melbourne.

Training in the use of netbooks was provided for early voting staff, voting centre managers and election officials using a mixture of face-to-face, paper documents, DVD and video distributed over YouTube.

The aim was to familiarise all users on the operation of the netbooks well in advance of election day and to alert them to the fact that all electors were to be marked off electronically.

The eRoll system and Next-G network performed well during both early voting and election day, with only three calls to help desk, all relating to breaks in network connectivity. Help desk troubleshooting routines are now established and in all cases the system was quickly restored.

User acceptance of the technology was high and there were no reported issues of difficulty in the routine roll-marking operation.

10. COUNTING THE VOTES, DECLARATION OF RESULT AND RETURN OF THE WRIT

On election day, roll-marking progress was reported in real time and immediately available to users, the Election Manager and to the VEC support team.

The recording of a timestamp with each roll mark enabled a comprehensive track of voting behaviour during an election day, as well as an immediate indication of individual user and voting centre activity.

On-line reporting of votes issued was instantly available to voting centre managers and ballot paper reconciliation was completed speedily following the close of voting.

The use of netbooks for roll mark-off also eliminates the risk of a person voting more than once in their own name.

Other than the entry of final postal votes and provisional votes taken on the day, roll mark-off was essentially complete by 6.00pm on election day. With the need for scanning of paper rolls removed, the commencement of compulsory voting follow up will be almost immediate.

A few user issues arose, resulting in erroneous issue of provisional votes to people actually on the roll. Procedural errors in search technique or in electronic vote issue may be the cause and these matters will be addressed in all training material for the 2012 Council elections and, if necessary, by modifications to the eRoll interface. See Appendix E for details of number of electors marked off by hour.

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 full distribution of preferences, the two leading candidates were Ben Carroll and Andrea Surace.

Postal and early votes were counted in the election office on election night in the same count order as in the voting centres. The result of the 2CP count between the ALP and The Greens is included as Appendix C.

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

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

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

Ben Carroll (Australian Labour Party – Victorian Branch) was declared the successful candidate on 28 March 2012.

The writ was returned on 29 March 2012.

11. 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
3. Informality of voting: the degree to which those who vote cast an informal vote.

Enrolment

Between the issue of the writ and the close of rolls, 318 electors enrolled or updated their enrolment details. At the close of roll, there were 36,808 electors enrolled, three more than at the close of roll for the 2010 State election.

See Section 4 of this report for information about enrolment.

Turnout

The turnout rate of 84.80% for the by-election was lower than the turnout rate of 93.63% 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 Niddrie by-election was also higher than the average turnout of 80.65% for the five previous State by-elections.

Informal voting

The informality rate of 11.48% was an increase from the informality rate of 8.31% at the 2010 State election for the Niddrie District. The informality rate for the Niddrie by-election is higher than the average informality rate of 7.00% for the five most recent State by-elections.

An analysis of informal voting at the Niddrie District by-election is included in Section 15 of this report.

12. 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 5 April 2012.

Of the nine candidates, seven were refunded their deposit. Two candidates forfeited their deposit with the funds being forwarded to consolidated revenue.

13. ELECTORAL ENTITLEMENTS

An amount of \$1.53429 per vote was payable to political parties and independent candidates for this election where candidates obtained at least 4% of the first-preference votes.

An entitlement exists for five (party) candidates and two independent candidates. At the time of this report, only the Australian Labor Party candidate had claimed the entitlement.

Registered Political Parties	Entitlement
Australian Labor Party	\$19,855.25
Christian Party	\$2,436.45
Democratic Labor Party	\$2,028.33
Australian Sex Party	\$3,444.48
The Australian Greens	\$4,395.74
	\$32,160.25
Independent Candidates	
Andrea Surace	\$5,282.56
Jim Little	\$2,951.97
	\$8,234.53

14. 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.

The first stage of the non-voter follow-up process is conducted under Part 9, Division 2 of the *Electoral Act 2002*.

Subsequent follow-up of electors who 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 \$61). 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.

The first stage of compulsory voting follow-up commenced with 4,239 *Apparent Failure to Vote* notices mailed out on Tuesday April 17. It is anticipated that enforcement of compulsory voting provisions will be completed by the end of 2012.

Further details of enforcement of compulsory voting provisions at the Niddrie District by-election will be included in the VEC's Annual Report.

15. INFORMAL VOTE ANALYSIS

There were 3,584 informal votes at the by-election, comprising 11.48% of total votes. Informal voting was higher in absolute and percentage terms than at the 2010 State election, when there were 2,865 informal votes in Niddrie District (8.31% of the total).

Niddrie had the highest informal voting rate in the State in the 2010 State election. The informal voting rate at the by-election was the highest since the 1990 Thomastown by-election (12.74%), and, from available records, was the second highest informal vote for any electorate in Victorian history. This report attempts to explain the level of the informal voting, particularly the increase at the by-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. Some 40% of residents of Niddrie District speak a language other than English at home, and 6.3% of the residents are not fluent in English. Niddrie is ranked sixteenth of the 88 districts in terms of lack of English language proficiency. This factor does not appear to account for the very high informal vote at both the State election and the by-election.

The number and range of candidates can affect the informal voting rate. A large number of candidates can increase the informal vote, through voters making numbering errors. There were nine candidates for both the State election and the by-election. At the State election, the five districts with nine candidates had a median informal voting rate of 5.8%, significantly higher than the Statewide figure of 4.96%. The most important reason for the increase in the informal vote at the by-election appears to be the absence of a Liberal candidate at the by-election. At the State election there were 11,000 Liberal votes in Niddrie, and some of these voters would have voted informally rather than vote for a rival party or candidate. Seventy-five of the informal ballot papers included explicit complaints about the lack of a Liberal candidate.

Informal voting rates varied at voting centres within the district, ranging from 10.8% at Avondale Heights to 15.5% at Kealba. Though informal voting was relatively low at Buckley Park (11.3%) and Keilor (12.4%), which are in more affluent parts of the District, in other areas the variation appears to be rather random, and little related to socio-economic factors or to languages spoken in the area.

The informal voting rate increased at all voting centres between the State election and the by-election, with the greatest being a 5.9 percentage point increase at Keilor South. Generally, the voting centres that had the highest Liberal votes at the State election, such as Keilor, Niddrie Central and Keilor South, showed the steepest increase in informal voting at the by-election. This is another indication that the lack of a Liberal candidate affected the informal vote.

It was a somewhat different story with votes before election day. The proportion of informal early votes increased by 2.9 percentage points to 10.1%. The informal voting rate for postal votes rose only slightly from 5% to 5.7%. The number of such votes increased from 1,721 at the State election to 3,216 (10.3% of the total) at the by-election. Postal votes consistently have lower informal voting rates than ordinary votes, probably 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 analyses of informal ballot papers since the 2006 State election. These categories are described in Figure 3.

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.
Possibly formal	Ballot papers which are arguably formal.

Figure 3: Categories used by the VEC in analysis of ballot papers

Figure 4 shows the results of the survey.

Category	Number
Blank	792 (22.1%)
Numbers (1 only)	236 (6.6%)
Numbers (insufficient)	210 (5.9%)
Numbers (deliberate)	258 (7.2%)
Numbers (other)	607 (16.9%)
Ticks/crosses (preference)	149 (4.2%)
Ticks-crosses (deliberate)	273 (7.6%)
Ticks/crosses (other)	29 (0.8%)
Writing (deliberate)	893 (24.9%)
Writing (other)	75 (2.1%)
Possibly formal	30 (0.8%)
TOTAL	3,584

Figure 4: Results of survey of informal ballot papers cast at Niddrie by-election 2012 – detailed categories

The largest category of informal votes was “writing – deliberate”, with 893 votes, or 24.9% of the total. This was a substantial increase on this category at the State election (12.8%) and at the 2011 Broadmeadows by-election (17.1%).

Blank ballot papers were the second largest category of informal votes, with 22.1% of the total. There was a lower incidence of blank ballot papers than at the State election (25.1%), but slightly higher than at Broadmeadows (20.3%).

“Numbers – other” came third, with 607 votes, or 16.9% of the total. This proportion is higher than at the 2010 State election (12.4%). 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 210 votes (5.9%) in the “numbers – insufficient” category are presumably those who had difficulty coping with the relatively large number of candidates in the by-election.

The proportion of informal ballot papers with a single 1 was 6.6% – much lower than the 23.8% 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, and so the proportion of “1 only” votes was much lower.

Figure 5 shows the results of the survey in broader categories.

Category	Number
Blank	792 (22.1%)
Numbers	1,311(36.6%)
Ticks/crosses	451 (12.6%)
Writing	968 (27.0%)
Possibly formal	30 (0.8%)
TOTAL	3,584

Figure 5: Results of survey of informal votes cast at Niddrie by-election 2012 – broad categories

Numbering errors were by far the largest of these categories, with 36.6% of the total, though this was a significant decline on the 50.1% of informal votes in this category at the State election. Ticks and crosses made up 12.6% of the informal votes – more than the 10.2% in this category at the State election. At 27%, writing errors made up a far greater proportion of the informal votes than the 13.9% at the State election.

Figure 6 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).

Category	Number
Apparently deliberate	1,424 (39.7%)
Apparently deliberate including blank	2,216 (61.8%)
Indicating preference	625 (17.4%)

Figure 6: Deliberately informal votes grouped in categories

More than three fifths of the ballot papers appear to have been deliberately informal. This is much more than at the State election (47.53% probably deliberate) and comparable with the 2007 Albert Park and Williamstown by-elections, when 65.3% of the informal votes were in this group. It appears likely that the substantial increase in deliberately informal voting at the Niddrie by-election is a consequence of the absence of a Liberal candidate.

Voters expressing a clear preference comprised 17.4% of the informal votes at the by-election – much lower than the 37.6% in this category at the State election.

Almost 50% 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. These are the voters that the VEC needs to focus on in its communication campaigns.

16. FOR NOTING AND CONSIDERATION BY PARLIAMENT

Netbooks

The use of netbooks to mark the roll reduces scanning times, has the potential to reduce paper rolls and provides statistics on when voting actually occurs.

The electronic roll mark-off is linked to a central database, helping to identify those people who may have already voted, eliminating the risk of an elector voting multiple times in their own name.

The VEC requests that the Parliament notes the administrative benefits of the use of netbooks for roll mark-off, along with the increased capacity to support the operation of the *Electoral Act 2002*.

Party names

To avoid confusion, the VEC advised both the Democratic Labor Party (DLP) and the Australian Labor Party (ALP) to use their full names or abbreviations, and not to just use the word Labor when registering their how-to-vote cards. The VEC also requested that both parties use their registered names on other electoral material.

The VEC has issued a protocol in relation to party names. However, there remains a risk of the need to seek an injunction on election day if one or other of the parties ignores the protocol.

The VEC requests that the Parliament notes the VEC's protocol for dealing with the DLP and ALP in relation to party names on electoral material.

Social media

The Queensland State election took place at the same time as the Niddrie District by-election. The VEC took approximately 700 early votes for the Queensland Electoral Commission. Throughout the voting period, the VEC became aware of a rapid escalation in the use of social media such as Twitter. This gave cause to reflect on previous advice from the Victorian Government Solicitor on the difficulties of authorising 'tweets' given the limited number of characters available in the medium.

The South Australian Parliament recently changed their electoral regulations to exclude blogging and applications such as Twitter from authorisation requirements.

The VEC recommends that the Parliament consider introducing legislation to exempt certain social media platforms from authorisation requirements.

Postal vote applications

The VEC has a continued concern that the blending of party political messages in postal vote applications frequently causes an erroneous assumption that the VEC supports the party that puts the document together.

The VEC currently issues a postal voting application protocol, but if the protocol is breached there is no penalty available.

The VEC recommends that the Parliament considers introducing legislation that eliminates party and candidate involvement with postal voting applications.

Proof of identity

At the Niddrie by-election, there were two applications for a provisional vote where the election official had indicated that they had sighted a Proof of Age card. As this is not a prescribed proof of identity document, the applications were rejected.

The Victorian Proof of Age card is used to verify that the person seeking to enter the licensed premises or purchase liquor is over 18 years of age. This card is recognised throughout Australia. The Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation administers the issuing of cards. The application form for a Proof of Age card doubles as an enrolment form for State and local government elections. So far this year we have received 1,325 such applications.

If a young person who does not have a driver licence goes to vote and finds they were removed from the roll through a non-resident objection, they cannot cast a provisional vote that will be accepted. People who have these cards do so because they don't have a driver licence or learner permit.

The VEC recommends that Parliament considers amending the Electoral Regulations to include the Proof of Age card as a prescribed proof of identity document for provisional vote purposes.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Detailed voting statistics

TOTAL ENROLMENT :	38808											
FORMAL VOTES :	27631											
INFORMAL VOTES :	3564 (11.48% of total votes)											
TOTAL VOTES :	31215 (84.80% of electors enrolled)											
NUMBER OF FIRST PREFERENCE VOTES POLLED BY EACH CANDIDATE												
SCHOREL-HILAWKA, Gerrit Hendrik	AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	SURACE, Andrea	LINAKER, David Hugh	LESTER, Josie	DEVERALA, Michael	MYERS, Aary LITTLE, Jim PAPAFOITOU, Frank	CHRISTIAN PARTY	Informal Votes	Total Votes			
<hr/>												
Alport Ward	63	903	131	19	165	64	163	68	104	225	1925	
Avondale Heights	53	824	203	23	188	63	120	222	105	217	2018	
Avondale Heights Central	98	1227	421	23	257	129	245	273	208	468	3349	
Avondale Heights North	16	263	77	2	42	21	28	44	36	79	606	
Buckley Park	66	756	240	21	235	82	168	121	117	232	2058	
Kealba	41	624	68	19	130	66	99	52	78	196	1203	
Kelton	27	282	117	10	114	41	110	98	76	124	969	
Kelton East	63	803	280	11	147	112	120	65	149	245	1995	
Kelton Heights	57	911	285	11	176	53	163	235	84	244	2219	
Kelton Park	45	608	116	18	115	67	111	60	71	167	1408	
Kelton South	55	803	404	14	170	88	183	126	99	202	2243	
Niddrie	33	554	60	16	91	55	117	64	52	148	1190	
Niddrie Central	65	891	220	28	246	127	174	142	112	283	2299	
<hr/>												
Total Candidate Votes	683	9349	2922	215	2085	978	1821	1570	1281	2960	23574	
<hr/>												
Marked as Voted	2	9	1	0	2	1	3	1	4	3	26	
Postal Vote	119	1660	238	88	257	159	169	173	149	184	3216	
Provisional	11	95	22	5	31	12	26	10	10	16	236	
Early Vote	131	1828	540	40	490	172	226	170	134	421	4181	
Total Declaration Votes	263	3592	821	142	780	344	424	354	297	604	7841	
<hr/>												
TOTAL ALL VOTE TYPES	845	12941	3443	357	2865	1322	2245	1924	1588	3584	31215	
<hr/>												
Percentage of Formal Vote Polled by Candidate	3.42%	46.84%	12.46%	1.29%	10.37%	4.78%	8.12%	6.96%	6.75%			

Appendix B: Distribution of preference votes

Total valid first preference votes polled for all candidates 27631
 Number of votes required to constitute an absolute majority on first count 13816
 Number of informal votes 3584

Candidates Names (in ballot-paper order)	SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik	CARROLL, Ben	SURACE, Andrea	LINAKEK, David Hugh	LESTER, Josie	DEVERALA, Michael	MYERS, Amy	LITTLE, Jim	PAPAFOTIOU, Frank	TOTAL
Total first preference votes recorded for each candidate	946	12941	3443	357	2865	1322	2245	1924	1588	27631
Transfer of 357 ballot-papers of LINAKEK, David Hugh (1st excluded candidate)	43	33	123		29	17	15	79	18	357
Progressive Total	989	12974	3566		2894	1339	2260	2003	1606	27631
Transfer of 989 ballot-papers of SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik (2nd excluded candidate)		491	221		32	32	45	72	96	989
Progressive Total		13465	3787		2926	1371	2305	2075	1702	27631
Transfer of 1371 ballot-papers of DEVERALA, Michael (3rd excluded candidate)		228	139		111		106	114	673	1371
Progressive Total		13693	3926		3037		2411	2189	2375	27631
Transfer of 2189 ballot-papers of LITTLE, Jim (4th excluded candidate)		213	1389		129		205		253	2189
Progressive Total		13906	5315		3166		2616		2628	27631
Transfer of 2616 ballot-papers of MYERS, Amy (5th excluded candidate)		1055	573		526				462	2616
Progressive Total		14961	5888		3692				3090	27631
Transfer of 3090 ballot-papers of PAPAFOTIOU, Frank (6th excluded candidate)		951	1542		597					3090
Progressive Total		15912	7430		4289					27631
4289 ballot-papers of LESTER, Josie (7th excluded candidate)		2653	1636							4289
Final Total		18565	9066							27631

CARROLL, Ben (ALP) elected at the fourth exclusion

APPENDICES

Appendix C: Two candidate preferred results (ALP and Greens)

	CARROLL, Ben	LESTER, Josie			
Voting centre	ALP	GREENS	Mis-sorts	Informal votes	Total votes polled
Airport West	1350	376	2	196	1924
Avondale Heights	1300	520	0	198	2018
Avondale Heights Central	2055	858	1	436	3350
Avondale Heights North	382	156	0	70	608
Buckley Park	1224	617	1	214	2056
Kealba	787	281	0	194	1262
Keilor	562	315	1	121	999
Keilor East	1309	457	3	226	1995
Keilor Heights	1393	589	1	242	2225
Keilor Park	896	322	0	190	1408
Keilor South	1288	672	2	280	2242
Niddrie	813	241	0	135	1189
Niddrie Central	1398	623	1	276	2298
Ordinary Votes Total	14757	6027	12	2778	23574
Postal Votes	2229	807	0	181	3217
Early Votes	2535	1235	0	384	4154
Marked As Voted Votes	19	5	0	2	26
Provisional Votes	147	75	0	16	238
Absent Votes	0	0	0	0	0
Total	19687	8149	12	3361	31209

Appendix D: Communication campaign products

Release 1	Issue of the writ	Thursday, 23 February 2012
Advertisement	Issue of the writ	Friday, 24 February 2012
Direct mail	Letter to households	Friday, 24 February 2012
Release 2	Call for nominations	Friday, 24 February 2012
Advertisement	Enrolment reminder	27–28 February 2012
Release 3	Rolls closed (statistics)	Monday, 5 March 2012
Release 4	Nine candidates to contest	Thursday, 8 March 2012
Direct mail	EasyVote Guide	Friday, 9 March 2012
Advertisement	Early voting	12–15 March 2012
Release 5	Voting options Enrol and vote on the spot	Thursday, 15 March 2012
Advertisement	How to vote	19–22 March 2012
Advisory	Photo opportunity/Access Results	Wednesday, 21 March 2012
Advertisement	Voting on election day	Saturday, 24 March 2012
Advertisement	Results and return of the writ	Thursday, 29 March 2012

Letter to households advising of election



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

To the householder

Enrol to vote for the Niddrie District by-election

A by-election is being held on Saturday, 24 March 2012 due to the resignation of the Member for Niddrie District.

The electoral roll for the by-election closes at 8.00pm on Thursday, 1 March.

If you have moved since you last enrolled, or have changed your name or postal address, you need to update your enrolment details.

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

Updating or enrolling online

To update your address, just visit vec.vic.gov.au and use the online application to complete an electronic enrolment update with no need for paper forms.

If you are enrolling for the first time, or you have changed your name, or you don't have a drivers licence, you can pre-complete your form online at vec.vic.gov.au. You will then need to print it out, sign it and have it witnessed prior to returning it using one of the options below.

Updating or enrolling using a paper form

If you would prefer to enrol or update your details on a paper form, you can collect an enrolment form from any post office, Centrelink or Australian Electoral Commission office.

Completed enrolment forms should be mailed immediately to the Victorian Electoral Commission, Reply Paid 66506, Melbourne, Victoria, 8001 (no stamp is required). Alternatively, you can fax it to (03) 9277 7126, email a scanned copy to 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, 4 Homer Street, Moonee Ponds
- Australian Electoral Commission, Ground Floor, Casselden Place, 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
- Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne

You must ensure that you are enrolled and that your details are correct by 8.00pm on Thursday, 1 March.

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 online at 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 providing information about where and how to vote.

Yours faithfully,

Steve Tully
Electoral Commissioner

Information: 1300 551 081 or vec.vic.gov.au

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:
• ግድግዳ 9209 0190 Amharic • العربية 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 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, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

Easyvote letter



Your EasyVote Letter:

Niddrie District by-election

Dear voter,

Important information: Election day is Saturday, 24 March 2012.

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

Election day is Saturday, 24 March 2012. It is **compulsory** for you to vote in this by-election as you were on the roll for Niddrie District at the close of rolls on Thursday, 1 March 2012.

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 voting 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

Arabic	التصويت إلزامي في هذه الانتخابات في يوم السبت 24 مارس/آذار 2012. للمساعدة بواسطة مترجم شفهي، اتصل هاتفياً على الرقم 9209 0100.
Cantonese	請務必在2012年3月24日星期六選舉日務投票。投票是法律規定。如果需要傳譯員協助，請致電9209 1100。
Croatian	Glasovanje je obvezno dolaskom na izborno mjesto u subotu, 24. ožujka 2012. Ako vam je potreban tumač, nazovite 9209 0102.
Greek	Η ψηφοφορία είναι υποχρεωτική σ' αυτή την εκλογική προσέλευση το Σάββατο, 24 Μαρτίου 2012. Για τη βοήθεια δικερμηνέα, τηλεφωνήστε το 9209 0103.
Italian	Votare è obbligatorio alle elezioni del 24 marzo, 2012. Per avere l'assistenza di un interprete, chiamare al numero 9209 0104.
Macedonian	Гласањето е задолжително за во сабота, 24 март 2012. За помош со преведувач јавете се на 9209 0105.
Maltese	Il-votazzjoni hija ta' bilfors għal din l-elezzjoni ta' attendenza nhar is-Sibt, 24 ta' Marzu 2012. Għal għajjnuna ta' interpret, čempel 9209 0112.
Mandarin	請務必在2012年3月24日星期六選舉日務投票。投票是法律規定。如果需要傳譯員協助，請電9209 1100。
Spanish	Es obligatorio ir votar en las elecciones del sábado 24 de marzo de 2012. Para obtener la ayuda de un intérprete, llame al 9209 0109.
Vietnamese	Việc bỏ phiếu là bắt buộc đối với cuộc bầu cử trực tiếp này vào Thứ Bảy ngày 24 tháng Ba năm 2012. Để có thông dịch viên giúp đỡ, hãy điện thoại số 9209 0111.
English	Voting is compulsory for this attendance election on Saturday, 24 March 2012. For interpreter assistance, telephone 9209 0112.

Easyvote letter

Where can I vote?

You can vote at any one of the following voting centres within Niddrie District from 8.00am to 6.00pm on Saturday, 24 March 2012.



Voting centre locations

EVC Niddrie Election Office Level 11, 530 Collins Street Melbourne (not shown) AWA	EVC Niddrie District 67L Matthews Avenue Airport West FWA
1. Avondale Primary School 11 Clarendon Street Avondale Heights AWA	8. Nancye Kirchner Neighbourhood Centre Doyle Street Avondale Heights NWA
2. Buckley Park College Cooper Street Essendon NWA	9. St Christopher's Catholic Primary School 34 Roberts Road Airport West FWA
3. Essendon Keilor College – Keilor East Campus 82 Quinn Grove Keilor East AWA	10. St John Bosco's Primary School 29 Muriel Street Niddrie AWA
4. Keilor East – Airport West Uniting Church Corner Roberts Road and Glenys Avenue Airport West FWA	11. St Martin De Porres Catholic Church Hall 158 Military Road Avondale Heights AWA
5. Keilor Heights Primary School Ronald Grove Keilor East AWA	12. St Paul's Kealba Catholic College 230–240 Sunshine Avenue Kealba AWA
6. Keilor Park Kindergarten 2 Thea Court Keilor Park AWA	13. St Peters School 2 Parkside Avenue Keilor East AWA
7. Keilor Primary School Kennedy Street Keilor FWA	

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, 24 March, you can vote at an early voting centre listed below. Early voting centres are open between 8.30 am and 6.00 pm on weekdays from Friday, 9 March with extended hours on Saturday, 17 March (9.00 am to 2.00 pm) and Thursday, 22 March (8.30 am to 8.00 pm).

EVC Niddrie District, 67L Matthews Avenue, Airport West; and

EVC Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 11, 530 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 or call 1300 551 575 (+ 61 3 8620 1100 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 Niddrie District, online at vec.vic.gov.au or by calling the election office on 1300 551 081.

The VEC must receive your postal vote application by 6.00 pm on Thursday, 22 March. 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 Niddrie District at 8.00 pm on Thursday, 1 March 2012. You may be fined if you do not vote.

Information: 1300 551 081 or vec.vic.gov.au

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Notice of election: Issue of writ/enrolment/nominations

State by-election: Niddrie District

I have received the writ from the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Honourable Ken Smith MP, issued on Thursday, 23 February 2012, for the election of one member of the Legislative Assembly for Niddrie District.

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

Close of roll: 8.00 pm on Thursday, 1 March 2012
Close of nominations: 12 noon on Thursday, 8 March 2012
Election day: Saturday, 24 March 2012
Return of the writ: On or before Friday, 13 April 2012

S.H. Tully
Electoral Commissioner
530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

Make sure you're enrolled to vote!

You are already enrolled for the Niddrie 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 or call 1300 805 478.

Updating or enrolling online

To update your address, just visit vec.vic.gov.au and use the online application to complete an electronic enrolment update with no need for paper forms. If you are enrolling for the first time, or you have changed your name, or you don't have a drivers licence, you can pre-complete your form online at vec.vic.gov.au. You will then need to print it out, sign it and have it witnessed prior to returning it. For more information please visit vec.vic.gov.au or call 1300 805 478.

Updating or enrolling using a paper form

If you would prefer to enrol or update your details on a paper form, you can collect an enrolment form from any post office, Centrelink or Australian Electoral Commission office.

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

• 0905 9209 0190 Amharic • العربية 9209 0100 Arabic • Bosanski 9209 0191 Bosnian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Cambodian • 粵語 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
• Hrvatski 9209 0102 Croatian • دینک 9209 0193 Dan • 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) • Malti 9209 0112 Maltese • ދިވެހި 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

Enrolling is compulsory

Enrolling and keeping your enrolment details current is compulsory.

When do I vote?

Election day is Saturday, 24 March. Details of where to vote and how to vote early will be available shortly and mailed to enrolled electors within Niddrie District, advertised in local newspapers and made available online at 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 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne. Nominations close at 12 noon on Wednesday, 7 March 2012. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

Candidates not endorsed by a registered political party must nominate with the Election Manager, Chris Browne, at Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne. The Election Manager will supply a Candidate Kit, which includes a nomination form. Nominations close at 12 noon on Thursday, 8 March 2012. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

The VEC will conduct an information session for intending non-party candidates at 4.00 pm on Monday, 27 February 2012 at the VEC.

For more information on nominating, please contact the Election Manager, Chris Browne, on 1300 551 081.

How-to-vote cards

If a person or organisation intends to distribute how-to-vote cards on election day, Saturday, 24 March 2012, 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 Friday, 9 March 2012 to 12 noon on Friday, 16 March 2012.

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

Registered political parties must submit their how-to-vote cards for registration to the VEC at Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne.

How-to-vote cards submitted for registration after 12 noon on Friday, 16 March 2012 cannot be accepted.

Every vote will shape Victoria

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

Authorised by S.H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Enrolment/nominations reminder

State by-election: Niddrie District

If you live in Niddrie District, have changed address, turned 18 or if you're just not on the roll, you must enrol or update your enrolment by **8.00 pm on Thursday, 1 March**.

To vote at the Niddrie 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.

Updating or enrolling online

To update your address, just visit vec.vic.gov.au and use the online application to complete an electronic enrolment update with no need for paper forms.

If you are enrolling for the first time, or you have changed your name, or you don't have a driver licence, you can pre-complete your form online at vec.vic.gov.au. You will then need to print it out, sign it and have it witnessed prior to returning it.

For more information please visit vec.vic.gov.au or call 1300 551 081.

Updating or enrolling using a paper form

If you would prefer to enrol or update your details on a paper form, you can collect an enrolment form from any post office, Centrelink or Australian Electoral Commission office.

Completed enrolment forms should be mailed immediately to the Victorian Electoral Commission, Reply Paid 66506, Melbourne, Victoria, 8001 (no stamp is required). Alternatively, you can fax it to (03) 9277 7126, email a scanned copy to 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
- 4 Homer Street, Moonee Ponds
- Ground Floor, Casselden Place, 2 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Victorian Electoral Commission

- Level 11, 530 Collins Street Melbourne

All offices are open until 8.00 pm on Thursday, 1 March.

How do I stand as a candidate?

Independent candidates must nominate with the election manager, Chris Browne, at Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Registered political party candidates must nominate directly with the VEC at Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Nominations close at 12 noon on Wednesday, 7 March for party endorsed candidates, and at 12 noon on Thursday, 8 March for independent candidates.

Late nominations cannot be accepted.

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

• ግድም 9209 0190 Amharic • العربية 9209 0100 Arabic • Босански 9209 0191 Bosnian • ខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Cambodian • 粵語 9209 0101 Chinese (Cantonese)
• Hrvatski 9209 0102 Croatian • عربي 9209 0193 Dari • Динка 9209 0119 Dinka • Ελληνικά 9209 0103 Greek • Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • 한국어 9209 0194 Korean
• Македонски 9209 0105 Macedonian • 國語 9209 0106 Chinese (Mandarin) • Malti 9209 0112 Maltese • العربية 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

Every vote will shape Victoria

Victorian Electoral Commission 

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Early voting

State by-election: Niddrie District Voting before election day

Election day for the Niddrie District by-election is Saturday, 24 March.

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 between 8.30 am and 6.00 pm, Monday to Friday, at either:

- **67L Matthews Avenue Airport West** (Fully wheelchair accessible)
- **Victorian Electoral Commission Level 11, 530 Collins Street Melbourne** (Wheelchair accessible with assistance)

Extended opening hours are also available:

- Saturday, 17 March, 9.00 am to 2.00 pm
- Thursday, 22 March, 8.30 am to 8.00 pm

There will be no early voting on the Labour Day public holiday, Monday, 12 March.

Vote by post: You can pick up a postal vote application form at any post office within Niddrie District, download one from vec.vic.gov.au or call 1300 551 081 to be sent one.

To have your ballot papers sent to you, mail your correctly completed application immediately to: VEC, Reply Paid 76032, Melbourne, Victoria, 8060, or fax it to 9620 3489.

Post your completed ballot papers promptly. Ballot papers posted after 6.00 pm on Saturday, 24 March 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 are 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 or call the Niddrie District by-election office on 1300 551 081.

Who can vote

Everyone on the State electoral roll for Niddrie District can cast a vote at any voting centre.

If you are an Australian citizen, over the age of 18, and you live in Niddrie District but have never enrolled, you can enrol and vote on the spot. Simply bring a driver licence or learner permit, a council rates notice or an electricity bill in your name for your home address when you visit a voting centre.

If you are on the State electoral roll for another district then you cannot vote in this by-election.

Remember, voting is compulsory

For more information please visit vec.vic.gov.au or call 1300 551 081

Arabic	المواطنون الأستراليون يجب أن يصوتوا في هذه الانتخابات. يوم الانتخابات 24 مارس/آذار 2012. إذا لم تكن مسجلاً للتصويت في يوم الانتخابات، التمس بنا على الرقم 1300 551 081 للحصول على أوراق التصويت الأخرى.
Cantonese	澳洲公民必須在本次選舉中投票。選舉日為2012年3月24日。如未能親臨在選舉日投票，請致電9209 1100，與我們聯絡，瞭解其他投票選擇。
Croatian	Australski državljani moraju glasovati na ovim izborima. Izbori se održavaju 24. ožujka 2012. Ako ne možete glasovati na dan izbora, nazovite nas na 9209 0102 i saznat ćete koje su druge mogućnosti glasanja.
Greek	Οι Αυστραλοί πολίτες πρέπει να ψηφίσουν οι οποίοι τις εκλογές. Η ημέρα των εκλογών είναι 24 Μαρτίου 2012. Αν δεν μπορείτε να ψηφίσετε την ημέρα των εκλογών καλέστε μας για άλλες εκλογικές επιλογές στο 9209 0102.
Italian	I cittadini australiani sono tenuti a votare a queste elezioni. Il giorno delle elezioni è il 24 marzo 2012. Se non potete votare il giorno delle elezioni chiamateci al numero 9209 0104 per conoscere altre opzioni di voto.
Macedonian	Жителите на Австралија мораат да гласаат на овие избори. Изборите се на 24 март 2012. Ако не можете да гласате на денот јавете ни се на 9209 0105 за други начини на гласање.
Maltese	Cittadini Awstraliani għandhom jivvotaw f'din l-elezzjoni. Il-jum tal-elezzjoni huwa l-24 ta' Marzu 2012. Jekk ma tistax tivvota fil-jum tal-elezzjoni templina għal għażliet oħra ta' votazzjoni fuq 9209 0112.
Mandarin	澳大利亞公民必須在本次選舉中投票。選舉日為2012年3月24日。如果難以在選舉日投票，請致電9209 1100，與我們聯絡，了解其他投票選擇。
Spanish	Los ciudadanos australianos deben votar en estas elecciones. El día de las elecciones es el 24 de marzo de 2012. Si no puede ir a votar el día de las elecciones, llámenos al 9209 0109 para saber otras opciones.
Vietnamese	Công dân Úc phải bỏ phiếu trong cuộc bầu cử này. Ngày bầu cử là ngày 24 tháng Ba năm 2012. Nếu quý vị không thể bỏ phiếu vào ngày bầu cử, hãy gọi cho chúng tôi ở số 9209 0111 để có các lựa chọn khác về việc bỏ phiếu.
English	Australian citizens must vote in this election. Election day is 24 March 2012. If you cannot vote on election day call us for other voting options on 9209 0112.

Every vote will shape Victoria

Victorian Electoral Commission 

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

How to vote correctly

State by-election: Niddrie 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:

- SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik
- CARROLL, Ben
Australian Labor Party
- SURACE, Andrea
- LINAKEK, David Hugh
- LESTER, Josie
Australian Greens
- DEVERALA, Michael
D.L.P. - Democratic Labor Party
- MYERS, Amy
Sex Party
- LITTLE, Jim
- PAPAFOTIOLU, Frank
Christian 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 Niddrie District at the close of rolls (8.00 pm on Thursday, 1 March 2012).

You may be fined if you do not vote.

**For more information
please visit vec.vic.gov.au
or call 1300 551 081**

Where to vote today

- 1** Avondale Primary School
11 Clarendon Street
Avondale Heights **AWA**
- 2** Buckley Park College
Cooper Street
Essendon **NWA**
- 3** Essendon Kellor College –
Kellor East Campus
82 Quinn Grove
Kellor East **AWA**
- 4** Kellor East – Airport West
Uniting Church
Corner Roberts Road and
Glenys Avenue
Airport West **FWA**
- 5** Kellor Heights
Primary School
Ronald Grove
Kellor East **AWA**
- 6** Kellor Park Kindergarten
2 Thea Court
Kellor Park **AWA**
- 7** Kellor Primary School
Kennedy Street
Kellor **FWA**
- 8** Nancye Kirchner
Neighbourhood Centre
Doyle Street
Avondale Heights **NWA**
- 9** St Christopher's Catholic
Primary School
34 Roberts Road
Airport West **FWA**
- 10** St John Bosco's
Primary School
29 Murel Street
Niddrie **AWA**
- 11** St Martin De Porres
Catholic Church Hall
158 Military Road
Avondale Heights **AWA**
- 12** St Paul's Kealba
Catholic College
230-240 Sunshine Avenue
Kealba **AWA**
- 13** St Peters School
2 Parkside Avenue
Kellor East **AWA**

FWA - Full wheelchair access

AWA - Assisted wheelchair access

NWA - No wheelchair access



Arabic	التصويت الزامي في هذه الانتخابات في يوم السبت 24 مارس/آذار الساعة 8:00 مساءً بتوقيت شرق أستراليا. اتصل بالرقم 1300 551 081 للحصول على مزيد من المعلومات.
Cantonese	請務必在2012年3月24日星期六選舉日前往投票。投票是法律規定。如果需要傳譯員協助，請致電 9209 0101。
Croatian	Glasovanje je obavezno dolaskom na izborno mjesto u subotu, 24. ožujka 2012. Ako vam je potreban tumač, nazovite 9209 0102.
Greek	Η ψηφοφορία είναι υποχρεωτική σ' αυτή την εκλογική προεκλογική το Σάββατο, 24 Μαρτίου 2012. Για τη βοήθεια διαμεγλητών, τηλεφωνήστε το 9209 0103.
Italian	Votare è obbligatorio alle elezioni del 24 marzo, 2012. Per avere l'assistenza di un interprete, chiamare al numero 9209 0104.
Macedonian	Гласањето е задолжително за во сепота, 24 март 2012. За помош со преводачки јазер се на 9209 0103.
Maltese	Il-votazzjoni hija ta' bilfors għal din l-elezzjoni ta' attendenza nhar is-Sibt, 24 ta' Marzu 2012. Għal għajruna ta' interpret, compal 9209 0112.
Mandarin	请务必在2012年3月24日星期六选举日前往投票。投票是法律规定。如果需要传译员协助，请电 9209 0104。
Spanish	Es obligatorio ir votar en las elecciones del sábado 24 de marzo de 2012. Para obtener la ayuda de un intérprete, llame al 9209 0109.
Vietnamese	Việc bỏ phiếu là bắt buộc đối với cuộc bầu cử trực tiếp này vào Thứ Bảy ngày 24 tháng Ba năm 2012. Để có thông dịch viên giúp đỡ, hãy điện thoại số 9209 0111.
English	Voting is compulsory for this attendance election on Saturday, 24 March 2012. For interpreter assistance, telephone 9209 0112.

Every vote will shape Victoria

Victorian Electoral Commission **VEC**

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 330 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria

Voting on election day

State by-election: Niddrie District Voting on election day

Election day for the Niddrie District by-election is Saturday, 24 March.

For more information please visit vec.vic.gov.au or call 1300 551 081

Who can vote

Everyone on the State electoral roll for Niddrie District can cast a vote at any voting centre.

If you are an Australian Citizen and you live in Niddrie District but have never enrolled, you can enrol and vote on the spot. Simply bring a driver licence or learner permit, a council rates notice or an electricity invoice in your name for your home address when you visit a voting centre.

If you are on the roll for another district then you cannot vote in this by-election.

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.

Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory if you were on the electoral roll for Niddrie District at the close of rolls (8.00 pm on Thursday, 1 March 2012).

You may be fined if you do not vote.

Candidates

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

- SCHOREL-HLAVKA, Gerrit Hendrik
- CARROLL, Ben
Australian Labor Party
- SURACE, Andrea
- LINAKEK, David Hugh
- LESTER, Josie
Australian Greens
- DEVTRALA, Michael
D.L.P. - Democratic Labor Party
- MYERS, Amy
Sex Party
- LITTLE, Jim
- PAPAFOTIOLU, Frank
Christian 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 centres are open 8.00 am to 6.00 pm on election day.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Avondale Primary School
11 Clarendon Street
Avondale Heights AWA 2 Buckley Park College
Cooper Street
Essendon NWA 3 Essendon Kallithea College -
Kallithea East Campus
82 Quinn Grove
Kallithea East AWA 4 Kallithea East - Airport West
Uniting Church
Corner Roberts Road and
Glenys Avenue
Airport West FWA 5 Kallithea Heights
Primary School
Ronald Grove
Kallithea East AWA 6 Kallithea Park Kindergarten
2 Theo Court
Kallithea Park AWA 7 Kallithea Primary School
Kennedy Street
Kallithea FWA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Narcysa Kirchner
Neighbourhood Centre
Doyle Street
Avondale Heights NWA 9 St Christopher's Catholic
Primary School
14 Roberts Road
Airport West FWA 10 St John Bosco's
Primary School
29 Muriel Street
Niddrie AWA 11 St Martin De Porres
Catholic Church Hall
158 Military Road
Avondale Heights AWA 12 St Paul's Kallithea
Catholic College
230-240 Sunstone Avenue
Kallithea AWA 13 St Peter's School
2 Parkside Avenue
Kallithea East AWA |
|--|--|
- FWA - Full wheelchair access
AWA - Assisted wheelchair access
NWA - No wheelchair access

Every vote will shape Victoria

Victorian Electoral Commission

Authorised by S. H. Tully, Electoral Commissioner, 142 Colton Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Return of the writ

NIDDRIE DISTRICT STATE BY-ELECTION DECLARATION OF RESULT

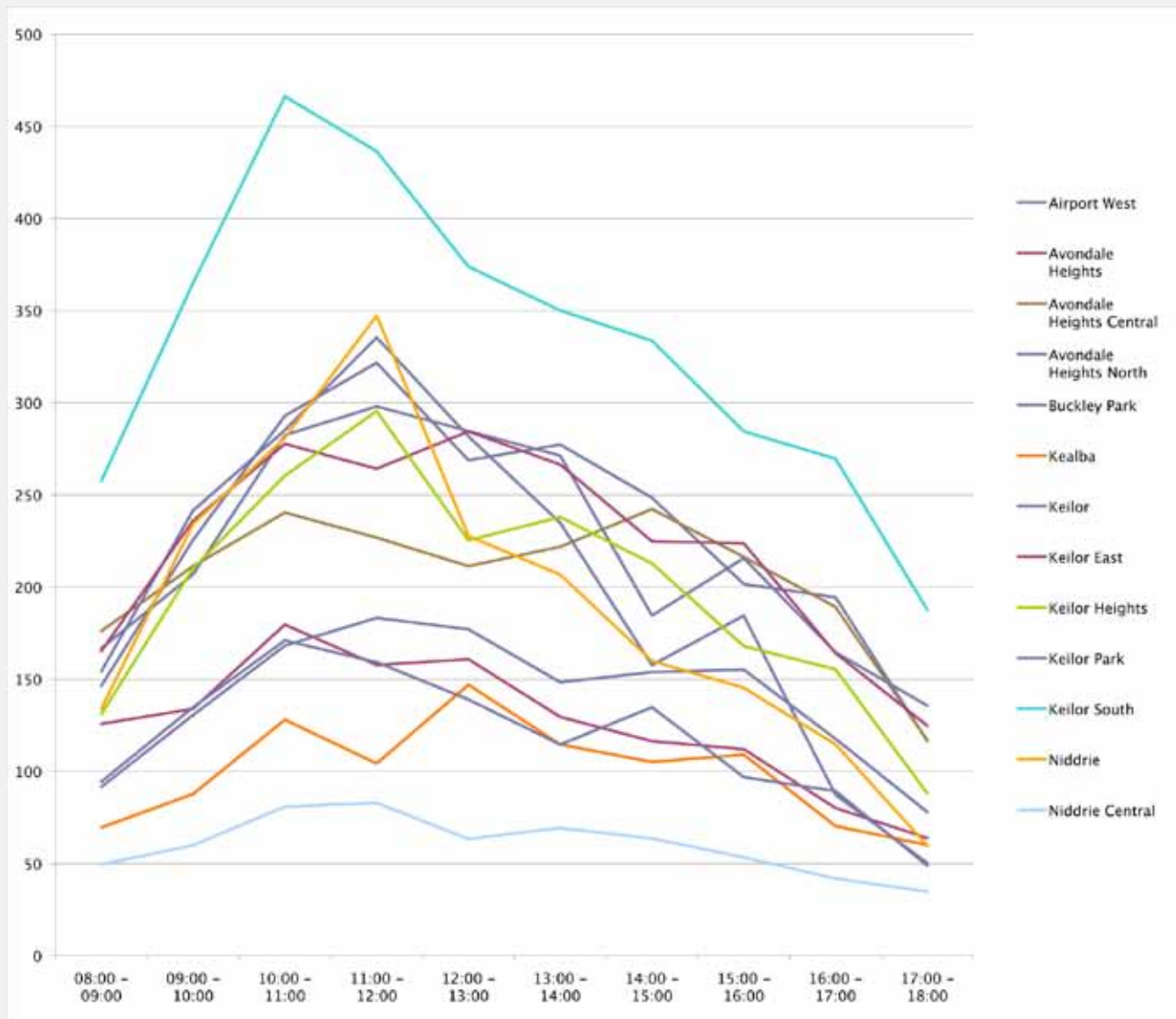
The candidate elected in the Niddrie District by-election held on Saturday, 24 March 2012 was:

Ben Carroll
Australian Labor Party

I have returned the writ to the Hon Ken Smith, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The writ was issued on Thursday, 23 February 2012 for the election of one member to the Legislative Assembly to represent Niddrie District. Detailed results are now available at vec.vic.gov.au
Steve Tully
Victorian Electoral Commission

Appendix E: Electronic roll mark-off statistics

Number of roll mark-offs per hour at election day voting centres



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

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