



Speaker

Mr Andrew Barr MLA
Treasurer
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Barr

Electoral Commissioner Budget 2018-19

Section 20AB(a) of the *Financial Management Act 1996* provides that, for an Officer of the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker must, before the beginning of a financial year and after consultation with the Officer and the appropriate committee of the Assembly, advise the Treasurer of the appropriation that the Speaker considers should be made for the Officer, in relation to the forthcoming financial year.

This process of consultation in relation to the budget for the Electoral Commissioner has recently concluded.

In accordance with section 20AB(a) of the Financial Management Act, I recommend the Electoral Commissioner be provided with appropriation of \$3.440m for 2018-19 comprising:

- (a) baseline funding (2017-18) and budget technical adjustments (\$3.237m); and
- (b) a one-off capital injection (\$0.203m).

Pursuant to section 20AB(c) of the Financial Management Act, attached is the draft budget for the Electoral Commissioner.

In accordance with section 20AB(b) of the Financial Management Act, I am required to present this recommended appropriation to the Assembly. I intend to table this letter and the attached draft budget on budget day.

Yours sincerely



Joy Burch MLA
Speaker
23 May 2018

BUDGET STATEMENTS

for

Electoral Commissioner

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ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

Purpose

The Electoral Commissioner is an independent statutory office holder under the *Electoral Act 1992*. The Electoral Commissioner is a member of the ACT Electoral Commission, which consists of three statutory office holders – the Chairperson, the Electoral Commissioner and one other Member. The Electoral Commissioner is assisted by officers employed under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994* and the Electoral Act. The Electoral Commissioner is the chief executive officer of the Commission.

The ACT Electoral Commission is responsible for:

- the conduct of elections and referendums for the ACT Legislative Assembly;
- the determination of electoral boundaries for the ACT; and
- the provision of electoral information, education, advice and services to a wide range of clients.

2018-19 Priorities

Major priorities for 2018-19 include:

- undertaking a redistribution of electoral boundaries for the ACT;
- administering ongoing financial disclosure scheme functions, including monitoring of compliance with disclosure obligations by political parties, candidates and other election participants;
- reviewing and enhancing ICT systems to ensure readiness for the 2020 ACT Legislative Assembly election;
- conducting non-parliamentary elections, including the ACT Government enterprise agreement ballots; and
- continuing to provide a comprehensive electoral education program.

Estimated Employment Level

Table 1: Estimated Employment Level

	2016-17 Actual Outcome	2017-18 Budget	2017-18 Estimated Outcome	2018-19 Budget
Staffing (FTE)	13.4	9	11 ¹	9

Note:

1. The variation between the 2017-18 Budget and the 2017-18 Estimated Outcome is due to the backfilling of one employee on long service leave and the engagement of a project officer to assist in the development and testing of electoral ICT systems. The table does not include two part time statutory office holders and election casuals employed under the *Electoral Act 1992*.

Changes to Appropriation

Table 2: Changes to appropriation – Controlled Recurrent Payments

	2017-18 Estimated Outcome \$'000	2018-19 Budget \$'000	2019-20 Estimate \$'000	2020-21 Estimate \$'000	2021-22 Estimate \$'000
2017-18 Budget	2,954	3,008	3,073	3,141	3,141
FMA Section 16B Rollovers from 2016-17					
Rollover - 2016-17 Controlled Recurrent Payments	150	0	0	0	0
2018-19 Budget Policy Decisions					
Better Government - Electronic voting	0	0	0	75	75
2018-19 Budget Technical Adjustments					
Revised Superannuation Parameters	-39	-75	-86	-99	-101
Estimated Outcome - End of Year estimate	-259	259	0	0	0
Estimated Outcome - Electoral Services Funding	0	27	628	5,551	0
Revised Wage Parameters	0	16	38	60	83
Revised Superannuation Guarantee Rate	0	2	4	7	7
Revised Indexation Parameters	0	0	0	0	57
2018-19 Budget	2,806	3,237	3,657	8,735	3,262

Table 3: Changes to appropriation – Capital Injections, Controlled

	2017-18 Estimated Outcome \$'000	2018-19 Budget \$'000	2019-20 Estimate \$'000	2020-21 Estimate \$'000	2021-22 Estimate \$'000
2017-18 Budget	0	0	0	0	0
FMA Section 16B Rollovers from 2016-17					
Rollover - Electoral ICT Systems Upgrade	235	0	0	0	0
2018-19 Budget Policy Decisions					
Better Government - Electronic voting	0	196	240	0	0
2018-19 Budget Technical Adjustments					
Revised Wage Parameters	0	7	0	0	0
2018-19 Budget	235	203	240	0	0

Financial Statements – Controlled (GGS)

Table 4: Electoral Commissioner: Operating Statement

2017-18 Budget		2017-18 Estimated Outcome \$'000	2018-19 Budget \$'000	Var %	2019-20 Estimate \$'000	2020-21 Estimate \$'000	2021-22 Estimate \$'000
	Revenue						
2,954	Controlled Recurrent Payments	2,806	3,237	15	3,657	8,735	3,262
23	User Charges	69	23	-67	23	25	26
0	Interest	16	16	-	16	16	16
2,977	Total Revenue	2,891	3,276	13	3,696	8,776	3,304
	Expenses						
1,300	Employee Expenses	1,182	1,335	13	1,732	2,925	1,443
263	Superannuation Expenses	159	198	25	243	351	220
1,395	Supplies and Services	1,501	1,714	14	1,692	5,471	1,611
190	Depreciation and Amortisation	194	108	-44	104	167	191
3,148	Total Expenses	3,036	3,355	11	3,771	8,914	3,465
-171	Operating Result	-145	-79	46	-75	-138	-161
-171	Total Comprehensive Income	-145	-79	46	-75	-138	-161

Table 5: Electoral Commissioner: Balance Sheet

Budget at 30/6/18 \$'000	2017-18 Estimated Outcome \$'000	Budget at 30/6/19 \$'000	Var %	Estimate at 30/6/20 \$'000	Estimate at 30/6/21 \$'000	Estimate at 30/6/22 \$'000	
Current Assets							
725	Cash and Cash Equivalents	925	941	2	957	973	989
83	Receivables	68	68	-	68	68	68
0	Capital Works in Progress	235	431	83	671	235	235
808	Total Current Assets	1,228	1,440	17	1,696	1,276	1,292
Non Current Assets							
144	Property, Plant and Equipment	111	86	-23	67	50	31
324	Intangible Assets	274	191	-30	106	392	220
468	Total Non Current Assets	385	277	-28	173	442	251
1,276	TOTAL ASSETS	1,613	1,717	6	1,869	1,718	1,543
Current Liabilities							
172	Payables	270	251	-7	232	213	194
289	Employee Benefits	437	436	..	442	448	453
461	Total Current Liabilities	707	687	-3	674	661	647
Non Current Liabilities							
10	Employee Benefits	9	9	-	9	9	9
10	Total Non Current Liabilities	9	9	-	9	9	9
471	TOTAL LIABILITIES	716	696	-3	683	670	656
805	NET ASSETS	897	1,021	14	1,186	1,048	887
REPRESENTED BY FUNDS EMPLOYED							
805	Accumulated Funds	897	1,021	14	1,186	1,048	887
805	TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED	897	1,021	14	1,186	1,048	887

Table 6: Electoral Commissioner: Statement of Changes in Equity

Budget at 30/6/18 \$'000	2017-18 Estimated Outcome \$'000	Budget at 30/6/19 \$'000	Var %	Estimate at 30/6/20 \$'000	Estimate at 30/6/21 \$'000	Estimate at 30/6/22 \$'000
Opening Equity						
976	807	897	11	1,021	1,186	1,048
976	807	897	11	1,021	1,186	1,048
Balance at the Start of the Reporting Period						
Comprehensive Income						
-171	-145	-79	46	-75	-138	-161
-171	-145	-79	46	-75	-138	-161
Total Comprehensive Income						
0	0	0	-	0	0	0
Total Movement in Reserves						
Transactions Involving Owners Affecting Accumulated Funds						
0	235	203	-14	240	0	0
0	235	203	-14	240	0	0
Total Transactions Involving Owners Affecting Accumulated Funds						
Closing Equity						
805	897	1,021	14	1,186	1,048	887
805	897	1,021	14	1,186	1,048	887
Balance at the end of the Reporting Period						

Table 7: Electoral Commissioner: Cash Flow Statement

2017-18 Budget	2017-18 Estimated Outcome \$'000	2018-19 Budget \$'000	Var %	2019-20 Estimate \$'000	2020-21 Estimate \$'000	2021-22 Estimate \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
Receipts						
2,954	2,806	3,237	15	3,657	8,735	3,262
23	69	23	-67	23	25	25
0	16	16	-	16	16	16
2,977	2,891	3,276	13	3,696	8,776	3,303
Payments						
1,319	1,190	1,354	14	1,745	2,938	1,457
263	158	199	26	243	351	219
1,395	1,501	1,714	14	1,692	5,471	1,611
2,977	2,849	3,267	15	3,680	8,760	3,287
0	42	9	-79	16	16	16
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
Receipts						
Payments						
0	235	196	-17	240	0	0
0	235	196	-17	240	0	0
0	-235	-196	17	-240	0	0
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
Receipts						
0	235	203	-14	240	0	0
0	235	203	-14	240	0	0
0	235	203	-14	240	0	0
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
0	42	16	-62	16	16	16
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS						
725	883	925	5	941	957	973
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF REPORTING PERIOD						
725	925	941	2	957	973	989
CASH AT THE END OF REPORTING PERIOD						

Notes to the Controlled Budget Statements

Significant variations are as follows:

Operating Statement

- controlled recurrent payments:
 - the increase of \$0.431 million (15 percent) in the 2018-19 Budget from the 2017-18 estimated outcome is mainly due to the Commission rolling over \$0.259 million of the 2017-18 appropriation into 2018-19 to support the Commission's internal audit program and assist in early preparations for the 2020 ACT Legislative Assembly election.

Balance Sheet

There are no significant variances in the Balance Sheet requiring explanation.

Statement of Changes in Equity

Variations in the Statement are explained in the notes above.

Cash Flow Statement

Variations in the Statement are explained in the notes above.