



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission
LGE 028
191,439

Vernon Lawrence
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley
PO Box 614
KUNNUNURRA WA 6743

Dear Mr Lawrence,

Councillor vacancy – Local Government Extraordinary Election – Cost Estimate

I refer to your email of 8th November 2023 confirming that you would like the Commission to undertake the extraordinary election for the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley.

As you are aware, if a declaration has been made under section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the local government is required to meet the expenses of the Commissioner in connection with the election to the extent required by regulations.

As such, to assist with the Council's decision under section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Commission has estimated the cost to conduct your Council's election as a postal election on the 12th April 2024 at approximately \$30,000 (inc GST) which is based on the following assumptions:

- 3720 electors;
- response rate of approximately 26%;
- appointment of a local Returning Officer; and
- count to be conducted at your office using CountWA.

Costs not included in this estimate:

- non-statutory advertising (i.e. additional advertisements in community newspapers and promotional advertising);
- any legal expenses other than those that are determined to be borne by the Western Australian Electoral Commission in a Court of Disputed Returns;
- local government staff members to issue replacement votes; and
- the cost of any casual staff to assist the Returning Officer on election day or night

This cost estimate is **not** to be taken as my written agreement to be responsible for the conduct of the local government extraordinary election for the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

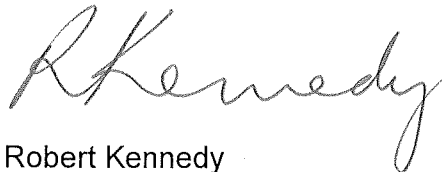
I will provide that written agreement upon receiving written confirmation from you that:

- A. Your Council agrees to the costs estimate of approximately \$30,000 as set out above; and
- B. You agree that, upon receiving my written agreement, the following two motions will be presented to your Council (**unchanged**):
 1. declare, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Electoral Commissioner to be responsible for the conduct of the extraordinary election;
 2. decide, in accordance with section 4.61(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* that the method of conducting the extraordinary election will be as a postal election.

For the Commission to conduct the extraordinary election as a postal election, your Council will then need to pass the above two motions (**unchanged**) by an absolute majority *after* receiving my written agreement.

If you have any further queries, please contact lgelections@waec.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Robert Kennedy
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

10 November 2023