



LGE 028

Mr Carl Askew
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Wyndham/East Kimberley
PO Box 614
KUNUNURRA WA 6743

Dear Mr Askew

2017 Ordinary Election

I refer to your letter dated 31 October 2016 requesting cost estimates to conduct the Shire of Wyndham/East Kimberley 2017 Local Government Ordinary election either as a voting in person election or as a postal election.

The estimated cost for the 2017 Ordinary Election being conducted as a voting in person election is \$23,000 including GST and for a postal election the estimated cost is \$26,000 including GST.

The estimates are based on:

- All Statutory advertising;
- The appointment of a local Returning Officer;
- Nine councillor vacancies;
- Approximately 3,700 electors;
- The count being conducted at the premises of the Shire of Wyndham/East Kimberley;
- A participation rate of 30%; and
- A proportion of the total cost of West Australian Electoral Commission staff time and corporate overheads.

Costs not incorporated in these estimates include:

- 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; and
- Cost of aircraft hire for early voting in remote locations for an in person election.

The Commission is required by the *Local Government Act 1995* to conduct local government elections on a full cost recovery basis. Of note the prices quoted are estimates only and may vary depending on a range of factors including the cost of materials or number of staff appointed. The basis for charges is all materials at cost and a margin on staff time only. Should a significant change in this figure become evident prior to or during the election you will be advised as early as possible.

Should your council decide that the Electoral Commissioner be responsible for the conduct of the 2017 Ordinary Election I, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, hereby give written agreement to be responsible for the conduct of the 2017 Ordinary Election for the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley together with any other elections or polls that may also be required.

In addition, should your council decide that the Electoral Commissioner be responsible for the conduct of the 2017 Ordinary Election as a voting in person election, your council will now need to pass only the first listed motion by absolute majority. Alternatively, if your council decides that the Electoral Commissioner be responsible to have the 2017 Ordinary Election conducted as a postal election, your council will now need to pass both the following motions by absolute majority:

- 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; and
- 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.

If you have any further queries please contact Phil Richards Manager, Local Government Elections on 9214 0443.

Yours sincerely



David Kerlake
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

4 November 2017