

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Electoral Commission

LGE 1518

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

Dear Mr Askew,

Local Government Ordinary Election Report – 17 October 2015

Please find enclosed a CD and hard copy of a report on the above election conducted by the Western Australian Electoral Commission.

If you have any enquiries about the report or its contents, please contact Phil Richards Manager Local Government Elections on 9214 0443.

Yours sincerely

David Kerslake

ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

7 December 2015

Enc.



Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley

Ordinary Election

17 October 2015



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INTRODUCTION

A total of 88 local governments requested that the Electoral Commissioner conduct their ordinary elections by post or in-person in October 2015. This compares with 78 local governments in 2013, 76 in 2011 and 71 in 2009.

The Western Australian Electoral Commission was engaged by the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley to use the voting in—person method for the October 2015 elections.

Within this report the *Local Government Act 1995* is referred to as the Act and regulations within the *Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997* are referred to as regulations. The Western Australian Electoral Commission is abbreviated to the Commission.

The report that follows provides information about the election process together with the election results.

ELECTION TIMETABLE

The election timetable is prescribed by the Act. A copy of the timetable used for this election appears in Appendix 1. Key dates for this election were:

Close of the roll 28 August 2015

Opening of nominations 3 September 2015

Close of nominations 10 September 2015

Dispatch of packages to electors commenced 17 C

17 October 2015

RETURNING OFFICER APPOINTMENT

In accordance with section 4.20(4) of the Act, the Electoral Commissioner appointed Mr Owen Deas to be the Returning Officer for the election. The Electoral Commissioner is also required to appoint one or more Deputy Returning Officers under section 4.21(2) of the Act. Several staff members from the Electoral Commission were appointed as Deputy Returning Officers to assist with those electoral processes conducted centrally.

DUTIES

The Returning Officer was responsible for:

- receiving nominations from candidates;
- · receiving and recording nomination fees;
- conducting the draws for positions on the ballot papers;
- receiving and reviewing candidate profiles and photographs;
- posting voting packages to electors who applied;
- conducting early voting at indigenous communities;
- checking and processing returned postal voting packages;
- conducting polling on polling day at the Shire office:
- organising the count;
- · declaring the result of the elections; and
- parcelling the ballot papers and election material for storage by the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley.

SUPPORT FOR RETURNING OFFICER

The role of the Commission was to support the Returning Officer by:

- providing all handbooks, manuals and forms;
- producing the residents roll;
- preparing artwork and printing ballot papers;
- notifying the Minister for Local Government of the results of the election;
- providing electoral information on the Commission's website;
- seeking legal advice as required; and
- preparing the election report.

ADVERTISING

STATUTORY ADVERTISING

The Act requires the placement of three statutory advertisements in a newspaper with statewide circulation. The Commission placed all statutory advertising in *The West Australian*.

The first advertisement was a *Notice of Close of Enrolments*, which appeared in *The West Australian* on Wednesday 12 August 2015 in accordance with section 4.39(2) of the Act.



The second advertisement was a *Call for Nominations* notice, which appeared in *The West Australian* on Wednesday 26 August 2015 in accordance with section 4.47(1) of the Act.

The third advertisement was a *Notice of Election*, which appeared in *The West Australian* on Wednesday 16 September 2015 in accordance with section 4.64(1) of the Act.

NON-STATUTORY ADVERTISING

The Notice of Close of Enrolments was published in the Kimberley Echo on Thursday 13 August 2015 and placed on the shire's public noticeboards and forwarded to remote aboriginal communities.

The *Call for Nominations* notice was published in the Kimberley Echo on Thursday 27 August 2015 and placed on the shire's public noticeboards and forwarded to remote aboriginal communities.

The *Notice of Election* was published in the Kimberley Echo on Thursday 17 September 2015 and placed on the shire's public noticeboards and forwarded to remote aboriginal communities.

Advertisements announcing the election results were placed in *The West Australian* and the Kimberley Echo on Thursday 22 October 2015 and placed on public noticeboards in the shire.

Appendix 2 shows the non-statutory advertisements described above.

The Commission, in conjunction with the Department of Local Government and Communities, undertook a paid creative advertising campaign primarily focusing on the

internet and social media. The campaign was created to encourage more and a greater diversity of people to nominate as candidates, as well as to increase public awareness of local government elections in general. Banner advertisements were placed on a number of popular commercial news websites and both paid and organic placements were posted to various Facebook sites, and to a lesser degree on Twitter.

The campaign consisted of three phases - enrolment and the roll close; standing as a candidate and nominations close; voting and the election date. Depending on the phase, there was a particular focus on women, the culturally and linguistically diverse, youth, people who had recently moved house and young professionals. The campaign used the tag lines "lets vote", "take a stand" and "voting matters".

The campaign also included some specialist press advertising and the trial of outdoor and retail venue advertising posters in selected locations.

COMMISSION WEBSITE

The Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley had a visual presence on the Commission's website at www.elections.wa.gov.au in terms of logo, address and link to its home page. People visiting the Commission's website could view a broad range of electoral information, including:

- key dates and deadlines for the election;
- how to vote information;
- lists of candidates (after close of nominations);
 and
- Returning Officer and local government contact details.

2015 Ordinary Election Wyndham-East Kimberley Results



Roll Close 28/08/2015 5:00pm

Close of Nominations 10/09/2015 4:00pm

Date of Election 17/10/2015

Returning Officer Owen DEAS

Wyndham-East Kimberley profile and past elections

WYNDHAM-EA	ST KIMBERLEY WARD
Vacancies	(5) Councillors
Expiry of term	19 October 2019
Total electors	3,614
Turnout rate	28.89%

Candidates	Votes	Percentage	Expiry of Term
LEARBUCH, Don	207	4.53%	
RUSHBY, Simone	556	12.16%	19 October 2019
DESSERT, Raymond B	302	6.61%	



The election results were available to the public on the Internet on election night.

ELECTORAL ROLLS

The rolls closed at 5.00 pm on 28 August 2015 in accordance with section 4.39(1) of the Act.

The Chief Executive Officer prepared the owners and occupiers roll. The Electoral Commissioner prepared the residents roll.

Electronic rolls were produced on thumb drives. These were made available as soon as possible after roll close to ensure that candidates had the opportunity to use them for their election campaign when nominations opened.

Candidates and members of council were provided with one free copy of the residents roll and the owners and occupiers roll on request.

ENROLMENT FIGURES

The table below lists the number of electors by age group on both the residents roll and the owners and occupiers roll in the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley as at the close of roll:

Age	Electors	% of Electors
18 – 24	165	4.6%
25 – 34	756	20.9%
35 – 44	849	23.5%
45 – 54	840	23.2%
55 – 64	594	16.4%
65+	410	11.3%
Total	3,614	100.0%

NOMINATIONS

Nominations opened on 3 September 2015 and closed at 4.00 pm 10 September 2015 in accordance with Section 4.49(a) of the Act.

Nominations were called for the following councillor vacancies:

District	No of vacancies	Length of term
Wyndham-East Kimberley	5	4 year term

Candidates were required to supply the following when they nominated for a vacancy:

- nomination form;
- profile of no more than 150 words;
- nomination deposit of \$80.00; and
- photograph (optional).

CANDIDATE INFORMATION CD'S

Each candidate was provided with an information package on CD that contained:

- a handbook entitled A Guide for Candidates;
- a handbook entitled A Guide for Scrutineers;
- a booklet entitled Formality of Ballot Papers:
- a booklet entitled Service Charter for Postal Elections;
- Form LG 08 Nomination for Election by Candidate:
- From LG 09 Nomination for Election by Agent;
- Form LG 09A Disclosure of Gifts:
- Form LG 18 Appointment of Scrutineer;
- Department of Local Government Factsheets; and
- Section 5A Disclosure of Gifts.

At the close of nominations the Returning Officer had accepted 13 nominations for councillor.

A draw was conducted for ballot paper position for each election. The candidates are listed in ballot paper order, as follows:

District	Expiry of term	Candidates Nominated
Wyndham- East Kimberley	19 October 2019	LEARBUCH, Don RUSHBY, Simone DESSERT, Raymond B GOULD, Grahame PARKER, Jane TAYLOR, Glenn BOLTO, Emily O'NEILL, Paul MOULDEN, John MORGAN, Maria PERRY, Naomi THOMAS, Annie PETHERICK, Alma



DISPATCH AND RECEIPT OF PACKAGES

The Western Australian Electoral Commission posted 33 postal vote packages for the election. 28 postal votes were processed for the election.

EARLY POLLING

Early remote polling was conducted at the following indigenous community:

Community	Date	Votes Taken
Kalumburu	14 October 2015	72
Total		72

Early votes were also issued at the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley's administration centre up to 4.00 pm on Friday 16 October 2015.

A total of 525 early votes were issued.

ELECTION DAY

Section 4.62 of the Act requires that there must be at least one polling place in the district open between the hours of 8.00 am and 6.00 pm on election day. This polling place was located at Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley, Kununurra Admin Centre, Kununurra.

COUNTING OF VOTES

The ballot box was opened after 6.00 pm and the ballot papers were batched and entered into CountWA by staff.

DECLARATION OF RESULTS

The Returning Officer publicly declared the results of the election following the completion of counting in accordance with section 4.77 of the Act.

The following candidates were elected to the council of the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley for the terms given below.

District	Expiry of term	Councillors elected
Wyndham- East Kimberley	19 October 2019	RUSHBY, Simone PARKER, Jane PERRY, Naomi PETHERICK, Alma BOLTO, Emily

Appendix 3 contains complete details of the election results.

The Returning Officer subsequently gave local public notice of the result in accordance with regulation 80.

The result was transmitted to the Commission and uploaded to the Commission's website.

REFUND OF NOMINATION FEES

Nomination fees were refunded to all candidates who were elected. Those candidates who received at least 5% of the total number of valid votes included in the count also had their nomination fee refunded.

STORAGE OF ELECTION MATERIAL

Following the election all ballot papers, forms and election material used at the election were sealed in security boxes and returned to the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley for storage in accordance with regulation 82.

ELECTOR PARTICIPATION

A total of 1,037 electors cast a ballot paper resulting in 4,571 votes being counted for the election. The participation rate was 22.68%.

Appendix 4 details some enrolment statistics. This information is useful to compare previous elector participation levels by enrolment category (i.e. residents, and owners/occupiers) and ward.

CANDIDATE PARTICIPATION

Appendix 5 provides statistical information on the candidates.

STATUTORY REPORT

In accordance with regulation 81, a report of the result of the election was sent to the Minister for Local Government on Friday 30 October 2015.

COMPLAINTS

Two written complaints were made to the Returning Officer.

Both complaints related to the authorisation of election material relating to social media.

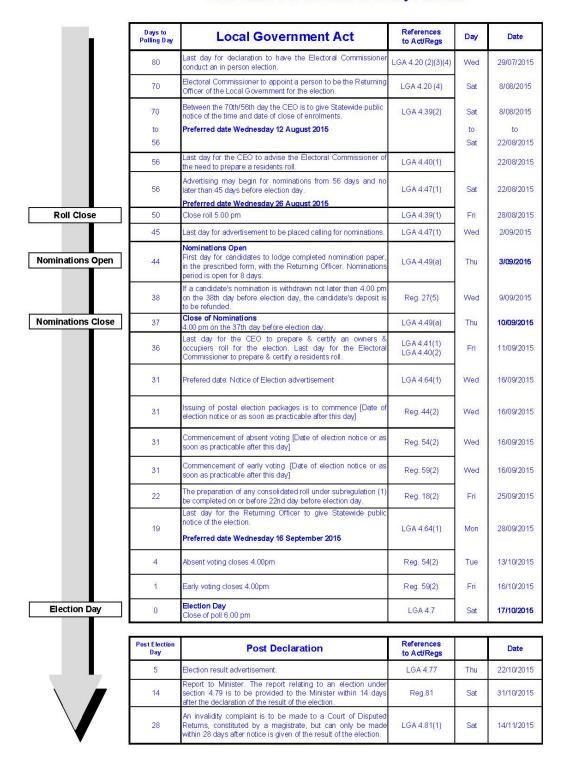
Both complaints were resolved.



Appendix 1

Election Timetable

IN PERSON ELECTION TIMETABLE 2015 Local Government Ordinary Election





Appendix 2

Non-statutory advertisements

Kimberley Echo.





LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINARY ELECTION CLOSE OF ENROLMENTS Shire of Halls Creek, Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley ROLL CLOSE: 5.00 pm FRIDAY 28 August 2015

You may be eligible to be enrolled to vote in the local government elections on 17 October 2015 if you live in or are an owner or occupier of rateable property in the Shire of Halls Creek or the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley.

Residents

You are automatically enrolled to vote if you are on the State Electoral Roll as at 5.00 pm Friday, 28 August 2015. If you are not already on the State Electoral Roll and meet the eligibility criteria, or if you have changed address recently, you must complete an enrolment form.

Enrolment Forms

Electoral enrolment forms are available from the local governments listed above, all post offices, all Australian Electoral Commission offices or the Western Australian Electoral Commission and must be completed and reach a Divisional Returning Officer in Western Australia by 5.00 pm Friday, 28 August 2015.

Non-Resident Owners and Occupiers

If you are a non-resident owner or occupier of rateable property in any of the local governments listed above and are on the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll, you are eligible to enrol to vote. If you are **not** on the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll and own or occupy rateable property in these local governments you may be eligible to enrol to vote. This applies if you were on the last electoral roll for any of these local governments prior to May 1996 and have owned or occupied rateable property in the district continuously since this time. Please contact your local government for details. Owners of land who were on the last Local Government roll continue to retain that status until they cease to own the rateable property to which the enrolment relates. Occupiers do not have continuous enrolment and should contact their particular local government to confirm their enrolment status. To be eligible to enrol as an occupier, you will need to have a right of continuous occupation under a lease, tenancy agreement or other legal instrument for at least the next three months following the date of the application to enrol.

Joint Owners and Occupiers

If a rateable property is owned or occupied by more than two people, a majority of the owners/occupiers may nominate two persons from amongst themselves who are on either the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll, to enrol as owner/occupier electors.

Corporations

A body corporate that owns or occupies rateable property may nominate two people who are on either the State or Commonwealth Electoral Roll to enrol as owner/occupier electors.

Enrolment Forms – Non-Resident Owners and Occupiers Only

Enrolment forms can be obtained from local governments and must be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer by 5.00 pm on Friday, 28 August 2015. Further information can be obtained from the Shire of Halls Creek or the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley.

Rodger Kerr-Newell

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Shire of Halls Creek Telephone: 9168 6007

Carl Askew

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley Telephone: 9168 4100



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Electoral Commission

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINARY ELECTION CALL FOR NOMINATIONS Shire of Halls Creek Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley

An Ordinary Voting In Person Election will be held on Saturday 17 October 2015 to fill the following vacancies:



Halls Creek

District

3 Councillors 4 year term

Wyndham-East Kimberley

District 5 Councillors

4 year term

NOMINATIONS OPEN on Thursday 3 September 2015

NOMINATIONS CLOSE at 4.00 pm on Thursday 10 September 2015

Nominations must be lodged with the relevant Returning Officer:

- at any time during the above period by arrangement; or
- between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm Thursday 10 September 2015 (Close of Nominations)

Shire of Halls Creek – Lot 71 Thomas Street HALLS CREEK WA 6770. Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley – 20 Coolibah Drive KUNUNURRA WA 6743.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates are required to lodge with the relevant Returning Officer:

- a completed nomination in the prescribed form, signed and witnessed. This
 form is available from the Returning Officer, the Western Australian Electoral
 Commission website (www.waec.wa.gov.au) or the respective local government
- a single A4 page profile containing not more than 150 words of information about the candidate
- a nomination deposit of \$80 (cash, bank cheque or postal order)
- a recent passport-sized photograph (optional).

The Commission has developed an online system called Nomination Builder to assist candidates to complete their nomination form which includes the candidate profile. This is the preferred method of completing the nomination form and profile for elections conducted by the Commission. Candidates complete their nomination details and profile, print the completed form which has a reference number allocated and lodge it with the Returning Officer. The nomination builder can be accessed at elections.wa.gov.au

Where an agent lodges a nomination on a candidate's behalf, it must be in the prescribed form with a written authorisation signed by the candidate.

The documents may be hand delivered, posted or faxed to the relevant Returning Officer and must be received by the close of nominations.

INFORMATION

on 13 63 06

Full details about eligibility and nomination procedures for prospective candidates can be obtained by contacting:

RETURNING OFFICER

Shire of Halls Creek Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley

Lynette (Jim) CRAIG Owen DEAS

or the Western Australian Electoral Commission



0427 339 395
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission

9168 8915



LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINARY ELECTION **ELECTION NOTICE**

(Local Government Act 1995, s4.64)

Voting in person elections are being held on Saturday 17 October 2015 to fill the following vacancies:



Shire of Halls Creek District (3 Councillors)

SKEEN. Vincent EDWARDS, Malcolm BEDEORD Trevor CASSON, Siobhan



Shire Of Wyndham-East Kimberley

District (5 Councillors)

LEARBUCH, Don RUSHBY, Simone DESSERT, Raymond B GOULD, Grahame PARKER, Jane TAYLOR, Glenn BOLTO, Emily O'NEILL, Paul MOULDEN, John MORGAN, Maria PERRY, Naomi THOMAS, Annie PETHERICK, Alma

Early voting is available until 4.00 pm Friday 16 October 2015.

EARLY VOTING CENTRES:

Halls Creek

Shire of Halls Creek, Thomas Street, Halls Creek

Wyndham-East Kimberley

Kununurra Shire office – 20 Coolibah Drive, Kununurra Wyndham Shire office - Koolama Street, Wyndham

REMOTE EARLY VOTING CENTRES:

Halls Creek

Kundat Djaru (Ringer Soak) Community - Friday 9 October 2015 - 10.00 am to 12 pm Warmun (Turkey Creek) Community – Friday 9 October 2015 – 10.00 am to 12 pm Warmun (Turkey Creek) Community – Monday 12 October 2015 – 9.00 am to 12 pm Mindibungu (Bililuna) Community – Tuesday 13 October 2015 – 9.00 am to 11.00 am Wirimanu (Balgo) Community – Tuesday 13 October 2015 – 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm Mulan (Lake Gregory) Community – Wednesday 14 October 2015 – 9.00 am to 11.00 am Yiyili Community – Thursday 15 October 2015 – 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

Wyndham-East Kimberley

Kalumburu Community Centre - Wednesday 14 October 2015 - 9.30 am to 3.00 pm.

VOTING DETAILS:

Halls Creek

Vote at the chief polling place on election day between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm.

Wyndham-East Kimberley

Vote at the chief polling place on election day between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm or the other polling place between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm.

CHIEF POLLING PLACES:

Halls Creek

Thomas Street, Halls Creek

Wyndham-East Kimberley Kununurra Shire Office, 20 Coolibah Drive, Kununurra

OTHER POLLING PLACE:

Wyndham Shire Office, Koolama Street, Wyndham 8.00 am - 4.00 pm

THE COUNT OF VOTES will commence at 6.00 pm at the chief polling places listed above

RETURNING OFFICER

Halls Creek Lynnette (Jim) Craig Tel: 9168 8913

Wyndham-East Kimberley Owen Deas Mobile: 0427 339 395



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Electoral Commission





LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINARY ELECTION **RESULTS NOTICE**

The results of the ordinary elections conducted as voting in person elections on Saturday 17 October 2015 are as follows:

Ward	Position	Candidates	Votes	Term of Office
District	3 Councillors	SKEEN, Vincent	291	4 year term
		EDWARDS, Malcolm	302	4 year term
		BEDFORD, Trevor	285	4 year term
		CASSON Sighban	168	

Vincent SKEEN, Malcolm EDWARDS and Trevor BEDFORD are elected as Councillors for the Shire of Halls Creek and will hold office until 19 October 2019

Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley

Ward	Position	Candidates	Votes	Term of Office
District	5 Councillors	LEARBUCH, Don	207	
		RUSHBY, Simone	556	4 year term
		DESSERT, Raymond B	302	
		GOULD, Grahame	119	
		PARKER, Jane	523	4 year term
		TAYLOR, Glenn	284	
		BOLTO, Emily	442	4 year term
		O'NEILL, Paul	402	
		MOULDEN, John	234	
		MORGAN, Maria	330	
		PERRY, Naomi	469	4 year term
		THOMAS, Annie	239	
		PETHERICK, Alma	464	4 year term

Simone RUSHBY, Jane PARKER, Alma PETHERICK, Emily BOLTO and Naomi PERRY are elected as Councillors for the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley and will hold office until 19 October 2019.

RETURNING OFFICER

Halls Creek Wyndham-East Kimberley Lynette (Jim) CRAIG Owen DEAS



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Electoral Commission



Appendix '

Election Result

WYNDHAM-EAST KIMBERLEY

Candidate	Votes		Expiry of term
LEARBUCH, Don	207	(4.53%)	
RUSHBY, Simone	556	(12.16%)	19 October 2019
DESSERT, Raymond B	302	(6.61%)	
GOULD, Grahame	119	(2.60%)	
PARKER, Jane	523	(11.44%)	19 October 2019
TAYLOR, Glenn	284	(6.21%)	
BOLTO, Emily	442	(9.67%)	19 October 2019
O'NEILL, Paul	402	(8.79%)	
MOULDEN, John	234	(5.12%)	
MORGAN, Maria	330	(7.22%)	
PERRY, Naomi	469	(10.26%)	19 October 2019
THOMAS, Annie	239	(5.23%)	
PETHERICK, Alma	464	(10.15%)	19 October 2019
Total Valid Votes	4571		
Informal	4	(0.09%)	
Total Votes Received	4575		



Appendix 4

Elector Participation by Enrolment Category

Electors by Enrolment Category

DISTRICT	Resid	ents	Owners / Oc	Owners / Occupiers	
Wyndham-East Kimberley	3585	99.2%	29	0.8%	3614
Total	3585	99.2%	29	0.8%	3614



Appendix)

Candidacy Statistics

Number of Candidates

Electorate	Number of Candidates
Wyndham-East Kimberley	13
Total	13

Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley Candidate Information

Number of male candidates	6
Number of female candidates	7
Number of male candidates elected	0
Number of female candidates elected	5
Number of sitting members re-elected	0
Number of sitting members not re-elected	4
Average age of candidates	53
Age range of candidates	36 - 71

