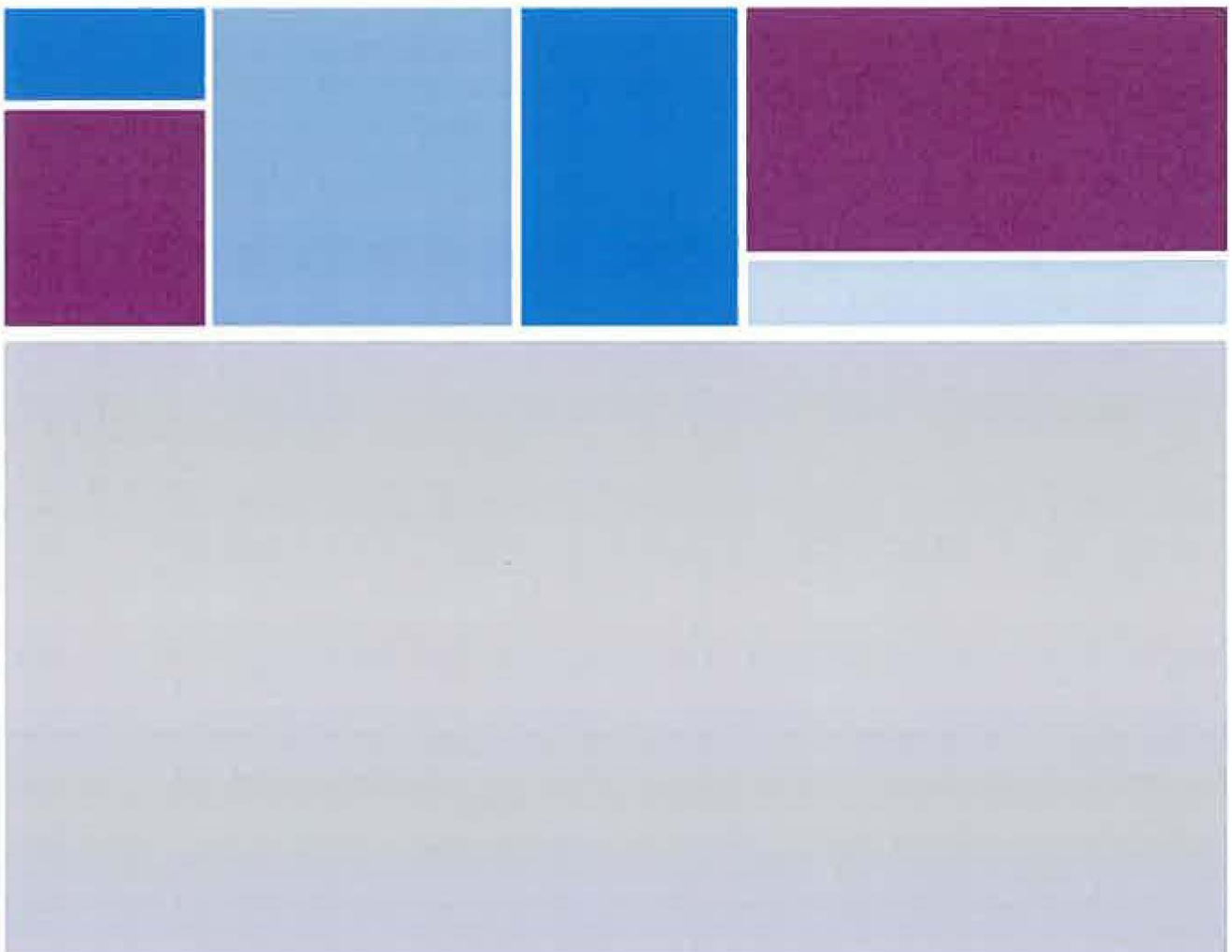


Submission to the Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Arrangements for the postal survey

November 2017



AEC

Australian Electoral Commission

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Overview

The Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey (AMLPS) is being conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) according to the Census and Statistics (Statistical Information) Amendment Direction 2017 under paragraph 9(1)(b) of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) conducted the close of rolls and provided an extract of the electoral roll to the ABS to assist in this process. It has also provided staff resources and advice as required.

Background

In September 2015, the AEC provided a submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee inquiry into the matter of a popular vote, in the form of a plebiscite or referendum, on the matter of marriage in Australia. The submission addressed the legal and constitutional framework for the conduct of a plebiscite or constitutional referendum. It also described the different ways the AEC could conduct a vote. The submission is provided at [Attachment A](#).

AEC's role in the AMLPS

On 9 August 2017 the Treasurer directed the Australian Statistician to request statistical information from all Australians on the Commonwealth Electoral Roll, on whether or not the law should be changed to allow same sex couples to marry. The ABS is undertaking the statistical collection under the authority of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905* to safeguard the secrecy of the data. The voluntary survey will cover all Australians on the electoral roll. A statistical survey avoids the need to engage with the AEC in a fee-for-service arrangement.

On 16 August 2017, the Minister for Finance, acting on behalf of the Treasurer, amended the direction to the Australian Statistician to confirm that Australians 18 years and older on the electoral roll as at 24 August would be included in the survey. People who became eligible for enrolment after 24 August 2017, for example those who turn 18 after 24 August, were not included in the survey.

Australian Electoral Commission staff, including some on secondment to the ABS, assisted the ABS by updating the electoral roll and providing the updated roll to the ABS; dispatching forms to silent electors and Australian Defence Force and Australian Federal Police personnel registered with the AEC as deployed overseas; adapting the AEC's election call centre system to support the survey Information Line; and by assisting in the design of the survey processes.

Marriage Law Survey (Additional Safeguards) Act 2017

The *Marriage Law Survey (Additional Safeguards) Act 2017* (Safeguards Act) provides a range of safeguards to support the conduct of the Australian marriage law postal survey. The measures in the Safeguards Act apply authorisation requirements similar to those that apply in the context of federal elections and referendums. These

arrangements apply to communications of all forms, including paid advertising, social media, bulk text messages and telephony, broadcast matter under the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, and printed material.

The Safeguards Act includes a range of enabling powers and functions of the Electoral Commissioner including:

- providing the Electoral Commissioner with information-gathering powers in relation to the applicable authorisation requirements; and
- enabling the Electoral Commissioner to make rules, by legislative instrument, prescribing certain matters.

As at 2 November 2017, the AEC had received 711 complaints about the survey and alleged breaches relating to authorisation of communications under the Safeguards Act. The AEC received nine privacy complaints about the passing of electoral roll information to the ABS to conduct the survey. This included one complaint investigated by the Privacy Commissioner.

Electoral Act considerations

Provision of the Electoral Roll

The AEC provided the ABS with an extract of the electoral roll under section 90B of the Electoral Act. It was transmitted to the ABS on 28 August 2017.

Participation of 16 and 17-year-olds

The Treasurer amended the Census and Statistics (Statistical Information) Direction 2017 to clarify the statistical information to be published and specifically to define eligibility for participation in the statistical survey as those persons who would be entitled to vote in a federal election if it were held on 24 August 2017. The amendment therefore excluded 16 and 17-year-olds from the statistical survey as they had not attained 18 years of age on 24 August 2017.

Prisoners

Around 5,300 prisoners serving a sentence of three years or more imprisonment are excluded from the AMLPS.

New citizens

Around 3,700 new citizen enrolments were processed during the roll close period.

Deceased electors

Around 11,000 deceased electors were removed from the roll during the roll close period.

Roll Integrity

The AEC conducted targeted integrity checks on all applications received between 8 and 24 August. Automated analysis of more than 910,000 enrolments identified 892 for manual checking and no cases of possible enrolment fraud were identified.

Silent electors and others

Because of the legislative restrictions regarding the release of silent electors' details, the AEC coordinated the production and delivery of survey forms to silent electors and also to Australian Defence Force and Australian Federal Police personnel registered with the AEC as deployed overseas. Survey forms, which did not include a person's name or address, were returned to the ABS through the supplied reply paid envelope. At no time was the ABS aware of the addresses of silent electors.

The AEC also operated a silent elector hotline (separate from the ABS Information Line) to specifically deal with queries from silent electors regarding their enrolment and/or postal address for the purposes of the marriage survey. The hotline operated Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm AEST (and to 6pm AEDT) and when it closed on 20 October 2017 had responded to around 4,600 calls.

Roll enhancement as a result of the AMLPS

More than 16 million Australians are now enrolled and eligible to participate in the AMLPS.

Over 3.3 million people visited the AEC website to check and/or update their enrolment details in the two weeks leading up to the close of rolls compared to an average fortnight of around 90,000 visitors.

Between 8 and 24 August 2017, the AEC processed approximately 933,000 enrolment transactions where electors had updated their enrolment details or been added to the roll. This compares to around 687,000 transactions at the 2016 federal election. Processing of all transactions received by midnight on 24 August 2017 was finalised in the afternoon of 28 August and the roll was provided to ABS on the evening of 28 August 2017.

The majority of enrolment transactions (87 per cent) were enrolment changes or updates. Changes to an existing enrolment and re-enrolments were mostly associated with electors aged 25 to 39 years. A total of 16,005,998 Australians 18 years of age or older were eligible to participate in the AMLPS. More than 98,000 people were added to the roll, of whom 65,000 were electors aged 18 to 24. A breakdown of enhancements to the roll is provided at [**Attachment B**](#).

AEC website/IT support

The AEC is aware of reports on 10 August 2017 of the AEC's online enrolment check facility not being accessible. All aspects of the AEC's website, including the

enrolment check facility and enrolment forms, have been fully operational with no outages. The AEC has thoroughly investigated and has determined that connectivity issues experienced by a small number of people were due to the promotion of an incorrect external website link by a third party unassociated with the AEC. The AEC significantly increased the amount of computing resources hosting the AEC's websites and continues to monitor performance and availability closely.

Working in partnership with the ABS, the AEC engaged with the Australian Signals Directorate, the Australian Federal Police and the Prime Minister's special advisor on cyber security to ensure a cyber response capability was available as a precaution to any inappropriate cyber activity against the AEC during the close of rolls period.

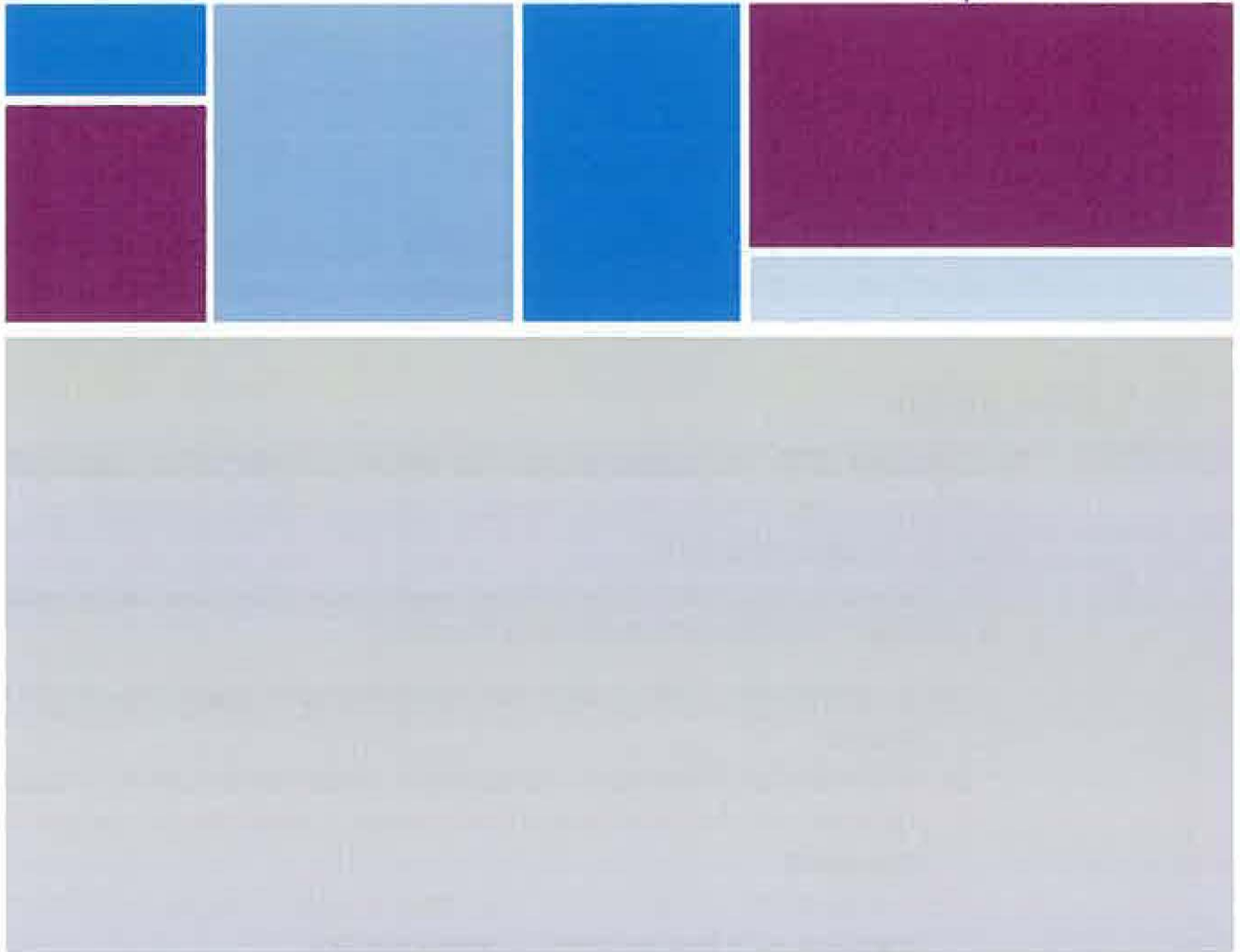
Summary

The AEC will provide all necessary resources, expertise and advice to assist the ABS to conduct a successful statistical survey.

Attachment A

Submission to the inquiry into the matter of a popular vote, in the form of a plebiscite or referendum, on the matter of marriage in Australia

September 2015



AEC

Australian Electoral Commission

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 20 August 2015, the Senate referred the following matter to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee (the Committee) for inquiry and report by 16 September 2015:

The matter of a popular vote, in the form of a plebiscite or referendum, on the matter of marriage in Australia, with particular reference to:

- (a) an assessment of the content and implications of a question to be put to electors;
- (b) an examination of the resources required to enact such an activity, including the question of the contribution of Commonwealth funding to the 'yes' and 'no' campaigns;
- (c) an assessment of the impact of the timing of such an activity, including the opportunity for it to coincide with a general election;
- (d) whether such an activity is an appropriate method to address matters of equality and human rights;
- (e) the terms of the Marriage Equality Plebiscite Bill 2015 currently before the Senate; and
- (f) any other related matters.

- 1.2 The Committee invited the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to provide a submission addressing these terms of reference.

- 1.3 This submission addresses the legal and constitutional framework for the conduct of a plebiscite or constitutional referendum, and responds to the matters listed in parts (b), (c) and (e) of the inquiry's terms of reference.

2. Marriage Equality Plebiscite Bill 2015

- 2.1 The AEC notes the intention of the Marriage Equality Plebiscite Bill 2015 (the Bill) as provided in its Explanatory Memorandum which is to 'hold a national plebiscite on the issue of same-sex marriage to be conducted at the next general election'. The Explanatory Memorandum indicates the plebiscite should be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1984 (Referendum Act).
- 2.2 Clause 8 of the Bill states that the provisions of the Referendum Act would apply 'to the submission of the question ... and the scrutiny of the result of the plebiscite with such modifications as are necessary to allow the submission of the question and scrutiny of the result on the same basis as a referendum under that Act'. As there are a range of specific provisions in the Referendum Act that regulate the conduct of a referendum, it is not clear from the terms of the Bill whether this clause has the legal effect of requiring the operation of all of the necessary Referendum Act requirements.
- 2.3 The Explanatory Memorandum to the Bill states subsection 11(4) of the Referendum Act would apply in relation to the expenditure for presentation of the 'yes' and 'no' cases of the plebiscite, the manner in which these cases would be prepared as set out in ss. 11(1) and (2)) of the Referendum Act is unclear in the context of the plebiscite proposed by the Bill.
- 2.4 Ultimately the Courts may determine whether the effect of clause 8 of the Bill, if enacted in its present form, is sufficiently clear to attract the operation of matters such as the offence provisions contained in Part X of the Referendum Act.
- 2.5 The AEC recommends that any bill proposing a plebiscite should specify which, if any, provisions of the Referendum Act and the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 (the Electoral Act) are to apply.

3. Legislative Framework

- 3.1 It is critical to note that the Australian Constitution itself does not specifically refer to the term 'referendum', despite outlining at s. 128 the mechanism used to alter the Constitution. The term 'referendum' is first defined at s. 3 of the Referendum Act as 'the submission to the electors of a proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution'. To be successful, a constitutional referendum must have a national 'Yes' majority, and a 'Yes' majority in at least four of the

six states in Australia. The last referendum held was in 1999 on the question of Australia becoming a republic.

- 3.2 A plebiscite is not defined in the Australian Constitution, the Electoral Act or the Referendum Act. A plebiscite can also be referred to as a simple national vote and is non-binding. An example of a popular vote held in the form of a plebiscite was the National Song Poll in 1977.
- 3.3 Under s. 7A of the Electoral Act, the AEC can conduct a plebiscite as a fee-for-service election, with the AEC entering into 'an agreement, on behalf of the Commonwealth, for the supply of goods or services to a person or body'. The rules for a plebiscite or fee-for-service election are normally contained in the terms of the agreement between the AEC and the person funding the election. A typical example of a fee-for-service election is an election for office holders in a trade union.
- 3.4 In 2007 the AEC conducted fee-for-service elections in Queensland in the form of plebiscites for the purpose of council amalgamations in Queensland. These plebiscites were conducted using a voluntary postal vote methodology. The conduct of the plebiscites also followed the passage of the *Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Democratic Plebiscites) Act 2007*, which amended s. 7A of the Electoral Act to enable the Commonwealth Electoral Roll to be used for the conduct of a plebiscite.

4. Types of Votes

There are three ways the AEC can conduct a vote.

Stand-alone attendance vote

- 4.1 A stand-alone attendance vote could be undertaken in line with the requirements of the conduct of a referendum if the enabling legislation or fee-for-service agreement outlined the event as such. This could include postal voting.

Combined event vote

- 4.2 A referendum held in conjunction with a federal election is catered for in the provisions of the Referendum Act. The Referendum Act could be amended to include similar processes that would apply to a plebiscite, while excluding those provisions that can only apply to a referendum (for example, appointment of scrutineers).
- 4.3 The AEC has established systems, operational procedures and instructions for counting and scrutinising referendum votes in conjunction with a federal event.

The issuing of votes is conducted as a combined exercise, with voters issued both types of ballot paper consecutively along with appropriate instructions. Separate ballot boxes are provided at each polling place for each type of vote. There are also discrete reporting mechanisms for the results of a referendum, compared with those provided for the election of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

- 4.4 It is relevant to note that there may be an increased risk of informal voting in any scenario where multiple votes are being cast consecutively with different voting systems or requirements.

Stand-alone postal vote

- 4.5 A plebiscite could be undertaken as a stand-alone postal vote, with no 'in-person' voting available to voters (if outlined as such by the enabling legislation or fee-for-service agreement). A stand-alone postal vote is not available for a referendum, as the provision of voting services in a referendum matches the requirements of an electoral event to be conducted under the Electoral Act.

- 4.6 The AEC has previously undertaken a national postal ballot for the election of candidates to the National Constitutional Convention in 1997 under legislation passed specifically for this purpose, *Constitutional Convention (Election) Act 1997*. This ballot was voluntary.

When would the result of the vote be known?

- 4.7 The timing of availability of results would depend on the specific type of event (referendum or plebiscite) conducted and the agreement or legislation prescribing the event.
- 4.8 As a general indication, if the poll was to be conducted according to the general principles of a referendum, the legislative requirement to allow 13 days after polling day for the return of declaration votes (both those taken at and sent from other locations, or postal votes) would necessitate a counting period of at least that amount of time. Further, additional time would be required to scrutinise and admit the votes received up until that date. The current indicative target for the AEC to declare results of a referendum would be no later than four weeks after polling day.
- 4.9 If the poll was conducted as a referendum (or legislated as such) the requirement would be that the writ would need to be returned within 100 days of issue.

5. Operational considerations

5.1 If a referendum were to be conducted under the Referendum Act, the following provisions would apply.

- **Compulsory voting.** Section 245 of the Electoral Act and s. 45 of the Referendum Act outline the requirements for compulsory voting in a federal election or referendum. They also contain the associated offences and actions required of the AEC in administering the investigation of apparent non-voting. It is noted that clause 8 of the Bill proposed refers specifically to s. 45 of the Referendum Act.
- **One vote per person.**
- **Formality rules.** Formality provisions are set out in Part VI of the Referendum Act.
- **Scrutineers.** Section 89 of the Referendum Act states that scrutineers are appointed by the Governor-General, the State Governors, the ACT Chief Minister and the NT Administrator. In contrast, candidates appoint scrutineers at an election.
- **Challenges.** Section 100 of the Referendum Act states that the only persons able to challenge the results of a referendum conducted under the Referendum Act are those persons who are able to appoint scrutineers.
- **The six metre rule.** Section 131 of the Referendum Act provides for the control of behaviour at polling places, including the six metre rule. The Committee should note that the six metre rule does not apply to pre-poll voting centres.
- **Polling offences – enforcement.** Part X of the Referendum Act provides for offences. The mechanism for enforcing offences is the relevant Courts. Courts have previously taken a conservative approach to the interpretation of offence provisions (see the comments of Gibbs J in *Beckwith v R* (1976) 12 ALR 333 at 339). Accordingly, any legislation will need to clearly specify the offences that would apply to the conduct of a plebiscite.
- **Arguments for and against the proposed law.** Section 11 of the Referendum Act provides for the creation of the argument for and against a proposed law. It also outlines the associated funding arrangements.
- **Distribution of the pamphlet containing arguments for and against the proposed law.** Section 11 of the Referendum Act also provides for the distribution of the argument for and against the proposed law in the form of a pamphlet. Attachment A of this submission provides an outline of the key issues and timings associated with the preparation of a pamphlet and development and delivery of a media campaign.

- **Employment of temporary staff.** Under s. 35 of the Electoral Act, the AEC may employ temporary staff to assist in the conduct of the election or referendum.

6. Other Considerations

Broadcast of material and the media blackout

- 6.1 The Parliament may wish to consider whether it intends the requirements for authorisation for broadcast material and the 'media blackout' to apply. Questions relating to the 'media blackout' should be addressed to the Australian Communications and Media Authority.

Scrutiny

- 6.2 Scrutiny timing for a plebiscite or referendum held concurrently with another electoral event would be in line with the current election night and scrutiny timing and requirements stated by the AEC.
- 6.3 After election night, a fresh scrutiny of ordinary referendum ballot papers must be undertaken to check that on election night all ballot papers were correctly allocated. Although not required under the Referendum Act, it is AEC policy to conduct a fresh scrutiny of all declaration vote referendum papers after election night.

7. Estimated costings

- 7.1 For the purpose of estimating cost, it has been assumed that the conduct of a compulsory attendance plebiscite or referendum would operate in a similar manner to that of a general federal election. Further, estimates provided in this submission assume that the proposed event would occur within the next twelve months and that no public funding would be provided to the Yes or No campaigns except in accordance with the instructions outlined in the Explanatory Memorandum to clause 6 of the Bill.
- 7.2 If a plebiscite were to be conducted as if it were a referendum alongside the next general federal election, the additional cost estimated by the AEC is \$44.0 million. The following major items would contribute to the additional cost:
- i. additional temporary staff to manage the throughput of electors in polling places, noting the extra time required for an additional ballot paper (three instead of two) to be issued and completed;
 - ii. additional paper and storage requirements to manage an additional ballot paper;
 - iii. the design, production and delivery to households of a pamphlet containing arguments for and against;

- iv. education and promotion materials to inform electors in regard to the plebiscite.

7.3 If a plebiscite was to be conducted as if it was a referendum and as a stand-alone event, the total cost is estimated at \$158.4 million. Given the assumption that the same coverage of polling places would be required as for a federal election, the savings noted for a stand-alone event are minor. While items iii and iv (above) are noted as additional costs not normally incurred during a general federal election, the requirement for only one ballot paper for a stand-alone event would see fewer temporary staff, paper and storage costs. There would also be some flow-on effects in increased costs associated with procurement of paper. By way of comparison, the 2013 general federal election cost approximately \$139.6 million, excluding public funding.

8. Timetable

- 8.1 Timetables for the conduct of a general federal election and a constitutional referendum are set out in the Constitution, the Electoral Act and the Referendum Act.
- 8.2 Section 128 of the Constitution has one key timeframe. It requires that there must be not less than two and not more than six months between the passage of the proposed law and the referendum question being put to electors. This timeframe allows for the proposed law to be publicised, and gives some certainty in the preparation of the arguments for and against and for the necessary arrangements to be put in place to conduct the referendum.
- 8.3 The AEC would require adequate lead time of to procure materials, and to make any required operational or technical adjustments in preparation for an additional electoral event (be it stand-alone, joint or postal). In terms of the preparation of a referendum advertising campaign, a truncated or minimum timeframe carries certain risks. These include insufficient or no market testing to confirm the objectivity and effectiveness of materials (which in turn could impact formality levels), escalation of costs relating to the development and market testing, and impacts on preparations.

Table 1: The election timetable according to The Constitution and the Electoral Act

The following timeframe contains the key procedural requirements for the conduct of a House of Representatives and a half-Senate election.

	Minimum number of days	Maximum number of days
Expiry or dissolution of Parliament The House of Representatives expires three years after its first meeting but can be dissolved earlier (s. 28 Constitution)		
Election announcement No fixed time		
Issue of writs Writs are issued within 10 days of the expiry of the House of Representatives or within 10 days of the proclamation of dissolution of the House of Representatives or Senate (s. 12, 32 Constitution, s. 151 Electoral Act).	0	10
Close of rolls Rolls close at 8pm, seven days after the issue of writs (s. 155 Electoral Act).	7	17
Close of nominations Nominations close at 12 noon, between 10 and 27 days after the issue of writs (s. 156 Electoral Act).	10	37
Polling day Polling day is fixed between 23 and 31 days after the date of nominations (s. 157 Electoral Act).	33	68
Return of writs The maximum time for the return of writs is no more than 100 days after the issue of writs (s. 159 Electoral Act).		110

Note: If a referendum was run with a general election there are some variations to the timetable that arise from the operation of s. 128 of the Constitution.

Preparation of a communication campaign and yes/no pamphlet to support a referendum in conjunction with the next federal election

Pamphlet

Key points/issues

- The pamphlet containing arguments for and against the proposal is a complex and expensive product managed by the AEC requiring several months of planning ahead of a referendum period.
- The requirements of the pamphlet containing the arguments for and against the proposal are set out in s. 11 of the Referendum Act and include:
 - strict legislative timeframes and requirements in relation to content, printing and delivery;
 - enough time to adequately market test the pamphlet design, and develop clear guidelines for the Yes/No committees providing pamphlet content, in order to ensure a balanced and neutral presentation of the cases;
 - printing and delivery of over 10 million copies to all households – requires more time than is allowed in a minimum election/referendum timetable scenario; and
 - the pamphlet to be provided in accessible formats including translations.
- Content for the pamphlet must be provided to the AEC. In a referendum this is presented to the AEC by groups, formed by the Senators and Members, who voted for or against the legislation in Parliament.
- Section 11 of the Referendum Act requires that the referendum pamphlet be delivered to each address on the electoral roll. A household mailing will not cover all addresses – special measures are required to reach all, which means advance notice is required to allow time for consultation between Australia Post and the Australian Electoral Commission to match address data from both organisations
- Timing, costing and resourcing would change depending on length of the pamphlet.

- With a large pamphlet, there is unlikely to be adequate paper stock in Australia to complete this mail out. Special orders of paper and plastic are required, including a minimum four week lead time for milling of paper.

Tasks

- Development and market testing of pamphlet template – 8 weeks
- Development of Guidelines for MPs and Senators – 4 weeks
- Waiting period between passage of legislation and delivery of cases to the AEC - 4 weeks
- Further design and layout – 1 week
- Feedback and clearances – 1 week
- Further market testing, as required – 3 weeks
- Feedback and finalisation of design and content – 2 weeks
- Printing and delivery (occurring concurrently) – 6 weeks minimum

Total time required: 29 weeks

Communication campaign

Key points/issues

- Developmental research is critical to inform the development of the AEC's communication strategy, and to inform the development of a new advertising campaign for a combined event. The market research would help to inform the scope, channels, timing and suitable budget of the campaign.
- Based on the developmental research, there could be a need for communication to start well ahead of the voting period. This could include advertising, direct mail or other activities.
- The AEC's advertising campaign must cater for special audience groups, in line with the whole-of-government advertising guidelines. While the AEC is exempt from the guidelines, the agency has committed to adhering to the principles of the guidelines. This includes the requirement for the Electoral Commissioner to certify the campaign meets the principles.

Timings

- Previous advice has indicated planning for a new campaign for use at the (predicted) 2016 federal election needed to start by April 2015 to be ready for an election called on or after 1 July 2016.
- A campaign could be developed in the remaining ten months. Risks and costs would increase with a contracted timeframe.

Attachment B

Table 1: Marriage law survey close of rolls statistics by age group

Ages	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
18	62,752	44,347	35,165	18,858	12,004	4,196	3,819	935	182,076	1.1%
19	79,613	57,745	47,711	23,692	16,380	5,120	4,851	1698	236,810	1.5%
20-24	408,365	326,771	260,545	127,549	90,188	27,601	25,711	11723	1,278,453	8.0%
25-29	410,911	339,340	259,312	134,183	90,420	26,473	27,507	15504	1,303,650	8.1%
30-34	428,674	353,358	262,370	143,925	93,034	26,731	29,269	16270	1,353,631	8.5%
35-39	432,627	346,427	259,643	138,474	89,685	26,785	28,470	14644	1,336,755	8.4%
40-44	439,743	346,308	270,679	136,978	92,818	28,370	26,555	13795	1,355,246	8.5%
45-49	459,071	368,494	286,240	148,108	104,120	32,920	26,329	14159	1,439,441	9.0%
50-54	437,675	342,597	269,019	139,604	102,613	32,591	23,340	12861	1,360,300	8.5%
55-59	447,132	340,263	270,721	137,249	106,482	36,280	22,414	11633	1,372,174	8.6%
60-64	403,422	306,757	243,543	124,294	98,273	34,059	19,013	9317	1,238,678	7.7%
65-69	365,802	277,417	225,734	111,209	91,848	32,031	17,290	6769	1,128,100	7.0%
70+	811,879	611,530	460,121	222,861	205,695	66,272	33,538	8788	2,420,684	15.1%
TOTAL	5,187,666	4,061,354	3,150,803	1,606,984	1,193,560	379,429	288,106	138,096	16,005,998	100.0%

Note: The difference between the 16,011,891 currently on the roll and the 16,005,998 eligible for the Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey comprises prisoners who are on the roll but serving a sentence of 3 years or more and are therefore excluded from the survey.

Table 2: Federal Electoral Roll – Status as at 24 August 2017 - 18 years old and above

Date	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total	National growth from previous day
07-Aug-17	5,167,919	4,033,108	3,131,219	1,600,666	1,187,771	376,890	285,134	137,863	15,920,570	
08-Aug-17 (announcement date)	5,168,112	4,032,921	3,131,100	1,600,825	1,187,789	376,909	285,150	137,828	15,920,634	64
09-Aug-17	5,168,397	4,033,077	3,131,239	1,600,976	1,187,864	376,926	285,243	137,831	15,921,553	919
10-Aug-17	5,169,428	4,034,165	3,132,348	1,601,053	1,187,908	377,089	285,408	137,851	15,925,250	3,697
13-Aug-17	5,170,883	4,036,224	3,133,734	1,601,272	1,188,056	377,343	285,636	137,863	15,931,011	5,761
14-Aug-17	5,171,982	4,038,753	3,134,896	1,601,865	1,188,834	377,542	285,732	137,956	15,937,560	6,549
15-Aug-17	5,173,279	4,041,277	3,136,497	1,602,441	1,189,387	377,734	286,164	138,000	15,944,779	7,219
16-Aug-17	5,174,251	4,042,911	3,137,773	1,603,047	1,189,795	377,847	286,321	137,962	15,949,907	5,128
17-Aug-17	5,174,970	4,043,982	3,138,556	1,603,316	1,190,253	377,968	286,536	137,933	15,953,514	3,607
18-Aug-17	5,175,563	4,045,435	3,139,216	1,603,764	1,190,556	378,141	286,697	137,916	15,957,288	3,774

21-Aug-17	5,177,797	4,048,314	3,141,013	1,604,241	1,191,115	378,360	287,126	137,916	15,965,882	8,594
22-Aug-17	5,179,394	4,051,734	3,143,042	1,605,303	1,191,769	378,674	287,306	137,957	15,975,179	9,297
23-Aug-17	5,182,289	4,055,321	3,145,519	1,606,003	1,192,500	379,014	287,664	138,024	15,986,334	11,155
24-Aug-17	5,189,479	4,062,269	3,151,992	1,607,821	1,194,403	379,507	288,195	138,225	16,011,891	25,557

Note: The difference between the 16,011,891 currently on the roll and the 16,005,998 eligible for the Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey comprises prisoners who are on the roll but a serving a sentence of 3 years or more and are therefore excluded from the survey.

Table 3: Enrolment Activity by Transaction Type

Date	Enrolment changes	New enrolments	Reenrolments	Reinstatements	Total
08-Aug-17 (announcement date)	6,520	773	125	0	7,418
09-Aug-17	13,016	1,545	247	10	14,818
10-Aug-17	37,959	3,510	661	1	42,131
11-Aug-17	56,896	5,273	931	2	63,102
12-Aug-17	13,252	44	20	0	13,316
13-Aug-17	11,519	0	0	0	11,519
14-Aug-17	46,232	8,784	1,412	7	56,435
15-Aug-17	49,125	8,115	1,664	15	58,919
16-Aug-17	49,208	5,602	1,159	3	55,972
17-Aug-17	37,004	3,579	889	4	41,476
18-Aug-17	38,934	4,366	1,143	3	44,446
19-Aug-17	12,214	36	19	0	12,269
20-Aug-17	12,117	73	15	0	12,205
21-Aug-17	53,036	7,985	1,897	20	62,938
22-Aug-17	70,207	8,312	2,383	13	80,915

23-Aug-17	89,564	9,741	2,769	8	102,082
24-Aug-17	218,253	27,366	7,964	48	253,631
8-24 Aug Total	815,056	95,104	23,298	134	933,592

Note: 'Enrolment changes' include electors who are currently enrolled and who have updated their details on the roll; 'New enrolments' are people who are new to the roll; 'Reenrolments' are those people who had been deleted from the roll and who have now submitted a new enrolment form and 'Reinstatements' are those people who had been removed from the roll in error and have now been reinstated back to their previous enrolled address.

Table 4: Additions to the Roll by State, Division, Age and Gender - for those aged 18 and over on 24 August 2017

Note: a number of the 18 year old additions to the roll were 17 at enrolment but turned 18 on or before 24 August 2017.

NSW		Age												Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Banks	179	18	39	29	24	17	22	6	5	3	4	1	0	347	210	137	0	347
Barton	148	13	31	48	69	37	21	13	12	5	7	6	6	416	225	190	1	416
Bennelong	195	27	43	50	74	49	31	21	19	13	11	5	1	539	261	278	0	539
Berowra	269	20	63	51	36	24	20	19	8	11	5	5	1	532	289	242	1	532
Blaxland	108	15	41	44	36	22	26	8	5	4	7	3	4	323	153	170	0	323
Bradfield	291	22	57	54	55	46	42	45	37	23	13	9	4	698	381	317	0	698
Calare	269	21	28	15	25	12	10	16	10	5	4	1	1	417	226	191	0	417
Chifley	192	18	31	31	36	28	10	7	6	2	4	1	3	369	210	158	1	369
Cook	181	16	42	51	45	23	20	17	8	6	5	1	1	416	240	175	1	416
Cowper	230	8	34	31	26	15	23	12	7	10	9	6	4	415	246	169	0	415
Cunningham	260	27	60	51	40	29	15	18	12	6	1	3	1	523	298	224	1	523
Dobell	254	24	39	30	20	22	17	14	13	10	7	3	3	456	269	187	0	456
Eden-Monaro	341	39	53	30	30	21	13	10	17	14	10	0	3	581	328	249	4	581
Farrer	393	44	78	35	17	14	12	12	4	6	13	4	3	635	383	252	0	635

NSW	Age													Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Fowler	133	5	38	31	30	8	13	9	9	7	5	5	4	297	173	123	1	297
Gilmore	279	24	35	27	26	22	17	16	5	5	6	7	1	470	305	164	1	470
Grayndler	177	19	79	109	101	104	60	38	28	8	6	5	3	737	388	348	1	737
Greenway	220	12	28	33	34	26	16	14	10	2	2	2	3	402	218	183	1	402
Hughes	234	10	38	35	33	24	16	14	11	5	4	3	0	427	238	188	1	427
Hume	250	16	30	24	24	19	3	12	9	2	1	1	2	393	242	151	0	393
Hunter	225	17	24	35	19	17	16	11	9	6	0	1	2	382	221	160	1	382
Kingsford Smith	182	32	80	63	66	51	25	20	15	9	5	1	9	558	327	231	0	558
Lindsay	224	26	41	23	31	30	19	10	9	7	6	2	0	428	245	182	1	428
Lyne	204	14	40	19	21	14	9	9	7	7	4	3	6	357	199	158	0	357
Macarthur	218	10	32	29	18	11	8	7	4	4	2	2	1	346	207	139	0	346
Mackellar	293	26	55	46	60	42	35	18	16	13	12	5	5	626	362	264	0	626
Macquarie	271	21	34	35	19	18	15	10	6	8	6	2	3	448	263	185	0	448
McMahon	162	8	37	37	35	23	15	11	7	3	8	2	2	350	193	157	0	350
Mitchell	229	16	41	32	31	25	13	8	10	8	5	3	4	425	243	182	0	425
New England	239	19	24	19	25	13	13	7	5	4	2	2	6	378	235	141	2	378
Newcastle	271	22	71	50	43	27	12	9	8	3	6	1	2	525	308	217	0	525

NSW		Age												Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
North Sydney	235	16	51	87	107	81	63	51	31	18	10	8	4	762	428	333	1	762
Page	279	16	25	22	23	11	13	9	15	9	6	8	2	438	257	180	1	438
Parkes	203	19	24	25	19	9	6	5	6	3	0	4	2	325	204	121	0	325
Parramatta	154	10	43	42	54	47	16	21	9	6	4	7	6	419	224	194	1	419
Paterson	250	14	37	31	19	20	22	12	13	4	4	2	0	428	272	156	0	428
Reid	190	19	34	47	65	51	18	17	15	16	10	3	0	485	252	232	1	485
Richmond	288	38	79	60	68	47	33	15	16	16	7	10	8	685	424	259	2	685
Riverina	252	21	27	17	12	14	14	11	6	4	2	2	3	385	228	157	0	385
Robertson	229	27	48	50	41	38	21	22	25	7	8	5	2	523	282	240	1	523
Shortland	193	17	31	29	17	25	14	6	8	4	1	3	1	349	218	131	0	349
Sydney	126	46	113	217	228	149	91	71	39	23	22	12	3	1,140	609	531	0	1,140
Warringah	269	27	52	85	97	70	58	36	26	12	13	8	4	757	434	323	0	757
Watson	160	11	36	28	45	43	35	14	11	1	6	5	5	400	220	180	0	400
Wentworth	199	27	70	132	136	116	67	53	32	16	9	5	4	866	495	371	0	866
Werriva	155	15	31	24	13	22	9	11	4	6	5	2	6	303	174	129	0	303
Whitlam	260	24	34	21	24	16	12	7	5	8	6	3	3	423	246	176	1	423
Total	10,563	956	2,101	2,114	2,117	1,592	1,079	802	592	372	293	182	141	22,904	13,053	9825	26	22,904

VIC		Age												Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Aston	366	70	66	53	36	39	15	17	9	11	3	2	3	690	379	310	1	690
Ballarat	404	47	64	39	47	21	25	14	12	7	9	2	1	692	400	291	1	692
Batman	338	48	111	121	80	83	59	31	10	7	3	4	0	895	495	394	6	895
Bendigo	450	57	51	37	31	29	26	11	9	4	4	2	1	712	408	304	0	712
Bruce	216	27	37	49	33	28	15	14	7	4	2	0	1	433	243	190	0	433
Calwell	271	46	62	41	22	11	12	4	6	3	2	1	2	483	304	179	0	483
Casey	420	77	77	45	30	19	18	13	5	3	6	4	0	717	411	303	3	717
Chisholm	385	70	77	30	36	15	22	19	10	7	2	1	2	676	362	313	1	676
Corangamite	424	59	74	53	41	37	21	22	23	11	9	4	2	780	451	327	2	780
Corio	362	61	76	48	54	24	14	8	3	7	4	6	1	668	372	290	6	668
Deakin	397	46	40	33	32	24	13	6	11	6	6	0	2	616	359	256	1	616
Dunkley	396	62	93	54	38	34	20	24	13	8	1	1	1	745	435	309	1	745
Flinders	344	80	73	41	41	36	24	22	14	12	9	3	6	705	428	276	1	705
Gellibrand	289	61	86	80	79	59	35	27	16	14	4	1	5	756	434	321	1	756
Gippsland	280	42	80	28	26	20	9	11	7	5	4	1	3	516	320	196	0	516
Goldstein	483	64	90	61	65	43	50	42	26	14	5	7	3	953	524	428	1	953
Gorton	340	53	94	64	77	39	21	15	14	8	1	5	10	741	461	278	2	741
Higgins	365	64	110	130	126	70	49	35	24	17	8	1	5	1,004	564	439	1	1,004
Holt	336	54	74	54	54	29	19	12	12	7	6	1	0	658	389	269	0	658

VIC	Age													Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Hotham	289	51	54	45	32	23	9	15	7	5	2	1	2	535	317	218	0	535
Indi	327	40	48	40	24	17	21	14	13	5	5	4	1	559	340	217	2	559
Isaacs	344	59	87	53	53	27	26	15	10	7	4	3	5	693	400	292	1	693
Jagajaga	398	54	79	57	33	35	16	10	8	12	2	1	1	706	395	310	1	706
Kooyong	444	70	93	78	71	41	30	36	9	8	7	5	1	893	509	383	1	893
La Trobe	500	88	88	50	42	32	24	24	21	7	3	5	3	887	498	388	1	887
Lalor	404	58	90	46	43	33	22	8	8	8	5	2	4	731	435	296	0	731
Mallee	350	44	44	25	26	16	9	5	4	6	3	3	1	536	335	199	2	536
Maribymong	282	54	79	59	47	32	15	11	11	4	4	3	3	604	372	231	1	604
McEwen	548	74	94	49	51	33	30	25	10	12	1	5	0	932	555	375	2	932
McMillan	381	68	78	38	34	25	19	11	8	10	1	5	2	680	387	292	1	680
Melbourne	297	89	209	290	287	139	62	53	27	11	15	7	1	1,487	800	680	7	1,487
Melbourne Ports	236	45	141	174	170	119	87	44	41	19	7	5	4	1,092	580	510	2	1,092
Menzies	378	51	65	25	24	19	15	11	8	7	4	1	2	610	366	244	0	610
Murray	334	37	56	32	24	14	11	7	3	5	5	4	0	532	305	225	2	532
Scullin	306	51	56	48	46	38	24	13	8	5	2	1	1	599	376	223	0	599
Wannon	291	34	48	23	27	7	5	10	5	11	7	4	1	473	273	199	1	473
Wills	276	55	152	137	139	92	41	33	12	12	7	6	1	963	521	438	4	963

VIC		Age												Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Total	13,251	2,110	2,996	2,330	2,121	1,402	933	692	444	309	172	111	81	26,952	15,503	11,393	56	26,952

QLD	Age													Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Blair	362	74	115	91	69	39	24	18	14	15	2	2	2	827	470	357	0	827
Bonner	455	68	108	61	50	26	31	21	16	10	4	2	5	857	502	354	1	857
Bowman	405	62	108	59	47	30	24	20	13	13	11	4	3	799	485	314	0	799
Brisbane	436	118	195	184	152	68	57	26	23	21	16	5	4	1,305	730	574	1	1,305
Capricornia	320	66	80	46	29	15	7	14	9	7	2	2	3	600	343	257	0	600
Dawson	261	62	85	55	40	34	22	18	5	7	2	5	4	600	376	223	1	600
Dickson	482	84	96	63	49	31	37	27	7	12	6	2	1	897	523	374	0	897
Fadden	344	60	124	79	63	38	31	28	13	14	11	5	9	819	494	324	1	819
Fairfax	358	79	124	81	69	35	40	27	27	19	17	4	2	882	542	339	1	882
Fisher	332	74	95	57	57	36	27	27	13	12	7	9	3	749	458	290	1	749
Flynn	275	43	67	39	31	25	14	11	7	13	4	4	4	537	327	210	0	537
Forde	363	58	114	66	51	36	23	18	16	11	3	2	2	763	471	288	4	763
Griffith	456	111	182	153	124	83	49	20	21	10	5	2	1	1,217	700	515	2	1,217
Groom	378	64	74	46	37	13	16	11	10	6	3	6	3	667	353	314	0	667

QLD	Age													Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Herbert	399	74	108	59	59	44	31	15	11	8	7	2	2	819	495	324	0	819
Hinkler	218	27	51	34	17	12	11	12	8	8	5	5	6	414	254	160	0	414
Kennedy	198	47	94	35	30	19	11	25	9	9	9	6	3	495	320	174	1	495
Leichhardt	252	55	101	67	54	37	25	24	20	18	12	7	10	682	410	272	0	682
Lilley	414	77	125	84	67	38	22	22	18	7	3	4	1	882	528	354	0	882
Longman	420	91	112	60	38	34	28	17	14	2	5	5	7	833	546	287	0	833
Maranoa	231	31	51	35	28	18	14	19	8	9	1	5	1	451	269	182	0	451
McPherson	344	84	137	110	82	46	32	27	15	21	9	5	1	913	570	343	0	913
Moncrieff	296	96	147	113	61	51	37	29	18	18	13	6	14	899	557	341	1	899
Moreton	377	65	106	70	61	57	33	15	17	9	7	1	11	829	479	348	2	829
Oxley	351	67	86	70	55	43	30	22	12	15	6	2	6	765	431	333	1	765
Petrie	370	69	103	62	70	47	38	22	14	3	6	4	4	812	508	303	1	812
Rankin	332	73	96	46	48	29	16	18	5	8	4	0	1	676	397	279	0	676
Ryan	643	138	140	89	68	59	36	31	21	12	5	5	2	1,249	700	547	2	1,249
Wide Bay	239	50	66	45	33	33	28	24	11	8	8	7	3	555	344	211	0	555
Wright	416	78	101	57	47	37	31	25	20	12	8	2	1	835	507	327	1	835
Total	10,727	2,145	3,191	2,116	1,686	1,113	825	633	415	337	201	120	119	23,628	14,089	9,518	21	23,628

WA	Age													Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Brand	250	39	107	74	49	41	19	20	7	7	4	1	2	620	387	233	0	620
Burt	266	32	112	43	40	24	23	12	6	11	4	0	5	578	328	249	1	578
Canning	209	44	82	48	43	37	37	25	22	5	10	3	6	571	358	213	0	571
Cowan	294	38	86	43	39	29	10	15	7	6	6	2	0	575	326	249	0	575
Curtin	371	39	134	83	66	43	39	36	19	19	5	4	4	862	494	368	0	862
Durack	185	42	82	72	47	34	24	16	13	7	6	1	2	531	346	185	0	531
Forrest	263	35	83	52	42	39	25	25	12	13	6	2	2	599	380	218	1	599
Fremantle	281	44	118	72	69	37	24	24	16	6	4	3	1	699	419	280	0	699
Hasluck	271	48	95	43	37	23	27	27	10	6	5	3	1	596	333	262	1	596
Moore	320	46	113	47	42	29	28	24	14	10	8	4	4	689	411	278	0	689
O'Connor	256	39	71	31	40	21	15	10	5	14	3	3	2	510	305	205	0	510
Pearce	308	53	119	62	56	49	29	30	20	13	2	5	5	751	448	302	1	751
Perth	228	27	107	99	113	82	40	25	16	10	10	2	1	760	440	319	1	760
Stirling	201	18	82	60	55	29	18	18	4	6	6	2	3	502	282	219	1	502
Swan	249	40	130	99	51	36	29	23	8	15	7	4	3	694	398	295	1	694
Tangney	304	38	89	45	41	27	24	20	9	9	6	5	3	620	364	256	0	620
Total	4,256	622	1,610	973	830	580	411	350	188	157	92	44	44	10,157	6,019	4,131	7	10,157

SA		Age												Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Adelaide	389	65	106	69	54	42	37	19	20	10	6	5	4	826	490	335	1	826
Barker	475	82	107	33	25	20	16	15	6	6	5	3	1	794	493	300	1	794
Boothby	464	76	108	56	30	33	23	17	12	8	7	3	4	841	489	351	1	841
Grey	308	61	69	39	32	20	10	9	8	5	4	0	1	566	338	228	0	566
Hindmarsh	363	58	98	49	51	25	25	18	11	9	3	5	0	715	438	276	1	715
Kingston	436	65	104	54	45	38	21	16	10	2	3	2	1	797	502	293	2	797
Makin	379	67	115	62	35	35	20	11	5	6	2	1	2	740	434	304	2	740
Mayo	603	114	137	47	43	22	25	16	9	16	7	3	6	1048	602	444	2	1048
Port Adelaide	401	65	112	66	55	29	21	22	12	9	5	5	1	803	488	313	2	803
Sturt	389	54	81	39	50	26	18	17	9	6	4	6	6	705	417	287	1	705
Wakefield	504	104	136	71	53	27	24	12	13	5	3	1	2	955	610	345	0	955
Total	4,711	811	1,173	585	473	317	240	172	115	82	49	34	28	8,790	5,301	3,476	13	8,790

TAS		Age												Gender				
Division	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Bass	297	31	48	31	27	12	8	11	9	7	6	3	3	493	257	236	0	493
Braddon	238	32	41	7	10	12	5	4	5	5	3	1	2	365	218	146	1	365
Denison	374	64	72	69	48	34	19	15	10	6	6	5	1	723	388	332	3	723

Australian Electoral Commission

Franklin	301	52	55	42	41	23	21	14	18	5	5	1	0	578	326	249	3	578
Lyons	295	39	35	33	17	21	11	10	5	9	7	4	3	489	289	200	0	489
Total	1,505	218	251	182	143	102	64	54	47	32	27	14	9	2,648	1,478	1,163	7	2,648

ACT																		
Division	Age													Gender				
	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Canberra	641	66	127	76	64	42	37	32	22	16	9	4	2	1138	602	535	1	1138
Fenner	508	40	123	87	71	62	40	20	24	6	8	3	1	993	521	470	2	993
Total	1,149	106	250	163	135	104	77	52	46	22	17	7	3	2,131	1,123	1,005	3	2,131

NT																		
Division	Age													Gender				
	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
Lingiari	148	35	88	61	42	31	13	14	13	7	6	3	3	464	280	184	0	464
Solomon	202	36	63	71	65	25	19	10	16	6	3	2	1	519	306	212	1	519
Total	350	71	151	132	107	56	32	24	29	13	9	5	4	983	586	396	1	983

National																		
Division	Age													Gender				
	18	19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70+	Total	F	M	Ind.	Total
All Divisions	46,512	7,039	11,723	8,595	7,612	5,266	3,661	2,779	1,876	1,324	860	517	429	98,193	57,152	40,907	134	98,193