

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2013-2014

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Pre-poll Voting Centre Locations

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F65

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 62, 30 May 2013

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 12 July 2013

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator Ryan asked: “How are you determining whether, say, Higgins gets three and Kooyong gets two? They may have, say, transport routes in common, and you might be able to put one for two there. How are we determining how many pre-poll locations there will be?”

Answer:

Pre-poll voting centres (PPVCs) are established to allow voters who will not be able to attend a polling place in their home state or territory on the day of the election, to cast their vote in advance of election day.

Pre-poll voting facilities must be provided at all divisional offices. In addition it is AEC policy that each division will offer pre-poll voting services at a PPVC established in at least one other site within the Division.

The primary criterion for establishing a PPVC is whether there are sufficient eligible voters to justify its establishment. Accordingly, PPVCs are commonly established in tourist areas, at airports and larger population centres. PPVCs may also be established to meet a temporary need such as a major sporting event at which large numbers of interstate visitors are anticipated.

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) is planning for the appointment of polling places and pre-poll voting centres across all electoral divisions for the 2013 federal election. Provisional lists have been placed on the AEC’s website as downloadable .csv files. The lists will be updated after 1 July and 1 August. After the writs for the election are issued, confirmed details will be updated daily.