

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Higgins to the Chief Minister:

Annual Report – NT Electoral Commission

1. How could the Commission have improved voter enrolment and participation in remote areas in NT elections conducted and what are the future plans?
2. The average turnout in the seven remote divisions in the 2016 election was 59.2% representing a 2.8% decrease from the 2012 Territory election. Reasons for the decrease in turnout include:
 - voter fatigue or confusion due to the federal election taking place eight weeks prior to the Territory election
 - elector apathy or disengagement
 - a decline in the quality of the electoral rollWhat measures will the Commission be putting in place to better support people of voting age in remote areas of the Territory to both enrol and vote?
3. Please provide the details of the remote voter engagement program being developed with the AEC.
4. The election report was tabled in May 2017 and there were 24 recommendations listed in the report. Please advise the status of each of the recommendations.
5. What feedback was received from stakeholders post- election and what new performance measures have been put in place as a result? Please advise the specific KPIs.
6. Will those voters who are enrolled but did not vote be fined? Please explain the reasons for your answer.
7. In relation to the conduct of the 2017 Local Government elections please advise on the success or otherwise of the following:
 - Early voting centres established in major centres
 - Website developed and enhancements made to the virtual tally room
 - A call centre operating from the Darwin office