



## LETTER TO the Minister

Hon. J A McGinty B.A., B Juris. (Hons), L.L.B., JP MLA  
Attorney General  
Minister for Electoral Affairs  
4th floor, London House  
216 St Georges Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 62 of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*, I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Western Australian Electoral Commission for the year ended 30 June 2006.

The Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985*.

Yours sincerely

Warwick Gately AM

**ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER**

31 August 2006



## TABLE OF Contents

Letter to the Minister	i
Electoral Commissioner's Overview	2
Tribute to Lyn Auld	4
Our Aim, Our Purpose and Our Principles	5
The Western Australian Electoral Commission at a Glance	5
Organisational Structure	6
Statement of Compliance	7
Management of Parliamentary Elections	8
Management of Non-parliamentary Elections	11
Management of Electoral Information	15
2007 Electoral Distribution	21
Management of the Electoral Roll	22
Corporate Governance	32
Business Services	37
Information Technology	39
Financial Statements and Performance Indicators	41
<b>Appendices</b>	
Appendix 1 - Non-parliamentary Election Statistics	74
Appendix 2 - Enrolment Statistics	77
Appendix 3 - Enrolment Products for Other Organisations	78
Appendix 4 - Publications	82
Western Australian Electoral Commission Contacts	83

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Continuous improvement in operations has been at the forefront of Commission business this past year. Evaluation of the 2005 State general election was completed and the Victoria Park by-election provided an opportunity to test new initiatives.

A number of local government elections took place, including the election for the whole of council replacement for the City of Joondalup. Each of these provided the opportunity to trial improvements in services. Significantly, on finalising accounts, the Commission achieved a cost reduction of 25% in the biennial local government postal elections through process improvements and competitive tendering, with these savings passed directly to local government clients. Continuous activity in non-parliamentary elections has also provided improvement opportunities.

The resignation of Dr Geoff Gallop as Premier of Western Australia and member for the district of Victoria Park necessitated a by-election in March 2006. A large field of 11 candidates contested the by-election which, despite significant advertising, attracted a turnout of only 64% of eligible electors. While by-elections historically attract a lower turnout, an extensive survey commissioned after the by-election indicated a disinclination to voting in a perceived safe seat and a lack of understanding of the compulsory nature of voting in a by-election. The survey results will be considered in future advertising and education campaigns.

Local government election activity was continuous throughout the reporting year. The Commission conducted 12 extraordinary elections involving over 45,000 electors. In May 2006, a full council and mayoral postal election was conducted for the City of Joondalup following the appointment of Commissioners in December 2003. The mayoral election attracted a record field of 11 candidates. Voter participation across six wards averaged 27%, reflecting a level of participation similar to that in previous local government elections.

The Commission also responded to the Local Government Advisory Board's review of structural and electoral reform, in which all aspects of the present voting arrangements for local government were considered. As an outcome, recommendations generally supported the current system. Importantly, one proposal was to examine whether other statutory authorities should be included in conducting local government elections in the State. These recommendations have yet to be considered by government.

The provision of election services in the non-parliamentary, union and fee for service sector continued to expand, requiring additional staff to meet the growing demand. This year the Commission conducted 37 elections, including those for six new clients. Once again, the Commission's reputation for efficiency and impartiality were major factors in the decision to purchase these services.

The Commission restructure that commenced in 2003 was tested thoroughly during the 2005 State general election and local government elections, requiring only fine tuning during the course of this financial year. Minor adjustments to the structure, job descriptions and in some cases position levels were made, leaving the Commission well placed to respond efficiently to any demand placed upon its resources.

Strategic planning workshops involving all Commission staff were held early in the financial year confirming future directions to 2009 and refining strategies to achieve agreed objectives. The staff contribution to this process was invaluable and the Commission's expectations and priorities for the future are well understood at all levels. Importantly, Quality Certification of the management of the electoral roll processes was achieved in compliance with the ISO 9001:2000 standard.



As an exciting and innovative development for the future, the Commission secured funding from the Office of e-Government to progress a 'Proof of Concept' for electronic voting over the Internet. With the support of a client organisation with a diverse membership, it is intended to include an Internet voting option for these electors in their annual election at the end of 2006. Such a system has great potential to service the remote and isolated parts of Western Australia, and our State's highly mobile population.

Information technology continues to support all Commission activities. The Elections Management System WA (EMSWA) continued to undergo development with the addition of the local government module and State general election results module. The Electoral Roll Maintenance System (ERMS) was provisionally upgraded, while plans to develop a replacement system are now at an advanced stage. The Commission's new web site is due to be launched early in the new financial year, and while public access to electoral information and data will be greatly improved, the time taken to conclude this project has revealed the need for more robust contractual arrangements in the future.

The Joint Roll Arrangement (JRA) with the Commonwealth (Australian Electoral Commission) was signed by the Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Governor of Western Australia in October 2005 following a long period of negotiation. While the arrangement offers significant convenience to electors in the State, increasing costs imposed by the Commonwealth in sharing data will require careful monitoring in the future, particularly with regard to the achievement of performance measures.

In April 2005, the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determined that the position of Electoral Commissioner should be reclassified downwards one level. This was unexpected considering the important statutory role of the Electoral Commissioner, the increased frequency of electoral boundary distributions and the expanding involvement in fee for service elections. A review of this decision will be sought in 2007.

In the second part of the financial year, preparations commenced for the redrawing of the State's electoral boundaries that will begin in early 2007. Efforts so far have centred on examining data storage and manipulation requirements, as well as assembling hardware and mapping support tools. The Electoral Distribution Commissioners, made up of the Electoral Commissioner, the Chief Justice (as Chairman) and the Government Statistician, are expected to meet informally towards the end of 2006.

With the Commission's structure now successfully proven, the focus will move to the continuing refinement of operations and processes, improving the accessibility and efficiency of services, replacing the roll maintenance system and capturing and retaining the extensive and invaluable electoral knowledge of staff. Their efforts and commitment throughout this demanding year are to be applauded.

Warwick Gately AM

**ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER**

31 August 2006



The Western Australian Electoral Commissioner, Lyn Auld, passed away peacefully on Friday 19 August 2005 following a year-long battle with cancer.

A dedicated career public servant, Lyn was experienced in industrial relations, human resource management, executive government and change management.

Lyn began her public service career at the Public Service Board, spending seven years as an industrial advocate before becoming Director, Special Projects in the Ministry of the Premier and Cabinet. Lyn then applied to become Deputy Electoral Commissioner, a role she served in from 1992–1998. During this period, Lyn spent 18 months as Acting Electoral Commissioner, assuming responsibility for conducting the 1996 State general election and the inaugural local government postal elections. Lyn then moved to the Office of State Revenue before becoming Executive Director, Performance Review, at the Office of the Auditor General, with a focus on the examination of public sector efficiency and effectiveness.

Lyn returned to the Western Australian Electoral Commission in July 2002 for a five-year appointment as Electoral Commissioner. She extended her contribution to the Commission by working as an Electoral Distribution Commissioner in 2003, while also managing an organisational restructure that formed the basis for the successful conduct of the 2005 State general election and referendum, as well as the 2005 local government postal elections. Lyn's deep knowledge and interest in electoral matters is evidenced by her important contributions to electoral reform in Western Australia as well as the other States and Territories.

Lyn was highly regarded by her staff and peers in both Western Australia and other States. She was a strong and inspiring leader and accomplished manager. Her impact extended well beyond the Commission as evidenced by her influence and legacy in each of the agencies in which she worked and her broader contribution to the Western Australian public service. Lyn's career was characterised by hard work and diligence in all that she did. An intelligent and articulate woman with a great sense of humour, Lyn took a compassionate and genuine interest in her staff. This exceptional woman is sadly missed by all.



## OUR AIM

To deliver quality, innovative and accountable electoral services every time for all Western Australians.

## OUR PURPOSE

To conduct impartial and independent elections and promote public awareness of electoral matters through education and information programs, to foster public confidence and participation in the electoral process.

## OUR PRINCIPLES

We are committed to the following principles to ensure that the Western Australian community will have confidence in the way we conduct our business operations:

**Respect** - that electors can have their say in the electoral decision process

**Integrity** - in the administration of our business operations

**Improvement** - in the quality and delivery of our services

**Safety** - and a healthy work environment

**Innovation** - in our strategies and processes

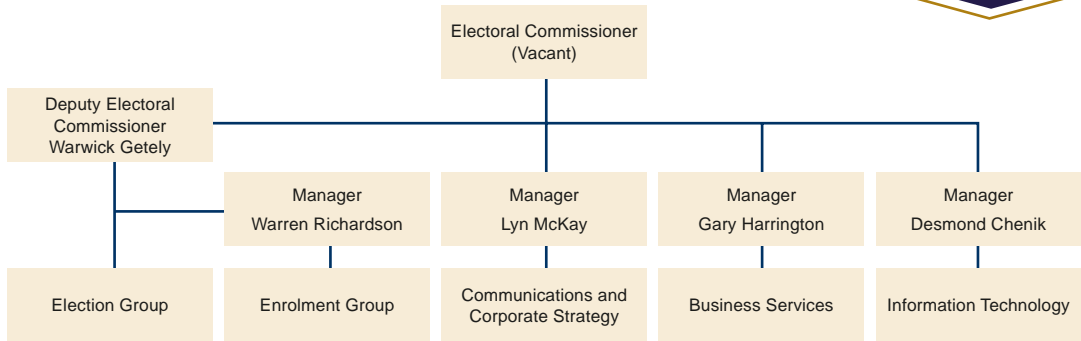
**Evaluation** - of our performance

## THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION AT A GLANCE

	2001–2002	2002–2003	2003–2004	2004–2005	2005–2006
Number of enrolled electors (30 June)	1,206,725	1,209,933	1,220,362	1,266,817	1,261,845
State general elections	-	-	-	1*	-
State by-elections	1	-	-	-	1
Number of referenda	-	-	-	1**	-
Local government elections	-	56	3	50	0
Local government extraordinary elections	13	4	12	1	12
Elections conducted under the <i>Industrial Relations Act 1979</i> and other elections	40	32	32	35	37
Staff numbers (FTEs)	40	32	32	43	43
Total expenditure	\$5,352,000	\$8,286,000	\$6,165,000	\$18,196,000	\$6,459,000

\* A separate writ was issued for the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council elections

\*\* A separate writ was issued in relation to each question on retail trading hours



Warwick Gately was Acting Electoral Commissioner for the 2005–2006 financial year.

The *Electoral Act 1907* does not provide for the appointment of an Acting Deputy Electoral Commissioner. Since June 2004, the Commission has operated without a Deputy Electoral Commissioner.

Lyn McKay was appointed as General Manager on 1 July 2005, taking on a coordinating role across all Commission activities and with responsibilities very similar to those of the role of Deputy Electoral Commissioner, excluding statutory responsibilities.

The Electoral Commissioner and Deputy Electoral Commissioner both hold independent statutory appointments under the *Electoral Act 1907*. They are responsible for the impartial administration of electoral law through the Western Australian Electoral Commission, which is a department of the State Public Service. The Electoral Commissioner is deemed to be the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission. The permanent staff members of the Commission are employed under the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*.

The functions of the Electoral Commissioner, under the *Electoral Act 1907*, are to:

- be the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission;
- be responsible for the proper maintenance of electoral rolls and the proper conduct of elections under the Act;
- consider and report to the Minister on electoral matters referred to the Electoral Commissioner by the Minister, and such other electoral matters as the Electoral Commissioner sees fit;
- promote public awareness of electoral and parliamentary matters, by conducting of educational and information programs and by other means;
- provide information and advice on electoral matters to the parliament, members of parliament, the government, and other government departments and State authorities;
- conduct elections or polls that are provided for under any other written law, if authorised to do so under that written law or regulations;
- make arrangements with any person for the conduct by the Electoral Commissioner of elections or polls not provided for under written law on such terms and conditions as are agreed between the Electoral Commissioner and that person;
- conduct and promote research into electoral matters and other matters that relate to the functions of the Electoral Commissioner;
- publish material on matters that relate to the functions of the Electoral Commissioner; and
- perform such other functions as are conferred on the Electoral Commissioner by or under the Act or any other written law.



## ENABLING LEGISLATION

The Western Australian Electoral Commission was established by the proclamation of the *Acts Amendment (Electoral Reform) Act 1987* on 30 October 1987.

## LEGISLATION ADMINISTERED

Under the *Alteration of Statutory Designations Act 1974*, certain statutes are placed under the control of the Minister for Electoral Affairs. Of these, the Commission is responsible for administering the following:

*Electoral Act 1907*

*Franchise Act 1916*

*Referendums Act 1983*

A range of other legislation that impacts on the Commission in the conduct of its business, and with which the Commission must comply, is highlighted further in the corporate governance section of this report.

At the date of this signing I am not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in this statement as misleading or inaccurate.

Warwick Gately AM

**ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER**

31 August 2006

Gary Harrington

**PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER**

31 August 2006





## MANAGEMENT OF Parliamentary Elections

The year was dedicated to finalising reporting associated with the 2005 State general election, undertaking a by-election and looking to improvements in processes and implementation strategies. This involved the completion of the results and statistics report and its companion election report. Improvements were identified, some of which were able to be trialled at the Victoria Park by-election in March 2006.

### VICTORIA PARK BY-ELECTION

A writ for a by-election in the inner metropolitan district of Victoria Park was issued on 2 February 2006, following the resignation of the sitting member Dr Geoff Gallop. The Victoria Park district boundaries remained the same as those used for the 2005 State general election. At the close of nominations on 17 February 2006, 11 candidates had nominated to contest the by-election. Mr Ben Wyatt, ALP, was declared elected on 17 March 2006. A full report on the by-election; *District of Victoria Park By-election: Results and Statistics* is available upon request.

### Polling Places and Voter Participation

In order to minimise confusion for electors, the same 13 polling places used in the 2005 State general election were used for the by-election. Although there were 25,580 electors on the roll for the district of Victoria Park at roll close on Friday 10 February 2006, only 16,381 recorded their vote, representing 64.04% of the district, which was the lowest participation rate in a by-election in the State's history, since the introduction of compulsory voting.

An extensive survey was commissioned to establish why so many electors did not vote. The survey results indicated that the 18–25 year old demographic lacked awareness of the by-election and the political process generally. This age group is highly mobile which, together with a high enrolment turnover in Victoria Park, provided challenges in reaching these electors with information. The findings from this survey will be considered in future election advertising campaigns and educational programs particularly aimed at younger electors.

### New Initiatives

#### Mobile Polling



Figure 1: Portable Tablet PC

For this by-election, one mobile team was allocated the task of visiting five special institutions and hospitals within the district before polling day. This team used a new 'tablet' PC (as shown in Figure 1) that could be operated by stylus or by keyboard to locate electors on the roll and mark them off as being issued a ballot paper.

This type of highly portable lightweight machine proved very useful and will be used again in the future.



### Electronic Electoral Rolls

Conventional paper electoral rolls were replaced in polling places by electoral roll data stored in laptop computers. Ballot paper issuing officers were fully trained in the use of the electronic rolls. The associated software and database were configured to highlight electors who were outside the district boundaries and not entitled to vote. Anecdotal reports indicated that a faster throughput of electors was achieved, however this will need to be further tested.

### Elector Postcard

In an effort to maximise elector participation in the by-election, an information postcard was produced and distributed to every household within the district. The postcard reminded electors that voting was compulsory, detailed the date and time of voting on polling day and provided an address list of all polling places within the district, as well as contact details for enquiries. However, the post election survey reported that only 30% of electors recalled sighting the postcard. It may be necessary to personally address such an elector card in the future.

### Scooters Towing Billboards

On polling day and the preceding Saturday, two highly visible bright red scooters towing advertising posters were driven around the Victoria Park district to raise awareness of the by-election and remind electors of the compulsory nature of voting.

The post election survey reported that 17% of electors recalled sighting the scooters, of which only 50% recalled the messages being displayed. This form of election advertising will be reviewed for future campaigns.



## VOTING FACILITIES FOR OTHER ELECTORAL AUTHORITIES

Under reciprocal arrangements with other Australian and New Zealand electoral authorities, voters in Western Australia at the time of their elections and by-elections are able to vote at the Commission. During 2005–2006, the Commission provided facilities for early voting (by post) and early voting (in person) for six other authorities.

*Table 1: Voting Facilities for other Electoral Commissions*

Date	Election	Votes Issued
20 August 2005	By-elections for Redcliffe and Chatsworth, Qld	Postal applications only
17 September 2005	General election, New Zealand	160
17 September 2005	By-elections for Macquarie Fields, Maroubra and Marrickville, NSW	2
24 September 2005	By-election for Alderman on the Alice Springs Town Council, NT	Postal applications only
26 November 2005	By-election for Pittwater, NSW	Nil
18 March 2006	State general election, SA	139
5 May 2006	By-elections for Division of Rowallan and; Division of Wellington, Tasmania	No. of pre-poll votes issued: 1 No. of pre-poll votes issued: Nil

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Following the State general election in 2005, post activity analysis formed the basis for a selection of business improvement projects. These are designed to overcome deficiencies and implement new ideas and procedures to improve delivery of services for the next State general election, anticipated to be held in early 2009.

Options being considered include the further expansion of electronic rolls, a focus on ensuring access by all electors at election time including those with disabilities, as well as greater use of the absent vote recording system and the mobile polling tablet PC.



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

The *Local Government Act 1995* permits local governments to make the Electoral Commissioner responsible for their elections, subject to the Electoral Commissioner's agreement.

There are many benefits in having the Electoral Commission conduct local government elections:

- assured impartiality and independence;
- best practice standards are ensured, as the Commission's core business is conducting elections;
- election management (including complaints) is handled by independent returning officers, experienced specialists who provide a very cost effective service;
- local government staff, including Chief Executive Officers, can attend to their daily business, rather than being involved in the often complex management of an election; and
- established partnerships with suppliers enable economies of scale and ensure accuracy and ease of postal voting.

These benefits are recognised by over 50 local governments that continue to contract the Commission for the conduct of their postal elections.

A State-wide report on the 2005 local government elections was published in July 2005. This provided comparative data against which to measure individual results and useful data for planning subsequent elections. A number of recommendations were made covering possible legislative and procedural changes.

The figures from the May 2005 ordinary elections again indicated that postal voting produced a higher participation rate for all of the population bands identified. This difference was most evident in the medium to large-sized districts, as shown in the following table:

*Table 2: Postal and In Person Elections Comparison May 2005*

Electorate Size	Number of Elections		Average Participating Rate %		Difference Between Average Participation Rates %
	Postal	Voting in person	Postal	Voting in person	Postal – Voting in person
Less than 300	0	2	n/a	62.50%	
301 to 999	1	29	77.42%	44.21%	33.21%
1000 to 2499	3	8	51.57%	35.04%	16.53%
2500 to 4999	6	7	49.66%	24.00%	25.66%
5000 to 9999	11	5	44.49%	14.87%	29.62%
10000 to 29999	15	1	41.01%	9.96%	31.05%
30000 to 59999	8	1	34.74%	9.51%	25.23%
Over 60000	3	0	33.11%	n/a	

*Source: Western Australian Electoral Commission and Department of Local Government and Regional Development*



The voting figures were relatively consistent from council to council, apart from minor fluctuations, attributable to local issues relevant to a specific district or region, or a keenly contested mayoral campaign. The majority of medium and large-sized districts now use postal voting for their elections, thereby maximising voter participation.

Every local government involved in the May 2005 ordinary elections was provided with an individual report on their election in the early part of this financial year.

## Complaints

Under the *Local Government Act 1995*, either the Electoral Commissioner or the returning officer may investigate whether misconduct, malpractice or maladministration has occurred in relation to an election. In the course of the 2005 ordinary elections 75 complaints were received, investigated and resolved. Three complaints were carried over into this financial year and had been resolved by April 2006.

Additionally, two matters were referred to the Electoral Commissioner by the Corruption and Crime Commissioner for investigation. One was resolved and the other investigated and now subject to review by the Corruption and Crime Commission.

## Extraordinary and Other Elections

The Electoral Commissioner conducted 12 postal elections during the year on behalf of local governments, as shown in the table below. Voter participation ranged from 27.2% (City of Joondalup) to 55.5% (Shire of Exmouth). The average turnout for the six contested postal elections was 37.2%.

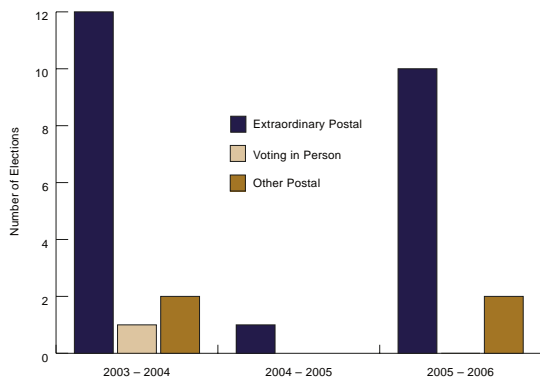
*Table 3: 2005–2006 Local Government Extraordinary and Other Elections*

Shire/City/Town	Ward Name	Date of Election	No. of Electors	Turnout
Shire of Waroona	Town	21/7/05	1,509	35.7%
Shire of Busselton	Central Rural	1/9/05	1,328	40.6%
Shire of Busselton	West Urban	1/9/05	2,988	Unopposed
Shire of Augusta-Margaret River	Margaret River Town	22/9/05	2,670	Unopposed
Shire of Collie	District	13/10/05	5,941	Unopposed
Shire of Ashburton	Tom Price	10/11/05	1,535	Unopposed
Shire of Ashburton	Onslow	10/11/05	385	Unopposed
Shire of Exmouth	District	8/12/05	1,494	55.5%
City of Rockingham	Rockingham	16/12/05	18,887	33.8%
City of Joondalup	All Wards & Mayor	6/5/06	101,714	27.2%
Shire of Busselton	West Urban	22/6/06	3,040	Unopposed
Shire of Mundaring	West	22/6/06	5,716	30.4%



The following graph shows the number of extraordinary elections conducted on behalf of local governments over the past three years. The number reduces every second year, when the ordinary elections are held.

Figure 2: Local Government Extraordinary and Other Elections



### Moving the Date of Ordinary Postal Elections

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) has proposed moving the biennial ordinary election date from May to October to improve local government financial planning. This proposal has been supported by the government, with legislation to be shortly introduced into parliament.

While planning for the 2007 elections has commenced, the proposed date change from May to October will provide the Commission with increased preparation time.

### Future Directions

Postal voting is the preferred method for conducting elections for the majority of metropolitan and many country local governments. While it is a secure and convenient means of casting a vote, the Commission is examining the inclusion of an elector's date of birth on the elector certificate as a further means of confirmation of identification.

It is widely recognised that engaging more electors in the democratic process in local government elections is important. Also, there is growing recognition that a wider range of candidates is needed to better represent the diversity of our communities and therefore more elections would be contested.

The Commission is committed to improving services and value for money for its customers. Significantly, for the 2005 ordinary elections, a cost reduction of 25% was achieved in comparison with the cost of the 2003 elections. Competitive tendering and the streamlining of processes were fundamental to this success and will continue to be examined for further improvements.

In expanding services, the Commission will consider assisting local governments in maintaining their owner and occupier rolls and ward boundary reviews.

Liaison with local governments will remain an important activity. The Commission will continue to work with WALGA and the Local Government Managers Association and remain involved in Local Government Week activities and regular face-to-face meetings with individual metropolitan and country local governments.



## UNION AND OTHER ELECTIONS

In the past year there have been exciting developments in the area of union and fee for service elections conducted by the Commission.

There has been a steady increase in the number of organisations requesting the Electoral Commissioner to conduct their elections. This has included 15 requests to conduct elections under the *Industrial Relations Act 1979* and 22 other election requests. The number of commercial clients has increased and there has also been rapid growth in the conduct of ballots for the release of government land packages.

In addition to conducting impartial and independent elections, Commission staff also assist many organisations in rewriting their election rules and regulations, and in some cases relevant parts of their constitutions. This service is provided by the Commission in addition to supplying a copy of the Commission's *Standard Election Rules* as part of normal business practice.

The steady increase in the number of elections during the year prompted a review of the Union and Other Elections unit and identified the need for an extra project officer. In June 2006, a recruitment process was undertaken and a new staff member engaged. This allows for a continued focus on planning, the early allocation of returning officers and the identification of new business opportunities.

Another exciting development has been the securing of funding to develop a 'Proof of Concept' to conduct a trial electronic (e-voting) election.

This trial will employ e-voting in the November 2006 election of a director to the board of a commercial client with a large and diverse client base. The success of this trial will have very positive ramifications for the way the Commission conducts elections in other areas. While e-voting will be a service, like postal voting or in-person methods, it will offer another service option for those who use technology as part of their everyday lives and could be a useful tool to help those in remote areas and the highly mobile population in the State.

For the future, it is anticipated that business will continue to grow as will the diverse client base that makes up this unit's core business. Planning will determine objectives of the unit and target and identify other areas for growth.



There were significant challenges during the year in engaging electors in the elections conducted, early planning of the 2007 electoral distribution process and business planning on civics education conducted through the Electoral Education Centre in West Perth.

Focus was also on finalising the new web site, developing a communications plan around e-voting and working with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) on remote and regional communication strategies regarding voting.

### ADVERTISING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Commission's advertising and public relations activities this year were mainly focused on raising awareness of the Victoria Park by-election on 11 March 2006, the Joondalup local government postal election in May 2006 and an ongoing campaign to increase public awareness of obligations in regard to enrolment and voting when not in an election period.

The extensive research and time given to pre-planning the advertising for the 2005 State general election campaign was rewarded with the Commission's advertising agency winning a Campaign Brief 2006 Award.

The agency won the best television advertisement for the year for the Commission's 'golf' television advertisement, while the three State general election television advertisements ('golf', 'cactus' and 'wedding') won best Western Australian television campaign. The Commission intends to build on these 'Be involved in the decision process' messages in the future.

#### Victoria Park By-Election

With a limited budget, advertising for the Victoria Park by-election employed a range of cost effective methods, with new initiatives trialled to maximise impact.

Statutory advertising requirements were met and other advertisements were placed in State and local community newspapers. The advertisements concentrated on crucial dates such as close of enrolments, details of how to vote early, polling places, how to fill in ballot papers and the compulsory nature of voting in the by-election.

The Commission also undertook a mailbox drop of a postcard to every household in the district featuring an advertisement used in the 2005 State general election. The postcard contained important electoral information including a list of polling places, how electors could cast an early vote, contact details for any enquiries and a reminder that voting in the by-election was compulsory.

In addition, for the first time, the Commission made use of advertising scooters both on polling day and on the Saturday prior to polling day. The scooters towed advertising billboards around the streets of the Victoria Park district with high impact messages encouraging electors to vote. Additional postcards were also handed out at busy locations such as shopping complexes.





The public relations campaign ran in parallel with and complemented the advertising campaign with a focus on the community newspapers. Media releases were distributed covering all phases of the election process including enrolments, early voting options, candidates' details and compulsory voting. The scooters and the postcard mail out also featured on ABC radio. Other radio interviews were conducted on subjects such as the importance of the youth vote in Victoria Park and early voting options for electors outside the district on polling day. On polling day radio was used to deliver election messages.

Despite the advertising and broad coverage of the public relations campaign, elector participation in the by-election was disappointing. The findings and recommendations from the post-election survey will be considered in future advertising and public relations exercises.

## City of Joondalup Local Government Election

The Commission's advertising and public relations campaign for the election of the Joondalup City Council focused on the different phases of the local government election process. Print coverage was achieved in the local community paper on the appointment of the returning officer, the close of nominations, sending out of postal packages and messages reminding electors to vote.

The campaign was carried out in partnership with WALGA and the Department of Local Government and Regional Development.

## POLITICAL PARTY REGISTRATION

At the beginning of this reporting period, 16 political parties were registered with the Commission. No new parties were registered during the 2005–2006 reporting period. One registered political party applied to change its abbreviated name from 'FOREST LIBERAL' to 'liberals for forests'. The application was finalised on 15 August 2005.

*Table 4: Registered Political Parties as at 30 June 2006*

Political Party	Registration Date	Party Secretary
Australian Democrats	21 October 2000	Dr Erica Lewin
Australian Labor Party (Western Australian Branch)	21 October 2000	Mr Bill Johnston
Christian Democratic Party WA	5 January 2001	Ms Madeleine Goiran
Citizens Electoral Council of Australia	18 August 2004	Ms Jean Robinson
Community 1st (Inc)	29 September 2004	Ms Cheryl Jongeling
Daylight Savings Party	29 April 2005	Dr Tom Cunneen
Family First Party WA Inc.	14 January 2005	Mr Peter Greaves
Fremantle Hospital Support Group	6 December 2004	Dr Keith Woollard
liberals for forests	9 July 2001	Dr Keith Woollard
National Party of Australia (WA) Incorporated	21 October 2000	Ms Wendy Duncan
New Country Party	30 November 2004	Mr Frank Hough



Political Party	Registration Date	Party Secretary
Nurses for Health	29 April 2005	Ms Patricia Fowler
One Nation Western Australia	29 December 2000	Ms Marye Daniels
Public Hospital Support Group	30 December 2004	Dr Keith Woollard
The Greens (WA) Inc	21 October 2000	Ms Rebecca Brown
The Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australian Division) Incorporated	21 October 2000	Mr Mark Neeham

## POLITICAL FINANCE

Annual political finance returns for 2004–2005 were submitted to the Commission by 21 political parties and four associated entities in accordance with the political finance requirements of the *Electoral Act 1907*. Those political parties and associated entities required to lodge federal returns could lodge those same returns to comply with the *Electoral Act 1907*.

Recent changes to federal legislation to significantly increase disclosure thresholds require a review of current practice before preparing future reports.

An audit was undertaken by an independent auditing firm of several of these returns. A selection of the returns submitted by political parties and entities on a federal basis were audited by staff members from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC).

A summary of data from these annual returns will be included in the *2004–2005 Political Finance Annual Report*, which will be tabled in parliament early in the next reporting year.

Following the 2006 Victoria Park by-election, candidates and ‘other persons’ were required to lodge disclosure returns setting out all election-related gifts received during the disclosure period and expenditure incurred for that election. Political parties were also required to lodge election-related returns setting out details of electoral expenditure. Returns were required to be lodged by 26 June 2006, 15 weeks after polling day. These returns were made available for public inspection on 25 July 2006, with a summary of the details to be included in the *2005–2006 Political Finance Annual Report*.

As at 30 June 2006, two of the 11 by-election candidate returns remained outstanding. Of the seven political parties required to lodge election-related returns, two remained outstanding. Follow-up procedures are continuing.

## WEB SITE

The Commission’s web site provided quality electoral information and timely results throughout the year. It is regularly updated, providing the latest election information and online facilities. Information available includes publications for candidates, electors and political parties as well as enrolment details and educational resources. Statistics indicate that it is a useful tool being increasingly used by the community for information about elections.

The final stages of the web site redevelopment project were completed and the new site will be launched early in the new financial year.



## POLICY FRAMEWORK

The Communications and Corporate Strategy branch coordinates the Commission's strategic policy development. It conducts reviews of legislation and research relevant to the operations of the Commission. In 2005–2006, it developed a new policy framework and commenced a full review of all the Commission's existing policies and procedures. This is largely completed and will result in improvements in the way the Commission meets its longer term objectives and satisfies government policy initiatives.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Plan, outlining the direction of the Commission over the next five years, was published in September 2005. In December 2006, a comprehensive planning workshop was undertaken with all Commission staff to engage them in the process and to understand the key areas of focus of Commission operations.

The Commission operates within a legislative framework with outcomes that enable eligible electors in the Western Australian community to be able to participate in impartial, effective and democratic elections or referenda conducted.

Within that context, the Commission has three strategic focuses:

- to plan, conduct and evaluate elections and referenda;
- to manage electoral education and information; and
- to maintain the electoral roll.

## ELECTORAL EDUCATION CENTRE

The Electoral Education Centre (EEC) continues to provide quality educational and community awareness programs to primary and high schools, as well as tertiary and community groups throughout Western Australia.

Whilst its main focus is on State government elections, the EEC also provides detailed information about local and federal government electoral processes. Services include:

- presentations at the centre;
- school and TAFE visits;
- conduct of school elections;
- participation in a Joint Civics Education program (JCE), in conjunction with the Parliament of Western Australia and the Constitutional Centre of Western Australia; and
- a youth enrolment program.

The JCE program continues to receive strong support from both country and metropolitan schools. Interest in the program has increased such that additional casual presenters have been employed in Geraldton, Albany and Bunbury, as well as in the Perth metropolitan area. With this in mind, a business plan was developed involving the Constitutional Centre and parliament to assess targets, objectives and delivery against the plan over the next two years. This will assist with planning the schedule for schools being visited and offers opportunity to gain greater feedback regarding this service.

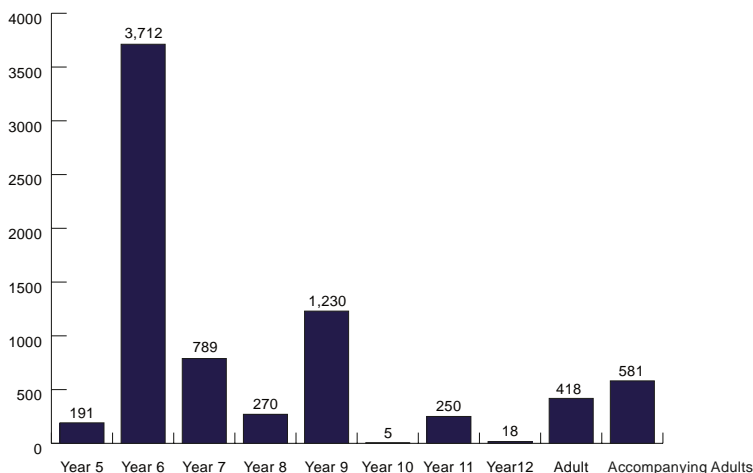


The year 12 enrolment program 'birthday card' initiative continued with 23,619 enrolment forms mailed to all year 12 students in Western Australia in September 2005.

In addition to the mail-out, staff from the EEC gave presentations to year 12 students at schools in order to make the enrolment and voting processes clearer and more relevant.

### 2005–2006 Highlights

Figure 3: Breakdown of EEC Visitors



Over the year the EEC delivered presentations to:

- 7,464 school students and adults at the centre with the breakdown by category as shown in Figure 3;
- primary and secondary schools within the metropolitan area, which involved 2,468 students; and
- 585 TAFE and adult migrant education students.

The EEC also:

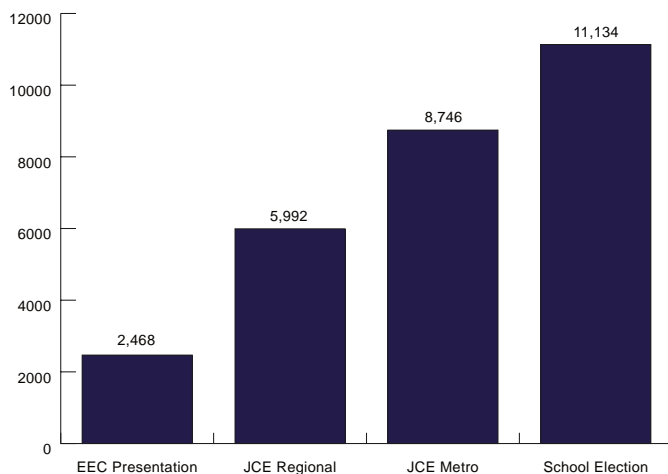
- coordinated 47 school elections involving 11,134 students;
- saw participation by 15,931 students in the Joint Civics Education program; and
- produced and installed an updated version of the audio-visual presentation in the Commission's West Perth theatre.



## MANAGEMENT OF Electoral Information

The declining number of visits to the EEC this financial year can be attributed wholly to the success of the JCE program. An increasing number of schools are availing themselves of the program whereby the school does not have to arrange and pay for transportation to the EEC. Business planning in this JCE area will continue.

*Figure 4: EEC Outside Visits*



Overall 35,980 individuals have participated in EEC programs.



The Western Australian Electoral Commission provides administrative support to the Electoral Distribution Commissioners charged with the responsibility of determining new electoral boundaries in Western Australia.

A distribution of electoral boundaries is due to be conducted in 2007. In May 2005 the State government passed the *Electoral Amendment and Repeal Act 2005* that repealed the *Electoral Distribution Act 1947* and included replacement provisions in Part IIA of the *Electoral Act 1907*.

The new provisions are based on 'one vote, one value' principles and include the following changes:

- boundary distributions being conducted after every general election for the Legislative Assembly;
- the enrolment quota being based on 'average district enrolment' across the State, rather than separate quotas for metropolitan and country areas;
- an increase in the number of members of the Legislative Assembly from 57 to 59;
- an increase in the number of members of the Legislative Council from 34 to 36;
- each Legislative Council region having six members (previously five or seven);
- additional descriptions of the basis for division of the State into regions;
- no longer requiring metropolitan regions to be wholly within the metropolitan area boundary;
- adding 'land use patterns' as a matter that the Commissioners must duly consider; and
- an additional 30 days for the Commissioners to publish their final determination.

Additional information about the changes is provided in the Commission brochure '*Where will you be in 2009? Changes to Electoral Boundaries in Western Australia*'. Copies are available from the office of the Commission, the web site and local libraries throughout the State.

The three Electoral Distribution Commissioners are the:

- Chief Justice of Western Australia (Chairman);
- Electoral Commissioner; and
- Government Statistician.

Planning for the 2007 electoral distribution has begun with the appointment of Justin Harbord as Secretary to the Electoral Distribution Commissioners. An office has been set up at Level 11, 111 St Georges Terrace, Perth and will operate until completion of the distribution, due in late 2007.

Updates on the distribution process will be published on the electoral distribution web site at [www.boundarieswa.com](http://www.boundarieswa.com).



## MANAGEMENT OF THE Electoral Roll

An accurate electoral roll plays an essential part in maintaining a healthy democratic system, ensuring that those who have a right to vote are correctly enrolled at any point in time.

The system relies on electors keeping enrolment up to date by changing their address and other details as they become eligible. Public compliance is, however, haphazard. The Commission has a number of strategies in place to educate the public about their civic obligations and electoral responsibilities, to detect when electors have changed address and remind them to update their enrolment. Further information on these strategies is contained in the relevant sections of this report.

Once an elector has enrolled for an address it is the responsibility of the Commission to allocate that elector to the correct State electoral district and region, local government ward and jury district. The relevant legislation that guides this process is the *Electoral Act 1907*, the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Juries Act 1957*.

The Commission produces rolls for State elections, local government elections and for potential jurors as required. State general elections occur every four years with generally one or two by-elections in between. Local government ordinary elections occur every two years with a large number of extraordinary elections in between. Jury rolls are produced annually. The electoral roll is continuously updated to meet these events.

The electoral roll is assessed regularly to remove persons who are no longer eligible to be on the roll. Processes are in place to remove deceased persons, prisoners sentenced to more than 12 months imprisonment, persons incapable of managing their affairs due to psychological problems, persons no longer living at an address and duplicate entries.

The electoral roll is a permanent database, stored on a computer, which holds the names of electors who have enrolled to vote. The elector's address is linked to a State district and region, a local government district, a local government ward and a jury district. When a roll is required for an election, a snapshot of the permanent roll is taken after all the enrolment claims received up until the time set for the roll closure are processed. The Commission often has to manage different elections occurring simultaneously with slightly differing roll closure dates.

When State district and region boundaries change, the Commission needs to maintain both old and new boundaries for as long as 12 months. This allows for the possibility of having to prepare a roll for a State by-election under the old boundaries and also for electoral information to be produced for the new boundaries.

State district boundaries are reviewed every four years, while local government ward boundaries are reviewed every eight years or whenever an imbalance of 10% or greater in elector numbers in wards is detected. The Commission maintains records of changes to address descriptions (such as new postcode, locality, street, house number) that occur on an ongoing basis. Every five years, the Census Collection District boundaries also change and are used by the Commission to assist in the review of State district boundaries.

In accordance with legislation and the Commission privacy policy, electoral roll information is provided to the public, members of parliament, government agencies, local government and for medical and community service research projects.



### JOINT ENROLMENT ARRANGEMENT

The Commission has a Joint Enrolment Arrangement (JRA) with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC), whereby the Commission receives a weekly data file on new enrolments and changes to enrolment for existing electors received by the AEC through this arrangement. This is the principal source of amendments to the State roll.

The major benefits of the JRA are:

- electors only need to complete one enrolment form to be enrolled for Federal, State and local government elections;
- reduced costs due to shared Commonwealth–State activities; and
- access to the AEC national network delivers better information about electors who leave the State and provides better public access through 15 AEC offices throughout the State.

During the reporting year a new JRA, which replaced the original agreements from 1983 and 1985, came into effect. The new JRA reflects the current situation and better defines responsibilities and performance criteria. The level of payment required by the AEC for services provided under the JRA has increased substantially in recent years to recover a higher proportion of their operating costs. The base calculation of the level of payment is to be reviewed every two years and is linked to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the intervening years.

One of the major initiatives of the JRA is a process called Continuous Roll Update (CRU), which includes regular activities designed to encourage enrolment and maintain roll accuracy. CRU uses change of address information from other State and federal agencies to send *Application for Electoral Enrolment* forms to electors and potential electors. CRU also includes rural and remote area fieldwork, attendance at citizenship ceremonies, youth enrolment programs and removing the names of deceased persons and prisoners. Each year sample audit fieldwork is undertaken by the AEC to measure the effectiveness of the CRU process. The CRU process is continually being improved and it is expected that sale of property data from the Department of Land Information will be included from the start of the 2006–2007 financial year.





The summary of State enrolment from 1999–2006 is shown below.

Table 5: State Enrolment Statistics 1999–2006

Year	Total Enrolments	% Increase	Electoral Event
1999–2000	1,169,672	1.06	Federal referendum 6 November 1999
2000–2001	1,206,736	3.17	State general election 10 February 2001 Local government elections 5 May 2001
2001–2002	1,206,725	0.00	Federal election 10 November 2001
2002–2003	1,209,933	0.27	Local government elections 3 May 2003
2003–2004	1,220,362	0.86	
2004–2005	1,266,817	3.67	Federal election 9 October 2004 State general election 26 February 2005 Local government elections 7 May 2005
2005–2006	1,261,845	-0.39	

The cyclical pattern of enrolment statistics suggests that many electors are not complying with their obligations to re-enrol one month after changing address and/or not responding to correspondence from the AEC. Typically, as a result of non-voter and multiple voter investigations in the six months following a Federal or State general election, a significant number of elector names are removed from the roll. Electors' names are also removed from the roll as a result of regular monthly objection processing that is triggered by unclaimed mail from local government postal elections, CRU activities, members of parliament and political parties. In the six months before an election, enrolment levels tend to increase in anticipation of the forthcoming election.

## FEDERAL PROOF OF IDENTITY LEGISLATION

The federal parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (JSCEM) enquiry into the 2004 Federal election recommended more stringent requirements for proof of identity to accompany electoral enrolment or re-enrolment. The federal government supported this recommendation and the *Electoral and Referendum (Enrolment Integrity and Other Measures) Act 2004* was passed by the federal parliament in June 2004 to require new enrollees to quote their driver's licence number on the enrolment claim form as proof of identity and address. The proof of identity sections of this legislation were not proclaimed and have been replaced by the *Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Electoral Integrity and Other Measures) Act No. 65 of 2006* which received Royal Assent on 22 June 2006.

The legislation is not expected to become operational until regulations have been drafted, as there are a number of technical and organisational issues to be managed. The current target date for implementation is early December 2006.



The State government has advised the federal government that it has no plans to make similar changes to State legislation because it is not convinced that this measure will improve electoral integrity sufficiently to outweigh its potential to work against the full franchise of all eligible Western Australians. When the federal legislation becomes operational, the process for handling enrolment claim forms under the JRA will need to be modified to allow for the enrolment of State electors who do not meet the requirements of federal legislation purposes.

### COMMISSION ENROLMENT ACTIVITIES

In addition to enrolments obtained through the JRA, the Commission also undertakes a number of enrolment activities in its own right.

#### LifeEvents

The Commission continues its participation in the LifeEvents component of the OnlineWA web site. This site enables the registration of a 'life event' once only and having this advice automatically directed to a number of government agencies. On receipt of this information, the Commission mails an *Application for Electoral Enrolment* form to electors who submitted change of address details over the Internet.

In the 2005–2006 year, the statistics included:

*Table 6: LifeEvents Statistics*

Activity	Statistic
Number of <i>Application for Electoral Enrolment</i> forms sent	19,469
Number of <i>Application for Electoral Enrolment</i> forms returned	7,722
Response rate	39.66%

#### Online Enrolment Check

The Commission's web site has the facility for electors to check their enrolment details. This requires the elector to provide their full name, address and date of birth as a safeguard for security and privacy purposes. Details provided include the elector's State electoral district and region, local government district and ward. The postal address is also displayed if it has been provided by an elector.

Electors can download an *Application for Electoral Enrolment* form, make the relevant changes and return the form to the Commission. The total number of 'hits' (web site visits) on the *Application for Electoral Enrolment* form was 23,931 for the year, with an average of 1,994 per month. The transaction volume decreased from 26,212 reported in 2004–2005.



# MANAGEMENT OF THE Electoral Roll

## Year 12 Enrolment Program

In September 2005, the Commission sent *Application for Electoral Enrolment* forms to year 12 students using a list that had been obtained from the Curriculum Council. The results of this exercise are encouraging and it is proposed to repeat the exercise in the coming financial year. The statistics for 2005–2006 are as follows:

Table 7: Year 12 Enrolment Program Statistics

Activity	Statistic
Number of <i>Application for Electoral Enrolment</i> forms distributed	23,619
Number of <i>Application for Electoral Enrolment</i> forms returned	5,698
Number of <i>Application for Electoral Enrolment</i> forms returned to sender	478
Number of <i>Application for Electoral Enrolment</i> forms received from people not on the database	207
% of <i>Application for Electoral Enrolment</i> forms returned	24.12%

## Ensuring Roll Accuracy

To ensure ongoing accuracy, the roll is continuously updated electronically and manually, using a range of strategies, including:

- continuous electronic audit of Census Collector Districts (CCDs) within local governments and State electoral districts, local governments within State electoral districts and at point of entry to the Electoral Roll Management System (ERMS);
- local government and State electoral district boundary checks to ensure electors are correctly allocated;
- quarterly roll reconciliation between the State and federal electoral rolls. This includes a comparison audit of all elector records, elector addresses, and special category electors including general early voters, British subjects and silent electors;
- bi-annual complete audit of silent electors and general early voters;
- fortnightly audit reports including reporting on duplicate electors, additions/changes/deletions to general early voters and British subjects who are entitled to remain on the roll;
- fortnightly audit of all habitations to highlight any that have not been allocated a local government ward code, CCD number, AEC division code or jury district code;
- quarterly audit of all postal addresses on the State electoral roll;
- annual audit of allocated jury district codes;
- removal of electors who have died using information sourced from a monthly report provided by the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages; and
- removal of prisoners with a sentence of 12 months or longer using information sourced from a report provided monthly by the Department of Justice.



### Landgate

In an effort to improve accuracy in the allocation of electors to the correct districts, the Commission uses the Department of Land Information (DLI) web site, Landgate, which allows up-to-date maps to be displayed electronically. Landgate has been a useful tool, but there are some performance issues and issues with changes to administrative boundaries such as State district boundaries, local government boundaries and local government ward boundaries that are not updated until they come into effect. This can lead to confusion, particularly with other users who may expect to be viewing the boundaries for the forthcoming election, when in fact it displays the old boundaries that apply up until polling day. This same confusion can apply to other products produced by DLI. A solution to this problem would be to have two sets of boundaries (current and new) in the program. The Commission intends to raise this matter with DLI.

### Quality Assurance

The Commission has achieved certification of the management of the electoral roll processes in compliance with the ISO 9001:2000 standard for quality assurance. This certification process, which commenced in May 2004 but was delayed because of preparations for the State general election, was finalised in August 2005. The Commission has now achieved quality certification for both election and electoral roll management processes confirming the quality of performance to existing and potential customers.

## PRODUCTION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS

### Policy on the Supply of Confidential Elector Information

All requests for enrolment information are made by application and accompanied by a signed confidentiality agreement. These are assessed in terms of Commission policy on the supply of confidential information and either approved or rejected. Details of the enrolment information provided to other organisations (together with the purpose for which that information was provided) are recorded in a register. An extract of the register has been included in appendix 3 for public information.

### Jury Lists

Under the *Juries Act 1957*, the Commission has an obligation to provide the Sheriff with lists of prospective jurors for each of the State's 15 jury districts. Elector names are randomly selected from the electoral roll. In 2005–2006, lists were prepared in April that included 147,852 prospective jurors.

### Products for Members of Parliament and Registered Political Parties

Under section 25A of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the Electoral Commissioner must provide each member of State parliament and parliamentary parties with the electoral roll. This is achieved through updates to service providers Magenta Linas or Consultech who receive either monthly updates or 'roll dumps' to provide this information to politicians.

The Commission also responds to one-off requests from members of State parliament for electoral information.



## MANAGEMENT OF THE Electoral Roll

### Distribution of Electoral Districts and Electoral Regions

As a result of recent amendments to the *Electoral Act 1907*, the State electoral district and region boundaries are to be redrawn by the Electoral Distribution Commissioners as soon as practicable after 26 February 2007 and approximately every four years thereafter (previously every eight years).

The distribution has been changed to generally reflect the principles of 'one vote, one value'. It is anticipated that more electors initially will be impacted by a change of district than in the previous distribution with metropolitan electorates having around 5,000 less electors and country electorates having around 8,000 more electors than previously. The number of State electoral districts has increased by two to 59. The number of members of the Legislative Council will also increase by two, with six members in each of the six regions.

The development of strategies to inform the public about the new boundaries in the lead-up to the next State general election will be a priority over the coming financial year.

### Local Government Boundary Reviews

The following table summarises local government boundary reviews in 2005–2006:

Table 8: Local Government Boundary Review Statistics<sup>1</sup>

Type of Change	Voting by Post Election	Voting in Person Election	Total
Abolition of wards	0	4	4
Amalgamation of wards	1	0	1
Change of district and ward boundaries	0	0	0
Change of district boundaries <sup>1</sup>	2	4	6
Change of ward boundaries	1	1	2
Change of ward name	1	0	1

<sup>1</sup> Generally changes to ward boundaries take effect from the next ordinary election (due in May 2007). Other changes tend to take effect from the date of gazettal.

The Commission has experienced difficulties in the past with local government district and ward boundary changes being gazetted close to the roll closure date for the biennial local government elections. This left insufficient time for the changes to be implemented in an orderly and quality-assured fashion. This problem was often compounded by the poor quality of maps and other information provided.

To address this issue, the Commission funded the adoption by DLI of local government ward boundaries into the electronic mapping system called SmartPlan. Prior to this, no agency was able to provide ward boundary maps.

In addition to this initiative, the Commission met with the Local Government Advisory Board, the Department of Local Government and Regional Development (DLGRD) and DLI with the aim of setting up a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under which these agencies will work together to improve the process to achieve benefits for all parties.



The Local Government Boundaries Working Group established under the MOU met for the first time in August 2005. It was agreed to write to the 38 local governments that had been notified by the Local Government Advisory Board in July 2005 that they were due for a ward review, offering support from the Commission and from DLI. The offer of support was sent in October 2005 and in the reporting period 27 local governments requested support. Unfortunately, as in the past, the number of local governments that have failed to complete ward reviews by the due date of 30 June 2006 remains unacceptably high. The working group is continuing its efforts.

### CHANGES TO ERMS

The Electoral Roll Maintenance System (ERMS) was developed in 1988 and is overdue for redevelopment. ERMS is a large multi-user computer system involving more than 1,000 computer programs which perform core enrolment and roll production tasks and a number of election-related functions. The acute need to redevelop this system is driven by a number of factors, including:

- the programming language and database are dated and it is becoming increasingly difficult to resource the technical expertise to maintain this system;
- the programming language and database do not allow the Commission to take advantage of modern technologies and are generally incompatible with other computer systems that are used by the Commission;
- major structural changes are needed to ERMS to better meet our present and future requirements. It is not cost justified to implement any further changes to ERMS given the limited life of the programming language and database;
- there are limited options should support cease for the programming language or database. This is a serious concern given the declining popularity of this software. As a case in point, the Commission was notified in mid-2005 by the suppliers of the hardware and the software used by ERMS that support for the versions used would cease on 31 March 2006. It was considered an unacceptable risk to continue operating a core business system without support. Since redevelopment of ERMS was estimated to take from two to four years to complete and could not possibly be ready for use when support ends, the best option available was to migrate the system to the latest release of the software and to a Windows XP hardware environment. This migration was completed successfully and has provided more time to redevelop ERMS.

The ERMS redevelopment is expected to commence in the next financial year with the aim of having the core modules ready for the next State general election.



## ELECTOR MOBILITY

Economic growth, employment levels and home sales statistics all indicate that Western Australia is experiencing a high level of population movement. On average, the State electoral roll has had a turnover of around 20% in the past year. Some districts such as Victoria Park, Perth and Wanneroo were significantly higher, while some country regions were significantly lower, in particular the Agricultural region.

After elections (and following regular roll reviews) it is normal for the number of electors on the roll to decline slightly, as was apparent with a net change in the roll of -0.39%, or slightly fewer than 5,000 electors. An additional 122,500 electors were registered and 127,400 were deleted. The majority of these additions and deletions resulted from electors changing their electoral districts, but the number of new electors (54,600) was still exceeded by the number of roll deletions (59,500).

At a time of economic boom in the State and significant reported population growth from interstate migration (particularly in the mining sector), it is notable that there were significant declines in districts in the Mining and Pastoral region.

In the coming year, with the assistance of Census and other data, the Commission intends to explore avenues for better informing electors about enrolment changes to encourage electors to keep enrolment details current, particularly in growth regions and districts, and high mobility industry groups and demographic segments.

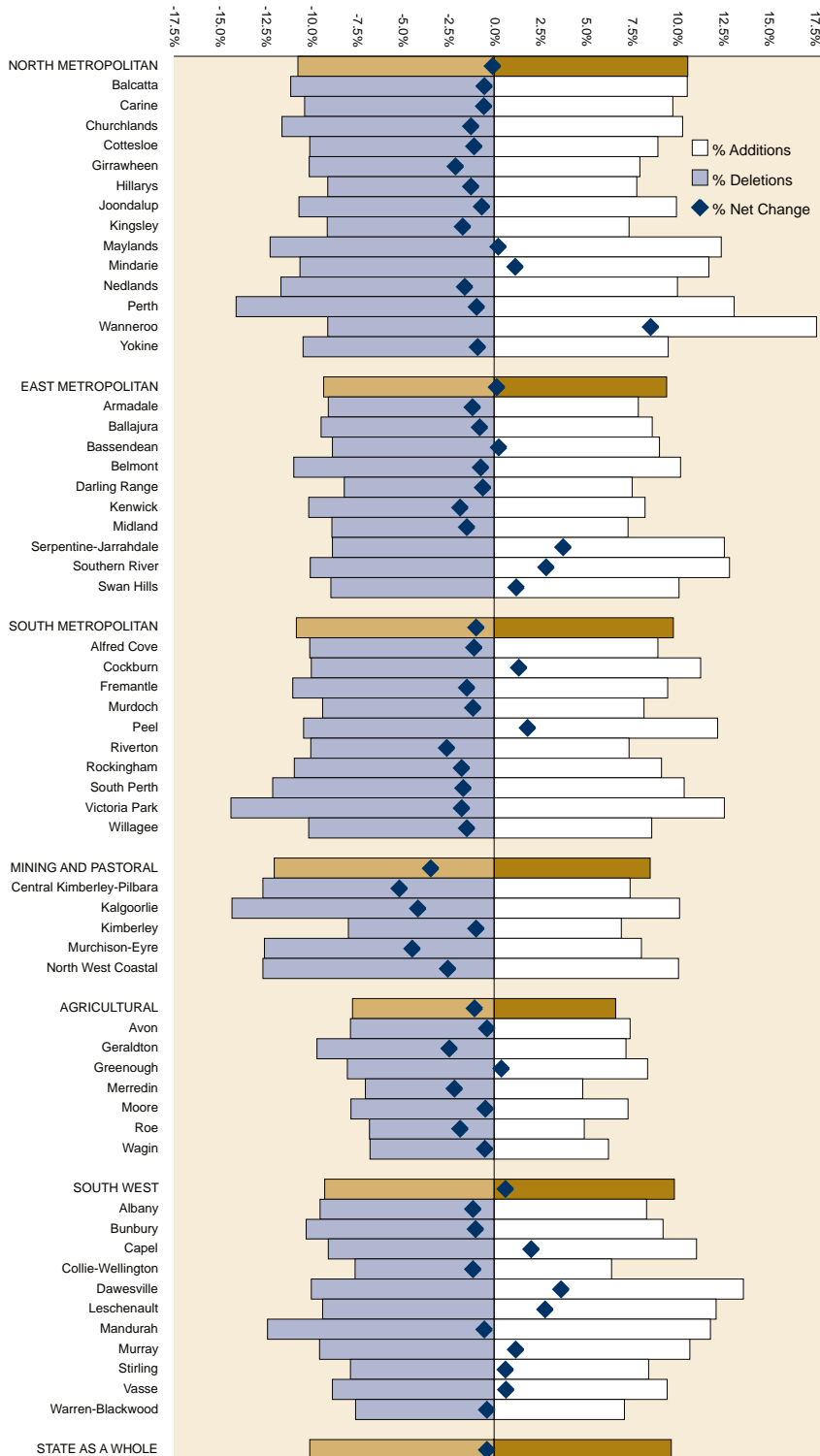
## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

With an eye to the future, the Enrolment group will continue to pursue the following:

- redevelopment of the Electoral Roll Maintenance System (ERMS) commencing in 2006–2007;
- continued efforts to encourage local governments to improve the quality and timeliness of local government district and ward boundary changes;
- liaison with DLI to have local government, local government ward and State district boundaries that have been published in the *Government Gazette* but are not effective until a future date made available on the Landgate web site, in addition to existing boundaries. This is essential because the Commission is required to prepare for elections based on the new boundaries, while at the same time being able to prepare for by-elections based on the old boundaries;
- legislative changes to better align State and federal roll maintenance systems;
- continued development of procedures to protect the privacy of confidential elector information; and
- the development of strategies to inform the public about enrolment requirements and the new boundaries in the lead-up to the next State general election.



Figure 5: Elector Movement 2005–2006 by Region and District and the State as a Whole.







A focus on corporate governance matters has achieved a high level of compliance with public sector standards and government policy directives. Furthermore, the Commission is committed to continuously improving its corporate governance functions in line with community and government expectations.

### COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 31(1) OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT ACT 1994

Existing controls and checks are considered sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance of compliance with the standards and ethical codes. Auditing is conducted on a regular basis as part of the internal audit program. An application may be made for a breach of standards review at any time where the circumstances warrant. No such applications were received in the past year. The outcomes for the reporting period are:

Number lodged	0	Multiple breaches	0	Material breaches	0
Breaches found	0	Applications under review	0	Breaches withdrawn	0

The Electoral Commissioner is subject to the provisions of the *Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971*, but only to the extent of the Electoral Commissioner's functions as Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Electoral Commission.

Legislation impacts all administrative and operational activities and the Commission complied with the following legislation in the performance of its function:

Administrative	Operational
<i>Criminal Code</i>	<i>Constitution Act 1889</i>
<i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)</i>	<i>Constitution Acts Amendment Act 1899</i>
<i>Disability Services Act 1993</i>	<i>Election of Senators Act 1903</i>
<i>Equal Opportunity Act 1984</i>	<i>Electoral Act 1907</i>
<i>Electronic Transactions Act 2003</i>	<i>Electoral (Ballot Paper Forms) Regulations 1990</i>
<i>Evidence Act 1906</i>	<i>Electoral (Political Finance) Regulations 1996</i>
<i>Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985</i>	<i>Electoral Regulations 1996</i>
<i>Freedom of Information Act 1992</i>	<i>Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Acts 1994</i>
<i>Government Employees Superannuation Act 1987</i>	<i>Franchise Act 1916</i>
<i>Industrial Relations Act 1979</i>	<i>Guardianship and Administration Act 1990</i>
<i>Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984</i>	<i>Industrial Arbitration (Union Elections) Regulations 1980</i>
<i>Public and Bank Holidays Act 1972</i>	<i>Juries Act 1957</i>
<i>Public Sector Management Act 1994</i>	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
<i>Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003</i>	<i>Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1996</i>
<i>Salaries and Allowances Act 1975</i>	<i>Referendums Acts 1983</i>
<i>State Records Act 2000</i>	<i>Referendums Regulations 1984</i>
<i>State Supply Commission Acts 1991</i>	
<i>Workers Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981</i>	



## SUSTAINABILITY

Consistent with the requirements of the Western Australian State Sustainability Strategy, the Commission's Sustainability Action Plan for 2005–2009 was applied to inform planning and decision making. Some examples of sustainability initiatives undertaken by the Commission in 2005–2006 were:

- the conduct of an energy audit which is expected to realise significant environmental and financial benefits in ensuing years;
- the development of a 'Proof of Concept' for the trialling of e-voting to be undertaken late in 2006. The projected outcome will be the realisation of significant social, financial and environmental benefits in the longer term; and
- the development of policy initiatives that encourage staff members to take part in programs that benefit the local and wider community.

## PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE

The Commission received no Public Interest Disclosure applications during the year.

The Commission's Public Interest Disclosure Officer is Lyn McKay, General Manager. The Commission has information on its web site explaining how to make a public interest disclosure, including the internal procedures outlining the agency's obligations under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*. The Commission will take all reasonable steps to provide protection to people who make such disclosures from any detrimental action in reprisal for the making of a public interest disclosure.

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) APPLICATIONS

The Commission received no Freedom of Information applications during the year.

Freedom of Information applications or general enquiries are managed by Natalie Stillitano, Information and Publications Coordinator. Branch managers who have responsibility for the information being sought are able to make decisions regarding applications.

## COMPLAINTS AND OTHER FEEDBACK

The Complaints Management Policy entered its second year of operation coming into the 2006 Victoria Park by-election. During the by-election, five complaints were received. These complaints all related to election processes and electoral advertising rather than service delivery. All complaints were dealt with within the time frame specified in the Commission's Complaints Management Policy, and all parties involved were satisfied with the outcomes.

Similarly, the 75 complaints resulting from local government elections in May 2005 related more to election processes than service delivery. Likewise, the majority of the complaints related to concerns about campaign material. Two of these complaints were referred for further investigation.



The *Local Government Act 1995* provides for matters to be referred to the Electoral Commissioner for investigation, whether or not the Commission was responsible for the conduct of the election concerned.

In accordance with the Commission's Sustainability Action Plan, review of the Complaints Management Policy is ongoing. Issues identified during the first year of its implementation are being used to engender continuous improvement in a sustainable manner.

## RECORDKEEPING

The State Records Commission approved the Commission's recordkeeping plan on 11 May 2006 for a period of five years.

Under the plan, employees' roles and responsibilities are included as part of the induction training program for all staff with ongoing compliance review by the records officer. This is supported by the provision of a brochure *An Induction Guide to Records*.

The Commission conducts an ongoing recordkeeping training program supporting the training of those staff responsible for recordkeeping, drawing on both external 'records management training', and information sessions.

## DISABILITY SERVICES PLAN

The Commission consolidated its commitment to its Disability Services Plan during the year. Existing facilities have continued, including:

- telephone typewriter facility;
- multilingual guides;
- hard-of-hearing pamphlets;
- the use of magnifying sheets at all polling places for the visually impaired; and
- printing of graphics on polling place cardboard furniture to identify the edges for people who are visually impaired.

The Western Australian *Disability Services Act 1993* was amended in 2004 bringing about a number of changes, including modifying the title of Disability Services Plan to the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. To further the principles and objectives to comply with the requirements of the amended Act, the development of a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan continues. Our goal is to increase access to services, functions and facilities by continuing to work with relevant associations to identify and assess new initiatives in meeting the requirements of electors with special needs.



## QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Commitment to maintaining Quality Assurance was also high with a new Quality Management Policy adopted during the past year. The newly formed Quality Management committee met regularly to address audit processes and improvement recommendations from staff.

Under AS/NZS ISO 9001:2000 'Quality Management Systems', the Commission's Election Management Branch is certified to international quality standards for the provision of:

- enrolment services for the State of Western Australia; and
- election services for the State of Western Australia.

The Enrolment Group was initially certified in August 2005. Its certification now covers:

- electoral roll maintenance;
- roll audits; and
- roll products (public, periodic, local government and jury rolls).

In October 2005 the Elections Group was re-certified. This covers:

- State government elections (and referenda);
- local government elections; and
- other elections.

Certificates of Approval confirm that management systems comply with the requirements of the standard for these core activities. The certificates remain valid for three years until re-certification (July 2008), subject to annual external quality audit reviews.

Part of the quality management process is ongoing monitoring of products and services, including customer and client perceptions and satisfaction. Citizens, electors and other stakeholders in Commission activities can provide feedback at any time through the web site, by facsimile, mail or telephone.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

The growing importance of effective risk management in the conduct of electoral affairs was given further recognition in 2005–2006 with a revised Risk Management Strategy and Policy together with the establishment of a Risk Management Review committee comprising senior management. This was supported by the development of a Business Continuity Plan which will review and address the Commission's responses to the impact of 'mission critical' disasters.



## COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 175ZE OF THE *ELECTORAL ACT 1907*

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the following expenditure was incurred in advertising, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising:

1. Total expenditure for 2005–2006 was \$108,487.
2. Expenditure was incurred in the following areas:

Advertising agencies	\$22,540	303 Advertising	\$22,540
Market research organisations	\$28,900	Patterson Market Research	\$28,900
Polling organisations	Nil		
Media advertising organisations	\$24,297	Media Decisions	\$24,297
Direct mail organisations	\$32,750	Hermes Precisa Ltd	\$20,228
		Zipform	\$12,522

Warwick Gately AM

**ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER**

31 August 2006



Support and guidance was provided by the branch during the year on a number of election events and in planning human resource requirements for Commission operations.

### HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Commission operates with a permanent staffing level of 43 full time equivalent staff members (FTEs). This level has been supplemented during the year by the appointment of some contract and casual staff to assist with particular election projects.

Generally the Commission workforce is stable, however this year the management of staff vacancies has required careful attention due to an unusual number of staff movements. As an observation, younger and more educated job seekers have sought work with the Commission briefly as a means of entering the wider public service. A total of 13 long term vacancies were advertised and filled.

As an initiative to reduce staff absence due to winter illness, the Commission continued its policy of meeting the cost of influenza injections for staff members choosing to participate.

### TRAINING

A total of \$9,500 was spent on training courses and training aids with the bulk of this being directed towards publications for a variety of in-house training support, together with attendance at a variety of relevant seminars and conferences.

### WORKERS' COMPENSATION

In accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 903, the following workers' compensation information is provided in respect to claims. The four key factors for monitoring performance are listed below.

Frequency rates	0
Estimated cost of claims incurred per \$100 wage roll	0.0173
Premium rate	0.81%
Rehabilitation success rate	n/a

### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Specific project expenditure during the year centred on an upgrade of the Commission's Roll Maintenance System, together with further enhancements to the Election Management System. Funding for a full redevelopment of ERMS has been allocated over the next three years.

Additional funding was sought during the year to conduct the Victoria Park by-election and for an increased contribution to the Commonwealth for the joint management of the electoral roll. Efforts are continuing in the development of reporting structures to assist with informative reporting.

### INTERNAL AUDIT

A limited number of internal audits were carried out during the year, owing to the appointment of new auditors and the general concentration on election matters. Audits were carried out on the Commission's accounts payable, accounts receivable and records management functions. Only minor administrative matters require attention as a result of these audits.



## PROCUREMENT

Procurement activity has been relatively light during the year. Stores staff have concentrated on re-packing, recycling and destroying election material following the State general election and local government elections. The impact of government procurement reform initiatives has been felt, with an increasing number of purchases now being sourced from common use contracts.

## ENERGY SMART GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

In accordance with the Energy Smart Government Program, the Commission has committed to achieve a 12% reduction in non-transport related energy use by 2006–2007 with a 10% reduction targeted for 2005–2006 compared to the base year, 2001–2002.

Table 9: Energy Smart Government Program Results

Energy Smart Government Program		Baseline Data 2001–2002	Actuals 2005–2006	Variation %
Energy consumption (MJ)		487	525	+7.8%
Energy cost (\$)		\$21,961	\$25,825	+17.6%
Greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> )		125	142	+13.6%
Performance indicators	MJ/m <sup>2</sup>	276	274	-0.72%
	MJ/FTE	13,555	11,386	-16%

The Commission took on additional leased accommodation space during the year to cater for cyclical needs of election operations and the distribution of electoral boundaries. The inclusion of this additional space will have a distorting effect on the potential savings. During the year, an energy audit was completed and loan funding subsequently secured through the Sustainable Energy Development Office to upgrade office lighting. The upgrade was completed at the end of June and will result in significant future benefits, in terms of both cash outlays and a considerable reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The upgrade has also provided an improvement in the amenity of the general office environment.

## WASTE PAPER RECYCLING

The Commission continues to participate in waste paper recycling activities. General office waste is collected under the government common use contract, whilst secure bulk disposal and recycling of election related material is undertaken periodically.

## WATER AUDIT

In accordance with the Sustainability and Government Accommodation Policy released by the Department of Housing and Works, a water audit is to be carried out in the latter half of 2006, in conjunction with other government tenants.



Electoral events during the year provided many challenges for the Information Technology branch coupled with ongoing commitments to system upgrades and new initiatives.

Key areas of focus included:

- successfully supporting all branches for their technology requirements and ensuring systems required by the users were available;
- providing a hardware infrastructure that was stable and robust, ensuring maximum operational time and security of data within the budgetary constraints;
- pro-actively working with users to understand their tasks and to assist them in creating tools to run efficient and successful elections; and
- ensuring the Commission maintained at least the minimum government standards in all areas of e-Government and security.

### SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

The Election Management System WA (EMSWA) that has been in place for many years originally included 11 modules. In the year under review, the election set-up module was introduced and the election resourcing module was designed and partially completed. All modules were designed and developed conjointly to ensure savings and reusability of code.

A project to develop a new web site was ongoing during the year requiring considerable staff effort. While persistent contractor delays proved frustrating, the web site is now at a stage where stress testing and user acceptance testing can occur. This project will be completed early in the new financial year.

The Commission has continued virtualising most of its program and system servers, as well as its data array servers using VMWARE GSX. In addition, a system has been developed to replicate important system servers and data arrays in real time in an off-site data centre using the SANMelody solution.

### WORKING WITH THE OFFICE OF E-GOVERNMENT

As early as 2003 the concept of e-voting or voting over the Internet was being considered. At that time, Microsoft and the Office of e-Government were allocating grants to assist agencies in creating 'Proof of Concept' systems. The Commission prepared an application for a grant which was awarded in early 2006.

Since then, substantial effort and resources have been committed to developing this 'Proof of Concept' system and a trial election will be undertaken in November 2006 for a non-parliamentary customer. This election will be conducted as a postal election in which electors will have the choice of returning their votes through the post or voting over the Internet.

In order to comply with the terms of the grant for e-voting, the Commission has commenced a significant upgrade program. This includes migrating from .Net 1.1 to .Net 2.0 and upgrading all physical and virtual servers to Windows Server 2003. This process is due to be completed by August 2006. Once this is completed, there will be a further upgrade of SQL 2000 to SQL 2005.





## INNOVATIONS

For the Victoria Park by-election, computers were trialled in every polling place to record electors' names rather than using paper rolls. The absent voter recording system was modified for this purpose. Elector names were marked off the roll immediately, eliminating the need to scan the rolls after the election to identify those electors who did not vote or who voted more than once. This also allowed electors to be advised immediately if they were enrolled in Victoria Park or another district, eliminating the incidence of provisional votes and drastically reducing the need for declaration vote processing.

A 'tablet' PC was introduced and successfully trialled during mobile early voting, as well as at hospitals and special institutions. This allowed polling officials to identify that electors were registered for Victoria Park and electronically mark them off the roll.

## OTHER PROJECTS

Security processes and the integrity of computer systems are of paramount importance. New methods of monitoring, assessing and checking security are continually tested and implemented, as there is a constant need to ensure security is tight as the potential for external access increases.

Staff continue to undertake research and development to ensure that they keep up to date with technology, enabling the IT branch to better serve its customers.

During 2005–2006, the helpdesk/developer position was reclassified as a level four developer and a new fulltime helpdesk/administration position (initially contract) was created. This was funded from existing financial resources and will be filled in June–July 2006.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

A procurement plan has been developed along with tender documents to appoint a development partner for the next three to five years. This partnering will allow the Commission to advance the development and introduction of new systems, including:

- the final version of the e-voting project;
- redevelopment of the Electoral Roll Management System (ERMS);
- development of resources and reporting modules; and
- maintenance of existing modules.

Developed in 1988, ERMS consists of about 1,500 programs and is due for redevelopment. As an interim measure and to overcome the withdrawal of supplier hardware and software support to ERMS, a limited upgrade was necessary. The option taken was to migrate the system to the latest release of the software from a Unix based system to a Windows XP hardware environment. This migration was completed successfully and has provided more time to redevelop ERMS.

In redeveloping ERMS, a number of options are being investigated around reusing the database and/or data files with some minor modifications where necessary. While the programs' structures could also be reused by 'wrapping around' current development modules, this option will not be pursued as it will not allow redesign of the required functionality.

The ERMS redevelopment (design and requirements phase) will commence on the awarding of the new IT partnering contract, with the total project expected to take three to four years.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS and Performance Indicators



AUDITOR GENERAL

INDEPENDENT AUDIT OPINION

To the Parliament of Western Australia

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

**Audit Opinion**

In my opinion,

- (i) the financial statements are based on proper accounts and present fairly the financial position of the Western Australian Electoral Commission at 30 June 2006 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date. They are in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the Treasurer's Instructions;
- (ii) the controls exercised by the Commission provide reasonable assurance that the receipt and expenditure of moneys, the acquisition and disposal of property, and the incurring of liabilities have been in accordance with legislative provisions; and
- (iii) the key effectiveness and efficiency performance indicators of the Commission are relevant and appropriate to help users assess the Commission's performance and fairly represent the indicated performance for the year ended 30 June 2006.

**Scope**

The Commission is responsible for keeping proper accounts and maintaining adequate systems of internal control, for preparing the financial statements and performance indicators, and complying with the Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985 (the Act) and other relevant written law.

The financial statements consist of the Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement, Summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Income Estimates, and the Notes to the Financial Statements.

The performance indicators consist of key indicators of effectiveness and efficiency.

**Summary of my Role**

As required by the Act, I have independently audited the accounts, financial statements and performance indicators to express an opinion on the financial statements, controls and performance indicators. This was done by testing selected samples of the evidence. Further information on my audit approach is provided in my audit practice statement. Refer "<http://www.audit.wa.gov.au/pubs/Audit-Practice-Statement.pdf>".

An audit does not guarantee that every amount and disclosure in the financial statements and performance indicators is error free. The term "reasonable assurance" recognises that an audit does not examine all evidence and every transaction. However, my audit procedures should identify errors or omissions significant enough to adversely affect the decisions of users of the financial statements and performance indicators.

D D R PEARSON  
AUDITOR GENERAL  
19 September 2006

4th Floor Dumas House 2 Havelock Street West Perth 6005 Western Australia Tel: 08 9222 7500 Fax: 08 9322 5664



## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS' CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the performance indicators are based on proper records, are relevant and appropriate for assisting users to assess the performance of the Western Australian Electoral Commission, and fairly represent the performance of the Commission for the year ended 30 June 2006.

Warwick Gately AM

**ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER**

13 September 2006



**Outcome:** All electors are able to participate in impartial, effective and democratic elections or referenda conducted by the Commission.

Effectiveness Indicator	Source/ Method	Performance				
		2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06
1 Average participation rate of eligible electors:	Statistics					
• State general election		n/a	n/a	n/a	89.84%	n/a
• Local government elections (ordinary postal)		n/a	34.9%	n/a	37.34%	n/a
• Local government elections (extraordinary postal)		51.6%	n/a	44.79%	39.30%	28.85%
<p><b>Note 1:</b> Details of this effectiveness indicator can only be provided every four years for State general elections, and every two years for local government ordinary elections. The rates provide a key indicator of the Commission's effectiveness in enabling electors to participate in the electoral process, and also provide an indication of the advantages of postal elections in facilitating participation in voluntary elections. It should be noted that participation rates for local government ordinary elections, as in 2002–03 and 2004–05, will often be lower than the extraordinary elections due to the influence of the larger local authorities on average turnout. The average participation rate in extraordinary elections can vary markedly due to the size of the election and the importance of local issues.</p>						

## EFFICIENCY INDICATORS

**Service:** Electoral Services

**Description:** Provision of an impartial, independent and efficient electoral service to parliamentary and non-parliamentary customers.

Efficiency Indicator	Source/ Method	Performance		
		2003–04 Comparative	2004–05	2005–06
• Cost/elector of providing electoral services	Financial and statistical data	\$4.97	\$4.69	\$4.56
• Cost/elector to conduct general elections		n/a	\$8.36	\$0.24
• Average cost/ elector to conduct local government election	Financial and statistical data	\$5.63	\$2.04	\$1.67
<p><b>Note:</b> The indicator for the cost/ elector of providing electoral services was amended in 2004–05 to reflect the consolidation of four programs into one. This now provides a direct link to the budget estimates. The comparative figure for 2003–04 only has been retained for transitional purposes. This indicator reflects the fixed cost of maintaining readiness for a State election.</p> <p>Reference to the general election costs reflects the cost of finalising reports and non-voter action from the 2005 election.</p> <p>Local government ordinary elections are conducted every two years, and extraordinary elections are conducted on an as-needs basis. This year, 12 extraordinary elections were conducted, of which six proceeded to election.</p>				



## CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying financial statements of the Western Australian Electoral Commission have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* from proper accounts and records to present fairly the financial transactions for the financial year ending 30 June 2006, and the financial position as at 30 June 2006.

At the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

Warwick Gately AM

**ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER AND  
ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER**

13 September 2006

Gary Harrington

**CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

13 September 2006



## Income Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2006

	Note	2005–06 (\$'000)	2004–05 (\$'000)
<b>COST OF SERVICES</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits expense	5	3,354	9,478
Depreciation and amortisation expense	6	111	156
Supplies and services	7	2,557	7,642
Accommodation expenses	8	437	848
Capital user charge	9	0	44
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	11	0	3
Other expenses		0	0
<b>Total Costs of Services</b>		<b>6,459</b>	<b>18,171</b>
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
Recoup of services	10	513	2,392
Other revenue	10	170	159
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>683</b>	<b>2,551</b>
<b>Gains</b>			
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	11	3	0
<b>Total Gains</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Income other than Income from State Government</b>			
		<b>686</b>	<b>2,551</b>
<b>NET COST OF SERVICES</b>			
		<b>5,773</b>	<b>15,620</b>
<b>Income from State Government</b>			
Service appropriations	12	3,050	17,951
Resources received free of charge	12	36	50
Liabilities assumed by the Treasurer	12,18	122	89
<b>Total Income from State Government</b>		<b>3,208</b>	<b>18,090</b>
<b>SURPLUS / DEFICIT FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<b>(2,565)</b>	<b>2,470</b>

The Statement of Financial Performance should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



## Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2006

	Note	2005–06 (\$'000)	2004–05 (\$'000)
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	13	281	2,324
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	14	0	0
Receivables	15	344	990
Amounts receivable for services	16	277	163
Other current assets	17	33	55
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>935</b>	<b>3,532</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Amounts receivable for services	16	102	163
Property, plant and equipment	19	239	262
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>341</b>	<b>425</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>1,276</b>	<b>3,957</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	21	122	126
Other current liabilities	23	82	0
Provisions	22	113	286
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>317</b>	<b>412</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	22	266	287
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>266</b>	<b>287</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>583</b>	<b>699</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>693</b>	<b>3,258</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Contributed equity	24	568	568
Accumulated surplus (deficiency)	24	125	2,690
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>693</b>	<b>3,258</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		<b>1,276</b>	<b>3,957</b>

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.





Statement of Changes in Equity as at 30 June 2006

	Note	2005–06 (\$'000)	2004–05 (\$'000)
<b>Balance of Equity at Start of Period</b>		<b>3,258</b>	<b>788</b>
<b>CONTRIBUTED EQUITY</b>			
Balance at start of period	24	568	568
Capital contribution		0	0
Other contribution		0	0
<b>Balance at End of Period</b>		<b>568</b>	<b>568</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (RETAINED EARNINGS)</b>			
Balance at start of period	24	2,690	220
Surplus/(Deficit) or profit/(loss) for the period		(2,565)	2,470
Other			
<b>Balance at End of Period</b>		<b>125</b>	<b>2,690</b>
<b>Balance of Equity at End of Period</b>		<b>693</b>	<b>3,258</b>
<b>Total Income and Expense for the Period</b>		<b>(2,565)</b>	<b>2,470</b>



Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2006

	Note	2005–06 (\$'000)	2004–05 (\$'000)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM STATE GOVERNMENT</b>			
Service appropriation		2,887	17,788
Capital contributions		0	0
Holding account draw-downs		110	0
<b>Net Cash Provided by State Government</b>		<b>2,997</b>	<b>17,788</b>
<b>Utilised as Follows:</b>			
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Employee benefits		(3,376)	(9,342)
Supply and services		(2,375)	(7,576)
Accommodation		(437)	(848)
Capital user charge		0	(44)
GST payments on purchase		(90)	(50)
<b>Receipts</b>			
Sales of goods and services		1,324	1,792
GST receipts from taxation authority		0	0
<b>Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Operating Activities</b>	25	<b>(4,954)</b>	<b>(16,068)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of non-current physical assets		3	0
Purchase of non-current physical assets		(89)	(196)
<b>Net Cash provided by/(used in) Investing Activities</b>		<b>(86)</b>	<b>(196)</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>(2,043)</b>	<b>1,524</b>
Cash assets at the beginning of the period		2,324	800
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF PERIOD</b>		<b>281</b>	<b>2,324</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.


 Summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Income Estimates  
 for the year ended 30 June 2006

	2005–06 Estimates \$'000	2005–06 Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000	2005–06 Actual \$'000	2004–05 Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000
<b>DELIVERY OF SERVICES</b>						
<b>Item 66:</b>						
Net amount appropriated to deliver services	2,530	2,635	105	2,635	17,607	(14,972)
Amounts authorised by other Statutes						
<i>Electoral Act 1907</i>	253	359	106	359	288	71
<i>Industrial Relations Act 1979</i>	56	56	0	56	56	0
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	2,839	3,050	211	3,050	17,951	(14,901)
<b>CAPITAL</b>						
<b>Item 142: Capital contribution</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL OF APPROPRIATIONS</b>	<b>2,839</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>17,951</b>	<b>(14,901)</b>
<b>Details of Expenses by Services</b>						
Elections services	5,477	6,459	982	6,459	18,171	(11,712)
Total cost of services	5,477	6,459	982	6,459	18,171	(11,712)
Less total revenue from ordinary activities	43	686	643	686	2,551	(1,865)
Net cost of services	5,434	5,773	339	5,773	15,620	(9,847)
Adjustments (1)	(2,595)	(2,723)	128	(2,723)	2,331	(5,054)
<b>Total Appropriations Provided to Deliver Services</b>	<b>2,839</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>17,951</b>	<b>(14,901)</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>						
Purchase of non-current physical assets	0	89	89	89	195	(106)
Adjustment for other funding sources	0	(89)	(89)	(89)	(195)	106
<b>Capital Contributions (Appropriation)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DETAILS OF REVENUE ESTIMATES</b>						
Revenues disclosed as administered revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-

(1) Adjustments are related to movements in cash balances and other accrual items such as receivables, payables and superannuation.

The summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Revenue Estimates is prepared on an accrual Basis. The Summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Revenue Estimates should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

This summary provides the basis for the Explanatory Statement information requirements of TI 945, set out in Note 29.



## 1 Departmental Mission and Funding

The Western Australian Electoral Commission's mission is to conduct elections, maintain the electoral roll and raise public awareness of electoral matters.

The Commission is predominantly funded by parliamentary appropriation. The Commission provides the following services on a fee-for-service basis:

- Conduct of certain non-parliamentary elections.
- Sale of electoral roll products.

The financial statements encompass all funds through which the Commission controls resources to carry on its functions.

## 2 First Time Adoption of Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards

This is the Commission's first published financial statements prepared under Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS). Accounting Standard AASB1 'First-time Adoption of Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards' has been applied in preparing these financial statements. The financial statements of the Commission until 30 June 2005 had been prepared under the previous Australian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (AGAAP).

The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) adopted the Standards of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) for application to reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2005 by issuing AIFRS which comprise a Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements, Accounting Standards and the Urgent Issue Group (UIG) Interpretations.

In accordance with the option provided by AASB1 paragraph 36A and exercised by Treasurer's Instruction (TI) 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and other Pronouncements', financial instrument information prepared under AASB 132 and AASB 139 will apply from 1 July 2005 and consequently comparative information for financial instruments is presented on the previous AGAAP basis. All other comparative information is prepared under the AIFRS basis.

### Early adoption of standards

The Commission cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard or UIG Interpretation unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements'. This TI requires the early adoption of revised AASB 119 'Employee Benefits' as issued in December 2004, AASB 2004-3 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards' and 2005-3 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 119]'; AASB 2005-4 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standard [AASB 139, AASB 132, AASB 1, AASB 1023 & AASB 1038]' and AASB 2005-6 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 3]' to the annual reporting period beginning 1 July 2005. AASB 2005-4 amends AASB 139 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement' so that the ability to designate financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value is restricted. AASB 2005-6 excludes business combinations involving common control from the scope of AASB 3 'Business Combinations'.

**Reconciliations explaining the transition to AIFRS as at 1 July 2004 and 30 June 2005 are provided at note 40.**



### 3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) General Statement

The financial statements constitute a general purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board as applied by the Treasurer's Instructions. Several of these are modified by the Treasurer's Instructions to vary application, format and wording.

The *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1985* and the Treasurer's Instructions are legislative provisions governing the preparation of financial statements and take precedence over the Accounting Standards, the Framework, Statements of Accounting Concepts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

Where modification is required and has a material or significant financial effect upon the reported results, details of that modification and the resulting financial effect are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

#### (b) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standard AAS 29 'Financial Reporting by Government Departments' on the accrual basis of accounting using the historical cost convention.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements have been consistently applied throughout all periods presented unless otherwise stated. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000).

#### (c) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity comprises the Department and there are no Related Bodies.

#### (d) Contributed Equity

UIG Interpretation 1038 'Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities' requires transfers in the nature of equity contributions to be designated by the Government (owners) as contributions by owners (at the time of, or prior to transfer) before such transfers can be recognised as equity contributions in the financial statements. Capital contributions (appropriations) have been designated as contributions by owners and have been credited directly to Contributed Equity.

#### (e) Income

##### **Revenue**

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised for the major business activities as follows:

##### *Sale of goods*

Revenue is recognised from the sale of goods and disposal of other assets when the significant risks and rewards of ownership control transfer to the purchaser.

##### *Rendering of services*

Revenue is recognised upon delivery of the service to the client or by reference to the stage of completion.



#### *Service appropriations*

Service appropriations are recognised as revenues in the period in which the Commission gains control of the appropriated funds. The Commission gains control of appropriated funds at the time those funds are deposited into the Commission's bank account or credited to the holding account held at the Department of Treasury and Finance. See note 12 'Income from State Government' for further detail.

#### *Net appropriation determination*

The Treasurer may make a determination providing for prescribed revenues to be retained for services under the control of the Commission. In accordance with the determination specified in the 2005–2006 Budget Statements, the Commission retained \$685,305 in 2006 (\$1,702,091 in 2005) from the following:

- proceeds from fees and charges; and
- other departmental revenue.

#### *Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions*

Revenue is recognised at fair value when the Commission obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions which is usually when cash is received. Other non-reciprocal contributions that are not contributions by owners are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Where contributions recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the nature of, and amounts pertaining to, those undischarged conditions are disclosed in the notes.

#### *Gains*

Gains may be realised or unrealised and are usually recognised on a net basis. These include gains arising on the disposal of non-current assets and some revaluations of non-current assets.

### **(f) Property, Plant and Equipment and Infrastructure**

#### ***Capitalisation/Expensing of assets***

Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing over \$1,000 are recognised as assets and the cost of utilising assets is expensed (depreciated) over their useful lives.

Items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure costing less than \$1,000 are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

#### ***Initial recognition and measurement***

All items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure are initially recognised at cost.

For items of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, the cost is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

#### ***Subsequent measurement***

After recognition as an asset, property plant and equipment are carried at historical cost less depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.



### ***Depreciation***

All non-current assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their estimated useful lives in a manner that reflects the consumption of their future economic benefits. Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method, using rates which are reviewed annually.

Estimated useful lives for each class of depreciable asset are:

Plant and equipment	10 years
Computer equipment	3 years

### **(g) Intangible Assets**

#### ***Research and development***

Research costs are expensed as incurred. Development costs incurred for an individual project are carried forward when the future recoverability can reasonably be regarded as assured. Other development costs are expensed as incurred.

#### ***Computer software***

Acquired software is expensed in the year of acquisition. Where software is an integral part of the related hardware, it is treated as property, plant and equipment.

#### ***Web site costs***

Costs in relation to web sites controlled by the Commission are charged as expenses in the period in which they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition or development of an asset, in which case they may be capitalised and amortised over the period of expected benefit. Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of a web site, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase are considered to be expenses.

### **(h) Impairment of Assets**

Property, plant and equipment, infrastructure and intangible assets are tested for any indication of impairment at each reporting date. Where there is an indication of impairment, the recoverable amount is estimated. Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the asset is written down to the recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised. As the Commission is a not-for-profit entity, unless an asset has been identified as a surplus asset, the recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost.

The risk of impairment is generally limited to circumstances where an asset's depreciation is materially understated or where the replacement cost is falling. Each relevant class of assets is reviewed annually to verify that the accumulated depreciation/amortisation reflects the level of consumption or expiration of asset's future economic benefits and to evaluate any impairment risk from falling replacement costs.

The Commission tests intangible assets with an indefinite useful life and intangible assets not yet available for use for impairment at each reporting date irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment. Tests are undertaken at each reporting date.

For assets identified as surplus assets, the recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and the present value of future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Surplus assets carried at fair value have no risk of material impairment where fair value is determined by reference to market evidence. Where fair value is determined by reference to depreciated replacement cost, surplus assets are at risk of impairment and the recoverable amount is measured. Surplus assets at cost are tested for indications of impairment at each reporting date.

See note 20 'Impairment of assets' for the outcome of impairment reviews and testing.

See note 3(n) 'Receivables' for impairment of receivables.



**(i) Leases**

The Commission has entered into a number of operating lease arrangements for premises and motor vehicles where the lessor effectively retains all of the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the items held under the operating leases. Equal instalments of the lease payments are charged to the Income Statement over the lease term as this is representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property.

**(j) Financial Instruments**

The Commission has two categories of financial instrument:

- receivables (cash and cash equivalents, receivables); and
- non-trading financial liabilities (payables).

Initial recognition and measurement of financial instruments is at fair value which normally equates to the transaction cost or the face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The fair value of short-term receivables and payables is the transaction cost or the face value because there is no interest rate applicable and subsequent measurement is not required as the effect of discounting is not material.

**(k) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For the purpose of the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents includes restricted cash and cash equivalents. These are comprised of cash on hand and short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash, and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

**(l) Accrued Salaries**

The accrued salaries suspense account (see note 14) consists of amounts paid annually into a suspense account over a period of 10 financial years to largely meet the additional cash outflow in each eleventh year when 27 pay days occur in that year instead of the normal 26. No interest is received on this account.

Accrued salaries (refer note 14) represent the amount due to staff but unpaid at the end of the financial year, as the end of the last pay period for that financial year does not coincide with the end of the financial year. Accrued salaries are settled within a few days of the financial year end. The Commission considers the carrying amount of accrued salaries to be equivalent to the net fair value.

**(m) Amounts Receivable for Services (Holding Account)**

The Commission receives appropriation funding on an accrual basis that recognises the full annual cash and non cash cost of services. The appropriations are paid partly in cash and partly as an asset (Holding Account receivable) that is accessible on the emergence of the cash funding requirement to cover items such as leave entitlements and asset replacement.

See also note 12 'Income from State Government' and note 16 'Amounts receivable for services'.





**(n) Receivables**

Receivables are recognised and carried at original invoice amount less an allowance for uncollectible amounts. The collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis and any receivables identified as uncollectible are written off. The allowance for uncollectible amounts (doubtful debts) is raised when there is objective evidence that the Commission will not be able to collect the debts. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value as it is due for settlement within 30 days. See note 31 'Financial Instruments' and note 15 'Receivables'.

**(o) Payables**

Payables are recognised when the Commission becomes obliged to make future payments as a result of a purchase of assets or services. The carrying amount is equivalent to fair value, as they are generally settled within 30 days. See note 31 'Financial Instruments' and note 21 'Payables'.

**(p) Provisions**

Provisions are liabilities of uncertain timing and amount. The Commission only recognises a provision where there is a present legal, equitable or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and when the outflow of economic benefits is probable and can be measured reliably. Provisions are reviewed at each balance sheet reporting date. See note 22 'Provisions'.

**(i) Provisions - Employee Benefits**

*Annual Leave*

The benefit is recognised at the reporting date in respect of employees services up to that date, and is measured at nominal amounts expected to be paid when liabilities are settled. All annual leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Commission does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

*Long Service Leave*

A liability for long service leave is recognised after an employee has completed four years of service. All unconditional long service leave provisions are classified as current liabilities as the Commission does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

*Superannuation*

The Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB) administers the following superannuation schemes.

Employees may contribute to the Pension Scheme, a defined benefit pension scheme now closed to new members or the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS), a defined benefit lump sum scheme also closed to new members. The Commission has no liabilities for superannuation charges under the Pension or the GSS Schemes as the liability has been assumed by Treasurer.

Employees who are not members of either the Pension or the GSS Schemes become non contributory members of the West State Superannuation Scheme, an accumulation fund. The Commission makes concurrent contributions to GESB on behalf of employees in compliance with the Commonwealth Government's *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*. These contributions extinguish the liability for superannuation charges in respect of the West State Scheme (WSS).

The GESB makes all benefit payments in respect of the Pension and GSS Schemes, and is recouped by the Treasurer for the employer's share.

See also note 3(q) 'Superannuation expense'.



**(ii) Provisions - Other**

*Employment On-Costs*

Employment on-costs, including workers' compensation insurance, are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as liabilities and expenses when the employment to which they relate has occurred. Employment on-costs are included as part of 'Other expenses' and are not included as part of the Commission's 'Employee benefits expense'. The related liability is included in Employment on-costs provision. (See note 22).

**(q) Superannuation Expense**

The following elements are included in calculating the superannuation expense in the Income Statement:

**(i) Defined benefit plans** - Change in the unfunded employer's liability (i.e. current service cost and, actuarial gains and losses) assumed by the Treasurer in respect of current employees who are members of the Pension Scheme and current employees who accrued a benefit on transfer from that Scheme to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS); and

**(ii) Defined contribution plans** - Employer contributions paid to the West State Superannuation Scheme (WSS), and the equivalent of employer contributions to the Gold State Superannuation Scheme (GSS).

Defined benefit plans - in order to reflect the true cost of services, the movements (i.e. current service cost and, actuarial gains and losses) in the liabilities in respect of the Pension Scheme and the GSS transfer benefits are recognised as expenses directly in the Income Statement. As these liabilities are assumed by the Treasurer (refer note 3(p)(i)), a revenue titled 'Liabilities assumed by the Treasurer' equivalent to the expense is recognised under Income from State Government in the Income Statement (See note 12 'Income from State Government').

Defined contribution plans - in order to reflect the Commission's true cost of services, the Commission is funded for the equivalent of employer contributions in respect of the GSS Scheme (excluding transfer benefits). These contributions were paid to the GESB during the year and placed in a trust account administered by the GESB on behalf of the Treasurer. The GESB subsequently paid these employer contributions in respect of the GSS Scheme to the Consolidated Fund.

**(r) Resources Received Free of Charge or For Nominal Consideration**

Resources received free of charge or for nominal consideration which can be reliably measured are recognised as revenues and as assets or expenses as appropriate at fair value.

**(s) Comparative Figures**

Comparative figures have been restated on the AIFRS basis except for financial instruments information, which has been prepared under the previous AGAAP Australian Accounting Standard AAS 33. The transition date to AIFRS for financial instruments is 1 July 2005 in accordance with the exemption allowed under AASB 1, paragraph 36A and Treasurer's Instruction 1101.



#### 4 Future Impact of Australian Accounting Standards not yet Operative

The Commission cannot early adopt an Australian Accounting Standard or UIG Interpretation unless specifically permitted by TI 1101 'Application of Australian Accounting Standards and Other Pronouncements'. As referred to in Note 2, TI 1101 has only mandated the early adoption of revised AASB 119, AASB 2004-3, AASB 2005-3, AASB 2005-4 and AASB 2005-6. Consequently, the Department has not applied the following Australian Accounting Standards and UIG Interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective. These will be applied from their application date:

(i) AASB 7 'Financial Instruments: Disclosures' (including consequential amendments in AASB 2005-10 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 132, AASB 101, AASB 114, AASB 117, AASB 133, AASB 139, AASB 1, AASB 4, AASB 1023 & AASB 1038]'). This Standard requires new disclosures in relation to financial instruments. The Standard is required to be applied to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2007. The Standard is considered to result in increased disclosures of an entity's risks, enhanced disclosure about components of financial position and performance, and changes to the way of presenting financial statements, but otherwise there is no financial impact.

(ii) AASB 2005-9 'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 4, AASB 1023, AASB 139 & AASB 132]' (Financial guarantee contracts). The amendment deals with the treatment of financial guarantee contracts, credit insurance contracts, letters of credit or credit derivative default contracts as either an 'insurance contract' under AASB 4 'Insurance Contracts' or as a 'financial guarantee contract' under AASB 139 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement'. The Commission does not undertake these types of transactions resulting in no financial impact when the Standard is first applied. The Standard is required to be applied to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2006.

(iii) UIG Interpretation 4 'Determining whether an Arrangement Contains a Lease'. This Interpretation deals with arrangements that comprise a transaction or a series of linked transactions that may not involve a legal form of a lease but by their nature are deemed to be leases for the purposes of applying AASB 117 'Leases'. At reporting date, the Commission has not entered into any arrangements as specified in the Interpretation resulting in no impact when the Interpretation is first applied. The Interpretation is required to be applied to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2006.

The following amendments are not applicable to the Commission as they will have no impact:

##### AASB

##### Amendment Affected Standards

2005-1	AASB 139 (Cash flow hedge accounting of forecast intragroup transactions)
2005-5	'Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASB 1 & AASB 139]'
2006-1	AASB 121 (Net investment in foreign operations)
UIG 5	'Rights to Interests arising from Decommissioning, Restoration and Environmental Rehabilitation Funds'.
UIG 6	'Liabilities arising from Participating in a Specific Market – Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment'.
UIG 7	'Applying the Restatement Approach under AASB 129 Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies'.
UIG 8	'Scope of AASB 2'.
UIG 9	'Reassessment of Embedded Derivatives'.



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2006

	2005–06 (\$'000)	2004–05 (\$'000)
<b>5 Employee Benefits Expenses</b>		
Salaries	3,122	8,667
Change in annual and long service leave entitlements	(158)	135
Superannuation	390	676
	<u>3,354</u>	<u>9,478</u>
Note: Annual leave and LSL expenses are included in salaries		
<b>6 Depreciation Expenses</b>		
Equipment	25	33
Computer hardware	86	123
	<u>111</u>	<u>156</u>
<b>7 Supplies and Services</b>		
Communications	265	1,061
Consultants and contracts	1,804	4,716
Consumables	271	1,647
Repairs and maintenance	163	119
Travel	24	49
Resources received free of charge	30	50
	<u>2,557</u>	<u>7,642</u>
<b>8 Accommodation Expenses</b>		
Expenses incurred during the year	437	848
	<u>437</u>	<u>848</u>
<b>9 Capital User Charge</b>	-	44
A Capital User Charge rate of 8% has been set by the Government and represents the opportunity cost of capital invested in the net assets of the Commission used in the provision of services. The charge is calculated on the net assets adjusted to take into account exempted assets. Payments are made to the Department of Treasury and Finance on a quarterly basis.	-	44

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2006



	2005–06 (\$'000)	2004–05 (\$'000)
<b>10 Revenue from Ordinary Activities</b>		
This consists of:		
Recoup of services	513	2,392
Other revenue	170	159
	683	2,551
<b>11 Net Gain/(Loss) of Disposal of Non-Current Assets</b>		
Hardware and equipment		
Gross proceeds	3	0
Written down value	-	3
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of current assets	3	(3)
<b>12 Income from State Government</b>		
Appropriation revenue received during the year		
Service appropriations (i)	3,050	17,951
	3,050	17,951
The following liabilities have been assumed by the Treasurer during the financial year:		
Superannuation (ii)	122	89
	122	89
Resources received free of charge (iii)		
Determined on the basis of the following estimates provided by agencies:		
Department of Land Information	6	0
Department of Justice	30	50
	36	50
	3,208	18,090
(i) Output appropriations are accrual amounts reflecting the full cost of outputs delivered. The appropriation revenue comprises a cash component and a receivable (asset). The receivable (holding account) comprises the depreciation expense for the year and any agreed increase in leave liability during the year.		



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2006

	2005-06 (\$'000)	2004-05 (\$'000)
(ii) The assumption of the superannuation liability by the Treasurer is only a notional revenue to offset the notional superannuation expense reported in respect of current employees who are members of the pension scheme and current employees who have a transfer benefit entitlement under the Gold State scheme.		
(iii) Where assets or services have been received free of charge or for nominal consideration, the Commission recognises revenues (except where the contributions of assets or services are in the nature of contributions by owners in which case the Commission shall make a direct adjustment to equity) equivalent to the fair value of the assets and/or the fair value of those services that can be reliably determined and which would have been purchased if not donated, and those fair values shall be recognised as assets or expenses, as applicable.		
<b>13 Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Operating Account	281	2,324
<b>14 Restricted Cash Assets</b>		
Non-current		
Accrued salaries suspense account	0	0
Amount held in suspense is to be used only for the purpose of meeting the 27th pay in a financial year that occurs every 11 years		
<b>15 Receivables</b>		
Current		
Receivables for goods and services supplied	254	893
Allowance for doubtful debts	0	0
GST receivable	90	97
	<hr/> 344	<hr/> 990
<b>16 Amounts Receivable for Services</b>		
Current (asset holding account)	277	163
Non-current (asset holding account)	102	163
	<hr/> 379	<hr/> 326
<b>17 Other Assets</b>		
Prepayments	33	55
	<hr/> 33	<hr/> 55



	2005-06 (\$'000)	2004-05 (\$'000)
<b>18 Liabilities Assumed by the Treasurer</b>		
Superannuation	122	89
	122	89
<b>19 Property Plant and Equipment</b>		
Equipment		
At cost	276	269
Accumulated depreciation	(184)	(159)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	92	110
Computer hardware		
At cost	1,342	1,279
Accumulated depreciation	(1,195)	(1,127)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	147	152
Total		
At cost	1,618	1,548
Accumulated depreciation	(1,379)	(1,286)
Accumulated impairment losses	-	-
	239	262
<b>Reconciliations</b>		
Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of equipment and hardware at the beginning and end of the current and previous financial year are set out below		
<b>Equipment and Hardware</b>		
Equipment		
Carrying amount at start of year	109	144
Additions	8	1
Disposals	0	(60)
Depreciation	(25)	(28)
Impairment losses	-	-
Carrying amount at end of year	92	113



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2006

	2005-06 (\$'000)	2004-05 (\$'000)
Computer hardware		
Carrying amount at start of year	152	80
Additions	81	195
Disposals	-	(176)
Depreciation	(86)	(53)
Impairment losses	-	-
Carrying amount at end of year	147	152
Total		
Carrying amount at start of year	262	224
Additions	89	197
Disposals	-	(236)
Depreciation	(111)	(80)
Impairment losses	-	-
Carrying amount at end of year	239	265
<b>20 Impairment of Assets</b>		
<p>There were no indications of impairment to property, plant and equipment and intangible assets at 30 June 2006.</p> <p>The Commission held no goodwill or intangible assets with an indefinite life during the reporting period and at reporting date there were no intangible assets not yet available for use.</p>		
<b>21 Payables</b>		
Amounts payable for goods and services received	122	126
	122	126
<b>22 Provisions</b>		
Current		
Employee benefits provision		
Annual leave	30	119
Long service leave	71	157
	101	276
Other provisions	12	10
Employment on-costs	12	10
Total Current provisions	113	286



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2006



	2005-06 (\$'000)	2004-05 (\$'000)
Non-current		
Employee benefits provision		
Long service leave	250	238
Other provisions		
Employee on-costs	16	49
	266	287
<b>Movements in other provisions</b>		
Movements in each class of provisions during the financial year, other than employee benefits are set out below.		
Employment on-cost provision		
Carrying amount at the start of the year	59	59
Provisions	(31)	-
Carrying amount at the end of the year	28	59
<b>23 Other Liabilities</b>		
Accrued Salaries	50	0
Accrued Expenses (Other – General)	32	0
	82	0
<b>24 Equity</b>		
Equity represents the residual interest in the net assets of the Commission. The Government holds the equity interest in the Commission on behalf of the community. The asset revaluation reserve represents that portion of equity resulting from the revaluation of non-current assets.		
<b>Contributed Equity</b>		
Opening balance	568	568
Capital contributions	0	0
Closing balance	568	568
<b>Accumulated Surplus</b>		
Opening balance	2,690	219
Change in net assets	(2,565)	2,471
Closing balance	125	2,690



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2006

	2005-06 (\$'000)	2004-05 (\$'000)
<b>25 Notes to the Cash Flow Statement</b>		
<b>(a) Reconciliation of cash</b>		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Cash Flow Statements reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	281	2,324
Restricted cash assets (refer to note 13)	-	-
	<b>281</b>	<b>2,324</b>
<b>(b) Reconciliation of net cost of services to net cash flows provided by/(used in) operating activities.</b>		
Net cost of services	<b>(5,773)</b>	<b>(15,620)</b>
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation	111	156
Liabilities assumed by the Treasurer (superannuation)	122	89
Resources received free of charge	36	50
Net (Gain) or loss on disposal of non-current assets	(3)	3
<b>(Increase)/decrease in assets:</b>		
Other current assets (prepayments)	22	(3)
Current receivables (iii)	646	(846)
<b>Increase/(decrease) liabilities:</b>		
Current payables	(3)	56
Other current liabilities (accrued salaries)	82	(88)
Current provisions	(173)	127
Non-current provisions	(21)	8
Net GST receipts/(payments) (i)	90	50
Change in GST in receivables/payables (ii)	(90)	(50)
Net cash used in operating activities	<b>(4,954)</b>	<b>(16,068)</b>
(i) This is the net GST paid/received. i.e. Cash transactions.		
(ii) This reverses out the GST in accounts receivable and payables		
(iii) Note that ATO receivable/payable in respect of GST and receivable/payable in respect of the sale/purchase of non-current assets are not included in these items as they are not reconciling items.		



	2005-06 (\$'000)	2004-05 (\$'000)
<b>26 Commitments</b>		
Lease Commitments		
Commitments in relation to leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements are payable as follows:		
The Commission leases vehicles through Fleet Australia under a common use contract. Vehicles are generally leased for two years		
The Commission is an occupier of premises in Perth. The Lessee for accommodation leases is the Hon. Minister for Works, with the Department of Housing and Works responsible for payment for all leases and associated costs to the lessors. The Commission reimburses the Department of Housing and Works for lease payments and the cost of outgoings		
Motor Vehicles		
Within one year	38	31
Later than one year and not later than five years	38	31
Later than five years	-	-
	76	62
Accommodation		
Not later than one year	408	386
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,793	1,694
Later than five years	-	-
	2,201	2,080
<b>27 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets</b>		
There were no known contingent liabilities or contingent assets that would materially affect the Commission.		
<b>28 Events Occurring after the Balance Sheet Date</b>		
The Commission is not aware of any matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year to the date of this report which have significantly affected or may significantly affect the activities of the Commission, the results of those activities or the state of affairs of the Commission in the ensuing or subsequent year.		



## 29 Explanatory Statement

The Summary of Consolidated Fund Appropriations and Revenue Estimates discloses appropriation and other statutes expenditure estimates, the actual expenditures made and revenue estimates and payments into the Consolidated Fund, all on an accrual basis.

The following explanations are provided in accordance with Treasurer's Instruction 945. Significant variations are considered to be those greater than 10% or \$500,000.

### (1) Significant variations between estimate and actual – Total appropriation to deliver services:

	2005-06 Estimates \$'000	2005-06 Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000
Total appropriations provided to purchase services	2,839	3,050	211

Supplementary funding approval of \$211,000 was sought to fund unbudgeted items in respect to an increase in the contribution to the Commonwealth for the Joint Roll Arrangement (\$120,000), salaries associated with the Electoral Commissioner position (\$93,000), the Victoria Park by-election (\$180,000) and the commencement of the Distribution of electoral boundaries project. These increases were offset by the deferment of capital works allocations for the redevelopment of the Electoral Roll Management System and other minor adjustments.

	2005-06 Estimates \$'000	2005-06 Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000
Service Expenditure			
Election Services	5,477	6,459	982

This variation was due mainly to the additional expenditure required for the conduct of the Victoria Park by-election, the commencement of the distribution of electoral boundaries, and the additional contribution made to the Commonwealth for the Joint Roll Arrangement. In addition, the conduct of an increasing number of local government extra-ordinary elections and other non-statutory elections conducted on a cost recovery basis. Some of this additional expense was funded from a cash carryover at 30 June 2005.

	2005-06 Estimates \$'000	2005-06 Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	43	686	643

This variation was due to the increased number of cost recovery elections conducted during the year

### (2) Significant variations between actual and prior year actual – Total appropriation to deliver services:

	2005-06 Estimates \$'000	2005-06 Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000
Total appropriations provided to deliver services	3,050	17,951	(14,901)

The decrease in funding was due mainly to the non-recurring costs of the State general election (\$10,000,000), referendum (\$750,000) and biennial local government postal elections held in 2005 (\$2,500,000). Other adjustments related to the net appropriation effect of the recoup of local government election costs in May 2005.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2006



<b>Service Expenditure</b>	<b>2005-06 Estimates \$'000</b>	<b>2005-06 Actual \$'000</b>	<b>Variation \$'000</b>
Elections Services	6,459	18,171	(11,712)
<b>Election Services</b>			
This decrease was due mainly to non-recurring costs associated with the State general election, referendum and local government postal elections held in 2005.			
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>2005-06 Estimates \$'000</b>	<b>2005-06 Actual \$'000</b>	<b>Variation \$'000</b>
Retained Revenue	686	2,551	(1,865)
This decrease was due mainly to the reduction of recoups for the conduct of local government postal elections, plus non-recurring nomination fees from the State election in 2004-05.			
<b>(3) Significant variations between estimate and actual – Capital Contribution:</b>			
No significant variation.			
<b>(4) Significant variations between actual and prior year actual – Capital Contribution:</b>			
No significant variation.			
<b>(5) Significant variances between estimate and actual for 2006, and actuals for 2005 and 2006 – Total administered transactions:</b>			
No significant variation.			
<b>(6) Significant variances between estimate and actual for 2006, and actuals for 2005 and 2006-Administered income:</b>			
No significant variation.			
<b>30 Carryover</b>			
The Commission received approval from the Department of Treasury and Finance for the carryover of unexpended funds of \$281,000, from the Commission's 2005-06. Consolidated Fund allocation for recurrent services. This amount has been included in the amount reported for appropriations. The total of this unexpended appropriation is disclosed under Note 25 Notes to the Cash Flow Statement.			



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2006

### 31 Financial Instruments

#### (a) Interest rate risk exposure

2005-06  
\$'000

2004-05  
\$'000

The following table details the Commission exposure to interest rate risk as at the reporting date:

#### Financial Assets

Cash resources	281	2,324
Accounts receivable	344	990
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	625	3,314

#### Financial liabilities

Accounts payable	122	126
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	122	126

The above financial assets and liabilities are non-interest bearing.

#### (b) Credit risk exposure

All financial assets are unsecured.

Amounts owing by other Government agencies are guaranteed and therefore no credit risk exists in respect of those amounts. In respect of other financial assets the carrying amounts represent the Commission's exposure to credit risk in relation to those assets.

### 32 Remuneration of Senior Officers

#### Remuneration

The number of Senior Officers whose total of fees, salaries, superannuation and other benefits for the financial year, who fall within the following bands is:

\$	2005-06	2004-05
80,001-90,000	1	0
90,001-100,000	4	2
100,001-110,000	1	2
120,001-130,000	0	2
150,001-160,000	0	1
200,001-210,000	1	0
210,001-220,000	0	1
The total remuneration of senior officers is	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$775,000	\$1,028,000

The superannuation included here represents the superannuation expense incurred by the Commission in respect of senior officers.

One senior officer is a member of the Pension Scheme.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2006



	2005-06 \$	2004-05 \$
<b>33 Remuneration of the Auditor</b>		
Remuneration to the Auditor General for the financial year	\$29,000	\$24,000
<b>34 Related bodies</b>		
No related bodies		
<b>35 Affiliated bodies</b>		
No affiliated bodies		
<b>36 Trust Accounts</b>		
The Commission administered two trust accounts during the year		
<b>(1) Deposits – Electoral Act Account</b>		
The purpose of this account is to hold monies received by Returning Officers of the Western Australian Electoral Commission pursuant to section 81(1)(b) of the <i>Electoral Act 1907</i> .		
The Commission is responsible for collection of election candidate nomination fees. These fees are paid directly to the Consolidated Fund or refunded to candidates.		
At year's end, the Trust account equalled zero.		
Balance July 1	0	0
Receipts		
Election Candidates Nomination Deposits	6,000	140,000
Payments		
Expenses		
Refund to Candidates	3,000	54,750
Forfeited deposits paid to Consolidated Fund	3,000	85,250
Balance June 30	0	0
<b>(2) Electoral Education Program Account</b>		
The purpose of this account is to hold monies received from the Commonwealth for the purpose of funding joint ventures between the State and Commonwealth in regard to electoral education.		
At year's end, the Trust account equalled \$33,687		
Balance July 1	47,107	33,552
Receipts		
Australian Electoral Commission funds	15,000	15,000
Payments		
Expenses	28,420	(1,445)
Balance June 30	33,687	47,107



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2006

	2005-06 \$'000	2004-05 \$'000
<b>37 Administered Expenses and Revenues</b>		
<b>TRUST ACCOUNT - Deposits <i>Electoral Act 1907</i></b>		
<b>Expenses</b>		
Forfeited deposits credited to consolidated fund	3	85
Refunds to candidates	3	55
Total administered expenses	6	140
<b>Revenues</b>		
Election candidate nomination deposits	6	140
Total administered revenues	6	140
<b>TRUST ACCOUNT – Electoral Education Program</b>		
<b>Expenses</b>		
Expenses	28	1
Total administered expenses	28	1
<b>Revenues</b>		
AEC funding	15	15
Total administered revenues	15	15
<b>38 Administered Assets and Liabilities</b>		
<b>TRUST ACCOUNT - Deposits <i>Electoral Act 1907</i></b>		
<b>Administered current assets</b>		
Deposits <i>Electoral Act</i> trust account	0	0
Total administered current assets	0	0
<b>Administered current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	0	0
Refunds to candidates	0	0
Forfeited deposits credited to consolidated fund	0	0
Total administered current liabilities	0	0
<b>TRUST ACCOUNT - Electoral Education Program</b>		
<b>Administered current assets</b>		
Electoral education program trust account	34	47
Total administered current assets	34	47
<b>Administered current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	0	0
Total administered current liabilities	0	0





	2005-06 \$'000	2004-05 \$'000
Note: Collection of penalties, for failure to vote.	25	254
These are not classified as operating revenue and are credited to the Consolidated Fund.	25	254
<b>39 Supplementary Financial Information</b>		
<b>Write-Offs</b>		
During the financial year there were no amounts written off.		
<b>Losses through thefts faults and other causes</b>		
During the year there were no thefts or defaults.		
<b>Gifts of public property</b>		
During the year there were no gifts of public property.		
<b>40 Reconciliations Explaining the Transition to Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS)</b>		
There were no adjustments in equity, profit/loss or cash flow statements required for this transition.		



# ANNUAL REPORT Appendices



APPENDIX 1 - NON-PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION STATISTICS

(a) Elections Conducted Under the Industrial Relations Act 1979 during 2005–2006

Organisation	Vacancies	Contested Vacancies	Unopposed Vacancies	Unfilled Vacancies	Electors	Voters	Participation Rate	Average Participation Rate
Health Services Union of Western Australia (Union of Workers)	5	0	4	1	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Health Services Union of Western Australia (Union of Workers)	4	0	4	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Health Services Union of Western Australia (Union of Workers)	1	0	1	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Master Builders Association of Western Australia	8	0	8	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Master Painters, Decorators and Signwriters' Association of Western Australia (Union of Employers)	9	7	2	0	120	34	28.33%	
Murdoch University Academic Staff Association	10	0	10	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
State School Teachers' Union of WA (Inc)	18	16	2	0	12,653	4,220	33.35%	
The Breweries and Bottleyards Employees' Industrial Union of Workers of Western Australia	5	0	4	1	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
The Forest Products, Furnishing and Allied Industries Industrial Union of Workers, WA	11	0	6	5	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
The Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association of Western Australia (Union of Employers)	11	0	10	1	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
University of Western Australia Academic Staff Association	10	0	10	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Western Australian Hotels and Hospitality Association Incorporated (Union of Employers)	6	0	6	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Western Australian Hotels and Hospitality Association Incorporated (Union of Employers)	13	0	13	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Western Australian Municipal Road Boards, Parks and Racecourse, Employees' Union of Workers, Perth	6	0	0	6	No election	n/a	n/a	
Western Australian Municipal Road Boards, Parks and Racecourse, Employees' Union of Workers, Perth	8	0	2	6	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
Western Australian Prison Officers' Union	15	3	10	2	291	141	48.45%	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>22</b>				<b>36.71%</b>

## (b) Other Elections 2005–2006 (includes University Guild elections and Certified Agreement ballots)

Elections Conducted in Accordance with Section 5F(1)(ea) of the Electoral Act 1907 <sup>1</sup>		Vacancies	Contested Vacancies	Unopposed Vacancies	Unfilled Vacancies	Electors	Voters	Participation Rate	Average Participation Rate
Organisation									
(i) University Guild Elections (voting in person elections)	Curtin University Student Guild	27	25	2	0	25,224	1,631	6.47%	
	ECU Student Guild <sup>3</sup>	22	1	8	13	18,616	819	4.40%	
	University of Western Australia Student Guild	30	28	2	0	18,402	2,711	14.73%	
	University of Western Australia Student Guild (re-count)	1	0	1	0	18,402	2,711	14.73%	
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>				<b>10.08%</b>
(ii) Other Elections	Edith Cowan University – 2 Enrolled Students <sup>3</sup>	2	2	0	0	19,243	144	0.75%	
	Edith Cowan University – Alumni	1	1	0	0	1,271	343	26.99%	
	Edith Cowan University – Salaried and Academic Staff	1	0	1	0	Uncontested	n/a		
	Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Board	4	4	0	0	1,458	621	42.59%	
	National Trust of Australia (WA)	3	0	0	3	Uncontested	n/a		
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>				<b>23.44%</b>
	<b>Elections conducted in accordance with section 5F(1)(ea) of the Electoral Act 1907</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>				<b>16.76%</b>



Elections Conducted in Accordance with Section 5F(1)(eb) of the Electoral Act 1907 <sup>2</sup>	Organisation	Vacancies	Contested Vacancies	Unopposed Vacancies	Unfilled Vacancies	Electors	Voters	Participation Rate	Average Participation Rate
<b>(i) Land Ballots</b>	Landcorp Broome <sup>3</sup>	49	49	0	0	783	88	11.24%	
	Landcorp Karratha (Stage 1) <sup>3</sup>	64	64	0	0	1,206	248	20.56%	
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				<b>15.90%</b>
<b>(ii) Other Elections</b>	AISWA Capital Grant Association	3	0	3	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
	Alzheimer's Australia	3	0	1	2	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
	Department of Consumer and Employment Protection	5	0	4	1	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
	Department of Consumer and Employment Protection	1	0	1	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
	Denbarr Yerrigan Health Services	12	12	0	0	239	125	52.30%	
	Fremantle Football Club	1	1	0	0	19,193	7,288	37.97%	
	Greening Australia (WA)	5	1	2	2	326	122	37.42%	
	Prison Officers' Appeal Tribunal	1	0	1	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
	Retirees WA (Inc) <sup>3</sup>	9	2	6	1	1,609	770	47.86%	
	RSPCA <sup>3</sup>	3	3	0	0	1,884	880	46.71%	
	Taxi Council of Western Australia Incorporated	3	0	3	0	Uncontested	n/a	n/a	
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>				<b>44.45%</b>
	<b>Elections conducted in accordance with section 5F(1)(eb) of the Electoral Act 1907</b>		<b>159</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>			

<sup>1</sup> Elections which the Electoral Commissioner is authorised to conduct under legislation and section 5F(1)(ea) of the Electoral Act 1907

<sup>2</sup> Elections conducted at the discretion of the Electoral Commissioner on request from an organisation under section 5F(1)(eb) of the Electoral Act 1907.

<sup>3</sup> Elections conducted by the Electoral Commissioner for the first time.

<b>ALL OTHER ELECTIONS</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>					<b>23.46%</b>
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## APPENDIX 2 - ENROLMENT STATISTICS

## State Elector Enrolment Activity 2005–2006

Activity	Statistic
Total enrolment 30 June 2005	1,266,817
<b>Additions +</b>	
New elector enrolments	35,331
Reinstatements	19,243
<b>Deletions -</b>	59,546
<b>Net decrease</b>	4,972
<b>Total enrolment 30 June 2006</b>	<b>1,261,845</b>
<b>Transfers</b>	
Transfers from another district	67,858
Transfers within the district	134,653

## Other Enrolment Categories

## Silent Electors

Silent electors are electors who have had approval to have their residential addresses suppressed on the electoral roll for security reasons. Under State law, a silent elector may also have their name suppressed from publicly available printed rolls.

The table below shows the increased trend for electors opting to have their name suppressed on the State roll from 30 June 2005 to 30 June 2006:

Date	Address Suppression	Name Suppression
30 June 2005	8,414	6,242
30 June 2006	9,293	6,957

## General Early Voters

Enrolled electors meeting the requirements of section 93 of the *Electoral Act 1907* may apply to be registered as a general early voter. These electors are automatically sent a postal vote for any election relating to their enrolment. The numbers of these electors has also increased in the year.

Date	Number Registered
30 June 2005	14,270
30 June 2006	14,777



## APPENDIX 3 - ENROLMENT PRODUCTS FOR OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Manipulable data files were provided to the following organisations on a regular basis

Agency Name	Branch	Purpose for which the Information was Provided
Consultech		For the State Member of Parliament electorate management system as provided for in section 25A of the <i>Electoral Act 1907</i>
Corruption and Crime Commission of WA		To assist the CCC to fulfil its purposes as stated in 5.7A of the <i>Corruption and Crime Commission Act 2003</i>
Department of Fisheries	Serious Offences Unit	To conduct investigations and perform compliance duties pursuant to the <i>Fish Resource Management Act 1994</i> and Regulations, and the <i>Pearling Act 1990</i> through detection, apprehension and prosecution of offenders involved in serious and organised illegal fishing activities
Department of Health	Data Linkage Unit	Processing of data and release of it to medical researchers for approved medical research projects under strict privacy controls
Department of Justice	Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages	To confirm data entered on registration forms for Birth, Death and Marriage, and secondly as part of an Automatic Birth registration process
Department of Treasury and Finance	Office of State Revenue	To assist in the administration of revenue laws and grants and subsidy schemes in a fair and equitable manner for the community
Magenta Linas		For the State Member of Parliament electorate management system as provided for in section 25A of the <i>Electoral Act 1907</i>
Western Australian Police Service	State Intelligence Services	To assist with investigations into crime and law enforcement purposes



Manipulable data files were provided to the following organisations on an ad-hoc basis

Agency Name	Date of Request	Purpose for which the Information was Provided
Centre for Research into Aged Care Services, Curtin University of Technology	1 May 2006	Extract of electors aged 55+ in City of Melville for a survey into health, social and housing needs
City of Stirling	17 March 2006	Extract of electors from Dianella area for local area planning study
Department for Planning and Infrastructure	9 November 2005	Extract for TravelSmart Project in the City of Canning, City of Gosnells and Town of Victoria Park
Department for Planning and Infrastructure	14 February 2006	Extract for TravelSmart Project in the Town of Claremont, Town of Cottesloe and City of Nedlands
Department for Planning and Infrastructure	21 February 2006	Extract for TravelSmart Project in the City of Gosnells
Department of Conservation and Land Management	24 April 2006	Extract of electors for 5 forums on 'Good Neighbour Policy'
Department of Water	23 May 2006	Extract of electors for a community engagement exercise on catchment management policies
Office for Seniors Interests and Volunteering	23 June 2005	To conduct a telephone survey of Seniors on Transitions in Aging
Shire of Murray	23 February 2006	Extract of electors in shire aged 55+ for a positive aging study
Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale	13 April 2006	Extract of 18–25 year olds within shire for a youth survey





## ANNUAL REPORT Appendices

Read only data files (including date of birth) were provided in PDF format to the following organisations on a regular basis

Agency Name	Branch	Purpose for which the Information was Provided
Department for Community Development	Adoption Services	As defined in sections 79(1), 80 and 109 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> and regulation 55 of the <i>Adoption Regulations 1995</i>
Department of Conservation and Land Management	Nature Protection Branch	To assist in investigations into breaches of legislation administered by CALM
Department of Health	Pharmaceutical Services	To assist in the validation process to verify the identity of a patient when issuing an authorisation for a medical practitioner to prescribe a drug of addiction and then to monitor the drugs of addiction prescribed in Western Australia
Department of Justice	Fines Enforcement Register	To trace fine defaulters to recover monies owed to the state thereby ensuring the integrity of the Justice System and protecting the revenue of the State
Department of Justice	Justices of the Peace Branch	To confirm applicants eligibility to become Justices of the Peace and Commissioners of Declaration in accordance with Legislation and Departmental Policy

Read only data files (excluding date of birth) were provided in PDF format to the following organisations on a regular basis

Agency Name	Branch	Purpose for which the Information was Provided
Adoption Jigsaw WA Inc		To reunite families separated by adoption, fostering or similar
Adoption Research and Counselling Service (ARCS)		To facilitate ARCS tasks as Licensed Adoption Mediators
Department of Health	Communicable Diseases Control Directorate	To assist with follow-up public health action
Department of Health	East Metropolitan Health Unit	To assist with follow-up public health action
Department of Health	Fremantle Hospital Sexual Health Clinic	To assist with follow-up public health action



Agency Name	Branch	Purpose for which the Information was Provided
Department of Industry and Resources	Investigation Services Unit	To investigate and prosecute serious breaches of DoIR legislation
Department of Justice	Victim-Offender Mediation Unit	To obtain addresses of victims of crime to be able to write to them and offer the services of the unit
Department of Justice	Public Trustee	To locate beneficiaries, witnesses, potential beneficiaries and minor beneficiaries for cases where the Public Trustee has been appointed
Department of Justice	Office of the Public Advocate	To assist Office of the Public Advocate Investigations and Guardians locate West Australian citizens in the process of investigations pursuant to section 97 of the <i>Guardian and Administration Act 1990</i>
Government Employees Superannuation Board	Superannuation Services	Locating the whereabouts of members with unclaimed benefits
Horizon Power	Contributory Extension Scheme	To locate customers to enable Western Power to provide Contributory Extension Scheme (CES) capital contribution refunds relating to monies that have been held 'in trust'
MacBeth Genealogical Services Pty Ltd		To locate the beneficiaries of deceased estates under contract for the Department of Justice Public Trustee
The Salvation Army	Family Tracing Service	Research for the purpose of reuniting families who for many reasons have lost contact with one another
Western Australian College of Teaching		To maintain accuracy of the data relating to college members so as to ensure that their membership does not lapse thus preventing them from teaching
Western Power Corporation	Contributory Extension Scheme	To locate customers to enable Western Power to provide Contributory Extension Scheme (CES) capital contribution refunds relating to monies that have been held 'in trust' over 30 years
Workcover WA	Senior Compliance Branch	To track down individuals as part of Workcover's compliance section's activities



## APPENDIX 4 - PUBLICATIONS

Publication	Cost
<b>Rolls</b>	POA (varies according to number of electors)
State Electoral Rolls	
<b>2003 Electoral Distribution Maps (Publication)</b>	
Western Australia's Electoral Region and District Maps	\$11.00
<b>Election Results</b>	
Election Statistics 1890–1996	\$22.00
State General Election Reports 1993, 1996	POA
Daylight Saving Referendum 4 April 1992	\$11.00
State General Election 10 February 2001 – Report*	\$11.00
State General Election 10 February 2001 – Results and Statistics	\$30.00
Referendum on Retail Trading Hours 26 February 2005 – Report	\$11.00
State General Election 26 February 2005 – Report*	\$11.00
State General Election 26 February 2005 – Results and Statistics*	\$30.00
Local Government Postal Elections 1997 Report	\$6.00
Local Government Postal Elections 1999 Report*	\$11.00
Local Government Postal Elections 2001 Report*	\$11.00
Local Government Postal Elections 2003 Report*	\$11.00
Local Government Postal Elections 2005 Report* (on CD)	POA
<b>Other Publications</b>	
Citizens Initiated Referendums Report	\$11.00
Compulsory Voting in Australia Report	\$11.00
Determining the Result: Transferring Surplus Votes in the Legislative Council	\$11.00
2004 Streets Town and Places Directory*	\$11.00
<b>Publications available free of charge</b>	
Online computer access to a modified version of the State Electoral Roll	
Boundary Maps*	
By-election Reports	
Enrolment Statistics*	
Legislative Council Re-count Results	
Past Annual Reports*	
Political Finance Annual Reports*	

\* available on the Commission's web site [www.waec.wa.gov.au](http://www.waec.wa.gov.au) free of charge



If you require copies of the 2005–2006 Annual Report, any other publications listed in this report, or have any electoral enquiries, please contact the Western Australian Electoral Commission:

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Email address: [waec@waec.wa.gov.au](mailto:waec@waec.wa.gov.au)

For bookings or information on education programs, please contact the Electoral Education Centre:

Constitutional Centre of Western Australia  
Corner Parliament Place and Havelock Street  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

or

PO Box 1396  
WEST PERTH WA 6872

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