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From: LG Elections Mailbox <lgelections@waec.wa.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 20 September 2024 1:17 PM
Subject: Local Government Extraordinary Elections update

Dear Local Government CEO,

With the upcoming State General Election on 8 March 2025, the WA Electoral Commission is heavily focused on preparations for delivering this major statewide event.

As such, the Commission has reviewed its capacity to manage local government extraordinary elections and recommends we are unable to best support extraordinary elections during the critical State election preparation period of mid December 2024 to the end of May 2025.

Best support for LGs

The Commission encourages all WA local governments to schedule any extraordinary elections for outside of the busy mid December 2024 to end of May 2025 period. This will allow the Commission to best support you in managing your election.

Alternatively, local governments may opt to run their own extraordinary election at a time of their own choosing.

With the next local government ordinary elections set for 18 October 2025, the Commission strongly encourages local governments to reconsider their need to hold an extraordinary election in 2025. *Please note, under the legislation, after 19 October 2024, councils are allowed to defer an election until the 2025 ordinary election.* However, we appreciate there are some circumstances where it may be desirable to run an extraordinary election, rather than to leave a vacancy in council.

Recommended dates

Please be aware of the following recommended dates for local government extraordinary elections:

2024

- **Thursday 12 December 2024** - last day for holding a postal election.
 - Last day for councils to resolve to use the Commission: **Monday 23 September.**
- **Saturday 14 December 2024** - last day for holding an in-person election.
 - Last day for councils to resolve to use the Commission: **Wednesday 25 September.**

2025

- **Thursday 29 May 2025** - earliest day for holding a postal election in 2025.
 - Last day for councils to resolve to use the Commission: **Monday 10 March 2025.**
- **Saturday 31 May** - last day for holding an in-person election.
 - Last day for councils to resolve to use the Commission: **Wednesday 12 March.**
- **Saturday 19 July 2025** - All vacancies after this date will automatically be held over until the next ordinary election (18 October 2025).

Thank you for your understanding on this matter. Please contact the Commission if you have any questions or would like to further discuss.

Kind regards,

Robert Kennedy

WA Electoral Commissioner

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