



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
Electoral Commission

LGE 028

Mr Paul Martin  
Chief Executive Officer  
Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale  
6 Patterson Street  
MUNDIJONG WA 6123

Attention: Mr Kenneth Parker

Dear Mr Martin

### **Local Government Ordinary Election: 2023**

I refer to your letter dated 20 April 2023 in which you request my agreement to conduct the 2023 Ordinary Election as a voting in person election. In my letter dated 24 February I did give my agreement to be responsible for the conduct of the 2023 Ordinary Election without the proviso that the election be conducted as a postal election. I have also provided an amended cost estimate in response to Council's requirement of additional polling places and early voting locations.

The estimated cost for the 2023 election if conducted as a voting in-person ballot is \$128,000 inc GST, which has been based on the following assumptions:

- 21,600 electors
- response rate of approximately 10%
- 3 vacancies
- 200 postal voting applications
- count to be conducted at the offices of the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale
- two casual staff to work at each of the early voting locations
- four casual staff to work at each of the polling places
- six Casual staff to work at the count
- appointment of a local Returning Officer

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The Commission is required by the *Local Government Act 1995* to conduct local government elections on a full cost recovery basis and you should note that this is an estimate only and may vary depending on a range of factors. Costs not incorporated in this estimate include:

- any legal expenses other than those that are determined to be borne by the Western Australian Electoral Commission incurred as part of an invalidity complaint lodged with the Court of Disputed Returns
- any unanticipated costs arising from public health requirements for the COVID-19 pandemic.

I hereby give my agreement, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, to be responsible for the conduct of the local government ordinary elections in 2023 for the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, together with any other elections or polls that may also be required, and that the election be conducted as a voting in person election.

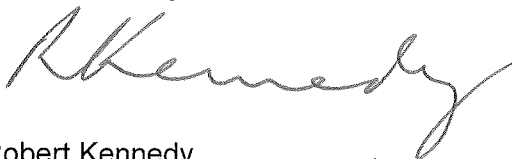
To have the 2023 ordinary election conducted by the Commission as a voting in person election, the next step will be for your council to pass the following motion by absolute majority:

Declare, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Electoral Commissioner to be responsible for the conduct of the 2023 ordinary election together with any other elections or polls which may also be required.

It would be greatly appreciated if this item was considered at your June 2023 council meeting, to enable the Commission to have sufficient time to work with you to effectively conduct the election.

I look forward to conducting 2023 local government ordinary election for the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale. .

Yours sincerely



Robert Kennedy  
**ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER**

6 June 2023