

Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election

29 July 2017



Report on the conduct of the election

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ELECTION TIMETABLE

Activity	Date
Local Government expenditure period commenced	Wednesday, 7 June 2017
Registration for candidates, third party campaigners and official agents opened	Monday, 19 June 2017
Close of authorised rolls*	Monday, 19 June 2017, 6pm
Close of nominations	Wednesday, 28 June 2017, noon
Registration of how-to-vote material commenced	Wednesday, 28 June 2017
Close of registration of candidates	Wednesday, 28 June 2017, noon
Pre-poll voting commenced	Monday, 17 July 2017
Registration of how-to-vote material closed	Friday, 21 July 2017, 5pm
Close of registration of third-party campaigners	Friday, 21 July 2017
Postal voting applications closed	Monday, 24 July 2017, 5.00pm
Declared Institution voting commenced	Monday, 24 July 2017
Pre-poll voting finished	Friday, 28 July 2017, 6pm
Declared Institution voting concluded	Friday, 28 July 2017
Election day	Saturday, 29 July 2017
Local government expenditure period ended	Saturday, 29 July 2017
Return of postal votes closed	Monday, 31 July 2017
Distribution of preferences	Wednesday, 2 August 2017
Declaration of the poll	Friday, 4 August 2017
By-election report published	Monday, 29 January 2018

* For nominations and roll printing purposes.

FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the NSW Electoral Commission's report on the conduct of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election held on Saturday, 29 July 2017.

Peta PINSON (Independent) was declared elected as mayor on Friday, 4 August 2017.

I would like to thank all NSWEC staff involved in providing the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election, as well as electors, the council, candidates, registered political parties and other stakeholders for their participation in this important event.



John Schmidt
Electoral Commissioner
15 February 2018

OVERVIEW

By-election outcome

The candidate elected at the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election on Saturday, 29 July 2017 was Peta PINSON (Independent) with 17,590 votes, 34.56 per cent of first preference votes.

Candidates standing for election

Candidate name	Party affiliation
GRIFFITHS, Sharon	Independent
INTEMANN, Lisa	Independent
EDWARDS, Lauren	The Greens
PINSON, Peta	Independent
TURNER, Robert	Independent

Cost data

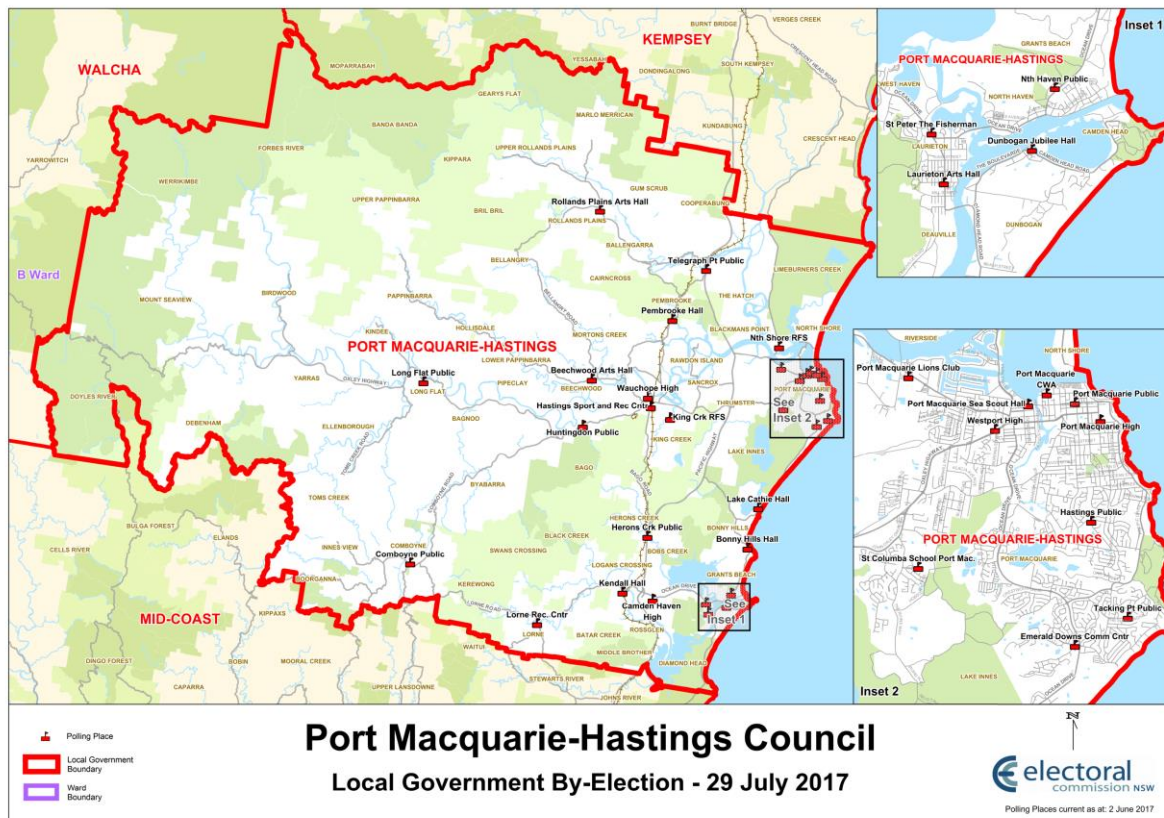
Cost of by-election	\$298,091
Cost per elector	\$4.81

BY-ELECTION SUMMARY

Enrolment	
Total electors	61,990
Voting venues	
Pre-poll venues	3
Polling places	30
Declared Institutions	13
Voter turnout	
Formal votes	48,771
Informal votes	2,124
Total votes	50,895
Voter turnout rate	82.1%
Formality rate	95.83%
Non-voting penalty notices issued	4,217 ¹
Penalty notices issued as % of roll	6.8%
Voting options used by electors	
Ordinary	27,200
Postal	1,461
Pre-poll	21,532
Declared Institution	333
Enrolment	312
Provisional/Silent	57
Candidates	
Total candidates	5

¹ A penalty notice is withdrawn if an elector provides a valid excuse for not voting. At the date of this report the enforcement process for failure-to-vote penalty notices for this by-election had not yet been completed.

PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL



CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION

Background

Port Macquarie-Hastings Council is an undivided council with eight councillors and a mayor.

Performance

The service standards in the 2014-16 NSWEC Election Service Charter were applied to the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election. In short, the NSWEC undertakes to:

- foster participation in the democratic process
- provide seamless service delivery
- be customer focussed and commercially minded
- be innovative and fast adaptors.

The Service Charter can be found at Appendix A.

Comparisons to 2016 Local Government elections

Comparative data on key indicators for the Port-Macquarie-Hastings Council in the 2017 by-election and the 2016 ordinary election.

	Voter participation	
	2016 election	2017 by-election
Total electors	61,005	61,990
Formal votes	48,734	48,771
Informal votes	1,563	2,124
Total votes	50,297	50,895
Voter turnout	82.5	82.1
Informality	3.2	4.2
Election officials	95	73
Cost per elector	\$7.32	\$4.81

Communications

Advertising

The 2017 Local Government by-election advertising campaign for Port Macquarie-Hastings Council consisted of council specific statutory advertisements and non-statutory advertising. Non-statutory advertising included information about registering as a third-party campaigner or candidate under the *Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981* (EFED Act).

Statutory campaign

Prior to the election the NSWEC consulted with Port Macquarie-Hastings Council to determine in which local newspapers the statutory advertisements, required under the legislation, were to be placed and the frequency of those placements.

Items covered in the statutory advertisements included:

- enrolment on residential and non-residential rolls
- nomination information
- candidates and polling place information
- election results.

Reproductions of these advertisements, and details of their placement in newspapers, can be viewed at Appendices B-D.

Social media

The NSWEC utilised social media to raise awareness of the election, promote voter participation, and communicate the responsibilities of political participants.

There were five Facebook posts and four tweets published for the by-election covering the topics of:

- nominations
- the announcement of candidates
- pre-poll and postal voting details
- election campaign finance rules.

The Facebook posts and tweets were viewed a total of 39,456 times.

The top performing tweet and Facebook post are shown on the following page.



NSWElectoralCom @NSWElectoralCom
Jul 28, 2017

The by-election to elect the new Mayor of @pmhcouncil is on tomorrow, 29 July.
Polling places: ow.ly/njGv30dYvgo



NSW Electoral Commission
Published by Charles King [?] - July 27, 2017

PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL BY-ELECTION THIS SATURDAY, 29 JULY - REMEMBER TO VOTE!

The by-election to elect the new Mayor of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council will be held this Saturday, 29 July.

If you're enrolled in the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area, you must vote.... See More



NSW Electoral Commission
Government Organization

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Direct communications with political participants

Direct communications to candidates, third-party campaigners and official agents were made for the by-election using email and letters. The direct communications covered the topics of:

- confirmation of candidate and third-party campaigner registrations
- advice to nominated candidates of the requirements to appoint an official agent
- confirmation of official agent registrations
- advice to official agents on the rules for managing the election campaign finances of candidates and third-party campaigners.

Website

A NSWEC website was specifically setup for the by-election for stakeholders to source information on:

- the election timetable
- election employment opportunities
- enrolment requirements and online enrolment confirmation
- methods for voting
- Local Government political parties
- nomination and registration of candidates and third-party campaigners
- list of nominated candidates
- polling place lookup facility
- election results.

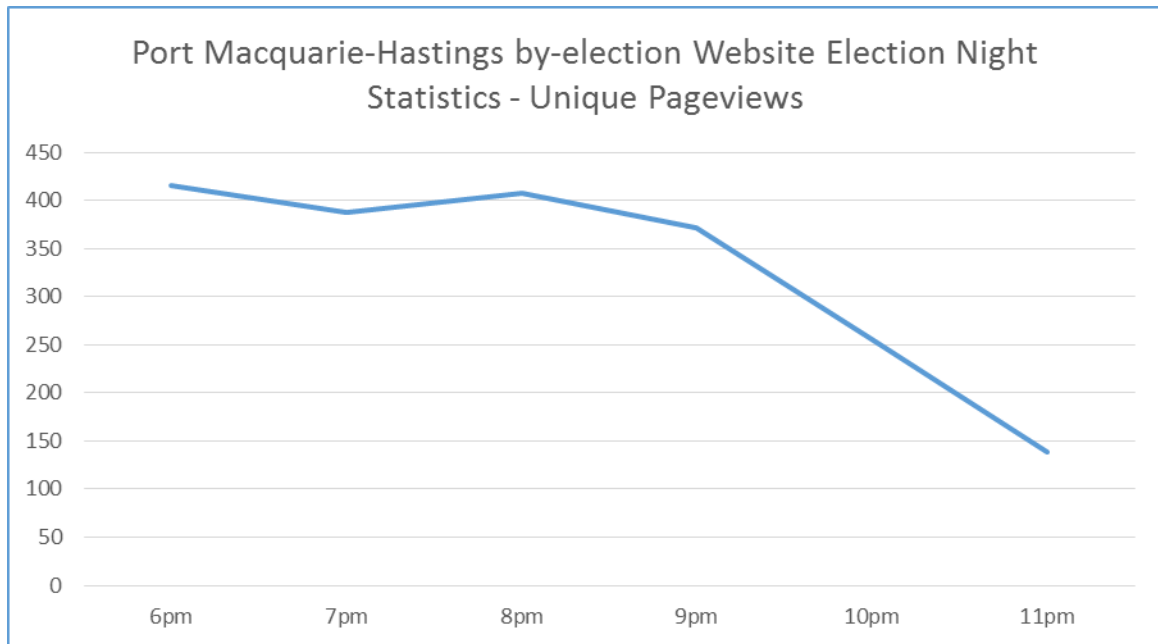
An enrolment search facility on the NSWEC website was available to assist electors to verify their enrolment information.

Polling place information provided on the website included accessibility information for electors with a disability.

Port Macquarie-Hastings Council provided a link on its website to the NSWEC site. The NSWEC's website experienced 19,629 unique page views in the month leading up to the election.

Use of the NSWEC's website is typically greatest on election night when users seek information on results. The following graph provides a picture of usage over the period from close of polling to midnight on election night for the by-election. A total of 7,364 page views were recorded on election day.

Graph 1: Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election – Usage of the NSWEC Website for Poll Results, 29 July 2017



Registrations

Registrations for candidates closed at noon on Wednesday, 28 June 2017. Registrations for third-party campaigners closed on Friday, 21 July 2017.

Five candidates were registered under the EFED Act for the by-election. Three candidates applied to be registered before the close of nominations as required by the EFED Act. The remaining two candidates were registered at the close of nominations. Five candidates appointed an official agent as required under the EFED Act.

There were no third-party campaigners registered for the by-election.

Following the declaration of the polls, we advised the elected candidate of her obligations under the EFED Act as an elected member. The elected member acts as her own official agent (as an elected member) and has an obligation to disclose, on an annual basis, (during her term as a mayor) any political donations made or received and electoral expenditure incurred.

Nominations

Nominations closed at noon on Wednesday, 28 June 2017.

A total of five nominations were received by close of nominations.

The draw for ballot paper position, held at 2.00pm on Wednesday, 28 June 2017, was conducted by the Returning Officer at the Returning Officer's office.

For a nomination to be accepted by the Returning Officer, candidates were required to complete a nomination form and a Candidate Information Sheet. Candidates were also required to submit a statistics form and pay a nomination deposit of \$125 to the Returning Officer.

The nomination deposit is refunded to candidates if:

- a candidate is elected or receives at least four per cent of the total first preference votes;
- in a group, any one of the group is elected or receives at least four per cent of the total first preference votes; or
- the election is uncontested.

Rolls

Residential roll

In New South Wales, enrolment and voting are compulsory at all Federal, State and Local Government elections. The New South Wales electoral roll is managed by the NSWEC in conjunction with the Australian Electoral Commission.

Legislation provides that for Local Government elections the electoral roll closes on the 40th day before the day of the election. Any person who was on the roll when it closed at 6pm on Monday, 19 June 2017 was required to vote.

There were 61,989 electors on the residential electoral roll for Port Macquarie-Hastings Council. This was an increase of approximately 986 electors from the number on the roll for the Local Government Ordinary Elections in September 2016.

Non-residential roll

The non-residential roll is comprised of the roll of non-residential electors and the roll of occupiers and rate-paying lessees. The non-residential roll lapses after each election. Inclusion on the non-residential roll of electors is available to electors who pay rates to the council on property they own but do not occupy, as well as people who occupy or lease property. Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, the council's General Manager is responsible for compiling and maintaining the non-residential roll of electors.

There was one elector on the non-residential roll for Port Macquarie-Hastings Council for the 2017 by-election.

Voting

Method of voting

Section 285 *Local Government Act 1993* prescribes that the voting system in a contested election of a councillor or councillors is to be:

- optional preferential if the number of councillors to be elected is one; or
- proportional representation if the number of councillors to be elected is two or more.

For this by-election, optional preferential was the method used. A reproduction of the ballot paper is shown at Appendix E.

Absent voting

Unlike State and Federal elections, absent voting is not available at NSW Local Government elections for electors who are outside their council area or ward on election day.

Early voting

Pre-poll voting

Pre-poll voting opened at 8am on Monday, 17 July 2017 and closed on Friday, 28 July 2017 at 6pm. The pre-poll locations were:

- Laurieton Pre-poll, 5 Tunis Street, Laurieton NSW 2443
- Port Macquarie-Hastings RO Office, 63 Horton Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444
- Wauchope Pre-poll, 82-94 Cameron Street, Wauchope NSW 2446

Postal voting

Electors who are registered as a Registered General Postal Voter for NSW State Elections are not required to register again for Local Government elections and were therefore automatically sent postal vote ballot papers.

Applications for postal voters opened on nomination day with electors able to obtain applications from the NSWEC website, the NSWEC head office or the Returning Officer's office. Applications for postal voting closed on Monday, 24 July 2017.

In order to be admitted to the count postal votes needed to be received by the Returning Officer by 6pm on Monday, 31 July 2017. Of 1,932 postal votes issued, 1,467 were accepted, 152 were rejected and 313 were not scrutinised because they were either returned too late or not returned at all.

Declared Institutions

The Electoral Commissioner has the authority to appoint hospitals, nursing homes, retirement villages and like facilities as Declared Institutions, to assist the residents and/or patients of these facilities who are unable to attend a polling place on election day.

Election officials visited Declared Institutions from the Monday until Wednesday before election day.

A total of 13 institutions were visited:

- Bethany Aged Care Facility
- Bundaleer Gardens Village
- Emmaus Nursing Home
- Garden Village Port Macquarie
- Mary Knoll House
- Mingaletta- Uniting Care Ageing
- Mount Carmel House
- Port Macquarie Base Hospital
- Port Macquarie Private Hospital
- Regis Hastings Manor
- St Agnes Hostel
- The Widdon Group At Laurieton
- Wauchope Hospital

Election day voting

Polling places

Securing appropriate premises for polling places can be difficult. The NSWEC does not own facilities within council areas. The pool of available rental premises is limited by the short-term nature of the lease and the NSWEC's space, accessibility, location and workplace health and safety requirements.

The NSWEC provided council with a draft list of proposed polling places to be used at this election. Feedback from the council was taken into consideration prior to the final selection of polling places.

As far as practically possible, the NSWEC aimed to provide accessible and appropriately sited polling places for the by-election. Information was provided to assist electors with mobility issues or other disabilities to locate the most suitable polling place. This access information was provided on the NSWEC's website and by NSWEC staff.

There were 30 polling places across the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area on election day. Of those, nine were fully wheelchair accessible, 17 were accessible with assistance, and four did not meet accessibility requirements. The NSWEC website provided details of which polling places were

accessible with assistance and the restrictions on accessibility where relevant. A list of polling places and their accessibility rating can be viewed at Appendix F.

Polling places were open to electors from 8am to 6pm on election day.

Counting the votes

On election night all polling places conducted an initial sort and count of first preference votes. At the Returning Officer's office, declaration (i.e. postal, pre-poll and Declared Institution) votes are opened, sorted and first preferences are counted. The count results were placed on the NSWEC website on election night from 6pm onwards.

The successful candidate was declared elected by the Returning Officer at 10.30am on Friday, 4 August 2017, following the statutory 24-hour period required for any recount requests.

Once the declaration of the election result had been signed by the Returning Officer, copies of the declaration were provided to the Electoral Commissioner, the Council's General Manager and the Chief Executive, Office of Local Government. In addition, the Returning Officer advised all candidates by phone, email or SMS that the election results were available on the NSWEC website. Election results were also published in local newspapers.

Braille ballot papers

No braille ballot papers were requested for an elector at this election.

Non-voters

Failure to vote

Under electoral legislation, the NSWEC is required to issue 'failure to vote' notices to those electors whose names were not marked off the electoral roll as having voted or as having provided a valid excuse.

All electoral rolls marked at polling places and in the Returning Officer's office were scanned after election day to create a list of non-voters. The penalty for failing to vote without a valid reason at a Local Government election is \$55.00.

For this election, 4,217 penalty notices were issued within the three-month period after election day.²

² A penalty notice is withdrawn if an elector provides a valid excuse for not voting. At the date of this report the enforcement process for failure-to-vote penalty notices for this by-election had not yet been completed.

SERVICES TO CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL PARTIES

Candidate information

A candidate information presentation was available on the NSWEC website to assist prospective candidates in their preparation for the election.

The presentation provided prospective candidates with the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the candidate process. Major topics covered in the presentation include:

- the election timetable
- candidate eligibility criteria and how to nominate
- political party names on ballot papers
- campaigning (election advertising, 'how-to-vote' material and public scrutiny of candidates)
- complaints handling by NSWEC
- voting and counting ballot papers
- scrutineers
- election campaign finance rules.

The NSWEC *Handbook for Parties, Groups, Candidates and Scrutineers*, which outlines relevant electoral processes and procedures for local government elections, was also made available to stakeholders.

Information about election processes and election campaign finance rules was also provided to candidates, political parties and others who made telephone or email enquiries.

A fact sheet for local government by-elections was published on the website to support candidates and other political participants understand the requirements for managing political donations and electoral expenditure.

How-to-vote material

All electoral material to be distributed by candidates or their representatives on election day must be registered by the NSWEC. Registration does not apply to posters, whether they are displayed before or on election day, nor is it required for material to be distributed before election day.

Candidates are required to provide an application form and a copy of each item to be registered. The NSWEC provided candidates with guidelines to assist them to meet the registration requirements. A candidate help line was also set up by the NSWEC to aid candidates.

ELECTORAL STAFFING

Returning Officer

The Returning Officer had a number of responsibilities which were central to the running of the election, including:

- set up and decommissioning of a temporary office
- training of office staff and polling place managers
- making arrangements for voting at polling places and Declared Institutions
- issuing and processing postal and pre-poll votes
- dealing with enquiries and complaints from candidates and the public
- processing candidate nominations
- counting of votes and declaring the result of the election.

The Returning Officer's office for the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election was located at:

Port Macquarie-Hastings RO Office
63 Horton Street
Port Macquarie NSW 2444

Returning Officer Support Officer

A Returning Officer Support Officer was appointed in order to provide support on electoral matters and procedures in the conduct of the election.

Staffing

Staffing is a significant cost for elections and, as such, the NSWEC recognises the importance of accurately predicting the number of required staff while taking into consideration the associated costs without compromising the level of service to electors.

The level of staffing required for the by-election varied during the different phases of the election. Staff were employed to undertake a variety of tasks including:

- office setup
- packing materials for each polling place
- registration, distribution and receipt of postal votes
- operation of pre-poll voting
- visits to Declared Institutions
- counting of the votes
- office pack-up.

All polling places have a minimum of two staff, one of whom is the polling place manager.

ELECTION COSTS

Councils are required to meet the costs of conducting their elections. While the NSW Government does not provide direct funding for local government elections, some NSWEC services required for local government elections, such as enrolment and non-voting services, are provided by the NSWEC at no cost. It should also be noted that services provided to candidates, political parties and others regarding the requirements of the EFED Act are provided by the NSWEC at no cost.

Key cost drivers for the election included:

- election officials wages
- office accommodation for the Returning Officer
- information and technology support
- polling places
- number of electors in council area
- newspaper and elector brochure advertising
- printing/materials for polling places.

The final cost of NSWEC conducting the election was \$298,091 (GST exclusive).

This was made up of election staffing \$167,586; venues \$45,830; logistics \$10,651; ballot papers and electoral rolls \$9,037; other miscellaneous items \$21,594 and election management fee \$43,393.

The cost per elector was \$4.81.

APPENDICES

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Appendix A: NSWEC Election Service Charter 2014-16

Goal 1 - Foster participation in the democratic process

To be achieved by:

- Conducting impartial and fair elections in accordance with the law
- Providing services and information to enable all election participants to participate fully including communities with historically lower participation rates
- Communicating election information in ways that encourage awareness and engagement
- Supporting events and activities that encourage participation in democracy

Success measured by:

- Election participants report conduct of election as impartial and fair and without barriers to participation
- Election participation equals or exceeds prior election levels
- Formality rates equal or exceed prior election levels
- There are no Court challenges to declared results

Goal 2 - Provide seamless service delivery

To be achieved by:

- Providing comprehensive services including:
 - information services
 - enrolment services
 - voting options including pre-poll and technology enabled voting
 - location and accessibility of polling places
 - services to assist those with particular needs
 - responsibilities and entitlements of candidates, groups and political parties including funding and disclosure requirements
- Providing efficient services to meet needs of participants according to legislative mandate
- Providing election services in timely, efficient and professional manner

Success measured by:

- Stakeholders feel well informed about election events
- Election participants report satisfaction with the NSWEC's electoral services

Goal 3 - Be customer focussed and commercially minded

To be achieved by:

- Understanding the needs of our stakeholders and users of our election services through liaison, consultation and structured feedback
- Ensuring elections are provided on a competitive basis
- Delivering well organised, reliable and quality elections

Success measured by:

- Participants report satisfaction with NSWEC's services and election staff
- Those entities using the NSWEC to conduct elections report satisfaction with services provided and see these are representing value (Note this is not applicable in the case of State Government elections and by-elections, which must be conducted by the NSWEC.)
- Costs of providing elections are recovered (Note this is not applicable in the case of State Government elections and by-elections.)
- The NSWEC actively seeks feedback on its services

Goal 4 - Be innovative and fast adaptors

To be achieved by

- Utilising new technologies to increase convenience for those participating in elections within the legislative mandate while maintaining integrity of the election and security of information
- Review developments in election services and funding and disclosure across Australia and internationally for possible application to NSW

Success measured by:

- The NSWEC is seen as seeking to adapt its services, within legislative requirements, to meet participants' needs
- The NSWEC advises Government of innovations that will strengthen the democratic system and improve administration of elections

Appendix B: Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election – registration and enrolment advertisement



PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL BY-ELECTION SATURDAY, 29 JULY 2017

Enrol To Vote

A by-election will be held in the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area on Saturday, 29 July 2017 to elect a mayor.

NON-RESIDENTIAL ROLLS

If you are an owner, rate-paying lessee, or occupier of rateable land which is not your primary residence, you or a nominee may be entitled to be enrolled on the roll of non-residential owners of rateable land or the roll of occupiers and rate-paying lessees for this election.

Details of the eligibility criteria and enrolment claim forms may be obtained from the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council office at 17 Burrawan Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444, Phone (02) 6581 8111; Fax (02) 6581 8123; Website: www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au, or will be forwarded to you upon request to the council.

The claim must be completed and lodged with the General Manager of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by **6pm Monday, 19 June 2017**.

If a claim for non-residential enrolment was made for a previous election, and you wish to claim enrolment for this election, you must re-apply.

RESIDENTIAL ROLL

All electors enrolled on the Commonwealth/State electoral roll as at **6pm Monday, 19 June 2017** residing in Port Macquarie-Hastings Council will be included on the roll for the election.

To check your enrolment details or to obtain a residential enrolment form visit www.elections.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 135 736. Enrolment forms are also available from any Australia Post office. Enrolment forms must be received by **6pm Monday, 19 June 2017**.

Voting in Local Government elections is compulsory for all electors included on the residential roll.

John Schmitt
Electoral Commissioner

INFORMATION: www.elections.nsw.gov.au or 1300 135 736

*For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service on 13 14 50
For hearing and speech impaired enquiries, call us via the National Relay Service on 13 36 77.*



PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL BY-ELECTION SATURDAY, 29 JULY 2017

Register as a third-party campaigner or candidate

**A by-election will be held in Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area on Saturday, 29 July 2017 to elect a mayor.
If you intend to participate in the election as a third-party campaigner or candidate, there are strict rules you must understand and comply with before you accept political donations or incur campaign expenditure.**

REGISTER AS A THIRD-PARTY CAMPAIGNER

Before you spend more than \$2,000 to promote or oppose a candidate or political party at the by-election, you must register as a third-party campaigner with the NSW Electoral Commission, appoint an official agent, and open a campaign account.

The last date for registration of third-party campaigners is **21 July 2017**.

If you were registered as a third-party campaigner for a previous election, you must reapply to be registered for the by-election.

REGISTER AS A CANDIDATE

If you intend to contest the by-election as a candidate, you must register with the NSW Electoral Commission and appoint an official agent before accepting political donations or incurring campaign expenditure.

Registering for the election is a separate process to being nominated as a candidate for the election. To be nominated for the election, and have your name included on the ballot paper, you must also complete and submit a nomination form.

The last date for registration of candidates is **28 June 2017**.

If you registered as a candidate for a previous election, you must reapply to be registered for the by-election.

INFORMATION: www.elections.nsw.gov.au or 1300 022 011

*Registration forms and other important nomination and electoral information are available from the NSW Electoral Commission website: www.elections.nsw.gov.au
For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service on 13 14 50
For hearing and speech impaired enquiries, call us via the National Relay Service on 13 36 77.*

Enrol + Register as a TPC or candidate

Camden Haven Courier

Wednesday, 7 June 2017

Port Macquarie Express

Wednesday, 7 June 2017

Port Macquarie News

Friday, 9 June 2017

Wauchope Gazette

Thursday, 8 June 2017

Appendix C: Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election – notice of election advertisement

**PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL
BY-ELECTION
SATURDAY, 29 JULY 2017**



A by-election will be held in the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area on Saturday, 29 July 2017 to elect the mayor. If you are enrolled in the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area, you must vote. To check your enrolment details, visit www.elections.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 135 736.

VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

Voting will take place on Saturday, 29 July 2017 between the hours of 6am and 6pm.

A list of polling places is available by visiting www.elections.nsw.gov.au or calling 1300 135 736.

VOTING BEFORE ELECTION DAY

You may be entitled to a postal or pre-poll vote. For details, visit our website or call us.

Voting early in person

You can vote early in person at the following locations:

Returning Officer's Office, 83 Huxton Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

- > Monday, 17 July to Friday, 21 July 2017: 9:30am to 5:30pm
- > Saturday, 22 July 2017: 9:00am to 5:00pm
- > Monday, 24 July to Thursday, 27 July 2017: 9:30am to 5:30pm
- > Friday, 28 July 2017: 9:30am to 6:00pm

Camden Haven Social Hall, 5 Tuna Street, Laurieton NSW 2445

- > Monday, 17 July to Friday, 21 July 2017: 9:30am to 5:30pm
- > Saturday, 22 July 2017: 9:00am to 5:00pm
- > Monday, 24 July to Thursday, 27 July 2017: 9:30am to 5:30pm
- > Friday, 28 July 2017: 9:30am to 6:00pm

Wauchope Indoor Stadium, 82-84 Cameron Street, Wauchope NSW 2556

- > Saturday, 22 July 2017: 9:00am to 5:00pm
- > Monday, 24 July to Thursday, 27 July 2017: 9:30am to 5:30pm
- > Friday, 28 July 2017: 9:30am to 6:00pm

Voting by Post

You can apply online for a postal vote from www.elections.nsw.gov.au, or by calling 1300 135 736. Your application must be completed and received by the Returning Officer no later than 5pm Monday, 24 July 2017.

CANDIDATES

Name of candidate	Party affiliation
GRIFFITHS Sharon	Independent
INTEMANN Lisa	Independent
EDWARDS Lauren	THE GREENS
PINSON Peta	Independent
TURNER Robert	Independent

CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEETS

Each candidate's information sheet is available for viewing at www.elections.nsw.gov.au or at the Returning Officer's office.

VOTING IS COMPULSORY

Voting is compulsory for all electors of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council area. The penalty for not voting is \$55.

Abreen Akram
Returning Officer

INFORMATION: www.elections.nsw.gov.au or 1300 135 736

For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service on 13 14 50
For hearing and speech impaired enquiries, call us via the National Relay Service on 13 36 27

Notice of election

Camden Haven Courier

Wednesday, 12 July 2017

Port Macquarie Express

Wednesday, 12 July 2017

Port Macquarie News

Friday, 7 July 2017

Wauchope Gazette

Thursday, 6 July 2017

Appendix D: Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election – declaration of poll advertisement

electoral
COMMISSION NSW

**PORT MACQUARIE-
HASTINGS COUNCIL
BY-ELECTION
SATURDAY, 29 JULY 2017**

Result of Election

An election was held to elect the Mayor. I declare

Peta PINSON

elected as Mayor until the next ordinary election of the Council.
Detailed results are available from the NSW Electoral Commission website.

Maureen Morris
Returning Officer
4 August 2017

INFORMATION:
www.elections.nsw.gov.au
or 1300 135 736

*For enquiries in languages other than English
call our interpreting service on 13 14 50.
For hearing and speech impaired enquiries,
call us via the National Relay Service on 13 36 77.*

Results

Port Macquarie Express	Wednesday, 9 August 2017
Port Macquarie News	Wednesday, 9 August 2017
Wauchope Gazette	Thursday, 10 August 2017

Appendix E: Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election – ballot paper

Local Government Election

Port Macquarie-Hastings
BALLOT PAPER FOR
ELECTION OF MAYOR
Held on 29 July 2017

▶ DIRECTIONS FOR VOTING
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Place the number **1** in the square next to the candidate of your choice. If you wish to vote for any more candidates, place consecutive numbers starting with **2** in the squares next to those candidates in order of your preferences for them.

GRIFFITHS Sharon
Independent

INTEMANN Lisa
Independent

EDWARDS Lauren
THE GREENS

PINSON Peta
Independent

TURNER Robert
Independent

You must not take a ballot paper out of the polling place

Appendix F: Port Macquarie-Hastings Council by-election - polling places and accessibility

Polling Place Name	Venue Type	Address	Locality	Accessibility
Port Macquarie-Hastings RO Office	Returning Office	63 Horton Street	Port Macquarie	Assisted access
Beechwood Arts Hall	Polling Place	725 Beechwood Road	Beechwood	Assisted access
Bonny Hills Hall	Polling Place	Graham Street	Bonny Hills	Assisted access
Camden Haven High	Polling Place	Valley View Road	Kew	Fully accessible
Comboyne Public	Polling Place	11 Hill Street	Comboyne	No wheelchair access
Dunbogan Jubilee Hall	Polling Place	The Boulevarde	Dunbogan	Assisted access
Emerald Downs Comm Cntr	Polling Place	Emerald Drive	Port Macquarie	Fully accessible
Hastings Public	Polling Place	85 Yarranabee Road	Port Macquarie	Assisted access
Hastings Sport and Rec Cntr	Polling Place	82-94 Cameron Street	Wauchope	Fully accessible
Hérons Crk Public	Polling Place	5499 Pacific Highway	Hérons Creek	No wheelchair access
Huntingdon Public	Polling Place	2876 Oxley Highway	Huntingdon	No wheelchair access
Kendall Hall	Polling Place	Graham Street	Kendall	Assisted access
King Crk RFS	Polling Place	Narran Close	King Creek	Assisted access
Lake Cathie Hall	Polling Place	Mullaway Road	Lake Cathie	Assisted access
Laurieton Arts Hall	Polling Place	58 Bold Street	Laurieton	Fully accessible
Long Flat Public	Polling Place	5077 Oxley Highway	Long Flat	Assisted access
Lorne Rec. Cntr	Polling Place	941 Stewarts River Road	Lorne	Assisted access
Nth Haven Public	Polling Place	670 Ocean Drive	North Haven	Fully accessible
Nth Shore RFS	Polling Place	Shoreline Drive North Shore	Riverside	Assisted access
Port Macquarie CWA	Polling Place	Quay North 11 Horton Street	Port Macquarie	Assisted access
Port Macquarie High	Polling Place	Owen Street	Port Macquarie	No wheelchair access
Port Macquarie Lions Club	Polling Place	Hastings River Drive	Port Macquarie	Fully accessible
Port Macquarie Public	Polling Place	Grant Street	Port Macquarie	Assisted access
Port Macquarie Sea Scout Hall	Polling Place	9 Buller Street	Port Macquarie	Assisted access

Polling Place Name	Venue Type	Address	Locality	Accessibility
Rollands Plains Arts Hall	Polling Place	Rollands Plains Road	Rollands Plains	Assisted access
St Columba School Port Mac.	Polling Place	3 Iona Avenue	Port Macquarie	Fully accessible
St Peter The Fisherman	Polling Place	421 Ocean Drive	West Haven	Assisted access
Tacking Pt Public	Polling Place	Bangalay Drive	Port Macquarie	Fully accessible
Telegraph Pt Public	Polling Place	Mooney Street	Telegraph Point	Assisted access
Wauchope High	Polling Place	Nelson Street	Wauchope	Fully accessible
Westport High	Polling Place	Findlay Avenue	Port Macquarie	Assisted access
Laurieton Pre-poll	Pre-polling Place	5 Tunis Street	Laurieton	Assisted access
Wauchope Pre-poll	Pre-polling Place	82-94 Cameron Street	Wauchope	Fully accessible