

# Report on the Conduct of the Newcastle City Council-Ward 3 By-election 21 February 2015

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# **Election Timetable**

Activity	Date
Close of authorised rolls*	6:00pm Monday, 12 January 2015
Close of nominations	12:00 noon Wednesday, 21 January 2015
Registration of how-to-vote material commences	Wednesday, 21 January 2015
Pre-poll voting starts	Monday, 9 February 2015
Registration of how-to-vote material closes	5:00pm Friday, 13 February 2015
Postal voting applications close	5:00pm Monday, 16 February 2015
Pre-poll voting finishes	6:00pm Friday, 20 February 2015
Declared Institution voting concludes	Friday, 20 February 2015
Election day	Saturday, 21 February 2015
Return of postal votes closes	6:00pm Monday, 23 February 2015
Declaration of the poll	Wednesday, 25 February 2015

<sup>\*</sup> For nominations and roll printing purposes.

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# **Foreword**

I am pleased to present to Newcastle City Council, the NSW Electoral Commission's report on the conduct of the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) By-election held Saturday, 21 February 2015.

Mr Declan Clausen was declared elected on Wednesday, 25 February 2015, to represent Ward 3 within the Newcastle City Council.

I would like to thank the Council's employees and NSWEC staff involved in conducting the Newcastle City Council Local Government By-election. I also acknowledge the participation of electors, candidates, registered political parties and other stakeholders in this important event. I look forward to building on our achievements and carrying these forward into the 2016 Local Government Elections.

Landa Grandin

Linda Franklin

**Acting Electoral Commissioner** 

# **Election at a Glance**

Date of Election Saturday, 21 February 2015 Returning Michelle Wilson
Officer

# Who was Elected?

Councillor Election	
Successful Candidate	Mr Declan Clausen
Female Candidates	2
Male Candidates	3
Total Candidates	5

# **How did Electors Vote?**

Voting Methods Electors Used	d
Ordinary	16,818
Postal	1,096
Pre-poll/Declared Institution	2,250
Silent	22
Enrol and Vote	252
Total Votes	20,438

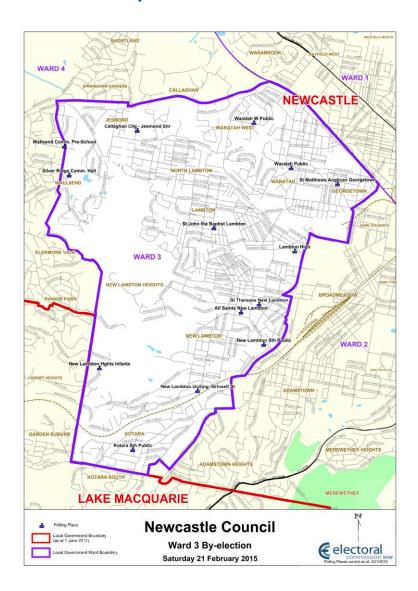
# **Your Vote is Your Voice!**

Voter Participation	
Total Electors	27,132
Formal Votes	19,227
Informal Votes	1,211
Total Votes	20,438
Voter Turnout	75.33%
Rate of Informality	5.93%

# **Polling Places, Election Officials and Cost**

Election Details	
Pre-poll Voting	1
Centres	
Polling Places	14
Total No. of Election	73
Staff	
Cost of By-election	\$136,691
Cost per Elector	\$5.04

# **Newcastle City Council – Ward 3**



# **Conduct of the Election**

# **Background**

The Newcastle City Council is a divided council. It has four wards; each ward has three councillors.

Councillors are usually elected for a period of four years, commencing their role on the day that the election is declared and holding the position until the next ordinary election in September 2016.

# **Performance**

The service standards in the Local Government Elections 2012 Service Charter were applied to the Newcastle City Council By-election.

Comparative data on key indicators for the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) were not available as data was not recorded to ward level for the 2012 Local Government Elections.

#### **iVote**

Although iVote was allowed for the NSW State Election in 2011, legislation is yet to be passed to enable iVote at Local Government elections or Local Government By-elections.

# **Communications**

# **Advertising**

The 2015 Local Government By-election advertising campaign for the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) consisted of council specific statutory advertisements.

# **Statutory Campaign**

Prior to the election the NSWEC consulted the Newcastle City Council to determine in which local newspapers the statutory advertisements, required under the legislation, were to be placed. The NSWEC also requested that council provided information about the number of times the advertisements were to appear in the newspapers.

Items covered in the statutory advertisements included:

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

Reproductions of the Newspaper Advertisements are at Appendices A-C

#### Social media

Social media was monitored but not engaged during the election period.

## Website

The NSWEC's website provided all the information that stakeholders generally, not just electors, needed to participate in the By-election. It provided information on the election timetable, employment opportunities, enrolment, polling places, candidates and results.

The NSWEC had a specific Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) Election page from which stakeholders could source information on:

- election timetable;
- election employment opportunities;
- enrolment requirements and online enrolment confirmation;
- methods for voting;
- Local Government political parties;
- candidates;
- polling place lookup facility; and
- election results.

An enrolment search facility on the NSWEC website was available to assist electors in verifying their enrolment information, including their council and ward information.

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

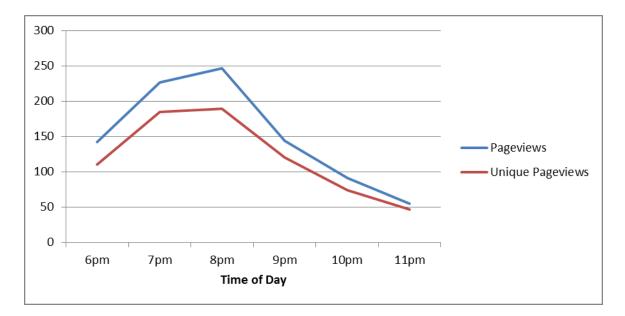
To ensure availability of election information, the NSWEC requested the Newcastle City Council to provide a link on their website to the NSWEC site.

The pages on the NSWEC's website relating to the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) Election were well utilised.

Use of the NSWEC's website is typically greatest on election night when users

seek information on results. The following graph charts the usage over the period from close of polling to midnight on

election night for the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) By-election.



Graph 1: Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) By-election – Usage of the NSWEC Website for Poll Results, 21 February 2015

## **Nominations**

Nominations closed at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, 21 January 2015.

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

The draw for ballot paper position, held at 2pm on nomination day, was conducted by the Returning Officer at the Returning Officer's office.

The ballot papers were printed in Sydney by the NSW Electoral Commission's preferred security printer with the ballot papers being produced with a security background. A reproduction of the Ballot Paper is at Appendix D.

For a nomination to be accepted by the Returning Officer, candidates were

required to complete a nomination form and a Candidate Information Sheet. All Candidate Information Sheets were published on the NSWEC website and were made available for public inspection at the Returning Officer's office, pre-poll centres, Declared Institutions and all polling places.

As part of the nomination process, candidates were also required to submit a statistics form and pay a nomination deposit to the Returning Officer at the time of nomination. The nomination fee of \$125 was applicable to all candidates. The nomination deposit is refunded to candidates if:

 a candidate is elected or receives at least 4% of the total first preference votes;

- in a group, any one of the group is elected or receives at least 4% of the total first preference votes; or
- the election is uncontested.

## Rolls

#### Residential

In NSW, enrolment and voting are compulsory at all Federal, State and Local Government elections. The NSW 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 fortieth day before the day of the election. Any person who was on the roll at the close of roll date, 6:00pm Wednesday, 21 January 2015, was required to vote.

There were 27,132 electors on the residential electoral roll for the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3).

#### Non-residential

The non-residential roll of electors is a means to allow people who pay rates to a council for property they own, but do not occupy, to participate in the democratic process for that area. The non-residential roll lapses after each election. Electors must make a fresh application to appear on the roll for each election. Electors on the non-residential roll are not fined for failing to vote. While the NSWEC undertook steps to promote nonresidential enrolment as part of the advertising campaign, the responsibility for compiling the non-residential roll remained with the Newcastle City Council General Manager. The General Manager

was required to prepare and certify a list of the potential electors who applied for the non-residential roll and provide the list to the NSWEC.

There were no electors on the nonresidential roll for the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) for the 2014 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.

## **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 on Monday, 9
February and closed on Friday, 13
February 2015. The pre-poll location was:

88 Park Avenue, Kotara NSW 2289

Pre-poll voting was available to those electors who met at least one of the following criteria set out in the legislation:

- were not within the ward or area for which the election was being held on election day;
- were not within eight kilometres of any polling place within their council area or ward on election day;
- were travelling under conditions that prevented them from attending a polling place to vote;
- were unable to attend a polling place to vote due to religious beliefs;
- were caring for another person who requires his or her care for medical reasons and so were prevented from attending at any such polling place to vote; or
- were working throughout the hours of voting on election day.

Electors meeting the above criteria were provided with the opportunity to cast their vote in the two weeks prior to election day.

## **Postal Voting**

Postal voting services were provided to those electors who were unable to cast their vote on election day at a polling place for any of the following reasons prescribed in the legislation:

- will not be within the ward or area for which the election is being held on election day;
- will not be within eight kilometres of any polling place within their council area or ward on election day;
- will be travelling under conditions that prevent them from attending a polling place to vote;

- due to illness, disability or approaching maternity are prevented from attending a polling place to vote;
- are unable to attend a polling place to vote for religious beliefs;
- are incarcerated;
- are caring for another person who requires his or her care for medical reasons and so will be prevented from attending at any such polling place to vote;
- will be working throughout the hours of voting on election day; or
- are a silent elector.

Electors who are registered as a Registered General Postal Voter at State level 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 at 5:00pm on Monday, 16 February 2015.

In order to be admitted to the count postal votes needed to be received by the Returning Officer by 6:00pm on Monday, 23 February 2015.

#### *iVote*

iVote has not been provided at Local Government elections or Local Government By-elections.

# **Election Day Voting**

# **Voting**

Three types of votes were distributed to electors on election day. The type of vote the elector receives is determined by their individual circumstance and includes:

- Ordinary
  - Issued to an elector whose name and address is on the roll at the polling place.
- Silent
  - Issued to an elector whose name appears on the roll but their address has been suppressed.
- Section Vote
  - Name Not On Roll issued to an elector whose name cannot be found on the roll but claims to be entitled to vote; and
  - Name Already Marked As Voted issued to an elector whose name is
    already marked off as having
    voted, but claims not to have
    voted.

# **Polling Places**

The establishment of polling places for election day is a major component of the election preparation for the NSWEC and the Returning Officer. It is a difficult balance to select the number of polling places to meet the needs of the community while keeping the costs to a minimum.

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

Polling places were open to electors from 8:00am to 6:00pm on election day.

There were fourteen polling places across the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) area on election day. Of those, three were fully wheelchair accessible; four were accessible with assistance; and two 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.

While the NSWEC does not own any of the venues used for voting it is committed to providing the best possible voting facilities for electors with a disability and understands the importance of providing accurate accessibility information to the public. Where possible, the NSWEC hired polling places with the greatest possible level of access for electors whose mobility may be constrained by a disability.

A list of polling places and their accessibility rating is at Appendix E.

# **Counting the Votes**

Accuracy of vote counting and impartiality of counting the votes are paramount and election staff are trained how to do this and to respect the role of scrutineers. The counting of results is a complex process, prescribed by legislation, to ensure the correct declaration of the poll.

The method of counting votes for Local Government elections is set out in the Regulation.

For the Councillors election the optional preferential voting method was used.

# **Counting Procedures**

On election night all polling places conducted an initial sort and count of first preference votes. At the Returning Officer's office, declaration (ie postal, prepoll and Declared Institution) votes are opened, sorted and first preference counted. The count results were placed on the NSWEC website on election night from 6.30pm onwards.

The successful candidate was declared elected by the Returning Officer on 25 February 2015, following the statutory 24 hour period required for any recount requests.

Once the declaration paperwork had been signed by the Returning Officer, copies of the declaration were provided to the Electoral Commissioner and the Council's General Manager. 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 press.

## **Services to Electors**

## **Election Information Brochure**

Newcastle City Council opted not to use an elector brochure for its enrolled electors.

# **Braille Ballot Papers**

Amendments to the *Local Government* (*General*) Regulation (2005) allowed for the introduction of Braille ballot papers for electors with vision impairment.

No Braille ballot papers were requested for electors at this election.

# **Equal Access to Democracy/ Electors with a Disability**

The NSWEC's Equal Access to Democracy Plan focuses on ways to improve services to, and participation in, the democratic process for people with a disability.

Some features of the Plan and its application include:

- the provision of Braille ballot papers upon request for electors who are vision impaired;
- consultation with NSW government organisations such as the Ageing, Disability and Home Care;
- increased website accessibility, and content relevant to electors with a disability;
- Returning Officer guidelines to include information on assisting electors who have a vision impairment, mental illness or intellectual disability.

These measures were applied to this Byelection.

## **Non-voters**

# **Failure to Vote**

Under electoral legislation, the NSWEC was 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 5,369 penalty notices were issued within the three month period after election day.

# Services to Candidates and Political Parties

# **Candidate Information Seminars**

A candidate information seminar was conducted by the NSWEC on Wednesday, 14 January 2015, to assist prospective candidates in their preparation for the election.

The seminar provided prospective candidates with the opportunity to clarify any issues with senior NSWEC staff. Major topics covered in the seminar included:

- the election timetable;
- candidate eligibility criteria and how to nominate;
- groups of candidates and 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; and
- election funding obligations.

The seminar was advertised in local newspapers covering the council area.

The NSWEC's handbook "Information for Candidates and Scrutineers in Local Government Elections" was made

available as was the "Election Funding Handbook" which explains candidates' obligations under the Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981.

There were two prospective candidates who attended this seminar, in addition to other non-candidate attendees.

The attendees were appreciative of the opportunity to have the election process and their obligations explained to them.

# 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 helpline was also set up by the NSWEC to aid candidates. The NSWEC registered all how-to-vote material that met the requirements.

# **Electoral Staffing**

# **Returning Officer**

The Electoral Commissioner appointed Michelle Wilson as Returning Officer for the Newcastle City (Ward 3) By-election. Appointment was for six weeks, with a performance review conducted on completion of her service, as part of the feedback process.

# **Returning Officer's Duties**

The Returning Officer had a number of responsibilities which were central to the running of the election. Operational duties included:

- 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 prepoll votes;
- dealing with enquiries and complaints from candidates and the public;
- processing candidate nominations; and
- counting of votes and declaring the result of the election.

The Returning Officer's office for the Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) Byelection was located at:

88 Park Avenue Kotara NSW 2289

# **Returning Officer Support Officer**

A Returning Officer Support Officer (ROSO) was appointed in order to provide support on electoral matters and procedures in the conduct of the election. The appointed ROSO was Andrea Summerell, an experienced Electoral Commission officer.

# **Staffing**

Staffing is a significant cost driver 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 at the Returning Officer's office varied during the different phases of the election. These staff were employed to administer a variety of tasks including:

- office setup;
- engaging polling place staff;
- 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; and
- office pack-up.

All polling places have a minimum of two staff, one of whom is the Polling Place Manager.

# Polling Place Manager and Deputy Polling Place Manager

The Polling Place Managers' and Deputy Polling Place Managers' training programme was developed by the NSWEC to assist in the understanding of their duties and responsibilities during voting hours and when conducting the count on election night. Polling Place Managers and Deputy Polling Place Managers attended a training session at the Returning Officer's office and completed an online training programme.

Face to face training for Polling Place Managers and Deputy Polling Place Managers was conducted by the Returning Officer in the week prior to election day.

The Returning Officer provided all election officials, part day election officials and information officers with the *Election Officials Manual* prior to election day. The handbook contained an overview of their responsibilities, voting processes, tasks undertaken before voting started, and instructions on how to issue ordinary votes and election night activities including reconciliation of ballot papers and counting of the votes.

# **Election Costs**

As prescribed in the Act the Electoral Commissioner conducts Local Government elections on a full cost recovery basis. The NSWEC is not funded by the NSW Government for the conduct of Local Government elections.

Key cost drivers for the election included:

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

To assist with budgeting, the NSWEC provided Newcastle City Council with an estimate of the costs for the conduct of their election.

The final cost of NSWEC conducting the election was \$136,691 (GST exclusive). The cost per elector was \$5.04.

# **Appendices**

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# Appendix A: Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) By-election - Enrolment/Non-residential Roll Advertisement

# City of Newcastle Ward 3 By-election



# Saturday, 21 February 2015

A by-election will be held in the City of Newcastle - Ward 3 on Saturday, 21 February 2015 to elect one councillor.

# **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 either the City Administration Centre at 282 King Street, Newcastle 2300, or by downloading from Council's website at www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au. (For enquiries please call lain Challis on ph: 4974 2437).

The claim must be completed and lodged with the General Manager of the City of Newcastle by 6pm Monday, 12 January 2015.

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, 12 January 2015 residing in the City of Newcastle – Ward 3 local government area 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**, **12 January 2015**.

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

# Candidate Information Seminar

A candidate information seminar will be held at Newcastle City Hall, Newcastle Room, Ground Floor, 290 King Street Newcastle from 5pm to 7pm on Wednesday, 14 January 2015.

As a candidate you will have legal obligations and responsibilities. The seminar will cover:

- the election timetable, candidate nominations, election advertising and how-to-vote material, voting and formality, vote counting, scrutineering; and
- registration, appointment of official agents, campaign accounts, political donations, campaign expenditure and disclosure obligations.

# 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.

Colin Barry, Electoral Commissioner

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# Appendix B: Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) By-election – Polling Places & Candidates Advertisement

# City of Newcastle Ward 3 By-election **Saturday, 21 February 2015**



A by-election will be held in the City of Newcastle - Ward 3 on Saturday, 21 February 2015 to elect one councillor. If you are enrolled in the City of Newcastle - Ward 3 local government 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 between 8.00am and 6.00pm.

	Locality	Venue Name	Address
W	Georgetown	St Matthews Anglican Church Hall Georgetown	7 Wentworth Street
W	Jesmond	Callaghan College - Jesmond Senior Campus	Janet Street
	Kotara	Grinsell Street, New Lambton Uniting Church Hall	Grinsell Street
	Kotara	Kotara South Public School	Rae Crescent
	Lambton	Lambton High School	Young Road
	Lambton	St John The Baptist Anglican Church Hall	18 Morehead Street
	New Lambton	All Saints Parish House New Lambton	Cromwell Street
	New Lambton	New Lambton South Public School	45 St James Road
	New Lambton	St Thereses Primary School New Lambton	Royal Street
	New Lambton Heights	New Lambton Heights Infants School	176 Lookout Road
	Wallsend	Silver Ridge Community Hall	13 Iranda Grove
	Wallsend	Wallsend Community Pre-School	Douglas Street
W	Waratah	Waratah Public School	Lambton Road
	Waratah West	Waratah West Public School	Leonora Parade

W = Fully wheelchair accessible. For further accessibility information visit the website or call us.

## Voting before election day

You may be entitled to a postal or pre-poll vote. For details check www.elections.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 135 736.

#### Voting by post

Postal vote applications are available from either: www.elections.nsw.gov.au or the Returning Officer or the Council office or by calling 1300 135 736.

Completed application forms must be received by the Returning Officer by 5.00pm Monday, 16 February 2015.

#### Pre-poll voting

You can vote early in person from Monday, 9 February 2015 at the Returning Officer's office, 88 Park Avenue, Kotara.

#### Pre-poll voting hours:

- Monday, 9 February to Friday, 13 February; 8.30am 5.00pm
- Monday, 16 February to Thursday, 19 February; 8.30am 5.00pm
- Friday, 20 February; 8.30am 6.00pm

#### Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for all electors of City of Newcastle – Ward 3 local government area. **The penalty for not voting is \$55**.

#### **Candidates**

Name of candidate	Party Affiliation
ELLIOTT Kath	Independent
WARREN Allan	Independent
BAREHAM Nevenka	THE GREENS
MARTIN Arjay	
CLAUSEN Declan	LABOR

#### **Candidate information sheets**

Electors may view each candidate's information sheet at www.elections.nsw.gov.au.

Michelle Wilson, Returning Officer

1540JAN

**Information: www.elections.nsw.gov.au** or **1300 135 736.** For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service **13 14 50**. For hearing and speech impaired enquiries, call us via the National Relay Service on **13 36 77**.

# Appendix C: Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) By-election - Declaration of Poll Advertisement

# City of Newcastle Ward 3 By-election **Saturday, 21 February 2015**



# **Results of Election**

An election was held to elect one councillor. I declare

# **Declan CLAUSEN**

elected as councillor until the next ordinary election of the Council in 2016.

Detailed results are available from the NSW Electoral Commission website.

# Michelle Wilson, Returning Officer

25 February 2015

#### 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**. 
1540MAR15

# Appendix D: Newcastle City Council (Ward 3) By-election - Ballot Paper

# Ward 3

# Newcastle City Council By-Election

BALLOT PAPER FOR

# ELECTION OF 1 COUNCILLOR

Held on 21 February 2015

# 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.

## **CANDIDATES**

ELLIOTT Kath Independent
WARREN Allan Independent
BAREHAM Nevenka THE GREENS
MARTIN Arjay
CLAUSEN Declan

# Appendix E: Newcastle City Council By-election (Ward 3) By-election - Polling Places and Accessibility

Premises	Address	Accessibility
All Saints Parish House New Lambton	Multi-Ward Cromwell Street, New Lambton NSW 2305	Assisted Access No designated accessible parking spot No accessible toilet Access ramp does not meet standards
Callaghan College - Jesmond Senior Campus	Multi-Ward Janet Street, Jesmond NSW 2299	Fully Wheelchair Accessible
Grinsell Street, New Lambton Uniting Church Hall	Multi-Ward Grinsell Street, Kotara NSW 2289	Does not meet accessibility requirements for electors with disabilities
Kotara South Public School	Multi-Ward Rae Crescent, Kotara NSW 2289	Assisted Access No designated accessible parking spot Path of travel from car park may be difficult
Lambton High School	<i>Multi-Ward</i> Young Road, Lambton NSW 2299	Assisted Access  No designated accessible parking spot
New Lambton Heights Infants School	<i>Multi-Ward</i> 176 Lookout Road, New Lambton Heights NSW 2305	Does not meet accessibility requirements for electors with disabilities
New Lambton South Public School	Multi-Ward 45 St James Road, New Lambton NSW 2305	Assisted Access No designated accessible parking spot
Silver Ridge Community Hall	<i>Multi-Ward</i> 13 Iranda Grove, Wallsend NSW 2287	Assisted Access Access ramp does not meet standards No designated accessible parking spot
St John The Baptist Anglican Church Hall	Multi-Ward 18 Morehead Street, Lambton NSW 2299	Assisted Access No designated accessible parking spot Path of travel from car park may be difficult Building has lips and/or steps No accessible toilet

Premises	Address	Accessibility
St Matthews Anglican Church Hall Georgetown	<i>Multi-Ward</i> 7 Wentworth Street, Georgetown NSW 2298	Fully Wheelchair Accessible
St Thereses Primary School New Lambton	Multi-Ward Royal Street, New Lambton NSW 2305	Assisted Access No designated accessible parking spot
Wallsend Community Pre-School	Multi-Ward Douglas Street, Wallsend NSW 2287	Assisted Access No designated accessible parking spot No accessible toilet Path of travel from car park may be difficult Building has lips and/or steps
Waratah Public School	<i>Multi-Ward</i> Lambton Road, Waratah NSW 2298	Fully Wheelchair Accessible
Waratah West Public School	<i>Multi-Ward</i> Leonora Parade, Waratah West NSW 2298	Assisted Access  No designated accessible parking spot  No accessible toilet  Path of travel from car park may be difficult

# Appendix F: Newcastle City Council By-election (Ward 3) By-election – Check Count by Polling Place

Polling Place Location	Saturday Results	Sunday Check Count	Variance	Variance %
All Saints New Lambton	1,254	1,316	+62	4.94
Callaghan Cllg - Jesmond Snr	1,525	1,644	+119	7.80
Kotara Sth Public	1,216	1,326	+110	9.05
Lambton High	1,320	1,421	+101	7.65
New Lambton Hghts Infants	388	415	+27	6.96
New Lambton Sth Public	831	889	+58	6.98
New Lambton Uniting	832	890	+58	6.97
Silver Ridge Comm. Hall	650	696	+46	7.08
St John the Baptist Lambton	1,864	1,979	+115	6.17
St Matthews Anglican Georgetown	514	538	+24	4.67
St Thereses New Lambton	1,758	1,871	+113	6.43
Wallsend Comm. Pre-School	337	370	+33	9.79
Waratah Public	2,319	2,497	+178	7.68
Waratah W Public	916	966	+50	5.46

# **Appendix G: Newcastle City Council By-election (Ward 3) By-election - Distribution of Preferences**

# Distribution of Preferences Report

Local (	Local Government Area:		Newcastle			Councillor		
Report Print Date:		TUESDAY	TUESDAY,24-FEBRUARY-2015 13:33		Election Day:	SATURDAY,21-FEBRUARY-2015		
Count 1		Col	Count 2		Count 3		Count 4	
			MARTIN Arjay Excluded Candidate		WARREN Allan Excluded Candidate		BAREHAM Nevenka Excluded Candidate	
		396	Votes	1246	Votes	2116	Votes	
Candidate	es Candidate Votes	Votes Distributed	Progressive Totals	Votes Distributed	Progressive Totals	Votes Distributed	Progressive Totals	
ELLIOTT Kath (Independe	7366	66	7432	346	7778	331	8109	
WARREN Allan (Independe	1190 ent)	56	1246					
BAREHAM Nevenka (GRN)	2017	27	2044	72	2116			
MARTIN Arjay	396							
CLAUSEN Declan (LAB)	8258	22	8280	76	8356	845	9201	ELECTED
Total Forma	al 19227	171	19002	494	18250	1176	17310	
Exhausted Votes		225	225	752	977	940	1917	
Total Inform Votes	nal 1211		1211		1211		1211	
Total Vote	s 20438	396	20438	1246	20438	2116	20438	
					_			
Absolute Majority	9614		9502		9126		8656	

# References

http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/profiles/new council profiles/newcastle city

Australian Bureau of Statistics '2011 Census QuickStats'; Australia, New South Wales, Local Government Areas, Newcastle.