

Report on the conduct of the City of Ryde West Ward by-election

15 October 2022



The NSW Electoral Commission acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout New South Wales and their continuing connection to the land, sea and community. Our head office is located on Gadigal land. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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All tables and figures are sourced to NSW Electoral Commission unless stated otherwise. This report was produced using internal resources. To reduce our environmental impact, this report can be downloaded from the NSW Electoral Commission's website at elections.nsw.gov.au

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Contents

Foreword from the Electoral Commissioner	2
Election overview	3
By-election results	3
By-election summary	4
By-election key dates	5
The election in detail	7
City of Ryde West Ward map	7
Safety measures implemented due to COVID-19	8
Electoral rolls	8
Voting services	9
Advertising and communications campaign	10
Assistance for voters	11
Candidates, political parties and other political participants	12
Website information and updates	13
Election staff	13
Venues and logistics	16
Counting and results	16
Apparent failure to vote notices	17
Compliance and enforcement operation	17
Appendices	18

Foreword from the Electoral Commissioner

The City of Ryde West Ward by-election was conducted on Saturday, 15 October 2022 to fill a vacancy resulting from the resignation of Councillor Jerome Laxale on Friday, 22 July 2022.

Justin Li (Liberal Party) was declared elected by the returning officer on Tuesday, 1 November 2022.

As Electoral Commissioner for New South Wales, I have conducted a review of the administration of the City of Ryde West Ward by-election. This report reflects the outcomes of that review.

The conduct of the City of Ryde West Ward by-election proceeded smoothly, with participation and formality rates of 74.69 per cent and 97.88 per cent, respectively.

The delivery of efficient, accurate and trusted elections, in accordance with New South Wales electoral legislation, relies heavily upon the capability of NSW Electoral Commission staff. For the efficient conduct of this by-election, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone at the NSW Electoral Commission as well as the temporary election employees, suppliers and contractors.



John Schmidt

Electoral Commissioner for New South Wales

Election overview

By-election results

At the close of nominations five candidates had nominated to fill the vacancy and a by-election was conducted on Saturday, 15 October 2022.

Justin Li (Liberal Party) was elected at the City of Ryde West Ward by-election. The result was declared on Tuesday, 1 November 2022.

Table 1: City of Ryde West Ward by-election Saturday, 15 October – first preference votes

Candidate	Affiliation	Number of formal first preference votes	Percentage of formal first preference votes	Result following distribution of preferences
LIN Bin	Independent	1,270	7.14%	
LI Justin	Liberal Party	8,579	48.24%	Elected
JANARTHANA Jananie	Labor Party	4,608	25.91%	
ALDEN Karen	Independent	1,826	10.27%	
LUCA Cosmin	The Greens NSW	1,500	8.44%	

Note: The order of candidates in the table is the order in which the candidates' names appeared on the ballot paper (see [Appendix A](#)) as per the ballot paper draw. Detailed information on the result counts is available on the NSW Electoral Commission's website, at elections.nsw.gov.au

By-election summary

Table 2: City of Ryde West Ward by-election Saturday, 15 October 2022

Enrolment	
Total electors at close of roll	24,720
Venues and staff	
Pre-poll (early voting) venues	1
Polling places (voting centres on election day)	13
Staff employed	175
Voter turnout	
Formal votes	17,783
Informal votes	385
Total votes	18,168
Voter participation rate	74.69%
Formality rate	97.88%
Non-voting penalty notices issued	5,267
Voting channels used (includes informal votes)	
Ordinary (election day)	10,315
Ordinary (pre-poll)	5,134
Postal	2,460
Enrolment/declaration	259
Candidates	
Candidates contesting the election	5
Councillor positions vacant	1

By-election key dates

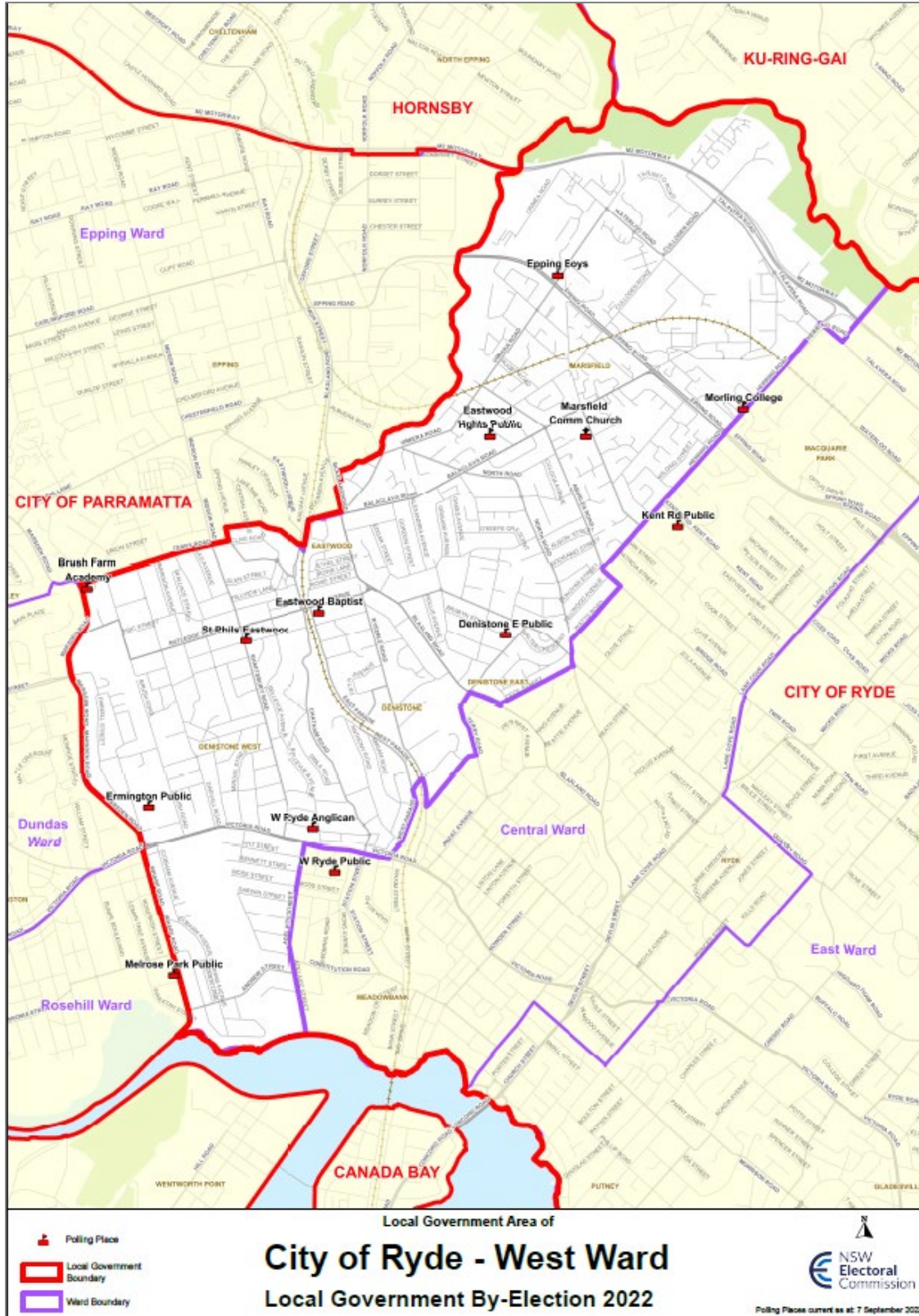
Table 3: City of Ryde West Ward by-election Saturday, 15 October 2022 – timeline

Date	Details
10 August 2022	Opening of candidate, group and third-party campaigner registrations under the <i>Electoral Funding Act 2018</i> Start of capped expenditure period for candidates and third-party campaigners
Monday, 5 September 2022	Opening of nominations Start of regulated period for electoral material 6pm: Close of rolls
Tuesday, 6 September 2022	9am: Open of postal vote applications
Wednesday, 14 September 2022	12 noon: Close of nominations 12 noon: Close of registration of candidates and groups Start of registration of electoral material
Thursday, 15 September 2022	10am: Ballot paper draw
Monday, 3 October 2022	Public holiday
Tuesday, 4 October 2022	Opening of pre-poll voting Commencement of display of registered electoral material on the NSW Electoral Commission website
Friday, 7 October 2022	5pm: Close of registration of electoral material
Monday, 10 October 2022	9am: Start of telephone-assisted voting 5pm: Close of postal vote applications Close of registration for third-party campaigners
Friday, 14 October 2022	5pm: Close of pre-poll voting 5pm: Close of telephone-assisted voting applications
Saturday, 15 October 2022 ELECTION DAY	Polling places open 8am-6pm End of capped expenditure period 1pm: Close of telephone-assisted voting 6pm: End of regulated period for electoral material
Friday, 28 October 2022	6pm: Close of return of postal vote certificates
Monday, 31 October 2022	Distribution of preferences
Tuesday, 1 November 2022	Declaration of results
Friday, 9 December 2022	Apparent failure to vote notices issued

Date	Details
Monday, 13 February 2023	Disclosures of political donations for the half-yearly period 1 July to 31 December 2022 due
Friday, 28 July 2023	Disclosures of political donations for the half-yearly period 1 January to 30 June 2023 due
Friday, 22 September 2023	Disclosures of electoral expenditure for the annual period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 due

The election in detail

City of Ryde West Ward map



Safety measures implemented due to COVID-19

Due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2022, the NSW Electoral Commission's *COVID-19 Safety Plan* was implemented for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of voters, election staff, political participants and the public. Key measures included:

- encouraging electors to bring their own pen, or use the single-use pens provided at all voting venues, to mark their ballot papers
- maintaining physical distancing at voting venues by managing elector numbers and ensuring sufficient space between voting screens and ballot paper issuing tables
- employing additional election staff to assist in managing physical distancing and to implement hygiene measures such as the regular cleaning of voting screens, ballot paper issuing tables and other surfaces
- providing hand sanitiser and other personal protection equipment for use by election staff, electors and political participants.

Training covering COVID-19 infection control practices was undertaken by all staff. The NSW Electoral Commission also produced a series of videos explaining the key health protection measures and displayed posters in voting and count centres as a safety reminder.

Electoral rolls

Residential roll

The New South Wales electoral roll is jointly managed by the NSW Electoral Commission and the Australian Electoral Commission. Legislation provides that the electoral roll closes for local government elections on the 40th day before the day of an election. Rolls are closed to allow sufficient time to print and distribute the authorised rolls and for nomination purposes.

For the City of Ryde West Ward by-election, any person who was on the roll when it closed at 6pm on Monday, 5 September 2022 was required to vote. Eligible Australian citizens can still enrol and vote after the close of rolls.

Non-residential roll

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. The non-residential roll lapses after each election.

Voting services

The following voting options were available for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election:

- postal voting (available to eligible electors)
- pre-poll (in-person early voting).
- telephone voting (available to electors who are blind or have low vision)
- in-person voting on election day.

Postal voting

Table 4: City of Ryde West Ward by-election Saturday, 15 October 2022 – postal vote key dates

Date	Process
Tuesday, 6 September	Postal vote applications open
Monday, 10 October	Postal vote applications close
Saturday, 15 October (ELECTION DAY)	6pm: Elector to complete their postal vote ballot paper and postal vote certificate
Friday, 28 October	6pm: Close of return of completed postal votes to the NSW Electoral Commission

Pre-poll (early voting, in person)

All electors were eligible to vote during the pre-poll period Tuesday, 4 October 2022 to Friday, 14 October 2022.

See Appendix B for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election pre-poll location. This location was published on the NSW Electoral Commission's website, including information about venue wheelchair accessibility, opening hours and the COVID-19 safety measures in place.

Based on public health guidelines in place at the time of the election, onsite voting in declared facilities¹ was not offered at the City of Ryde West Ward by-election due to public health and safety concerns relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

¹ Declared facilities include hospitals, nursing homes, retirement villages or similar facilities that are appointed by the Electoral Commissioner to receive mobile voting services to enable onsite in-person voting.

Telephone voting

Telephone-assisted voting was available for electors who are blind or have low vision. Applications and voting commenced at 9am on Monday, 10 October. Applications closed at 5pm on Friday, 14 October; telephone-assisted voting closed at 1pm on election day Saturday, 15 October 2022.

To maintain the secrecy of a telephone vote the NSW Electoral Commission established a two-step process: (i) apply and (ii) vote. An application operator confirms the elector's eligibility and personal details and issues a unique application number. A second operator records the elector's vote, using the application number as identification, not the elector's name or other identifying information. This separation ensures that the voting operator cannot personally identify the elector. The voting operator verifies the accuracy of the preferences recorded by reading them back to the elector before placing the ballot paper in the ballot box. The voting step is monitored from end-to-end by another election official to support the overall integrity of the process.

Voting in-person on election day

Polling places were open on election day from 8am to 6pm (see [Appendix B](#)). These were published on the NSW Electoral Commission's website, along with information about wheelchair accessibility.

Advertising and communications campaign

The NSW Electoral Commission conducted a campaign to raise awareness of the City of Ryde West Ward by-election and provide information to electors and political participants. All communications and advertising activities directed people to the Electoral Commission's website. Examples of press releases, advertisements and social media posts are reproduced at [Appendix D](#).

Media liaison

Proactive media engagement through targeted media releases supported the various phases of the election from the open of nominations through to the declaration of results.

Print and digital advertising

Print advertisements were placed in the Sydney Morning Herald and Daily Telegraph covering enrolment, nominations, voting options and candidates.

Ads were also placed in the Ryde Weekly Times and the Korean Community Magazine.

Social media posts were rolled out across the NSW Electoral Commission's social channels to raise awareness of the by-election and promote the support available for electors including Auslan interpreters and translated information. The NSW Electoral Commission also advertised on WeChat.

Council stakeholder communication support

The City of Ryde West Ward was provided with advertising templates for use in local newspapers, and a 'media kit' including advertising assets and templates for posters and flyers for use within the local community.

Concurrent communications campaigns

The following communications campaigns were delivered to NSW Electoral Commission key audiences concurrently with the City of Ryde West Ward by-election voter awareness campaign:

- election workforce recruitment
- political donations awareness and education campaign.

Assistance for voters

Elector brochure

An election brochure was sent to all electors enrolled in the City of Ryde West Ward, with information about the by-election including voting options, voting locations and an example of the ballot paper. The brochure is reproduced at [Appendix C](#).

Election reminder service

The NSW Electoral Commission's election reminder service enables voters to subscribe to receive free SMS and/or email reminders about New South Wales state and local government elections relevant to their enrolled address. For the City of Ryde West Ward by-election:

- 1,874 early voting reminders were sent by email and 1,637 by SMS on Thursday, 6 October 2022
- 1,868 reminders were sent by email and 1,635 by SMS on Friday, 14 October 2022 to remind people to vote on election day.

In-language resources and assistance

The NSW Electoral Commission provided in-language support for electors whose primary language is not English.

- Translated voting information about the City of Ryde West Ward by-election, including instructions on how to postal vote, was available in 24 community languages.
- Translation and interpreting services were available by phone via the National Translation and Interpreting Service (TIS National, on 131 450).
- Election staff with language skills were available to assist voters at voting centres. Staff wore badges indicating the language(s) they spoke.

In-language services and information to support culturally and linguistically diverse electors were published on the NSW Electoral Commission's [website](#), promoted via digital advertising, displayed on posters at all polling places and shared with the NSW Electoral Commission's Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) reference group members for distribution to their members and networks.

Other support available for electors

The NSW Electoral Commission has support available for electors who may need help completing their vote.

- All voting centres had accessible voting screens, maxi pens and magnifying sheets available for use by electors.
- Braille ballot papers were offered for this election.
- All electors had access to the NSW Electoral Commission via the National Relay Service.
- Auslan interpreters were available on pre-poll Saturday, 8 October and election day Saturday, 15 October 2022 to connect with electors remotely via Skype.

These services and information to support electors are published on the NSW Electoral Commission's [website](#), promoted via digital advertising, displayed on posters at all polling places and shared with the NSW Electoral Commission's Equal Access to Democracy Disability reference group members for distribution to their members and networks.

Candidates, political parties and other political participants

Electoral funding registration

Candidates are required to be registered for an election before accepting political donations or making payments for electoral expenditure. Registration is a separate process to being nominated as a candidate. It is an offence for a candidate to accept a political donation or make a payment for electoral expenditure without being registered. All candidates who do not register before being nominated are taken to be (deemed) registered by the returning officer when they are nominated for the election. This is usually the day after the close of nominations. From that time, all nominated candidates can lawfully accept political donations and make payments for electoral expenditure for the by-election.

A person or entity (not being a party, associated entity, elected member or candidate) who incurs electoral expenditure of more than \$2,000 during the capped expenditure period is a third-party campaigner. Third-party campaigners must be registered before making payments for that expenditure. It is an offence for a person or entity to make such payments or accept political donations for that purpose without being registered.

For the City of Ryde West Ward by-election, electoral funding registration forms were available on the NSW Electoral Commission's website and could be lodged with the Electoral Commission from 10 August 2022 until 12 noon on Wednesday, 14 September 2022 for candidates and groups and Monday, 10 October 2022 for third-party campaigners.

Five candidates were registered for the by-election, all of whom were deemed to be registered upon nomination. No third-party campaigners were registered for the City of Ryde by-election. Registers are published on the NSW Electoral Commission's [website](#).

Nominations

Nomination forms were available on the NSW Electoral Commission's website and could be lodged from Monday, 5 September to 12 noon, Wednesday, 14 September 2022. Following the close of nominations, the ballot paper draw was conducted to determine the order that the five candidates would appear on the ballot paper.

Electoral material

The period for registration of electoral material commenced on Wednesday, 14 September 2022 and closed at 5pm, Friday 7 October 2022.

- Electoral material produced, published, distributed or displayed during the regulated period for the by-election must comply with the requirements of the *Electoral Act 2017*.
- Electoral material distributed on election day must be registered with, and approved by, the NSW Electoral Commission. It is an offence to distribute electoral material on election day unless the material has been registered and approved.

"Distribution" of electoral material includes the placement of electoral material in a public place that can be collected by voters. Posters are not required to be registered but they must comply with the requirements detailed in the *Candidate handbook* published for each election by the NSW Electoral Commission.

Information bulletin

The NSW Electoral Commission distributed five information bulletins to provide political participants with key information about the election and their obligations and entitlements.

A candidate information webinar was held on Tuesday, 6 September 2022. Topics included:

- nomination, registration for electoral funding purposes, ballot paper draw
- electoral material (how-to-vote cards) rules and registration
- voting, counting and results
- scrutineers and candidate workers.

Website information and updates

The NSW Electoral Commission's website provided a range of information about the by-election including the election timetable; candidate requirements; employment opportunities; enrolment; how, when and where to vote; names of candidates; information about COVID-19 safety measures at venues; and the election results.

The City of Ryde West Ward by-election web pages received more than 20,666 views during the election period from the 28 September 2022 to the 18 October 2022.

The Electoral Commission published daily pre-election metrics for this by-election, including the number of postal vote applications received, postal votes returned and pre-poll totals.

Election staff

The NSW Electoral Commission employed 175 people to work at the City of Ryde West Ward by-election. Recruitment of election staff took place via the Electoral Commission's online registration system.

The majority of casual staff were employed to work on election day in voting centres, or during the pre-poll period. Some roles were based in the returning officer's office to help recruit staff, pack and prepare materials for the voting centres, count votes and pack materials after the election.

Table 5: Number of staff for each role for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election

Role	Number employed	Tasks
Polling place manager	13	The polling place manager is responsible for managing a pre-poll venue during the early voting period or a polling place on election day.
Deputy polling place manager	13	The deputy polling place manager supports the polling place manager and undertakes key election operational activities under the guidance of the polling place manager.
Declaration vote issuing officer	24	This role supports the polling place manager on election day – responds to elector enquiries and issues ballot papers to electors who require a declaration vote. Following the close of voting on election day this role undertakes count and decommission activities as directed by the polling place manager.
Election official	86	The task of an election official is to issue ordinary votes, respond to elector enquires and manage queues (internal and external to polling places). In response to COVID-19, additional election officials were employed to manage physical distancing requirements and conduct safe hygiene practices.
Office assistant	33	Reports to the senior office assistant. Performs general office administration, packing and checking of election materials, issuing ballot papers during early voting, and counting ballot papers.
Senior office assistant	5	This role assists the returning officer to manage key tasks during the election period including staffing and venue management, the secure receipt and return of election material, and managing counting and results.
Returning officer	1	An official appointed by the Electoral Commissioner to conduct an election for one or more council areas. Duties include staffing the returning officer's office, conducting the ballot paper draw and liaising with political parties, candidates and the public.
Total	175	

Of the staff employed throughout the election period, one staff member identified as Aboriginal, 84 staff members spoke a language other than English, and 16 staff had not previously worked at an election. All staff were required to complete online training, mapped to their job role.

Returning officer

The returning officer's office was located at Foundation Park, Building B, Suite 1.02, Level 1, 11 Talavera Road, Macquarie Park.

The duties of the returning officer include:

- set up and decommissioning of the temporary office
- training of office staff, polling place managers and deputy polling place managers
- arranging voting at polling places
- issuing and processing postal and early votes
- responding to enquiries from candidates and electors
- processing candidate nominations and electoral material
- counting votes.

A returning officer support officer was appointed in the NSW Electoral Commission's head office to monitor, guide and support the returning officer on electoral matters and procedures in the preparation and conduct of the by-election.

Work health and safety principles

The NSW Electoral Commission's work health and safety principles were followed for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election in the interests of staff safety and wellbeing. Focussing on fatigue management, the principles include cut-off times for counting on election night and closing times for voting venues and the returning officer's office.

General principles

- staff will not work in isolation
- one 30-minute break to be taken every five hours
- a minimum of eight consecutive hours between rostered shifts
- staff should not work more than six consecutive days
- maximum 10-hour shifts, with the exception of election day.

Election day operations

- all counting to cease at 10:30pm on election night
- staff working in the returning officer's office will not work past 11pm on election night
- voting centre staff to cease work no later than 11pm on election night
- staff should not be expected to drive more than one hour from their voting/count venue to a nominated material drop-off point on election night
- staff responsible for returning materials on election night will finish no later than 12.30am.

Venues and logistics

Polling places and office premises

The NSW Electoral Commission selects the most suitable premises from those available. Venue considerations are extensive and include size, location, accessibility, amenities, street frontage, access for deliveries, internet connectivity and workplace health and safety. The ability to secure premises that meet functional requirements presents challenges, particularly in negotiating agreements to enter short-term leases when the supply of premises is limited.

The Electoral Commission aimed to provide accessible and appropriately sited polling places for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election.

Table 6: City of Ryde West Ward venue numbers and accessibility

Venue type	Fully accessible	Assisted access	No wheelchair access	Total
Pre-poll (early voting) venue	0	1	0	1
Polling places	1	12	0	13

Supplies and waste management

A total of 35,200 ballot papers were printed (29,800 ordinary and 5,400 postal). A sample of the ballot paper is reproduced at [Appendix A](#).

The NSW Electoral Commission operates within the NSW Government's waste management policy framework. In providing electoral services, wherever possible the Electoral Commission seeks to use paper and cardboard items comprising recycled content and to ensure that the paper and cardboard items are themselves recycled. For the City of Ryde West Ward by-election, standard cardboard items used in voting centres included voting screens, accessible voting screens, ballot boxes, signage and recycle bins.

Counting and results

From 6pm on election night, the initial count (sorting and counting of first preference votes) was conducted on all ballot papers at each polling place and some, but not all, pre-poll votes at the returning officer's office.

From the Monday following election day, initial counts on the remaining pre-poll votes, declaration votes and postal votes continued at the returning officer's office until the close of receipt of postal votes at 6pm on Friday, 28 October 2022. During this period, all ballot papers (for all vote types from all venues) underwent a manual check count. Results were published on the NSW Electoral Commission's website from 6pm on election night and updated progressively.

The distribution of preferences was conducted on 10am, Monday, 31 October 2022.

The result of the election was declared on Tuesday, 1 November 2022. Count reports are available on the NSW Electoral Commission's [website](#).

Apparent failure to vote notices

Under electoral legislation, the Electoral Commissioner is required to issue 'Apparent failure to vote' notices to those electors whose names were not marked off the electoral roll as having voted or not recorded as providing a valid reason for not voting.

All electoral rolls used for voter name mark-off at voting centres or in the returning officer's office were scanned after election day to create a list of apparent non-voters for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election. The Electoral Commission issued 5,267 apparent failure to vote notices on 9 December 2022. The remainder of electors who did not vote had provided a valid excuse for not voting either prior to or immediately after election day.

The penalty for not voting is \$55.00. The funds generated from penalty notices are not retained by the NSW Electoral Commission but are paid into NSW Government consolidated revenue. Responses to the notices can be submitted either by mail, email, or through the NSW Electoral Commission's online payments system. The notice provides options to satisfy the matter by either:

- paying the penalty of \$55.00
- advising of the voting centre attended
- submitting a reason for failure to vote for review
- electing for the matter to be dealt with by a court.

If the elector's reason for failing to vote is not accepted, a final notice will be issued giving two options:

- paying the penalty of \$55.00
- electing for the matter to be dealt with by a court.


If a person does not respond to the initial notice by the due date (28 days from the issue of the notice), a reminder notice is issued, giving a further 28 days to deal with the matter. If no response to the reminder notices or final notice is received by the due date, the matter is referred to Revenue NSW for enforcement action.

Compliance and enforcement operation

A compliance team observed the opening of pre-poll. The team was available to respond to any compliance issue arising during pre-poll and on election day.

Appendices

Appendix A: City of Ryde West Ward by-election ballot paper




West Ward

City of Ryde

ELECTION OF 1 COUNCILLOR

Held on 15 October 2022



DIRECTIONS FOR VOTING

- 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.
- Fold this ballot paper so your vote cannot be seen and place it in the ballot box (or in the envelope provided).

CANDIDATES

LIN Bin
Independent


LI Justin
LIBERAL

JANARTHANA Jananie
LABOR

ALDEN Karen
Independent

LUCA Cosmin
THE GREENS

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



Appendix B: City of Ryde West Ward by-election voting locations

Pre poll

Venue	Address	Suburb	Accessibility
Eastwood Baptist Church	3 First Avenue	Eastwood NSW 2122	Assisted access

Election day voting centres

Venue	Address	Suburb	Accessibility
Brush Farm Academy	Lawson Street	Eastwood NSW 2122	Assisted Access
Denistone East Public	Brabyn Street	Eastwood NSW 2122	Fully accessible
Eastwood Baptist Church	3 First Avenue	Eastwood NSW 2122	Assisted Access
Eastwood Heights Public School	Lincoln Street	Eastwood NSW 2122	Assisted Access
Epping Boys High School	213 Vimiera Road	Eastwood NSW 2122	Assisted Access
Ermington Public School	12 Winbourne Street	West Ryde NSW 2114	Assisted Access
Kent Road Public School	Kent Road	Eastwood NSW 2122	Assisted Access
Marsfield Community Church	58-60 Agincourt Road	Marsfield NSW 2122	Assisted Access
Melrose Park Public School	110 Wharf Road	Melrose Park NSW 2114	Assisted Access
Morling College	120 Herring Road	Macquarie Park NSW 2113	Assisted Access
St Phil's Anglican Church	29 Clanalpine Street	Eastwood NSW 2122	Assisted Access
West Ryde Anglican Church	14 Bellevue Avenue	West Ryde NSW 2114	Assisted Access
West Ryde Public School	6 Endeavour Street	West Ryde NSW 2114	Assisted Access

Appendix C: City of Ryde West Ward by-election elector brochure

Help in your language



elections.nsw.gov.au/translations

للمعلومات باللغة العربية اضغط رمز الـ QR.

QR code
للمعلومات باللغة العربية اضغط رمز الـ QR.

浏览简体中文信息，请扫描二维码。

掃描這二維碼來查閱繁體中文資訊。

Za informacije na hrvatskom jeziku skenirajte QR kod.

برای دریافت معلومات به زبان دری، QR را اسکن کنید.

Για πληροφορίες στα Ελληνικά, σαρώστε τον κωδικό QR.

हिंदी में जानकारी के लिए क्यूआर कोड को स्कैन करें।

Per informazioni in italiano, fai la scansione del codice QR.

სურათბმისთვის დაკოდასაოცრე სურათსკანირე QR-ს

한국어로 된 정보를 원하시면, QR코드를 스캔하세요.

ສຳລັບຂໍ້ມູນເມັດພາສາລາວ, ໃຫ້ສະແກນ ກວ໋າດ QR.

За информации на македонски јазик, скенирајте QR кодот.

Ghal informazzjoni bil-Malti, skannja l-QR code.

برای کسب اطلاعات به زبان فارسی QR code را اسکن کنید.

Po informację w języku polskim zeskanuj kod QR.

Para informações em português, escanee o Código QR.

Для получения информации на русском языке отсканируйте QR-код.

За информације на <српском>, скенирајте QR код.


Para obtener información en español, escanee el código QR.

Para sa impormasyon sa Filipino, i-scan ang QR code.

ສຳລັບຂໍ້ມູນໃນພາສາໄທ ໃຫ້ສະແກນ QR Code

Türkçe bilgi için QR kodunu tarayın.

Muốn biết thông tin bằng <tiếng Việt>, hãy quét mã QR.



Your guide to voting in the City of Ryde (West Ward) council by-election

Saturday, 15 October 2022

Voting is compulsory.

Bring this brochure with you when voting. It will make voting easier.

- COVID safety measures apply.
- Masks encouraged.
- Maintain recommended physical distancing.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided.

City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election	Saturday, 15 October 2022	City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election
<p>This brochure contains important information about the City of Ryde (West Ward) council by-election.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polling places will be open from 8am to 6pm on Saturday, 15 October 2022. • Voting is compulsory. • The penalty for not voting is \$55. <p>Do I need to vote? You must vote in this election. You have received this brochure because you are enrolled in City of Ryde (West Ward). Note, people who are not enrolled in West Ward cannot vote at the election.</p> <p>How do I vote? For the City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election, you can vote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in person on election day, or • in person before election day (pre-poll), or • by postal vote if eligible. <p>Where can I vote on election day? If you vote in person on election day, find out where you can vote at elections.nsw.gov.au</p> <p>Where can I vote before election day? Voting before election day (called pre-poll) is available from Tuesday, 4 October 2022 for all electors in this council election. Pre-poll is available from 9am to 5pm at Eastwood Community Baptist Church Hall, 3 First Avenue, Eastwood.</p>	<p>Postal vote Eligible electors can apply to vote by post. Visit elections.nsw.gov.au to check your eligibility and apply online for postal voting or to download the application form. You can also apply by calling 1300 135 736.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postal vote applications close at 5pm on Monday, 10 October 2022. • Postal ballot papers must be completed by 6pm on election day Saturday, 15 October 2022. • Your completed postal vote must be received by the NSW Electoral Commission by 6pm on Friday, 28 October 2022. <p>Ballot paper You will be given a ballot paper to complete for the election of one councillor for the City of Ryde (West Ward). Read the voting instructions on the ballot paper carefully. If you need help to understand the voting instructions on the ballot paper, please ask the election staff or you can ask a friend, family member or carer to help you.</p> <p>Candidate information To view the list of candidates and registered electoral material please visit elections.nsw.gov.au</p> <p>Making political donations to a candidate or political party If you donate \$1,000 or more to a candidate or political party, you must report it to the NSW Electoral Commission within four weeks after the end of the financial year in which you made the donation(s). For more information visit elections.nsw.gov.au/fd</p>	<p>Can I get assistance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For assistance in a language other than English, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service National (TIS National) on 131 450 and ask them to call the NSW Electoral Commission on 1300 135 736. • Information in languages other than English is also available at elections.nsw.gov.au/translations • If you are deaf, hard of hearing and/or have a speech impairment, please contact us through the National Relay Service. • If you or someone you know is blind or has low vision please call 1300 135 736 for information about our telephone assisted voting service. • If you or someone you know requires assistance with reading this brochure, please call 1300 135 736. • Auslan interpreters will be available on Saturday, 8 October and Saturday, 15 October via Skype at: NSWElections Auslan • All polling places have handheld magnifying sheets, maxi pens and wheelchair accessible voting screens. <p>For more information Visit elections.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 135 736.</p>


Appendix D: City of Ryde West Ward by-election advertising and media

Media releases

Media releases were distributed to promote key milestones of the election, including open of candidate nominations, ballot paper draw, commencement of early voting, election day, and to announce the results.

Release: [24 August 2022](#)

Subject: By-election date: City of Ryde (West Ward)



Wednesday, 24 August 2022

By-election date: City of Ryde (West Ward)

Saturday, 15 October 2022 has been set as the date for a by-election to fill one councillor position in the City of Ryde (West Ward).

NSW Electoral Commissioner, John Schmidt said the electoral roll for this election closes at 8pm on Monday, 5 September, so it is important eligible voters in this area make sure their enrolment details are up to date.

"I would encourage anyone who is unsure about where they are enrolled to check and update their details on the roll if needed.

"Voters can easily check their enrolment status in the "For voters" section of the Electoral Commission's website.

"If you are enrolled as a resident in West Ward you will need to vote. Voting at this election is compulsory. If you are enrolled in East or Central Wards, you cannot vote."

Mr Schmidt said he also encouraged candidates wishing to nominate in this election to start preparing their nominations now.

"Nominations will open Monday, 5 September and close at midday Wednesday, 14 September. We cannot accept late nominations and cannot permit late corrections to be made to nomination papers, even if they were lodged before midday on 14 September 2022.


"Nomination forms will be available from elections.nsw.gov.au from Monday, 5 September or by calling the NSW Electoral Commission's candidate helpdesk on 1300 022 011. A lot of helpful information is on our website explaining how to become a candidate."

Mr Schmidt also reminded potential candidates that nominating to appear on a ballot paper is a separate process to registering with the NSW Electoral Commission for campaign finance purposes.

"The capped electoral expenditure period started on 10 August 2022. Candidates, parties and third-party campaigners are encouraged to go to our website to find out if, and how, they need to register to meet their campaign finance obligations".

Mr Schmidt said information for voters is available on the NSW Electoral Commission website – elections.nsw.gov.au – and will continue to be updated as new information becomes available.

Media contact
0400 810 162 | nswmedia@elections.nsw.gov.au | elections.nsw.gov.au
231 Elizabeth Street | Sydney NSW 2000 | GPO Box 4046 | Sydney NSW 2001



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Release: [2 September 2022](#)

Subject: Nominations open: City of Ryde (West Ward)



Friday, 2 September 2022

Nominations open: City of Ryde (West Ward)

Candidate nominations for the City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election open Monday, 5 September

Nominations for candidates who plan to contest the City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election for one councillor position will open Monday, 5 September and close at 12 noon on Wednesday, 14 September 2022.

NSW Electoral Commissioner, John Schmidt said nomination forms will be available from elections.nsw.gov.au from Monday, 5 September or by calling the NSW Electoral Commission's candidate helpdesk on 1300 022 011.

"I encourage anyone interested in running in the West Ward by-election to start preparing their nominations."

"From Monday, forms can be submitted in person at the office of the Returning Officer. Late or incomplete submissions cannot be accepted," he said. "Late corrections cannot be made to nomination papers, even if they were lodged before midday on 14 September 2022."

Mr Schmidt said the NSW Electoral Commission website contains lots of helpful information explaining how to become a candidate.

"Potential candidates can familiarise themselves with election processes and obligations by following the "Six steps to being a candidate" available at elections.nsw.gov.au."

"This information covers political donations and electoral expenditure, registering as a candidate, how to register electoral material and more."

Mr Schmidt also reminded potential candidates that to be nominated as a candidate for this by-election, you must be enrolled to vote in the City of Ryde local government area by 8pm on Monday, 5 September 2022. A candidate must be nominated by a registered political party or by at least two people enrolled in the West Ward.

"I would encourage anyone who is unsure about their enrolment to visit the "For voters" section of the NSW Electoral Commission website to [check their details](#) and if necessary update them."

Ballot paper draw

The draw to determine the order of candidate names on the ballot paper will occur at the office of the Returning Officer at 10am Thursday, 15 September.

Further information about this election, which is being held on 15 October 2022, including the address of the Returning Officer, is available from the NSW Electoral Commission's [City of Ryde \(West Ward\) by-election page](#).

Release: [15 September 2022](#)

Subject: Candidates announced: City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election



Thursday, 15 September 2022

Candidates announced: City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election

Candidates for the City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election on Saturday, 15 October have been announced by the NSW Electoral Commission.

Candidate details, including the order in which candidates' names will appear on the ballot paper, are available on the NSW Electoral Commission website.

Find the full list of nominated candidates and other information about the by-election on our [event page](#).

Media contact

0400 810 162 | nswmedia@elections.nsw.gov.au | elections.nsw.gov.au
231 Elizabeth Street | Sydney NSW 2000 | GPO Box 4046 | Sydney NSW 2001



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Release: [30 September 2022](#)

Subject: Early voting opens: City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election



Friday, 30 September 2022

Early voting opens Tuesday: City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election

Electors can vote early from this Tuesday, 4 October in the City of Ryde (West Ward) ahead of election day on Saturday, 15 October.

A pre-poll venue will be operating from 9am to 5pm from Tuesday, 4 October until Friday 14 October (excluding Sunday, 9 October), at:

- Eastwood Community Baptist Church: 3 First Avenue, Eastwood NSW 2122

John Schmidt, NSW Electoral Commissioner, encourages people enrolled to vote in West Ward to plan how they will vote before election day.

"If you won't be able to vote on election day – Saturday, 15 October – make sure you plan how you will vote well in advance."

"All voters are eligible to vote in person during the early voting period and postal voting is available to those who meet certain eligibility criteria," said Mr Schmidt.

"Postal voting applications are already open for eligible voters. Voters can check their eligibility on the NSW Electoral Commission website at elections.nsw.gov.au."

Applications for postal voting close at 5pm, Monday 10 October. Voters must complete their postal vote certificate and ballot papers by 8pm on election day. Once completed, these must be returned in the reply paid envelope provided, and be received by the NSW Electoral Commission by 8pm, Friday 28 October.

Voters should return their postal pack as soon as possible to allow for Australia Post delivery periods.

Mr Schmidt encourages anyone unsure about whether they are required to vote in this election to check their enrolment status using the "Find my electorate" tool on the NSW Electoral Commission website.

"If you are enrolled as a resident in West Ward you will need to vote. Voting at this election is compulsory. If you are enrolled in East or Central Wards, you cannot vote," said Mr Schmidt.

Voters can start planning when, where, and how they'll vote using information available on the [Ryde by-election page](#).

Release: [14 October 2022](#)

Subject: Election day voting: City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election



Friday, 14 October 2022

Election day voting: City of Ryde (West Ward)

Voters are reminded that election day for the City of Ryde (West Ward) council by-election is tomorrow, Saturday, 15 October.

Pre-poll voting (early voting) closes today Friday, 14 October at 5pm. You can pre-poll vote at Eastwood Community Baptist Church Hall, 3 First Avenue, Eastwood.

On election day Saturday, 15 October polling places will be open between 8am and 6pm. The location and information about accessibility of polling places can be found on [our website](#).

The NSW Electoral Commissioner John Schmidt said enrolled residents of West Ward must vote. Residents enrolled in the East or Central Wards cannot vote.

"I would encourage anyone who is unsure about their enrolment to visit the "Find my electorate" section of the NSW Electoral Commission website to [check their Ward](#)."

Mr Schmidt said electors who are voting by post must ensure their vote is completed by 6pm on election day Saturday, 15 October, and returned to the NSW Electoral Commission by 6pm Friday, October 28.

"Postal votes received by the NSW Electoral Commission after 6pm on Friday, October 28 will not be included in the count. Post your vote as soon as possible to allow for Australia Post delivery timeframes," he said.

Mr Schmidt said information about the election, including voting options, polling places and assistance for voters can be found on [our website](#).

Translated information about these elections is available at [elections.nsw.gov.au](#). Auslan interpreters will be available on election day from 8am to 6pm, via Skype at: NSWelections Auslan.

"Voters who need assistance in a language other than English can contact us via the National Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50 and ask them to call the NSW Electoral Commission on 1300 135 738," Mr Schmidt said.

Media note: Pre-election metrics for postal voting and pre-poll figures can be [found on the website](#).

Release: [1 November 2022](#)

Subject: Election day voting: City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election



Tuesday, 1 November 2022

Election results: City of Ryde (West Ward) by-election

The results of City of Ryde (West Ward) councillor by-election held on Saturday, 15 October 2022 are now available on the [NSW Electoral Commission website](#).

Five candidates nominated to fill the casual vacancy arising from the resignation of Councillor Jerome Laxale.

Results, election metrics, and an explanation of the counting process can be found at [elections.nsw.gov.au](#).

NSW Electoral Commissioner John Schmidt said the counting process was conducted in the weeks following the election and has now concluded.

"Today we can officially announce the election of Justin Li to represent the West Ward in the City of Ryde," he said.

Media contact

0400 810 162 | nswecmedia@elections.nsw.gov.au | elections.nsw.gov.au
231 Elizabeth Street | Sydney NSW 2000 | GPO Box 4046 | Sydney NSW 2001



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Social media

Print advertising

A public notice for the City of Ryde West Ward by-election was run in the Weekly Times.

NSW Electoral Commission

231 Elizabeth Street Sydney NSW 2000 | GPO Box 832 Sydney NSW 2001

T 1300 135 736 | F 02 9290 5991 | elections.nsw.gov.au