

Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election

8 April 2017



Report on the conduct of the election

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ELECTION TIMETABLE

Activity	Date
Local Government expenditure period commenced	Tuesday 14 February 2017
Registration for Candidates, Third Party Campaigners and Official Agents opened	Monday 27 February 2017
Close of authorised rolls*	Monday 27 February 2017
Close of nominations	Wednesday 8 March 2017
Registration of how-to-vote material commenced	Wednesday 8 March 2017
Final date for registration of Candidates	Wednesday 8 March 2017
Pre-poll voting commenced	Monday 27 March 2017
Registration of how-to-vote material closed	Friday 31 March 2017
Final date for registration of Third-Party Campaigners	Friday 31 March 2017
Postal voting applications closed	Monday 3 April 2017
Declared Institution voting commenced	Monday 3 April 2017
Pre-poll voting finished	Friday 7 April 2017
Declared Institution voting concluded	Friday 7 April 2017
Election day	Saturday 8 April 2017
Local government expenditure period ended	Saturday 8 April 2017
Return of postal votes closed	Monday 10 April 2017
Distribution of preferences	Tuesday 11 April 2017
Declaration of the poll	Wednesday 12 April 2017

* For nominations and roll printing purposes.

FOREWORD

I am pleased to present to the NSW Government, the NSW Electoral Commission's report on the conduct of the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 Local Government by-election held on Saturday 8 April 2017.

Kevin Gillies was declared elected Wednesday 12 April 2017.

I would like to thank all NSWEC staff involved in providing the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 Local Government by-election, as well as electors, councils, candidates, registered political parties and other stakeholders for their participation in this important event.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Schmidt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.

John Schmidt
Electoral Commissioner
30 November 2017

OVERVIEW

By-election outcome

The candidate elected at the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 By-election on Saturday 8 April 2017 was Kevin Gillies (Labor) with 16,149 votes, 51.0 per cent of first preference votes.

Candidates standing for election

Candidate Name	Party Affiliation
RANDHAWA, Kittu	Independent
ORROCK, Cassie	Australia First Party
WINSLOW, Chris	The Greens
GILLIES, Kevin	Labor

Cost data

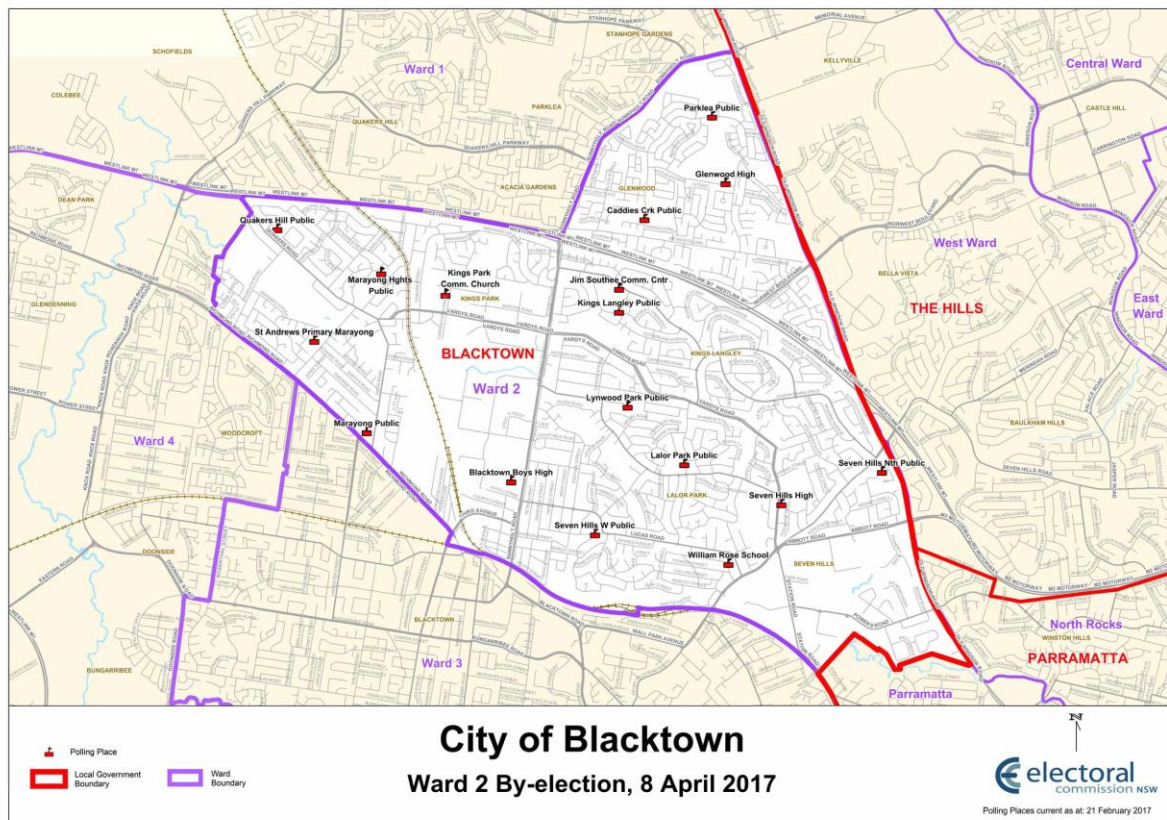
Cost of By-election	\$284,245
Cost per Elector	\$6.66

BY-ELECTION SUMMARY

Enrolment	
Total Electors	42,679
Electors enrolled or re-enrolled via SmartRoll	1,279
Voting venues	
Pre-poll venues	1
Polling places	17
Declared Institutions	3
Voter Turnout	
130	
Formal votes	
Informal votes	29,951
Total votes	1,734
Voter turnout rate	31,685
Formality rate	74.24%
Non-voting penalty notices issued	8,830 ¹
Penalty notices issued as % of Roll	20.69%
Voting Options used by Electors	
Ordinary	25,239
Postal	1,799
Pre-poll	4,364
Declared Institution	0
Enrolment	263
Provisional/Silent	38
Candidates	
Total candidates	4

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.

BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL, WARD 2



Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 includes the following suburbs:

Suburbs wholly within the ward's boundaries	
Glenwood	Kings Langley
Kings Park	Maryong
Suburbs partially within the ward's boundaries	
Blacktown	Seven Hills
Quakers Hill	

CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION

Background

Blacktown City Council is a council divided into five wards with 15 councillors.

Performance

The service standards in the 2014-16 NSWEC Election Service Charter were applied to the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 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: NSW Election Service Charter 2014-16.

Comparisons to 2016 Local Government elections

Comparative data on key indicators for the Blacktown City Council in the 2017 by-election and the 2016 ordinary election.

Voter Participation		
	2016 Election	2017 By-election
Total Electors	42,615	42,679
Formal Votes	31,732	29,951
Informal Votes	1,870	1,734
Total Votes	33,602	31,685
Voter Turnout	78.85%	74.24%
Informality	5.57%	5.47%
Election Officials	680 (All wards)	130 (By-election)
Cost per elector	\$6.18	\$6.66

It should be noted that voter 'turnout' is not synonymous with voter 'participation'. 'Turnout' refers to electors who have had their names marked off the roll and are taken to have voted. 'Participation' refers to electors who either had their names marked off the roll or have provided an acceptable reason for not doing so. To arrive at the participation rate, that figure needs to be adjusted, for example, by removing those electors who have an acceptable reason for not voting and deceased electors. It is not possible to establish the participation rate until processes regarding electors who appear to have failed to vote are finalised.

Communications

Advertising

The 2017 Local Government By-election advertising campaign for Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 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 Blacktown City 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; and
- election results.

Reproductions of these newspaper advertisements 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.

Due to the common election date (8 April) for two local government by-elections (Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 and Lithgow City Council) and three State by-elections (Districts of Gosford, Manly, and North Shore), social media content referenced all five by-elections.

There were 11 Facebook posts and eight tweets published for these five by-elections 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 seen a total of 178,383 and 22,270 times, respectively.

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



NSWElectoralCom
@NSWElectoralCom

By-elections today in City of Blacktown Ward 2 & City of Lithgow + State districts of Gosford, Manly & North Shore!
elections.nsw.gov.au



8:00 AM - 8 Apr 2017



NSW Electoral Commission

April 3

BY-ELECTIONS THIS SATURDAY, 8 APRIL:
State Districts: GOSFORD, MANLY, NORTH SHORE
Local Councils: BLACKTOWN - WARD 2, LITHGOW

Five by-elections will be held this Saturday, 8 April for both State and Local Government.

Voting is compulsory for people enrolled in the State Districts of Gosford, Manly, and North Shore, and the Local Council areas of Blacktown - Ward 2 and Lithgow. Find your nearest polling place at www.elections.nsw.gov.au

Not sure where you are enrolled to vote? Check your enrolment details here: <https://roll.elections.nsw.gov.au/NSWLookUp/>

Can't make it to a polling place on Saturday? Find out where to vote early this week, or register for iVote (State by-elections only) via www.elections.nsw.gov.au.

SATURDAY, 8 APRIL

LOCAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTIONS
City of Blacktown - Ward 2 | City of Lithgow

STATE BY-ELECTIONS
Gosford | Manly | North Shore

REMEMBER TO VOTE!

NSW Electoral Commission
Public & Government Service

[Learn More](#)

Direct communications with political participants

Direct communications to candidates, third-party campaigners and official agents were made for the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 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 Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 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;
- candidates;
- polling place lookup facility; and
- election results.

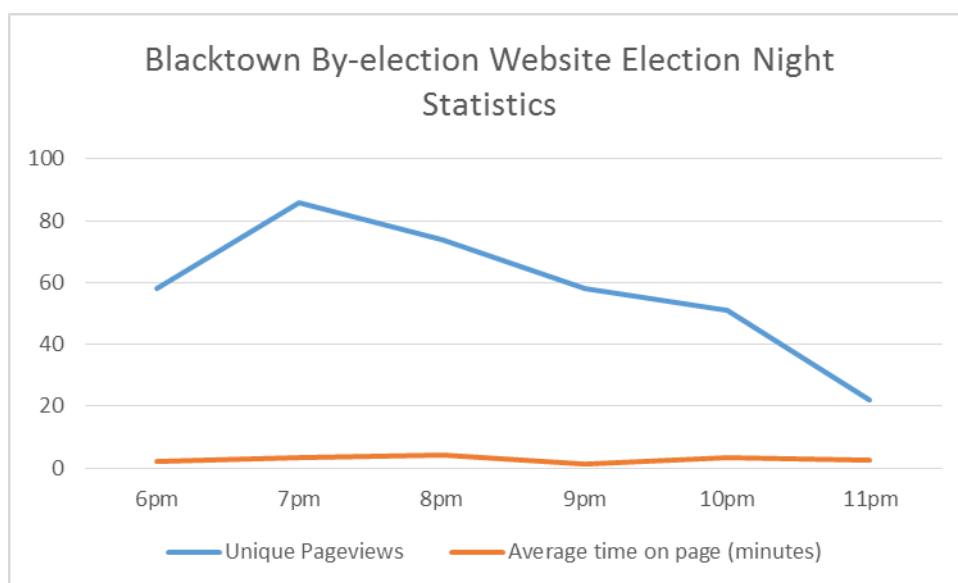
An enrolment search facility on the NSWEC website was available to assist electors to verify their enrolment information.

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

Blacktown City Council provided a link on its website to the NSWEC site. The NSWEC's website experienced 11,328 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 graph below provides a picture of usage over the period from close of polling to midnight on election night for the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 By-election. A total of 407 page views were recorded on election day.

Graph 1: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 By-election – Usage of the NSWEC Website for Poll Results, 8 April 2017



Registrations

Registrations for candidates closed on 8 March 2017. Registrations for third-party campaigners closed on 31 March 2017.

Four candidates were registered under the EFED Act for the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election. All four candidates applied to be registered before the close of nominations as required by the EFED Act. All 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 his obligations under the EFED Act as an elected member. The elected member was designated by the NSWEC as his own official agent (as an elected member) and has an obligation to disclose on an annual basis (during his term as a councillor) any political donations made or received and electoral expenditure incurred.

Nominations

Nominations closed at midday on 8 March 2017.

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

The draw for ballot paper position, held at 2pm on 8 March 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 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 40th day before the day of the election. Any person who was on the roll when it closed at 6pm on Monday 27 February 2017 was required to vote.

There were 42,679 electors on the residential electoral roll for Blacktown City Council, Ward 2. This was an increase of approximately 64 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 were no electors on the non-residential roll for Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 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: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election – ballot paper.

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, 27 March and closed at 6pm on Friday, 7 April 2017. The pre-poll location was:

- Blacktown RO Office, Level 1, 22 Main Street, Blacktown

Postal voting

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 5pm, on Monday, 3 April 2017.

In order to be admitted to the count postal votes needed to be received by the Returning Officer by 6pm on Monday, 10 April 2017. Of 2,182 postal votes issued, 1,805 were accepted, 134 were rejected and 243 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 two institutions were visited:

- Holy Family Aged Care Services
- Seventh Day Adventist Aged Care (Greater Sydney)

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 17 polling places across the Blacktown City Council area on election day. Of those, five were fully wheelchair accessible, 11 were accessible with assistance, and one 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: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election - polling places and accessibility.

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 3pm on Wednesday, 12 April 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 press.

Braille ballot papers

One braille ballot paper was 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, 8,830 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;
- 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 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; and
- counting of votes and declaring the result of the election.

The Returning Officer's office for the Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 By-election was located at:

- Level 1, Suite 2, 22 Main Street, Blacktown

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.

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; and
- 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; and
- printing/materials for polling places.

The final cost of NSWEC conducting the election was \$284,245 (GST exclusive).

This was made up of election staffing \$132,315; venues \$47,788; logistics \$21,407; ballot papers and electoral rolls \$20,011; other miscellaneous items \$32,850 and Election Management Fee \$29,875. The cost per elector was \$6.66.

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: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election – nominations and enrolment advertisement

CITY OF BLACKTOWN – WARD 2 BY-ELECTION | SATURDAY, 8 APRIL 2017



A local government by-election will be held in the City of Blacktown – Ward 2 on Saturday, 8 April 2017 to elect one councillor.

Nominate as a candidate

If you intend to nominate as a candidate, it is important that you read this notice. As a candidate you have certain obligations and responsibilities under law. Check the website www.elections.nsw.gov.au for further details.

How to nominate

To nominate for councillor, you must lodge a nomination form and \$125 nomination deposit by 12 noon Wednesday, 8 March 2017 with the Returning Officer.

Candidate Information sheets: Every candidate is required to lodge the candidate information sheet which is included in the nomination form.

Where to get a nomination form

Nomination forms and other important nomination and electoral information are available from the Returning Officer, the NSW Electoral Commission website: www.elections.nsw.gov.au, or phone: 1300 088 942.

Where and when to nominate

Your nomination form and deposit must be lodged at the Returning Officer's office, L1, Suite 2, 22 Main Street Blacktown NSW, from Monday, 27 February 2017 to 12 noon Wednesday, 8 March 2017.

Jack Sommers
Returning Officer

Registering for the purposes of electoral funding

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. Registration and Appointment of Official Agent forms are available on the NSW Electoral Commission website www.elections.nsw.gov.au/fd

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, as detailed above.

The last date for registration is **8 March 2017**.

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

Candidate Information Presentation

A candidate information presentation can be found at www.elections.nsw.gov.au. As a candidate you will have legal obligations and responsibilities. The presentation covers:

- 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.

Enrol To Vote

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 Blacktown City Council office at 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown; Phone (02) 9839 6000; Fax (02) 9831 1961; Website: www.blacktown.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 Blacktown City Council by **6pm Monday, 27 February 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, 27 February 2017** residing in the City of Blacktown – Ward 2 will be included on the roll for the by-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, 27 February 2017**.

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

Information: www.elections.nsw.gov.au or 1300 088 942

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

Blacktown Sun

Tuesday, 14 February 2017

Appendix C: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election – notice of election advertisement

CITY OF BLACKTOWN – WARD 2 BY-ELECTION, SATURDAY, 8 APRIL 2017



A local government by-election will be held in the City of Blacktown – Ward 2 on Saturday, 8 April 2017 to elect one councillor.

If you are enrolled in the City of Blacktown – Ward 2, 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, 8 April 2017 between the hours of 8am 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 pre-poll vote. For details, visit our website or call us.

Voting early in person

You can vote early in person from Monday, 27 March 2017 at the Returning Officer's Office: Level 1, Suite 2, 22 Main Street, Blacktown.

Pre-poll voting hours:

- Monday, 27 March to Friday, 31 March: 8.00am - 5.30pm
- Monday, 3 April to Thursday, 6 April: 8.00am - 5.30pm
- Friday, 7 April: 8.00am - 6.00pm

Candidates

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

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 City of Blacktown – Ward 2. The penalty for not voting is \$55.

Information: www.elections.nsw.gov.au or call 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

Jack Somers
Returning Officer

PWA/2016/8

Nominations, Candidate seminar, Register as a candidate

Blacktown Sun

Tuesday, 21 February 2017

Blacktown Advocate

Wednesday, 22 February 2017

Appendix D: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election – declaration of poll advertisement



**CITY OF BLACKTOWN – WARD 2
BY-ELECTION
SATURDAY, 8 APRIL 2017**

Result of Election

An election was held to elect one councillor. I declare
Kevin GILLIES
elected as councillor until the next ordinary election of
the Council.

Detailed results are available from the NSW Electoral
Commission website.

Jack Somers
Returning Officer
12 April 2017

**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.

RM2748213

Results

Blacktown Sun

Tuesday, 25 April 2017

Blacktown Advocate

Wednesday, 19 April 2017


Appendix E: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election – ballot paper

Ward 2

City of Blacktown

BALLOT PAPER FOR
ELECTION OF 1 COUNCILLOR

Held on 8 April 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.

CANDIDATES


RANDHAWA Kittu
Independent

ORROCK Cassie
AUSTRALIA FIRST PARTY

WINSLOW Chris
THE GREENS

GILLIES Kevin
LABOR

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



Appendix F: Blacktown City Council, Ward 2 by-election - polling places and accessibility

Polling Place Name	Venue Type	Address	Locality	Accessibility
Blacktown Returning Officer's Office	Returning Office	L1, Suite 2, 22 Main Street	Blacktown	No accessible toilet
Blacktown Boys High	Polling Place	Fifth Avenue	Blacktown	No wheelchair access
Caddies Crk Public	Polling Place	Glenwood Park Drive	Glenwood	Path of travel from car park may be difficult
Glenwood High	Polling Place	Forman Avenue	Glenwood	Path of travel from car park may be difficult
Jim Southee Comm. Cntr	Polling Place	James Cook Drive	Kings Langley	Building has lips and/or steps
Kings Langley Public	Polling Place	68 Isaac Smith Parade	Kings Langley	Access ramp does not meet standards, No designated accessible parking spot, Path of travel from car park may be difficult
Kings Park Comm. Church	Polling Place	1/13 Turbo Rd	Kings Park	Fully wheelchair accessible
Lalor Park Public	Polling Place	Heffron Road	Lalor Park	Fully wheelchair accessible
Lynwood Park Public	Polling Place	87 Turner Street	Blacktown	Fully wheelchair accessible
Marayong Hghts Public	Polling Place	Guerie Street	Marayong	No designated accessible parking spot
Marayong Public	Polling Place	Davis Road	Marayong	Fully wheelchair accessible
Parklea Public	Polling Place	Glenwood Park Drive	Glenwood	Path of travel from car park may be difficult
Quakers Hill Public	Polling Place	Medlow Drive	Quakers Hill	No designated accessible parking

Polling Place Name	Venue Type	Address	Locality	Accessibility
				spot, No accessible toilet, Path of travel from car park may be difficult
Seven Hills High	Polling Place	Johnson Avenue	Seven Hills	No wheelchair access
Seven Hills Nth Public	Polling Place	45 Beethoven Street	Seven Hills	Path of travel from car park may be difficult
Seven Hills W Public	Polling Place	Lucas Road	Seven Hills	Fully wheelchair accessible
St Andrews Primary Marayong	Polling Place	36 Breakfast Road	Marayong	Path of travel from car park may be difficult
William Rose School	Polling Place	Hope Street	Seven Hills	No designated accessible parking spot, Path of travel from car park may be difficult

Appendix G: Blacktown City Council by-election – Check count by polling place

First Preference Votes Report Councillor Election: Blacktown – Blacktown 2

Report was last updated on – 11/04/2017 at 12am

Venue and Vote Types	RANDHAWA Kittu (IND)	ORROCK Cassie (AFP)	WINSLOW Chris (GRN)	GILLIES Kevin (LAB)	Total formal	Informal	Total votes/ ballot papers
Polling places							
Blacktown Boys High	130	82	109	606	927	53	980
Caddies Creek Public	607	319	610	1511	3047	132	3179
Glenwood High	316	295	275	847	1733	98	1831
Jim Southee Comm. Centre	371	530	442	1099	2442	165	2607
Kings Langley Public	203	405	330	725	1663	83	1746
Kings Park Comm. Church	73	145	186	380	784	51	835
Lalor Park Public	179	323	270	990	1762	116	1878
Lynwood Park Public	95	206	147	529	977	91	1068
Marayong Heights Public	85	107	114	516	822	66	888
Marayong Public	130	185	175	610	1100	79	1179
Parklea Public	321	203	352	777	1653	92	1745
Quakers Hill Public	112	104	186	592	994	72	1066
Seven Hills High	112	252	236	554	1154	107	1261
Seven Hills Nth Public	114	210	262	508	1094	91	1185
Seven Hills W Public	163	213	254	810	1440	97	1537
St Andrews Primary Marayong	133	199	125	830	1287	90	1377
William Rose School	74	121	147	490	832	45	877
Total polling place ordinary votes	3218	3899	4220	12,374	23,711	1528	25,239
Declaration votes							
Blacktown RO Office	486	440	538	2710	4174	172	4346
Declared Institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enrolment	39	42	47	132	260	3	263
Postal	277	359	223	910	1769	30	1799
Provisional/Silent	1	7	6	23	37	1	38
Total declaration votes	803	848	814	3775	6240	206	6446
Total votes/ballot papers	4021	4747	5034	16,149	29,951	1734	31,685
% of formal votes/ballot papers	13.43	15.85	16.81	53.92	100	-	-
% of total votes/ballot papers	12.69	14.98	15.89	50.97	94.53	5.47	100

Appendix H: Blacktown City Council by-election - distribution of preferences

April 2017 Local Government By-Elections 08-APR-2017

Distribution of Preferences Report Councillor Election: Blacktown - Blacktown 2

Report was last updated on - 11/04/2017 12:10:06 PM

Counts	Count 1	
Candidates	First Preference Votes	
RANDHAWA Kittu	4021	
ORROCK Cassie	4747	
WINSLOW Chris	5034	
GILLIES Kevin	16149	Elected
Total Votes in Count	29951	
Exhausted Votes	0	
Informal	1734	
Total Votes / Ballot Papers	31685	
Absolute Majority	14976	

REFERENCES

http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/councils/profiles/2017/blacktown_city

Australian Bureau of Statistics '2016 Census QuickStats'; Australia, New South Wales, Local Government Areas, Blacktown City Council.