



LGE 028

Ms Andrea Selvey
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands
PO Box 1094
COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS WA 6799

Dear Ms Selvey

Local Government Ordinary Election: 2021

The next local government ordinary elections will be held on 16 October 2021. While this is still some distance in the future, I have enclosed an estimate for your next ordinary election to assist in your 2021/2022 budget preparations.

The estimated cost for a 2021 voting in person election is \$18,000 inc GST which has been based on the following assumptions:.

- 420 electors
- response rate of approximately 55%
- 4 vacancies
- count to be conducted at the offices of the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- appointment of a external Returning Officer.

Costs not incorporated in this estimate include:

- non-statutory advertising (i.e. additional advertisements in community newspapers and promotional advertising)
- any legal expenses other than those that are determined to be borne by the Western Australian Electoral Commission in a Court of Disputed Returns
- any unanticipated costs arising from public health requirements for the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Commission is required by the *Local Government Act 1995* to conduct local government elections on a full cost recovery basis. Of note the prices quoted are estimates only and may vary depending on a range of factors including the hire of labour arrangements or votes cast. The basis for charges is all materials at cost and a margin on Commission staff time only. Should a significant change in this figure become evident prior to or during the election you will be advised as early as possible.

The current procedure required by the *Local Government Act 1995* is that my written agreement has to be obtained before the vote is taken. To facilitate the process, you can take this letter as my agreement to be responsible for the conduct of the ordinary elections in 2021 for the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, together with any other elections or polls that may also be required.

In order to have the 2021 voting in person election, your council will now need to pass the following motion by absolute majority:

- Declare, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Electoral Commissioner to be responsible for the conduct of the 2021 ordinary election together with any other elections or polls which may also be required.

I look forward to conducting this election for the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands in anticipation of an affirmative vote by Council. If you have any further queries please contact Phil Richards Manager, Election Events on 9214 0400.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Kennedy', written in a cursive style.

Robert Kennedy
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

15 December 2020