

SPECIAL INQUIRY INTO THE PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF THE 2025 WA STATE ELECTION

Terms of Reference

The Special Inquirer is to inquire into and report by 30 June 2025 on the following aspects of the planning and delivery of the 2025 WA State election with a focus on election day issues.

1. Were polling places adequately resourced having regard to:
 - allocation and suitability of staff
 - the procurement, appointment, training and management of staff
 - monitoring of staffing?
2. What was the decision-making process for outsourcing aspects of the 2025 WA State election?
3. Was ballot paper allocation appropriately managed having regard to:
 - availability of ballot papers at polling booths on election day
 - where and why there were shortfalls (if any) at different booths
 - how ballot paper availability was monitored and managed?
4. Was there adequate planning and management of polling places having regard to:
 - communication to electors, candidates and parties of changes to electoral boundaries since the last election
 - enrolment activities prior to the election
 - adequacy of number and location of polling places
 - voter access, wait times and queuing delays and the way they were addressed
 - communication between polling places and the Electoral Commission?
5. Was the processing and counting of votes efficient and effective having regard to the systems for processing, counting and recording votes before, during and after election day?
6. Was the WA Electoral Commission's response to issues arising on election day adequate?
7. What changes should be made by the WA Electoral Commission to improve the planning and delivery of future WA State elections?