

ELECTORAL COMMISSION — ANNUAL REPORT

**1076. Hon NEIL THOMSON to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Electoral Affairs:**

I refer to the Western Australian Electoral Commission's *Annual report 2021–2022*.

- (1) Does the Western Australian Electoral Commission have sufficient resources to meet goal 1, page 13, which in part refers to being “Based on high awareness and participation from the community”?
- (2) Will the proposed boundary changes for the proposed seat of Mid West pose any additional challenges for the Western Australian Electoral Commission to conform with the strategies for goal 1 and goal 2, specifically achieving “Untarnished electoral outcomes” or “High satisfaction from voters and other stakeholders”?
- (3) Referring to the Western Australian Electoral Commission's multicultural plan, have any of the culturally and linguistically diverse programs that, according to page 30, reach 400 people been made available in remote Western Australia, specifically targeting the Aboriginal community and their electoral voice?

**Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Electoral Affairs.

- (1) The Western Australian Electoral Commission, along with its joint roll partner, the Australian Electoral Commission, are dedicated to the education and engagement of the Western Australian community. Recently, the commission has agreed to increase staffing resources for 2023–24 and 2024–25 to conduct increased community engagement activities, with a focus on remote Aboriginal communities. That work is planned to commence in the first half of 2024.
- (2) No. The commission's community engagement and education activities are conducted without reference to any community's location within electoral boundaries. If there is an opportunity to visit a location and staffing resources are available, the commission will endeavour to visit that location. Wherever possible, visits are coordinated with other government agencies visiting regional and remote communities, such as the Australian Electoral Commission, the Department of Justice and the Parliamentary Education Office. In terms of operational election delivery, the commission strives to deliver a quality electoral experience to electors wherever they are in the state, and whatever the size of their electoral district.
- (3) The activities referred to in (1) will include remote communities.