

ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body | election 2021

 ACT | atsieb | make **your voice** count
AUTHORISED BY MR DAMIAN CANTWELL AM CSC, ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER, ACT ELECTORAL COMMISSION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body election 2021 - COVID-19 health and safety plan

Elections ACT is committed to providing the highest standard of electoral services in the COVID Safe delivery of the 2021 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body (ATSIEB) election. To meet this objective, Elections ACT has prepared this election service delivery plan which outlines several changes to processes and procedures for this election.

These measures are designed to comply with advice provided by the ACT Chief Health Officer and the federal government as at the time of publication. Elections ACT will adjust this service delivery plan as appropriate in response to any changed health advice or conditions.

Events

Events conducted during the election period will be conducted at suitable locations and formats to ensure the health and safety of all attendees. Appropriate hygiene practices and enforcement of social distancing arrangements will be in place at any physical location used for events.

Voting Centres

Voting is available from Saturday 3 July to Saturday 10 July 2021 at various locations to be established across ACT.

At each location, the following measures will be in place to minimise risk of COVID-19 transmission:

- Check in CBR App registration poster will be in all venues;
- Density limits (one person per two square metres) will be observed at all venues;
- Staff will ensure 1.5m social distancing is maintained among the voting public in queues;
- Floor markers or other signage will be used to guide proper social distancing;
- Prominent signage will be displayed promoting increased hygiene, social distancing, and requesting voters to remain at home if they have symptoms or are unwell;
- Hand sanitiser will be available at the entry and exit points;
- Hand sanitiser will be used by polling staff regularly during voting;
- Vote issuing tables where voters are marked off the roll and issued with their ballot paper will be spaced 1.5m apart;

ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body | election 2021

 ACT | **atsieb** | make **your voice** count

AUTHORISED BY MR DAMIAN CANTWELL AM CSC, ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER, ACT ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- Electors will be offered a single-use pencil when issued with a ballot paper;
- At each issuing table, there will be a Perspex sneeze screen in place to ensure protection of the voter and staff member;
- Voting screens will be situated to allow for social distancing and staff will be instructed to allocate voters to voting booths to ensure 1.5m distancing is maintained;
- Common touch point surfaces such as issuing point tables and voting screens will be regularly wiped down with disinfectant; and
- Posters encouraging people to not attend if they are feeling unwell

Scrutineers entering the voting centre to observe polling will be provided with hand sanitiser and instructed to maintain social distancing within the polling place.

Election Staff

The health and safety of Elections ACT staff is paramount to running a successful election. Measures to help protect staff from contracting and spreading COVID-19 include:

- Face-to-Face training will include information on the COVID Safe specific health measures that will be in place at all voting locations;
- All face-to-face training will adhere to social-distancing rules with hand sanitiser provided;
- Appropriate hygiene – hand sanitiser and disinfectant spray and wipes will be available for regular use by staff in all voting and staff locations;
- Social distancing measures will be enforced in all voting and staff locations including materials distribution centres, voting centres, the postal vote processing centre and the scrutiny centre; and
- Individual staff identification vests will not be shared among staff members.

If there is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 amongst any Elections ACT temporary or permanent staff, Elections ACT will follow the requirements for quarantine and contact tracing for all those affected in consultation with ACT Health.