



2017 NT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

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NEWSLETTER

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[Facebook.com/NTElectoralCommission](https://www.facebook.com/NTElectoralCommission)
 [@NTElecComm](https://twitter.com/NTElecComm)

1. Early, mobile and postal: voting underway

Territorians have been able to cast their vote at early voting centres and via mobile voting teams from Monday 14 August.

The postal voting team began mailing postal ballot papers to voters from Monday 7 August and will continue until Tuesday 22 August for overseas voters, and Thursday 24 August for voters in Australia.

Completed postal ballot papers must be received at the NT Electoral Commission by **12:00 noon on Friday 1 September** to be included in the count.

The following table provides a breakdown per vote type by council:

<i>Figures as at close of business Wednesday 16 August</i>			
COUNCIL	EARLY VOTING	REMOTE VOTING	POSTAL VOTING
Alice Springs Town Council	995	-	385
Barkly Regional Council	402	101	188
Belyuen Community Government Council	-	77	5
Central Desert Regional Council	8	299	111
Coomalie Community Government Council	30	72	43
City of Darwin	2,338	-	1,808
East Arnhem Regional Council	1	95	40
Katherine Town Council	411	3	165
Litchfield Council	583	-	292
MacDonnell Regional Council	11	124	92
Roper Gulf Regional Council	22	241	131
Tiwi Islands Regional Council	2	-	13
Victoria Daly Regional Council	6	38	74
Wagait Shire Council	3	-	17
West Arnhem Regional Council	8	191	54
West Daly Regional Council	-	-	40
TOTAL	4,820	1,241	3,458

Mobile voting continues in remote communities until Friday 25 August 2017. [Remote voting schedules](#) are available on the NTEC website.

2. Voting on Saturday 19 August

Early voting centres are **open on Saturday 19 August** between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. All [early voting centres](#) are listed on the NTEC website.

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3. Canvassing at early voting centres

During the week, some questions were raised about canvassing in and around early voting centres. An email was sent to all candidates stating the following.

The NTEC reminds candidates that there are **clear early voting centre canvassing guidelines** that **MUST** be followed. There was an article about canvassing at early voting centres in last week's [newsletter No. 09](#).

The property owners at some early voting centres DO NOT allow canvassing by campaign workers. In this instance, tables will be available and candidates may have **one A4 poster** and/or some **how-to-vote cards ONLY (usually DL size)**. Large posters and displays are NOT permitted.

Centres that allow canvassing will not have a table to leave supplies and candidates will be required to remove their material each time from these locations. It is the candidate's responsibility to maintain stocks of how-to-vote material throughout the course of the election.

ALL canvassing must be outside the 10m boundary as marked by the officer-in-charge. NTEC staff will request items not meeting these guidelines be removed immediately.

4. Election day campaign material

Election day campaign material can be put up at voting centres **AFTER 6:00 pm on Friday 25 August**, OUTSIDE the 10 metre boundary which will be marked by the officer-in-charge of each voting centre.

Any campaign material erected before 6:00 pm on Friday 25 August, will be removed.

Candidates are reminded to be mindful of reticulation systems, trees and grass areas at schools. Star pickets are NOT to be inserted into the ground on school property or footpaths and signage must not be placed on trees. The NTEC takes no responsibility for campaign material placed at voting centres overnight.

5. Election day voting centres

It's important to remember that voters **must vote within their council area on election day**. A full list of [election day voting centres](#) is available on the NTEC website.

6. Emails, ads and engaging electors

Over the past week, thirty thousand emails were sent to electors across the Northern Territory about voting services as well as SMSs to 40 remote communities, with details about mobile voting services in their community.

The emails and SMSs are part of the NTEC's voter communication strategy, which includes social media (Facebook and Twitter) and print advertising, as well as extensive television, radio and digital advertising campaigns, all of which run through to the close of voting at 6:00 pm on election day.

The radio ads have been translated into nine Indigenous languages and are being broadcast across the NT, and the voting formality videos available at all voting centres, have been translated into 13 Indigenous languages.

To view all the ads and videos go to the [communications, media and advertising](#) page on the NTEC website. Keep up-to-date and follow the NTEC on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

7. 104.9's Katie Woolf voting early



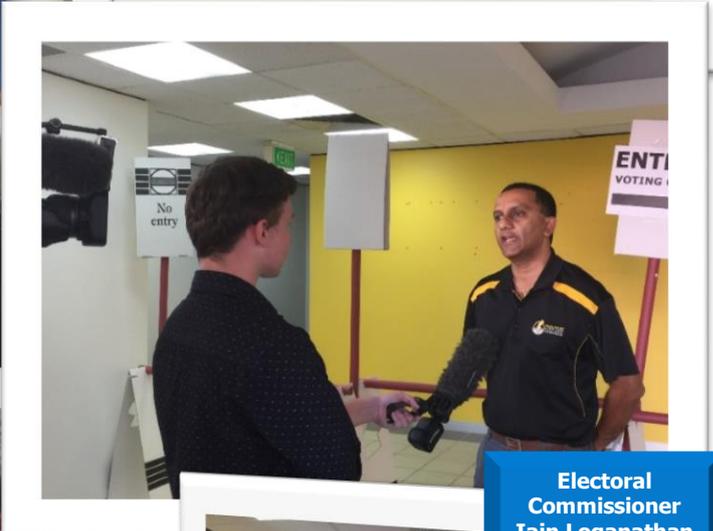
Katie Woolf took the opportunity to vote early in Darwin on Monday and followed this by interviewing NT Electoral Commissioner Iain Loganathan on Tuesday morning.

Early voting is a growing trend across Australia 38 per cent of Territorians choosing to vote early last year for the 2016 Territory election.

Over the past year, Katie has used her radio program to advocate for Territorians to engage more effectively with democracy and improve enrolment and voter turnout.

The early voting centre in Darwin was a hub of activity on Monday with voters taking the opportunity to vote before election day.

East Arnhem Regional Council has been out and about with their movable billboard promoting voting in their council area.



Electoral Commissioner Iain Loganathan chats to the media as early voting begins



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