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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Electoral Commission funding for the 2023 NSW State General Election**

Elections are an essential component of the democratic system in NSW. It's important that they are conducted efficiently and securely. They must be accessible to everyone across our state, and this necessitates the use of various forms of voting technology, including postal and digital voting.

There have been concerns about the safety and security of elections in many jurisdictions in the last few years, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. With the next NSW State General Election set to be held in 2023, these issues remain relevant.

A new inquiry adopted by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters will consider the adequacy of the funding allocation of the NSW Electoral Commission for the 2023 General Election, including the issue of electoral integrity and ensuring the security of different voting technologies.

"The Parliament has heard on several occasions from the Electoral Commission that technology continues to become an important tool in modern elections," said Committee Chair, Mr Lee Evans MP. "So in this inquiry, we'll also look at how the Commission balances this with the need for security."

"The NSW Government is committed to ensuring that the Electoral Commission is fully equipped to deliver the 2023 state election safely and with integrity. We hope to consider how the Commission's funding is used, and discuss ongoing funding requirements for the Commission to continue their work into the future."

More information about the inquiry can be found on the Committee's webpage.

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