

The Hon Peter Primrose MLC
Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
electoralmatters@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Re: 2025-26 budget for the NSW Electoral Commission

Dear Mr Primrose



Thank you for writing about the 2025-26 budget allocation for the NSW Electoral Commission.

I appreciate your request for additional information about matters raised by the Electoral Commissioner, relating to the workforce reform submission (2025-26) and the ongoing funding for the NSW Electoral Commission.

As part of the 2025-26 Budget Process, 14 of the 15 proposals submitted by the NSW Electoral Commission were supported in full by the NSW Government, resulting in a budget result impact of -\$160.9 million over five years, -\$212.5 million in the planning years and -\$0.4 million capital expenditure over the five years and \$0.1 million in the planning years.

Since coming to office, the NSW Electoral Commission has received an additional \$490m in Government contributions. The reason for the variation to the NSW Electoral Commission's workforce reform submission was due to the tight fiscal environment which limited the Government's ability to support the proposal while also addressing the other funded priorities of the Electoral Commission. The Government understands the additional unfunded roles relate to contractor delivered support services and organisational governance functions.

The NSW Electoral Commission would be best placed to provide further details of the specific roles if required. The Government targeted the funding of roles that supported the retention of critical electoral knowledge and expertise to support the Electoral Commission deliver its statutory, non-discretionary service and regulatory functions to the community, within the tight fiscal environment, and expects the Electoral Commission to operate sustainably and within its growing budget. I am advised that no savings proposals or efficiency dividends have been applied to the Electoral Commission.

Strong management of expense growth has allowed the NSW Government to rebuild essential services and deliver the largest ever funding injection into child protection. The increased funding for the Electoral Commission and other essential services has been achieved without privatisation or an unfair wages cap.

Should the Committee have any further questions, please contact Mr Siva Sivaraman,
Associate Director, Policy and Budget at [REDACTED]

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Daniel Mookhey MLC
Treasurer

Date: 10/09/25

CC: The Hon John Graham MLC, Special Minister of State