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WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission

Mr Peter Fitchat
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Dundas
PO Box 163
NORESMAN WA 6443

Dear Mr Fitchat

Local Government Ordinary Election: 2021

Thank you for your email dated 20 April requesting a cost estimate to conduct the Shire of Dundas local government election as a postal election.

The estimated cost for the 2021 election if conducted as a postal ballot is \$11,500 inc GST, which has been based on the following assumptions:

- 350 electors
- response rate of approximately 50%
- 3 vacancies
- count to be conducted at the offices of the Shire of Dundas
- appointment of a local Returning Officer
- regular Australia Post delivery service to apply.

An additional amount of \$70 will be incurred if your Council decides to opt for the Australia Post Priority Service for the lodgement of election packages

Costs not incorporated in this estimate include:

- non-statutory advertising (ie any additional advertisements in community newspapers and promotional advertising)
- any legal expenses other than those that are determined to be borne by the Western Australian Electoral Commission in a Court of Disputed Returns
- one local government staff member to work in the polling place on election day

The Commission is required by the Local Government Act to conduct local government elections on a full cost recovery basis and you should note that this is an estimate only and may vary depending on a range of factors including the cost of materials or number of replies received. The basis for charges is all materials at cost and a margin on staff time only.

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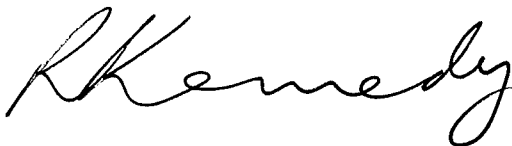
The current procedure required by the Act is that my written agreement has to be obtained before the vote by Council is taken. To facilitate the process, you can take this letter as my agreement to be responsible for the conduct of the ordinary elections in 2021 for the Shire of Dundas in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, together with any other elections or polls that may also be required. My agreement is subject to the proviso that the Shire of Dundas also wishes to have the election undertaken by the Western Australian Electoral Commission as a postal election.

In order to achieve this, your Council would need to pass the following two motions by absolute majority:

- Declare, in accordance with section 4.20(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Electoral Commissioner to be responsible for the conduct of the 2021 ordinary elections together with any other elections or polls which may be required
- Decide, in accordance with section 4.61(2) of the *Local Government Act 1995* that the method of conducting the election will be as a postal election.

I look forward to conducting this election for the Shire of Dundas in anticipation of an affirmative vote by Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Kennedy', written in a cursive style.

Robert Kennedy
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

29 April 2021