

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL REFORM GREEN PAPER SUBMISSION:

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Brief comments regarding procedural items.

- i) Item 7-67. Establishing some proof of identity at voting seems quite reasonable
- ii) Item 10-41. Definitely abolish the 'campaign period'. We observe a government over its term. An opposition can easily present an alternative policy platform through the media. Aggressive, intimidating posturing and fear and smear tactics are not intelligent debate. It breeds contempt, disrespect and cynicism in the minds of the electorate.
- iv) Item 11-3 Australian Electoral Commission to increase use of mobile polling where needed, particularly for elderly and remote areas. Prefer AEC staff assisting elderly rather than someone else in essence voting for them via internet voting. Remote residents might combine voting with other reasons to visit distant locations.
- v) Item 11-11. Early voting should not be discouraged. Can reduce workload on election day. Early votes to be counted as ordinary votes.
- vi) Item 11-24. Only Australian Electoral Commission staff to administer postal voting process. Remove political parties from postal voting process.
- vii) Item 11-33. Yes to internet voting subject to cost and security concerns.
- viii) Item 11-46. Network checking of voters on electoral roll should be introduced first. Provides real time checking of elector's identity.
- ix) Item 11-84. Definitely no synchronisation of federal, state and local council elections on the one day. Needs to be ongoing regular elections to judge electorate's mood.
- x) Item 12-19. Declaration votes to be counted as ordinary votes on election night.