

The Hon. Louise Asher MP
Chair
Electoral Matters Committee
Parliament of Victoria
Parliament House
Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 2003

Level 2 Telstra Centre
70 Collins Street
Hobart Tasmania 7000

GPO Box 300
Hobart Tas 7001

Phone (03) 6208 8700
Fax (03) 6208 8791
ballot.box@tec.tas.gov.au
www.tec.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Asher

Re: Electoral Matters Committee – Inquiry into Electronic Voting

Thank you for the invitation to provide a submission to the inquiry into Electronic Voting being conducted by the Victorian Electoral Matters Committee (the Committee).

While the Tasmanian Electoral Commission does not comment on electoral matters pertaining to other jurisdictions, I have provided a summary of the forms of electronic voting being used at Tasmanian Parliamentary elections.

Under the Tasmanian *Electoral Act 2004* the Commission can approve any procedures that are reasonable and appropriate to assist an elector who is otherwise unable to vote. Additionally, the Commission may approve procedures to enable an elector, external to Tasmania, to vote at an election. The Commission has approved two procedures that can be considered systems of electronic voting.

VI-Vote

VI-Vote is a computer based system that enables vision-impaired electors to independently cast a paper based ballot paper. Further information about VI-Vote can be found in Appendix D of the 2006-2007 TEC Annual Report. This report is available on the TEC website at <http://www.tec.tas.gov.au/pages/ElectoralInformation/PDF/06-07%20Annual%20Report.pdf>.

Express voting

Express voting is a procedure where interstate and overseas electors can vote via email or fax. The elector receives their ballot paper and a declaration form by fax or email, which she/he completes and returns by fax, email or post.

Further information about the roll out of the Express voting system can be found in Appendix D of the 2009-2010 TEC Annual Report. This report is available on the TEC website at http://www.tec.tas.gov.au/pages/ElectoralInformation/PDF/2010TEC_AnnualReport.pdf

Yours sincerely



Andrew Hawkey
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER
17 June 2016