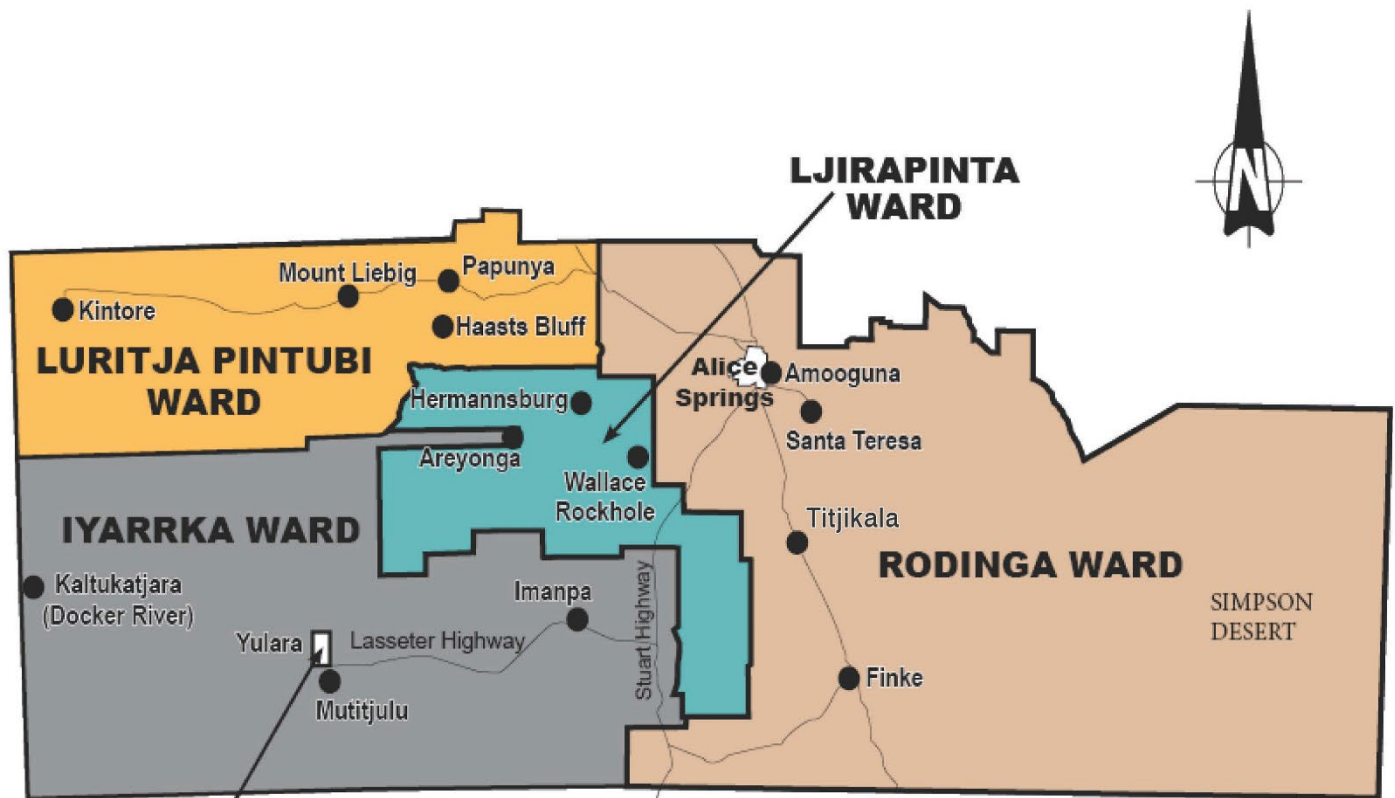


MacDonnell Regional Council Election Report



NOTE: Electors residing in Yulara are **NOT** required to vote as this area is unincorporated. For further information contact the NTEC.

NTEC version control

2021 Local Government Elections - MacDonnell Regional Council report

Version Number	Purpose/change	Author	Date
1.0	Final version approved by K. Kelly	K. Kelly NTEC	21/12/2021
1.1	Addition of version control	M. O'Brien	12/04/2022

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The latest version is accessible via the NTEC website at ntec.nt.gov.au.



Election timetable

2021 Local Government Elections

28 August 2021

Date	Time	
Friday 16 July		Nominations open
Tuesday 27 July	5:00 pm	Electoral roll closes
Thursday 5 August	12:00 noon	Nominations close
Friday 6 August	12:00 noon	Declaration of nominations, draw for position on ballot papers
Monday 9 August		Postal vote mail-out commences
Monday 16 August	8:00 am	Early voting commences Mobile voting commences
Tuesday 24 August	6:00 pm	Overseas postal voting despatches cease
Thursday 26 August	6:00 pm	All postal voting despatches cease
Friday 27 August	6:00 pm	Early voting ceases
Saturday 28 August	6:00 pm	Primary counts of postal, mobile and early votes commence Election day
	8:00 am	Election day voting commences
	6:00 pm	Election day voting ceases Mobile voting ceases Primary counts of ordinary, postal and early votes commence
Monday 30 August	9:00 am	Declaration vote verification checks, commence recheck of all counts
Thursday 2 September	9:00 am	Primary counts of accepted declaration votes, further postal counts
Friday 10 September	12:00 noon	Deadline for receipt of postal votes Final counts of postal votes commence
	6:00 pm	Distribution of preferences
Monday 13 September	10:00 am	Declaration of the election result

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For more information go to www.ntec.nt.gov.au

BACKGROUND

Elections

Election day for the 2021 Local Government Elections was Saturday 28 August. Local government general elections in the Northern Territory cover 17 local government areas and include 60 separate elections for 159 positions. For MacDonnell Regional Council, there were 4 elections to be contested for its 4 wards:

- Iyarrka Ward – 2 councillors
- Ljirapinta Ward – 3 councillors
- Luritja Pintubi Ward – 3 councillors
- Rodinga Ward – 4 councillors

Legislation

This was the first general election under the new *Local Government Act 2019* (which commenced 1 July 2021), with further electoral legislative and regulations changes included in amendments passed in July 2021.

The key changes relating to local government elections resulting from these amendments are:

- Changes to declaration voting that allows electors who turn up at a voting centre, but are not enrolled (or are enrolled for an interstate address) to still cast a vote that can be admitted to the count. The declaration envelope acts as an enrolment form which is forwarded to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) for processing. If the person is able to be enrolled, their vote is added to the count. Previously, declaration votes would result in updated enrolments, but their ballot papers would not be included in the count.
- Financial disclosure requirements were simplified so that only candidates who receive reportable donations and loans are required to complete a return, and disclosure timeframes were generally aligned to those in the *Electoral Act 2004*. (The financial disclosure requirements do not come into effect until 1 July 2022, so were not relevant to the 2021 Local Government Elections.)
- Other amendments included changes to the election timetable and nomination requirements.

Service Charter

The service charter (one document for all councils) provided an overview of service commitments and associated standards that councils could expect from the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC). The charter also described how councils could assist in the delivery of the elections and thereby offset some of their costs. These are detailed in individual service level agreements that the NTEC had with each council.

Service Level Agreement

For the first time at a local government election in the Northern Territory, NTEC and councils negotiated to trial a new voting option called council delivery centres (CDCs). These were essentially early voting centres that provided ordinary and declaration voting services and were located in council premises in remote communities. The CDCs were managed and staffed by councils, under the supervision of the NTEC. All regional councils were offered the option of council delivery centres and/or mobile voting services to provide voting services to electors in their remote areas.

As part of its service level agreement signed 13 July 2021, MacDonnell Regional Council opted to provide or facilitate the following for its elections:

- voting services in agreed council delivery centres from 23 August 2021 to 27 August 2021
- council staff and premises for the council delivery centres
- council staff training including the requirement to provide council delivery centre managers face-to-face training in Alice Springs by NTEC

- delivery and return to communities of election materials and ballot papers in a secure and safe manner
- security of used and unused ballot papers, ballot boxes, and netbook machines
- mobile voting to minor communities if required in conjunction with NTEC
- council owned accommodation (if required) and voting premises at no cost
- promotion of the election through social media and council sites throughout the council area
- receive and forward nominations to the NTEC for official processing

All other electoral services were provided by the NT Electoral Commission.

BOUNDARY CHANGES

There were no boundary or representative structure changes as a result of the representation review of MacDonnell Regional Council conducted prior to the election.

ENROLMENT

At the close of the electoral roll on Tuesday 27 July at 5:00pm there was a total of 3,541 electors enrolled in the MacDonnell Regional Council. This was a 1.4 per cent decrease in enrolment from the previous local government general elections in 2017. The enrolment numbers per ward were as follows:

- Iyarrka Ward – 776 (down from 780 in 2017)
- Ljirapinta Ward – 651 (down from 733 in 2017)
- Luritja Pintubi Ward – 1,040 (up from 955 in 2017)
- Rodinga Ward – 1,074 (down from 1,147 in 2017)

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Campaign overview

The public awareness campaign for the 2021 Local Government Elections was implemented in two broad phases. The first phase focused on awareness and enrolment. The second was a call to action for all eligible Territorians to vote.

The roll out of the public awareness campaign for the 2021 Local Government Elections commenced on 21 June and continued through until the declaration of the results on 13 September 2021. Social media was the primary channel used to promote the election Territory wide. Television, radio, digital and print media were also integral parts of the media mix.

In-language radio, TV and social media content was also created to promote the election throughout remote areas and communities in the Territory. Based on recommendations from the Aboriginal Interpreter Service and Aboriginal Broadcasting Australia, content was developed in 9 Aboriginal languages which were geo-targeted to the regions where the languages are spoken.

Broadly understood Aboriginal languages such as Kriol and Arrernte were used right across the northern and southern parts to the Territory respectively to ensure that content developed in at least one relevant language other than English was available Territory wide.

Website

The website for the 2021 Local Government Elections was launched early June and provided comprehensive information for candidates and electors. The site was designed to be the primary source of information for voters about enrolment and voting options, times and locations and results.

For candidates, the site provided information about nominating, campaigning, voting and scrutineering processes.

The following table shows website engagement for the election period (21 June through to 13 September) as well as specific MacDonnell Regional Council results and information page engagement, prior to and post election day.

Total website page views	865,814
MacDonnell councillor results page views (all wards)	1,189
MacDonnell list of councillor candidates	1,108
Other MacDonnell content related page views	803
Total MacDonnell content related page views	3,100

Newsletters



2021 Local Government Elections: Newsletter 2
Issue date: Friday 18 June

A total of 10 election specific newsletters were emailed to stakeholders including councils and candidates, from 28 May through to 9 September. The newsletters kept stakeholders up to date with topics ranging from nomination information through to details of vote counting. The newsletters were also available on the NTEC website and links were shared on the NTEC's Facebook page.

Advertising – radio, television, social media

NTEC branded advertisements of 15 seconds were developed for radio, television and social media. The advertisements carried simple, concise messages such as: 'check your enrolment', 'are you correctly enrolled?', 'early voting has started', and 'vote now'.

All advertisements promoted the NTEC website as the prime source of information for electors to 'find out more'.

These advertisements were also translated into 9 Aboriginal languages and broadcast on the CAAMA, Aboriginal Broadcasting Australia, Yolngu Radio and TEABBA radio networks throughout the Territory.

In-language versions were also broadcast on Aboriginal Broadcasting Australia TV and ICTV channels and were geo-targeted to their respective language areas on social media.

The stock advertisements were run on social media in conjunction with a series of video logs (vlogs) featuring well-known Territorians such as Charlie King, who promoted key election messages on behalf of the NTEC.

A number of social media advertisements were developed in collaboration with Bellette Media featuring Territorians raising awareness about the elections.

Facebook engagement statistics show that the vlog format advertisements proved highly successful. In total, 8 of the 42 social media advertisements were produced in either a vlog or light-hearted format. Those 8 advertisements accounted for 152,988 video views from the campaign total of 377,810 views.

English language radio advertisements were broadcast on Hot 100 and Mix-FM stations in the Top End and Sun FM and 8HA in Central Australia.

English language television ads were broadcast on Channel 7, Channel 9 and Imparja networks. Placement of the ads was focused on 'event' TV, or high-rating programs and popular sports such as AFL and NRL matches.

In the Macdonnell Regional Council area advertisements were run in Arrernte, Warlpiri and Pitjantjatjara. English language advertisements were also run Territory wide.

Direct digital and print advertising

With a large decline in print media options since the 2017 general elections, newspaper advertising for the 2021 Local Government Elections was largely restricted to statutory advertising requirements as prescribed under the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations 2021. These advertisements ran in the NT News as the Territory's primary, widely-circulated newspaper.

However, further publications with a digital presence such as Alice Springs News Online, Tennant Creek and District Times and Katherine Times were also engaged for location targeted aspects of the campaign.

Direct digital advertising placements on millennial, tech-savvy platforms such as EA Games and NewsXtend, proved highly successful in terms of campaign awareness.

From 92,893 video impressions served on EA Games, a view through rate of 89.9 per cent was achieved, or put another way, there were 83,486 complete through plays of the two, 15 second ads run across the campaign.

The NewsXtend platform also served 298,501 impressions Territory-wide and achieved 30,805 fully played video views of awareness advertisements.

The following tables outline relevant statistics for different advertising channels and platforms.

Television

Network	Dates aired	Number of advertisements
Channel 7 Darwin	04/07/2021-28/08/2021	202
Channel 7 Central		228
Channel 9		78
Imparja		127
ICTV		120
ABA		124
Bold: Channels aired throughout MacDonnell Regional Council region		Total 879

Radio

Network	Dates aired	Number of advertisements
Hot 100	04/07/2021-28/08/2021	158
Mix FM		157
CAAMA		168
TEABBA		109
ABA		141
Yolngu Radio		104
Sun FM		104
8HA		104
Bold: Channels aired throughout MacDonnell Regional Council region		Total 1,045

Social Media

Campaign	Reach	Impressions	Click through rate
2021 Local Government Elections – overall	168,472	2,825,293	1.07%*
MacDonnell geo-targeted ads#	8,509	31,860	2.23%

*Industry standard 0.89%

#Includes only in-language advertisements targeted to run in Central Australia, which included the MacDonnell Regional Council area

Call centre

A call centre was established on Monday 2 August and ran until 6pm on 28 August, election day. Staff assisted electors with a variety of enquiries related to the election during this period.

Enquiry type	Enquiry numbers
Total phone calls	1,522
Emails to ntec@nt.gov.au	261
Front counter	88
Formal complaints	43

Candidate information sessions

There were 2 candidate information sessions organised by the Local Government Association of the NT in partnership with the council, which the NTEC presented at. The table below provides details about these sessions.

Date	Location	Number of attendees
20 July 2021	MacDonnell Regional Council	6
23 July 2021	MacDonnell Regional Council	4

Email and SMS

Electors who have provided either their mobile phone number or email address or both are able to be contacted directly by the NTEC. Those electors in the MacDonnell Regional Council area received 4 messages before election day, 28 August. Details of those messages are provided in the table below.

Message	No. of emails sent	Date sent	No. of SMS sent	Date sent
Enrolment	259	19-07-2021	380	22-07-2021
Voting suspended (COVID-19)	31*	16-08-2021	352	16-08-2021
Vote now, early voting open (post lockdown)	219	19-08-2021	21	19-08-2021
Community specific message sent 2 days before remote team visit			241	28-08-2021
Totals	15,733		26,751	

*Sent only if no SMS contact and if elector had not already voted

Other promotional activities

The NTEC hosted stalls on the show circuit promoting the upcoming 2021 Local Government Elections in Katherine and Darwin only. Stalls were ready to be run in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek but these shows were cancelled due to a COVID-19 lockdown.

VOTING SERVICES

Nominations

Nominations opened Friday 16 July and closed on Thursday 5 August at 12:00 noon. For MacDonnell Regional Council there were a total of 15 accepted nominations for 12 council vacancies. One nomination was rejected (due to not being enrolled in the council area) and 2 nominations were withdrawn.

The declaration of nominations was held at the NTEC's Central Australia election office at the Arid Zone Research Institute, 519 Stuart Hwy, Kilgariff. The event was attended by candidates, the general public and council representatives. A random number generator selected the ballot paper position for each candidate and results were uploaded onto the NTEC website and Facebook page as soon as the draw was completed.

MacDonnell Regional Council – summary of accepted nominations/candidates

Iyarrka Ward (2 vacancies)	Marlene ABBOTT
	Abraham POULSON

Ljirapinta Ward (3 vacancies)	Roxanne KENNY
	Mark INKAMALA
	Bobby G ABBOTT

Luritja Pintubi Ward (3 vacancies)	Peter TURNER
	Dalton MCDONALD
	Ashley Jangala ROBERTSON
	Jason MINOR
	Marina Nungarrayi JURRAH

Rodinga Ward (4 vacancies)	Patrick ALLEN
	Annie YOUNG
	Lynette A ELLIS
	Geoffrey CAMPBELL
	Lisa SHARMAN

Electronic mark-off

An electronic voter mark-off system is now used in all voting centres across the Northern Territory. The system records when someone has voted anywhere in the NT in real time. Where there is no internet coverage, each netbook stores the voter mark off information until such time as there is internet coverage which allows the netbooks to synchronise and send the information to NTEC offices.

Voting centres are issued paper copies of the certified lists as an emergency backup option in case of complete failure of the electronic mark off system.

The system also prevents multiple voting, as a voter who is marked off electronically in one voting centre or who has completed a postal vote will appear in all voting centres as already voted.

ELECTION

At the close of nominations the number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies in the Iyarrka and Ljirapinta wards. Therefore, elections were not required to be held in these wards.

Council delivery centres

Within the MacDonnell Regional Council area, early voting services were offered over 4 days across 13 council delivery centres. Some of these were located in the 2 wards that did not have an election due to having the same number of nominations as the number of vacancies, as per the agreement with the council. The table below shows the location of the council delivery centre and the number of votes issued at each one.

Council delivery centre statistics – MacDonnell Regional Council

Location	Votes issued
Amoonguna	55
Areyonga	1
Docker River	0
Finke	50
Hermannsburg	0
Haasts Bluff	54
Imanpa	0
Kintore	74
Mt Liebig	77
Papunya	168
Santa Teresa	126
Titjikala	93
Wallace Rockhole	0
Total	698

Early voting

Within the Northern Territory, early voting services were offered for two weeks (from Monday 16 August to Friday 27 August) at 8 early voting centres. However, from 12 noon, Monday 16 August to 12 noon, Thursday 19 August, early voting was suspended Territory wide due to a COVID lockdown. To offset the loss of service to electors, early voting times were extended. The table below shows those early voting centres (EVCs) that issued votes to MacDonnell Regional Council electors.

Early voting statistics – MacDonnell Regional Council

Location	Votes issued
Alice Springs EVC	64
Katherine EVC	2
Tennant Creek EVC	2
Yarrawonga EVC	2

Remote mobile voting

The council choose not to provide additional remote voting services outside of the community council voting centres during the election period.

Mobile voting – urban institutions

A mobile voting team visited Alice Springs Hospital and the Alice Springs Correctional Centre and issued 14 votes to MacDonnell Regional Council electors.

Postal voting

All electors have the option to postal vote. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, postal voting services were provided to all residents of urban aged care facilities (rather than in-house mobile voting as provided previously) throughout the Territory. As Australia Post could not guarantee the delivery and return of postal votes to overseas addresses within the legislated timeframes, due to the impact of COVID-19 on international flights, no postal votes were sent overseas. The table below provides further details about postal votes for MacDonnell Regional Council electors.

Postal voting statistics – MacDonnell Regional Council

Description	Number
Number of postal vote applications received	125
Number of postal votes issued	54
Number of postal vote applications rejected	43
Number of postal votes returned	37
Number of postal votes added to the count	27
Number of postal votes rejected	10

The reasons for rejecting postal vote applications were:

- ward did not go to election (32)
- multiple applications received from same the elector (7)
- postal address overseas (3)
- application received too late (1)

The reasons for rejecting returned postal votes were:

- ordinary vote issued (i.e. elector marked off as having voted in person) (5)
- postal vote not signed (3)
- vote received too late (2)

Declaration voting

A person who cannot be found on the electoral roll, but is entitled to vote, can be issued with a declaration vote after completing and signing a declaration envelope. Their ballot paper is placed in the envelope and a scrutiny of all declaration envelopes commences the day after election day.

Legislative amendments passed in May 2021 created a savings provision that allows eligible electors who are unenrolled at the close of roll date, a chance for their vote to be admitted to the count. During the declaration scrutiny process, all declaration envelopes are forwarded to the AEC and eligible electors are added to the roll using the envelope as an enrolment form. Where voters are unable to be enrolled, their declaration vote is rejected.

For MacDonnell Regional Council the table below shows the declaration votes admitted to the count and those rejected.

Declaration voting statistics – MacDonnell Regional Council

Accepted	Rejected	Total
12	3	15

The reason for rejecting the 3 declaration votes was because these electors were enrolled for a different ward or local government area to the one they completed the ballot paper for. Electors must vote for the area they are enrolled in at the close of electoral roll, even if they have since moved to another NT address.

Participation

Turnout for the MacDonnell Regional Council's 2 elections combined was 39.4%, with Luritja Pintubi Ward on 38.9% (405 electors out of 1,046) and Rodinga Ward on 40.1% (434 electors out of 1,082).

The turnout rate was up from the previous elections in 2017 where the council had a turnout rate of 29.9% (when the only same two wards had elections go ahead). At these elections Luritja Pintubi Ward had a turnout rate of 33.4% (319 electors out of 955 enrolled) and Rodinga Ward had 27.0% (310 out of 1,147).

The following table details the total number of vote types for those votes admitted to the count.

Number of votes by voting centre – MacDonnell Regional Council

Voting centre	Number of votes counted	% of total votes
Council delivery centres	698	83.2%
Postal voting	27	3.2%
Declaration voting	12	1.4%
Absent voting	102	12.2%
Total	839	100%

Non-voters

There were 1,306 identified non-voters across the 2 wards. The table below shows the age and gender demographics of these non-voters.

Non-voter statistics – MacDonnell Regional Council

Gender	18-29 years	30-49 years	50-69 years	70+ years	Total
Female	116	277	180	61	634
Male	131	351	151	38	671
Gender undisclosed	1				1
Total	248	628	331	99	1,306

Informality

Of the 839 ballot papers counted, 59 were considered informal and so not counted. This is an informality rate of 7.0%.

Informal vote statistics – MacDonnell Regional Council

Ballot paper	Intentional	Unintentional	Total
Luritja Pintubi Ward	13	14	27
Rodinga Ward	23	9	32
Total	36	23	59

Voting system

The voting system for local government elections is Proportional Representation (PR):

- Electors must number all the boxes on their ballot paper sequentially starting with the number one for their first choice.
- First preference votes for each candidate on formal ballot papers are counted, then a quota is calculated.
- The quota is calculated using the following formula: (total number of formal votes / (number of vacancies + 1)) + 1.
- The candidates with votes equal to or greater than the quota are elected. If all vacancies are filled, the election is complete.
- If not, preferences are distributed to the other candidates until all vacancies have been filled.

To learn more about the PR system, go to the vote counting page on the NTEC website.

Vote counting – election night

Vote counting began immediately after the close of voting at 6:00 pm on election day. First preference votes cast at council delivery centres, with the urban mobile team and at the Alice Springs early voting centre were counted at the Alice Springs scrutiny centre.

Post-election night scrutinies

- Votes received for councillor vacancies were entered into an electronic count system that the NTEC uses to count votes using proportional representation (Easy count). All votes are then re-entered for verification purposes.
- Using this system alleviates the need to undertake a fresh re-check of ballot papers as each paper is entered and verified by two different data operators.

- Counts of declaration and postal votes returned during the counting period were undertaken over the 13 days following election day.
- Following the deadline for the receipt of postal votes at 12 noon on Friday 10 September, a distribution of preferences was conducted electronically using the Easy Count software.

Election outcomes

There were 15 candidates contesting 12 councillor vacancies across the 4 wards. The successful candidates and first preference votes received are detailed below.

Election of 2 councillors – Iyarrka Ward

At the close of nominations the number of candidates was not more than the number of vacancies and **Marlene ABBOTT** and **Abraham POULSON** were duly declared elected.

Election of 3 councillors – Ljirapinta Ward

At the close of nominations the number of candidates was not more than the number of vacancies and **Roxanne KENNY**, **Mark INKAMALA** and **Bobby G ABBOTT** were duly declared elected.

Election of 3 councillors – Luritja Pintubi Ward

At the close of nominations there were 5 candidates for 3 positions. An election was duly held and the first preference votes were recorded as follows:

Candidate	First preference votes
Peter TURNER	76
Dalton MCDONALD	187
Ashley Jangala ROBERTSON	17
Jason MINOR	53
Marina Nungarrayi JURRAH	45
Total	378

The quota required under the proportional representation voting system was 95. Following the distribution of preferences, and in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Local Government (*Electoral*) Regulations, the results were as follows:

- **Dalton MCDONALD** received the quota at count 1
- **Peter TURNER** received the quota at count 2
- **Jason MINOR** received the quota at count 5

Dalton MCDONALD, **Peter TURNER** and **Jason MINOR** were duly elected.

Election of 4 councillors – Rodinga Ward

At the close of nominations there were 5 candidates for 2 positions. An election was duly held and the first preference votes were recorded as follows:

Candidate	First preference votes
Patrick ALLEN	80
Annie YOUNG	85
Lynette A ELLIS	80
Geoffrey CAMPBELL	58
Lisa SHARMAN	99
Total	402

The quota required under the proportional representation voting system was 81. Following the distribution of preferences, and in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Local Government (*Electoral*) Regulations, the results were as follows:

- **Lisa SHARMAN** and **Annie YOUNG** received the quota at count 1
- **Patrick ALLEN** and **Lynette A ELLIS** received the quota at count 2

Lisa SHARMAN, Annie YOUNG, Patrick ALLEN and **Lynette A ELLIS** were duly elected.

Declaration of the election results

The declaration of election results took place at the MacDonnell Regional Council on Bagot Street in Alice Springs at 10:15am on Monday 13 September 2021.

Declared election results for MacDonnell Regional Council

Iyarrka Ward	Ljirapinta Ward	Luritja Pintubi Ward	Rodinga Ward
Marlene ABBOTT Abraham POULSON	Roxanne KENNY Mark INKAMALA Bobby G ABBOTT	Dalton MCDONALD Peter TURNER Jason MINOR	Lisa SHARMAN Annie YOUNG Patrick ALLEN Lynette A ELLIS

A copy of the full distribution of preferences is available on the 2021 Local Government Elections [results page](#) of the website.

ELECTION COSTS

Estimate of costs

Election area	Estimated cost
Public awareness	\$7,950
Staffing	\$30,402
Operational	\$20,545
Sub total	\$58,898
10% GST	\$5,889
Total estimated cost	\$64,788

Actual costs

Election area	Actual cost
Public awareness	\$4,975
Staffing	\$22,314
Operational	\$7,646
Sub total	\$34,935
10% GST	\$3,493
Total actual cost	\$38,428

The main reasons for the reduction from the estimate to the actual costs was due to two wards not going to poll and council offering voting through council delivery centres.

ISSUES TO NOTE

- While the turnout rate did increase to 39.7% from 29.9% in 2017, and the provision of Council Delivery Centres is likely to have contributed to this increase, the voter participation rate for the council is still low.
- In hindsight, the scheduling of the face-to-face training for council delivery centre managers was held too late for staff engaged in the process to return to their council centres and prepare for opening of voting centres on Monday 23 August 2021. Training was provided in the afternoon on Friday, 20 August 2021. Many calls were received on the following Monday to address eLAPPS issues and general voting processing issues which delayed the readiness for provision of voting services. Council noted in the debrief session that more practical training sessions would be beneficial.
- Council service centres located outside of the Luritja Pintubi and Rodinga wards offered voting services for the two wards going to poll. In these 4 locations, very little votes were cast, or none at all.
- Council noted that communities have moved away from notice boards to get information and that in future elections social media and other virtual means of advertising would be more effective.
- Council suggested that frequently visited locations within communities, such as the store may be an effective location for interacting with voters and alerting and encouraging them to participate in future elections.
- Council suggested looking at other ways to promote and use the how to vote in language resources developed by NTEC during elections.
- Council noted during the debriefing session whilst happy with the service level agreement, NTEC should consider providing a supporting document closer to the election confirming roles, responsibilities and costs once it is known which wards are contested. Council did acknowledge this would be challenging given the election timeframes and operational priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Face-to-face training and more practical focused training for council delivery centre managers to occur after the close of nominations and at least three working days before voting commences.
- Further consideration as to whether voting services should be provided in council delivery centres located outside of the wards that have elections.