

## Media release

Issued on behalf of the Electoral Commission of Queensland

[www.ecq.qld.gov.au](http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au)

Friday, 29 July 2016

### First Full Preferential Voting System Election Completed in Queensland

The Electoral Commission of Queensland has successfully completed its first election under the full preferential voting system (FPV) with the declaration of the Toowoomba South By-Election that was held on Saturday 16 July 2016.

Full preferential voting was introduced for use in all Queensland state elections, just prior to the commencement of the Toowoomba South By-Election.

Electoral Commissioner of Queensland, Mr Walter van der Merwe said: "All polling officials should be congratulated on the professional manner in which they guided the electors of Toowoomba South through the changed voting procedures. The knowledge and experience that was displayed during the election exceeded my expectations and was instrumental to the Commission achieving a successful outcome."

The Commission provided a range of educational material for electors of Toowoomba South to become familiar with the changed voting procedures prior to polling day. Polling officials were available to assist electors who may have had additional questions about the process while voting.

Electors of Toowoomba South successfully adopted the new FPV system that required a mark in every box on the ballot paper despite being required to turnout for their third election within a short period of time, and where all voting systems employed through those elections was different.

The Commission takes this opportunity to remind Queenslanders that all future state elections and by-elections will be conducted under full preferential voting (FPV). Electors are encouraged to visit the Commission's website at [www.ecq.qld.gov.au](http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au) to familiarise themselves with the new system and how to place a formal vote under full preferential voting.

**ENDS**

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**Website** [www.ecq.qld.gov.au](http://www.ecq.qld.gov.au)

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