



Electoral Commission
QUEENSLAND

2025 Hinchinbrook State By-Election Report

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Electoral Commission of Queensland

Website: www.ecq.qld.gov.au
Telephone: 1300 881 665
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File number: 121



10 April 2026

The Honourable Deb Frecklington MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for Integrity
1 William Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
Email: attorney.general@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Attorney-General

Please find enclosed a report on the Hinchinbrook State by-election held on 29 November 2025 for tabling in Parliament.

In accordance with section 18(2) of the *Electoral Act 1992* (the Act), the report details the operation of part 7 of the Act in relation to the by-election. I note under section 18(3) of the Act, a copy of this report is required to be laid before the Legislative Assembly within three sitting days from its receipt.

The report will also be published on the ECQ website, subject to it being tabled.

Should you require further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Pat Vidgen RSM
Electoral Commissioner

Introduction

On Saturday, 29 November 2025, the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) conducted a by-election to fill a vacancy in the Queensland State electorate of Hinchinbrook.

Hinchinbrook is a regional electorate located in the north of Queensland. Its area encompasses the Cassowary Coast Regional Council, Hinchinbrook Shire Council and the Northern parts of Townsville City Council.

The vacancy arose following the resignation from Parliament of the then sitting member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Nick Dametto MP, effective from Tuesday, 14 October 2025.

The Honourable Patrick Weir MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland, issued the Writ for Election (writ) on Monday, 3 November 2025. The writ was issued under section 83(2) of the *Electoral Act 1992* (the Electoral Act), to fill a vacancy that arises when the Legislative Assembly is sitting.

This was the first State by-election held during the term of the 58th Parliament of Queensland.

Voter participation, referred to as 'turnout' was 77.81 per cent for the Hinchinbrook State by-election (the by-election). This is comparable to the most recent State by-elections held in March 2024 in the Inala and Ipswich West electorates, with a turnout rate of 77.35 and 80.69 per cent respectively for those events. The Inala and Ipswich West by-elections were held concurrently with the 2024 local government elections, while voting in Hinchinbrook commenced directly after a mayoral by-election in the Townsville City Council.

Queensland State elections use the full preferential voting system, which requires voters to place a first preference next to the name of their preferred candidate and then rank all other candidates in their order of preference.

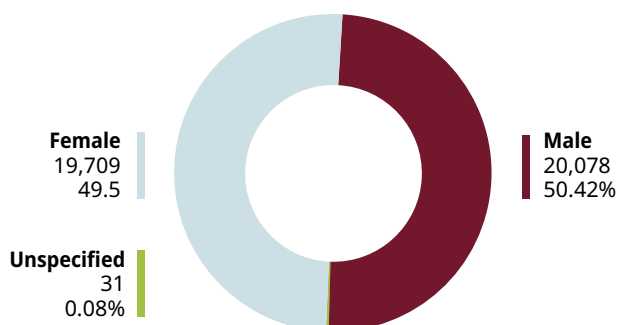
Following the completion of the by-election and counting of votes, Mr Wayde Leonard Chiesa of the Liberal National Party of Queensland was elected to represent the Hinchinbrook electorate.

The writ declaring the name of the elected candidate was returned to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland on Monday, 8 December 2025. A notice declaring the election result and notifying the return of the writ was also published in the Queensland Government Gazette on the date of the writs return.

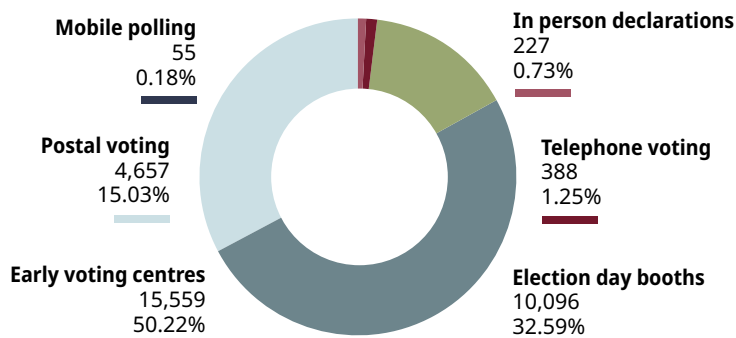
A copy of the finalised writ and gazetted elected candidate notice is available at **Appendix A**.

Snapshot

Total enrolment
39,818



Total votes
30,982



Voter turnout (%)
77.81%

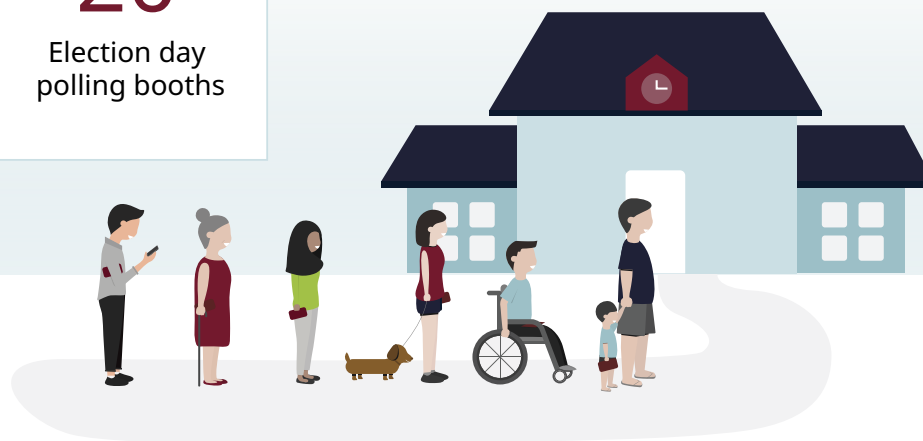
Informal Votes
1,221 (3.94%)

2

Early voting centres

20

Election day polling booths



Returning Officer (RO): Robert Clark

RO Office: TYTO Conference and Events Centre,
73-75 McIlwraith Street, INGHAM QLD 4850

Voting system: Full preferential voting

Elected candidate: Mr Wayde Chiesa
Liberal National Party of Queensland

Refer to full distribution of preferences at **Appendix D** and on the ECQ's website.

Timetable

Writ issued	Monday, 3 November 2025
Candidate nominations opened	Tuesday, 4 November 2025, 9.00am
Electoral roll closed	Friday, 7 November 2025, 6.00pm
Candidate nominations closed	Tuesday, 11 November 2025, 12.00pm
Ballot paper order draw	Tuesday, 11 November 2025, 2.00pm
Postal voting application period	Start: Tuesday, 21 October 2025, 10.00am End: Monday, 17 November 2025, 7.00pm
Early voting period	Start: Monday, 17 November 2025, 8.00am End: Friday, 28 November 2025, 6.00pm
Electronically assisted voting period (telephone voting)	Start: Monday, 17 November, 9.00am End: Saturday, 29 November, 6.00pm
How-to-vote card lodgement deadline	Friday, 21 November 2025, 5.00pm
Election day voting	Saturday, 29 November 2025, 8.00am – 6.00pm
Deadline for completing postal votes	Saturday, 29 November 2025, 6.00pm
Deadline for the return of postal votes	Tuesday, 9 December 2025, 6.00pm
Writ returned	Monday, 8 December 2025
Deadline for filing a challenge to the result	Monday, 15 December 2025
Last date for return of writ	Monday, 26 January 2026
Deadline for the return of election summary returns	Monday, 16 March 2026

Voter services

Voting is compulsory in Queensland and as with all State elections, the by-election was an attendance ballot. The ECQ offered in-person voting services across two-weeks of early voting and on election day.

In the weeks preceding voting for the by-election, approximately two-thirds of Hinchinbrook electors were also required to vote in the Townsville City Council mayoral by-election on Saturday, 15 November 2025. The Townsville mayoral by-election was conducted as a full postal ballot, meaning voting materials were mailed directly to enrolled voters' addresses and there were no in-person or other voting services available.

To maximise convenience for Hinchinbrook voters, the ECQ extended early voting hours from 8.00am to 6.00pm to provide ample opportunity for electors to attend polling places. Other voting services were also available, including mobile polling in declared institutions such as aged care facilities, as well as postal and telephone voting for electors who applied or registered.

The ECQ printed a total of 67,027 ballot papers (59,938 ordinary and 7,089 postal) for the by-election to ensure adequate supply across the electorate.

Enrolment

At the close of the electoral roll on Friday, 7 November 2025, the Hinchinbrook electoral district had 39,818 enrolled electors.

New enrolments and updates to enrolment details were still accepted until 6.00pm Friday, 28 November 2025. Voters who updated their details during this period may have had to complete a declaration vote to enable the ECQ to verify their updated enrolment information.

Nominations

Candidate nominations opened at 9.00am on Tuesday, 4 November and closed at 12.00pm on Tuesday, 11 November 2025. Seven candidates nominated to contest the by-election, six of whom were endorsed by registered political parties and one was an independent candidate.

Once nominations closed, the Returning Officer conducted a ballot paper order draw at 2.00pm on Tuesday, 11 November 2025. In the presence of witnesses, the Returning Officer drew the names of each of the nominated candidates to determine the order in which the candidates' names were to appear on the ballot paper.

Candidates in ballot paper order

1. CHIESA, Wayde
LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY
OF QUEENSLAND
2. CLARE, Steven
3. SOARS, Maurie
AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY
(STATE OF QUEENSLAND)
4. CREAGH, Aiden
QUEENSLAND GREENS
5. MOLACHINO, Mark
KATTER'S AUSTRALIAN PARTY (KAP)
6. NICKSON, Amanda
FAMILY FIRST QUEENSLAND
7. SLEEP, Luke
PAULINE HANSON'S ONE NATION
QUEENSLAND DIVISION

A register of candidates for the by-election was prepared in accordance with the Electoral Act and published on the ECQ website. The register is included at **Appendix B**.

Election day voting

Election day voting fast facts

20 polling booths **10,096** votes cast **32.59%** voted on election day

From 8.00am to 6.00pm on election day, Saturday, 29 November 2025, 20 polling booths operated in the Hinchinbrook electorate. Approximately 33 per cent of votes in the Hinchinbrook State by-election were cast on election day.

Historically, election day voting has accounted for the majority of votes cast at

Queensland elections and is still the busiest single day of voting. However, the rate of electors choosing to cast their vote early has been increasing over time, and since statewide elections held in 2020, early voting has generally been the most utilised voting channel in state elections.

Polling booth details are listed below.

Election day polling booths

Location	Venue	Address	Wheelchair access
Bluewater	Bluewater State School	Buckby Street BLUEWATER, QLD Australia 4818	Full
Burdell	St Clare's Catholic School - Recreation Hall	39 Burdell Drive BURDELL, QLD Australia 4818	Assisted
Burdell North	North Shore State School	9 Langford Street BURDELL, QLD Australia 4818	Full
Cardwell	Cardwell State School	37-43 Victoria Street CARDWELL, QLD Australia 4816 via Clitheroe Street	Assisted
Deeragun	St. Anthony's Catholic College Assisi Campus	Joanne Street DEERAGUN, QLD Australia 4818	Full
Forrest Beach	Forrest Beach State School	40 Pandanus Street FORREST BEACH, QLD Australia 4850	Assisted
Halifax	Halifax State School	17 Victoria Terrace HALIFAX, QLD Australia 4850 Victoria Terrace (walk in), Jessup Ave (drive in)	Assisted
Ingham	Conroy Hall	39 Mcilwraith Street INGHAM, QLD Australia 4850	Assisted
Kennedy	Kennedy State School	161 Kennedy Creek Road KENNEDY, QLD Australia 4816	Assisted
Long Pocket	QCWA Abergowrie / Long Pocket Branch Hall	2346 Abergowrie Road LONG POCKET, QLD Australia 4850	No Access
Lower Tully	Lower Tully State School	6 Collins Road LOWER TULLY, QLD Australia 4854	Assisted

Election day polling booths			
Location	Venue	Address	Wheelchair access
Lucinda	Coast Guard Building	19 Patterson Parade LUCINDA, QLD Australia 4850	Assisted
Macknade	Macknade State School	79 Farrell Drive MACKNADE, QLD Australia 4850	Assisted
Murray Upper	Murray River Upper State School	1 Middle Murray Road MURRAY UPPER, QLD Australia 4854	Assisted
Northern Beaches	Northern Beaches State High School	Meranti Street DEERAGUN, QLD Australia 4818	Assisted
Rollingstone	Rollingstone State School	Fred Williams Drive ROLLINGSTONE, QLD Australia 4816	Assisted
Rupertswood	Alice River Community Centre	Progress Road RUPERTSWOOD, QLD Australia 4817	Full
Toobanna	Toobanna State School	49055 Bruce Highway TOOBANNA, QLD Australia 4850	Assisted
Trebonne	Trebonne State School	11 Stone River Road TREBONNE, QLD Australia 4850	Full
Victoria Estate	Victoria Plantation State School	244 Forrest Beach Road VICTORIA ESTATE, QLD Australia 4850	Full

Early voting

Early voting fast facts		
2 early voting centres	15,559 votes cast	50.22% voted early

Two early voting centres operated for a two-week period between Monday, 17 November and Friday, 28 November 2025. Early voting was available from 8.00am to 6.00pm every weekday of the two-week period, continuing the expansion of early-voting hours provided since the 2024 State general election.

Early voting was the most utilised voting channel with approximately 50 per cent of votes in the by-election cast during the two-week early voting period.

Early voting centre details are listed below.

Early voting centres			
Location	Venue	Address	Wheelchair access
Ingham	TYTO Conference and Events Centre	73-75 McIlwraith Street, INGHAM, QLD Australia 4850	Full
Deeragun	Deeragun Shopping Village (Coles)	Rangeview Street, DEERAGUN, QLD Australia 4818	Full

A polling and voter services notice was published on the ECQ website to notify and declare the availability of election day and early voting polling place information. The notice is included at **Appendix B**.

Postal voting

Postal voting fast facts			
7,089 issued	54 to interstate electors	3 to overseas electors	15.03% voted by post
4,822 returned prior to the deadline	4,657 accepted into the count	165 rejected at scrutiny	

In anticipation of the expected by-election, the ECQ accepted postal vote applications before the issue of the writ from Tuesday, 21 October 2025. These applications were then processed from Monday, 3 November 2025 and closed at 7.00pm on Monday, 17 November 2025.

The ECQ commenced printing and despatch of postal vote materials to voters after Tuesday, 11 November 2025, following the close of candidate nominations and the ballot paper order draw.

Applications for postal votes ¹			
Online	Phone	Application forms (physical and email)	Special postal voters (automatically sent)
1,600	303	5,070	636

There were 7,089 postal votes issued during the by-election, with 4,657 ballot papers included in the count. This represented 15.03 per cent of votes cast for the by-election.

Every postal vote returned to the ECQ is scrutinised to ensure it meets legislative requirements. Postal votes that do not meet these requirements are rejected and not

included in the count.

For the by-election, 165 postal ballots returned to the ECQ were rejected and not able to be included in the count. The primary reasons for rejection included declarations not being signed by either the elector or the witness, the voter was not on the electoral roll, or they had already voted.

¹ Application data includes duplicates where an elector may have applied more than once. They still would have only been issued one postal vote.

Electronically assisted voting

Telephone voting fast facts

419 registrations

388 votes cast

1.25% voted by telephone

Electronically assisted voting, commonly known as telephone voting, is a limited service primarily designed for voters who have an impairment, live a long distance from polling places or have a low level of literacy, enabling them to cast their vote anonymously via telephone.

For the by-election, certain electors were eligible to cast a telephone vote in accordance with section 121A of the *Electoral Act 1992* and section 4AA of the *Electoral Regulation 2013*. Those eligible included electors who:

- ▶ could not vote without assistance due to an impairment or insufficient level of literacy
- ▶ could not vote at a polling place due to an impairment
- ▶ were a registered special postal voter who was not detained in lawful custody
- ▶ distance voters whose enrolled address was more than 20 kilometres from a polling booth, or
- ▶ were not in Queensland at any time during the voting period, including electors located interstate or overseas.

To cast a telephone vote, electors were required to make two phone calls, the first to check eligibility and register for the service, and the second to anonymously cast their vote.

Two separate call centres were used to ensure the secrecy of the ballot. In the first call, electors applied to use the service and once deemed eligible, received a registration number and PIN.

In the second phone call, electors used the registration number and PIN to have their name anonymously marked off the electoral roll. During this call, an ECQ officer completed the ballot paper as dictated by the elector, with a second ECQ officer listening and observing to ensure the vote was recorded as per the elector's direction.

Although a resource and time-intensive method of taking votes, telephone voting is designed to enfranchise the community's more vulnerable members, or cater for those with a specific need such as distance voters with limited polling place access or electors with an impairment.

To ensure telephone voting is administered in accordance with legislative requirements, the ECQ must make procedures for electronically assisted voting, which are approved under a regulation and tabled in the Legislative Assembly. The telephone voting procedure that applied for the by-election was approved by the Electoral Commissioner on 14 December 2023 and is published on the [ECQ website](#).

At the by-election, eligible electors were able to register to use the telephone voting service from 9.00am on Monday, 17 November until 12.00pm on election day, Saturday, 29 November 2025. Electors could then cast their telephone vote during the voting period from Monday, 17 November up until 6.00pm on election day.

At the by-election, 388 telephone votes were taken. This is a significant increase when compared with the 2024 State general election, where 201 telephone votes were cast by Hinchinbrook electors.

Declared institution (mobile polling) voting

Mobile polling fast facts

4 declared institutions were mobile polling booths

55 votes cast

0.18% voted by mobile polling

'Declared institution' voting is a form of mobile polling where polling officials visit patients and residents of registered declared institutions, such as aged care facilities, to enable them to more conveniently cast a ballot. Contact was made with the registered declared institutions within the Hinchinbrook electoral district to offer a mobile polling service to residents, especially those in high care, who could not otherwise attend a polling booth.

Mobile polling was carried out at four institutions for the by-election. Initially there were five locations declared to be mobile polling booths; however, one institution cancelled the service due to an influenza outbreak. The details of these institutions were published on the ECQ website and are included at **Appendix B**.

Accessibility services

The ECQ provided a variety of services to ensure accessibility at the by-election. This included:

- ▶ telephone voting
- ▶ declared institution voting
- ▶ publishing disability access information for polling places on the ECQ website
- ▶ making translation and interpreter services available for people who speak English as a second language, and
- ▶ providing a Multilingual Guide to Voting which included voting information in 25 languages other than English.

Disability access is a key consideration in the selection of election day and early voting venues and their locations. A total of 22 polling places were in operation for the by-election, including two early voting centres and 20 election day polling booths.

The table below shows a breakdown of polling place accessibility for the by-election.

Accessibility	Early voting centres	Election day venues
Full	2	6
Assisted	0	13
No accessibility	0	1

Additionally, at Queensland elections, electors are entitled to request a person join them in the polling booth to assist them to cast their ballot. This person can act as an interpreter, read or explain the ballot paper instructions, or complete the ballot paper according to the elector's instructions and place the ballot paper in the ballot box.

Election staff

While there were significant overlaps between delivery of the Townsville City Council mayoral by-election and Hinchinbrook State by-election, the ECQ was able to adequately staff both events.

The ECQ appointed the Returning Officer for the by-election from the pool who previously had worked at the local government elections and State general election in 2024. This pool was created following a merit-based recruitment exercise undertaken in 2023.

The Returning Officer employed additional temporary election staff to undertake various roles to deliver election services for the by-election, including administering and resourcing venues, processing candidate nominations, conducting the ballot paper order draw and overseeing the conduct of the vote count. The ECQ received 174 applications to work at the by-election.

All temporary election staff completed an online training program. Staff in more senior roles, such as booth supervisors, also attended face-to-face training delivered by the Returning Officer.

Communication and awareness

The ECQ delivered a multi-channel communication and awareness strategy for the by-election. This was to ensure electors were aware of the elections and had the information required to participate and cast a formal vote. Activities included the:

- ▶ posting of a voter information card (VIC) to every elector as well as an electronic VIC to all electors with a registered email address on the electoral roll
- ▶ delivery of a targeted social media information campaign
- ▶ placement of advertisements in local print media, on digital news websites and on radio stations
- ▶ distribution of stakeholder kits to 74 local community organisations, and
- ▶ delivery of a proactive media strategy targeting print and radio outlets.

The ECQ's social media information campaign comprised of 10 Facebook posts published at key stages of the election period. The posts reached 30,318 people, were interacted with 468 times and resulted in 995 link clicks. Examples of social media posts are at **Appendix C**.

Election information was advertised in local print and online publications including the Townsville Bulletin, Hinchinbrook Life and North Queensland Register (print) and NewsCorp and North Queensland Register (online). These advertisements provided the election date, early voting and election day dates and times, polling booth opening hours, reminders that voting is compulsory and a QR code linking to the ECQ's 'Where is my electorate' page to help those uncertain if they lived in the Hinchinbrook electorate.

Radio advertising was also utilised with election information broadcast on two

popular radio stations serving Townsville and Hinchinbrook: Triple M 102.3 and Hit 103.1. A 30 second advertisement was broadcast 36 times on each station between 20 and 26 November 2025.

Due to the overlap in dates and population with the Townsville City Council mayoral by-election, ECQ representatives, including the Electoral Commissioner, gave a number of media interviews throughout the election period to raise awareness about the by-election.

Seven media releases about the by-election were disseminated to journalists across Queensland, with four of these issued during the election period and three in the period following the close of polls to the declaration of the elected candidate.

ECQ website

The ECQ website provided a range of information to support participation in the by-election for electors and political participants, including the election timetable, candidate obligations, names of candidates, voting options, polling place details and election results.

The by-election web page on the ECQ website received 39,413 views over the duration of the election campaign.

The ECQ published pre-election day voting metrics for this by-election, including the number of postal vote applications received, postal votes returned and voting mark-offs. The figures were updated daily during the election period.

Voting centres and office premises

The ECQ selects the most suitable premises available at the time of an election. Venue considerations are extensive and include size, location, accessibility, amenities, street frontage, access for deliveries, internet connectivity, workplace health and safety and availability. The ability to secure premises that meet functional requirements can present challenges, particularly in negotiating agreements to enter short-term leases when the supply of premises is limited.

ECQ service centre

The ECQ service centre operated throughout the by-election, supporting electors to access the services and information they needed and respond to their enquiries. Members of the public could phone the ECQ's 1300 881 665 number, or email ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au to receive assistance.

Service centre staff assisted with a range of enquiries including:

- ▶ registering electors for telephone voting
- ▶ processing postal vote applications
- ▶ providing information about the different voting services available, and
- ▶ responding to general enquiries.

During the election period, the service centre was open from 8.00am to 5.00pm on Monday to Friday and operated from 8.00am to 6.00pm on election day. The service centre remained open until 7.00pm on Monday, 17 November 2025, for the close of postal voting applications.

Waste management

In providing electoral services, wherever possible the ECQ seeks to use paper and cardboard items comprising recycled content and to ensure that the paper and cardboard items are themselves recycled.

For the by-election, standard cardboard items were used in voting centres included voting screens, accessible voting screens, ballot boxes, caution signs and recycle bins. Cardboard is often re-used by schools and community groups before being recycled through their programs.

Feedback and complaints

Members of the public were able to provide feedback or lodge a customer complaint about ECQ services, actions or decisions via the ECQ's feedback and complaints process.

The ECQ received no customer complaints in relation to the by-election.

Election results

Following the close of polling at 6.00pm on election day, Saturday, 29 November 2025, temporary election staff undertook a preliminary count in the presence of scrutineers. This count provided electors, candidates, parties and other election participants an early indication of the results.

The official first preference count commenced on Sunday, 30 November 2025.

When the outcome became certain, the Electoral Commissioner was able to declare Mr Wayde Chiesa of the Liberal National Party of Queensland as the successful candidate for the electoral district of Hinchinbrook.

The Electoral Commissioner returned the completed writ for the by-election to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland on Monday, 8 December 2025. A notice advising of the return of the writ and the name of the elected candidate was published in the Queensland Government Gazette on the date of the writ's return. Mr Wayde Chiesa was sworn into the Queensland Parliament on Tuesday, 9 December 2025.

The ECQ completed an official distribution of preferences count following the deadline for the return of postal votes. The results were finalised on Wednesday 10 December 2025, with Mr Wayde Chiesa receiving 41.23 per cent of first preference votes and, after the distribution of preferences, receiving 53.7 per cent of the total vote.

The first preference count and distribution of preferences are in **Appendix D**.

Compliance activities

The ECQ carried out compliance and enforcement actions for the by-election, to ensure electoral participants adhered to their funding and disclosure obligations.

The ECQ also routinely undertakes enforcement action against enrolled electors who have failed to vote at elections. These actions promote transparency in the electoral system and incentivise greater electoral participation.

Electoral participant compliance

The ECQ works closely with candidates, registered political parties, and other election participants, as well as their staff and volunteers, to promote awareness and support compliance with legislative obligations. The ECQ produces a range of resources for these electoral participants including handbooks, fact sheets and guides to explain endorsement, nomination and disclosure requirements.

No major compliance issues arose during the election period. Any minor matters, such as compliance with signage regulations at polling booths on election day, were resolved by the ECQ's compliance officers at those venues.

Election summary returns

All political parties, candidates, associated entities and registered third parties were required to submit an election summary return by 16 March 2026. Upon receipt of returns, the ECQ conducts examinations of the returns to assess compliance with the political donation cap, electoral expenditure cap and other funding and disclosure obligations.

Election funding claims

Applications for election funding are due to be submitted by 20 April 2026. Four of the six registered political parties (and their candidates) which contested the by-election are eligible to make a claim. No independent candidates are eligible to make a claim.

Political parties are entitled to claim a maximum of \$6.842 per formal first preference vote received. Candidates are entitled to claim a maximum of \$3.422 per formal first preference vote. Based on the election results, the maximum amount payable is \$284,682.30.

Voter compliance

Voting is compulsory in Queensland, and it is an offence for an elector to fail to cast a vote without a valid and sufficient reason. The ECQ may identify and communicate with individuals who appeared to have failed to vote in an election, with the aim of reinforcing the importance of voting and encouraging participation at future elections.

Review of informal ballot papers

To cast a formal vote at the by-election, voters were required to preference every candidate on the ballot paper, in accordance with the full preferential voting system that operates at Queensland State elections.

Whether by mistake or choice, a portion of the ballot papers cast at most elections are found to be informal and are unable to be counted towards the election of a candidate or candidates.

There were 1,221 informal ballot papers cast at the by-election, and these ballot papers were reviewed and distributed into 29 categories². 17 of these categories captured ballot papers that were assumed to be intentionally informal, while the remaining 12 unintentional informal categories captured those ballots where the elector seemingly tried to cast a formal vote but made an error and invalidated their ballot paper in the process.

Noting it is not always possible to definitively ascertain the intention of each voter, in undertaking the categorisation, educated assumptions were made based on the content of each informal ballot paper.

The full list of categories and their definitions are included at **Appendix E**.

Outcomes

There was a 3.94 per cent rate of informal voting at the by-election, which is a slight increase from rates of informality seen in Hinchinbrook at past statewide elections.

It is a well observed trend that by-elections generally attract lower voter participation than statewide elections, and it is possible this may have also impacted informal voting.

It is also noted that in the two-weeks prior to voting commencing for the by-election, approximately two-thirds of Hinchinbrook electors were also required to vote in the Townsville City Council mayoral by-election that was held as a full postal ballot. While it is not unusual to hold multiple elections on or around the same time, it is possible that the proximity of these events may have impacted the rate of informality, due to the different voting systems in use at State and local government elections.

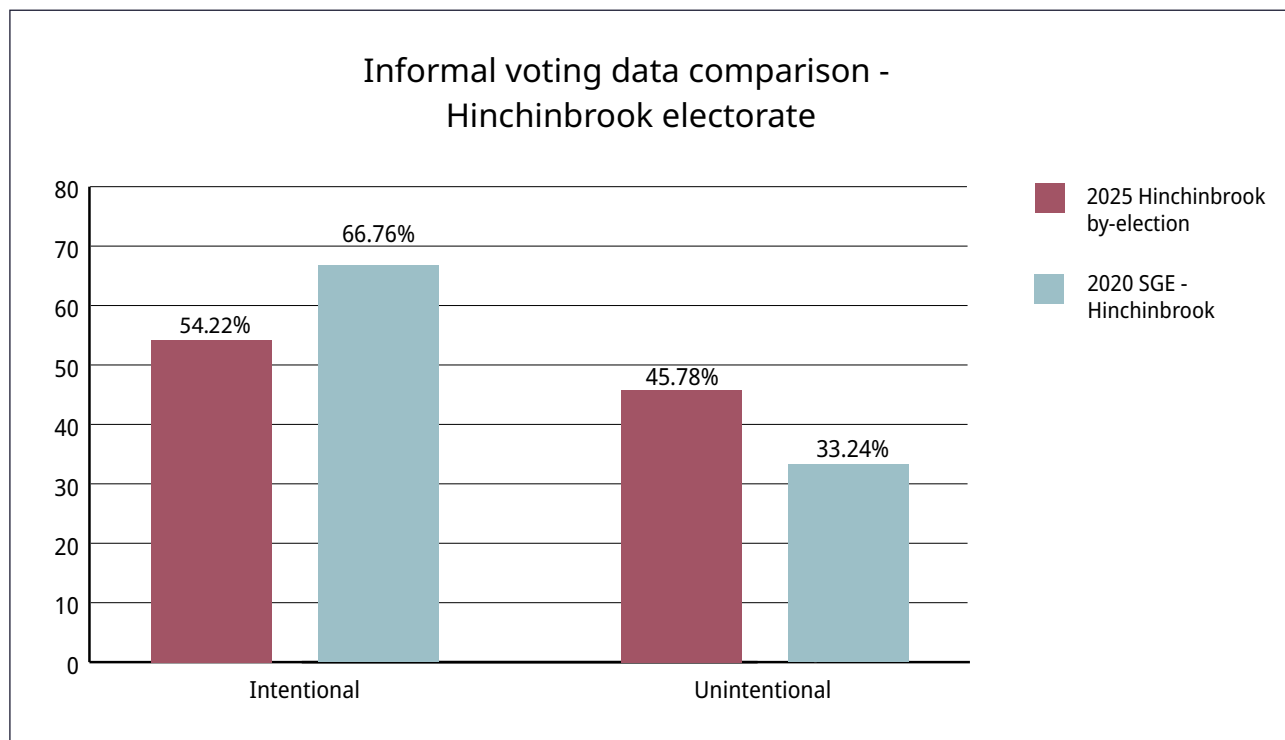
Informal voting and turnout fast facts		
Hinchinbrook: 2025 by-election	Hinchinbrook: 2024 SGE	Hinchinbrook: 2020 SGE
1,221 informal ballots	1,175 informal ballots	1,053 informal ballots
3.94% informality	3.43% informality	3.45% informality
77.81% turnout	87.96% turnout	86.99% turnout

² The categories are the same as those used for the 2024 State general election (2024 SGE) informality review, except with one additional unintentional informal category. The 'voter identifiable' category was added, following a few instances of this type of ballot paper appearing during the 2024 SGE review, and noting this category has previously been used for reviews.

The informal ballot paper review found that assumed intentional informal voting accounted for more than 54 per cent of informal ballot papers cast at the by-election, while close to 46 per cent were assumed to be unintentionally informal.

Hinchinbrook informal ballots were not reviewed following the 2024 State general election; however, comparison data is

available from the 2020 State general election informality review. It is noted that unintentional informal voting at the by-election increased by 12.54 percentage points compared to the 2020 election. However, as the categorisation methodology has changed between these reviews, a more granular comparison at the category level is not practical.



Intentional informal voting

The majority of informal ballot papers for the by-election (54.22 per cent), were found to be cast intentionally.

The categories that captured most of the intentional informal ballot papers included:

- ▶ *'Blank'* – 19.28 per cent
- ▶ *'Ticks, crosses or marks – deliberate'* – 8.53 per cent
- ▶ *'Drawing – ballot paper crossed out'* – 7.05 per cent
- ▶ *'Numbers – deliberate'* – 7.22 per cent

- ▶ *'Writing'* protest categories captured 4.51 per cent and included ballots that featured commentary about a range of topics including 'against compulsory voting', 'corruption', 'voting makes no difference', 'anti-government', 'restricted choice', 'none of the above' and 'other protest'.

As most intentional informal ballot papers were left blank, had the ballot paper crossed out, or the elector has chosen to tick or place the same number in each box, there is little information available to decipher the elector's reasoning for voting informally, nor how they might be encouraged to vote formally at future elections.

Unintentional informal voting

Of the 45.78 per cent of informal ballot papers assumed to be cast unintentionally, the majority were the result of electors failing to preference all of the seven candidates in accordance with legislative requirements.

- ▶ Close to 33 per cent preferred or marked their ballot paper to elect only one or some of the candidates, but did not preference all of the candidates as required:
 - *'Numbers – just voted one'* – 17.06 per cent
 - *'Numbers insufficient – but more than one'* – 8.86 per cent
 - *'Ticks, crosses or marks – preferences 1 candidate'* – 5.74 per cent
 - *'Numbers – 1 and other symbols'* – 0.98 per cent.
- ▶ Other common preferencing errors included electors missing a number, repeating the same number, or having their preference order obscured by unclear handwriting:
 - *'Numbers – repetitions'* – 5.33 per cent
 - *'Numbers – sequence error'* – 4.43 per cent
 - *'Numbers – obscured'* – 2.79 per cent.

The data gathered through informal ballot paper reviews provides the ECQ with useful insight into the degree to which informal ballot papers are being intentionally or unintentionally cast. This in turn may assist with future election service planning and education programs.

Importantly, around one-third of the informal ballot papers cast at the by-election were the result of electors failing to follow the full preferential voting system for State elections. The ECQ will consider the results of this review, as well as data from previous informal ballot paper reviews, to identify opportunities and strategies to address unintentional informality by targeting and improving electors' understanding of formal voting for future elections.

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Appendix A – Writ and results notice

Writ

STATE OF QUEENSLAND

Electoral Act 1992

Writ for Election

*Charles the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Australia and
His other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth*

To the Electoral Commission of Queensland

Pursuant to s 83(2) of the *Electoral Act 1992*, I, the Honourable Patrick Weir MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

- (i) direct that you proceed according to the law to an election of a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland for the Electoral District of Hinchinbrook;
- (ii) appoint –

Monday, 3 November 2025 to be the day of issue of this Writ;

Friday, 7 November 2025 to be the cut-off day for electoral rolls for the election;

Tuesday, 11 November 2025 to be the cut-off day for the nomination of candidates for the election;

Saturday, 29 November 2025 to be the polling day; and

Monday, 26 January 2026 for the return of this Writ.

Signed by the Honourable Patrick Weir MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland at Brisbane on 3 November 2025.

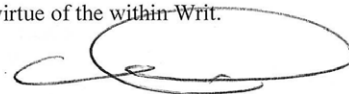


Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT:

.....Wayde Leonard CHIESA..... was duly elected a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland for the Electoral District of Hinchinbrook by virtue of the within Writ.



Electoral Commission of Queensland

Elected Candidate Gazette Notice

[527]



Queensland Government Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY

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MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 2025

[No. 80

**Elected Candidate Notice
2025 HINCHINBROOK STATE BY-ELECTION
SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025**



On 3 November 2025, a Writ was issued for a by-election for the Queensland electorate of Hinchinbrook. The by-election was held on Saturday, 29 November 2025.

In accordance with section 132(2)(c) of the *Electoral Act 1992*, this notice advises that the following candidate has been duly elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Electoral district	Elected candidate	Declaration date
Hinchinbrook	Wayde Leonard CHIESA	08 December 2025

In accordance with section 132(2)(a) of the *Electoral Act 1992*, the elected candidate's name has been written on the Writ issued for the by-election, which in accordance with section 132(2)(b) of the *Electoral Act*, was returned to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland on Monday, 08 December 2025.

This notice is issued under section 132 of the *Electoral Act 1992*, on 08 December 2025.

E: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au | **P:** 1300 881 665 | **W:** ecq.qld.gov.au
P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | **A:** Level 20, 1 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

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Gazette Advertising, PO Box 10817, Brisbane Adelaide Street QLD 4000.

BRISBANE
8 December 2025

Register of Political Parties

326

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT GAZETTE No. 54

[3 November 2025

Register of Political Parties 2025 HINCHINBROOK STATE BY-ELECTION SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025



In accordance with section 79 of the *Electoral Act 1992*, below is a list of the names of all registered political parties and the names of their respective registered officers which are included in the register of political parties maintained by the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ).

Political party	Registered abbreviation	Registered officer
Australian Labor Party (State of Queensland)	Australian Labor Party	Benjamin Driscoll
Queensland Greens	The Greens	Lenore Keough
Liberal National Party of Queensland	LNP	Benjamin Riley
Pauline Hanson's One Nation Queensland Division	One Nation	Pauline Hanson
Katter's Australian Party (KAP)	KAP	Benjamin Fusco
Animal Justice Party (Queensland)	Animal Justice Party	Michelle Jenz
Legalise Cannabis Queensland (Party)		Louise Kiwara
Family First Queensland	Family First	Barbara Helvadjian
Libertarian Party of Queensland	Libertarians	Richard Davies

To view the register, visit the ECQ website: <https://www.ecq.qld.gov.au/donations-and-expenditure-disclosure/registers>.

This notice is issued under section 79 of the *Electoral Act 1992*, on 3 November 2025.

E: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au | P: 1300 881 665 | W: ecq.qld.gov.au
P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | A: Level 20, 1 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

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Gazette Advertising, PO Box 10817, Brisbane Adelaide Street QLD 4000.

BRISBANE
3 November 2025

Appendix B – Statutory notices

Register of Candidates



Register of Candidates 2025 HINCHINBROOK STATE BY-ELECTION SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025

In accordance with section 101 of the *Electoral Act 1992*, this register includes the information, and a summary of the content of any statement, set out in the nomination form of each of the candidates nominated for the 2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election.

Ballot paper order	Candidate name	Registered political party	Enrolled suburb	Occupation
1	CHIESA, Wayde	LNP	Idalia	None submitted
2	CLARE, Steven	Independent	Kirwan	Spray painter / semi-retired
3	SOARS, Maurie	Australian Labor Party	Bushland Beach	Former councillor
4	CREAGH, Aiden	The Greens	Allingham	Locomotive driver
5	MOLACHINO, Mark	KAP	Aitkenvale	Training manager
6	NICKSON, Amanda	Family First	Nome	Social worker/ author/ pastor
7	SLEEP, Luke	One Nation	Oonoonba	Coal mine operator

All candidates in this register have consented to be nominated for election in the electoral district of Hinchinbrook.

If a registered political party appears adjacent to a candidate's name, this means the party's registered officer has endorsed the candidate.

This notice is issued under sections 101 and 388A of the *Electoral Act 1992*, on 12 November 2025.

E: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au | P: 1300 881 665 | W: ecq.qld.gov.au
P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | A: Level 20, 1 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Appendix B – Statutory notices

Polling and Voter Services Notice



Polling and Voter Services Notice 2025 HINCHINBROOK STATE BY-ELECTION SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025

The Hinchinbrook State by-election will be held on Saturday, 29 November 2025. **Voting is compulsory.**

In-person voting services

In accordance with sections 98 and 99A of the *Electoral Act 1992*, the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) declares and notifies that election day polling booths and early voting centres will be available over the period specified below.

Early voting

- Early voting centres open Monday, 17 November to Friday, 28 November 2025 (excluding weekends).
- Voters may cast ordinary or declaration votes for the by-election at an early voting centre.

Election day voting

- Polling booths open from 8am to 6pm on election day, Saturday, 29 November 2025.
- Voters may cast ordinary or declaration votes at a polling booth on election day.

A list of polling place locations and their hours of operation will be available on the ECQ website or by phoning 1300 881 665.

Other voting services

Postal voting applications close 7pm on Monday, 17 November 2025

- Applications are available on the ECQ website or by calling 1300 881 665.

Telephone voting between Monday, 17 November and Saturday, 29 November 2025

- Telephone voting will be available for eligible voters. To check your eligibility and learn more about registering for this service, see the ECQ website or phone 1300 881 665.

Declared institution voting between Tuesday, 18 November and Saturday, 29 November 2025

- Mobile polling is available for eligible voters within registered institutions (such as aged care facilities). Information will be published on the ECQ website or phone 1300 881 665.

This notice is issued under sections 98, 99 99A, 119 and 121A of the *Electoral Act 1992*, on 10 November 2025.

E: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au | **P:** 1300 881 665 | **W:** ecq.qld.gov.au

P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | **A:** Level 20, 1 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Appendix B – Statutory notices

Declared Institutions (Mobile Polling) Voting Notice (original 10 November 2025)

Declared Institutions (Mobile Polling) Voting Notice 2025 HINCHINBROOK STATE BY-ELECTION SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025



Under section 99(4) of the *Electoral Act 1992*, the Electoral Commission of Queensland declares the institutions identified in the table below to be mobile polling booths for the 2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election.

In accordance with section 99 (12) and (13) of the *Electoral Act*, only residents and patients of the institutions listed below are permitted to vote at the institutions during the appointed date and time. The Returning Officer for the Hinchinbrook State by-election will advise the registered institution regarding the voting date and operating hours.

Institution name	Address
Arcare North Shore	77 Main Street, Burdell QLD 4818
BlueCare Bluehaven Aged Care Facility	58 Cassidy Street, Ingham QLD 4850
Churches of Christ QLD Palms Aged Care Service	59 Sir Arthur Fadden Parade, Ingham QLD 4850
Churches of Christ QLD Rockingham ACS	40 Jamieson Street, Cardwell QLD 4849
Ozcare Magdalene Villa	9 Stone River Road, Trebonne QLD 4850

This notice is issued under section 99 of the *Electoral Act 1992*, on 10 November 2025.

E: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au | P: 1300 881 665 | W: ecq.qld.gov.au
P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | A: Level 20, 1 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Appendix B – Statutory notices

Declared Institutions (Mobile Polling) Voting Notice (reissued 25 November 2025)

Declared Institutions (Mobile Polling) Voting Notice 2025 HINCHINBROOK STATE BY-ELECTION SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025



Under section 99(4) of the *Electoral Act 1992*, the Electoral Commission of Queensland declares the institutions identified in the table below to be mobile polling booths for the 2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election and gives notice under section 99(10) of one change in availability of a mobile polling booth.

In accordance with section 99 (12) and (13) of the *Electoral Act*, only residents and patients of the institutions listed below are permitted to vote at the institutions during the appointed date and time. The Returning Officer for the Hinchinbrook State by-election will advise the registered institution regarding the voting date and operating hours.

Institution name	Address
Arcare North Shore	77 Main Street, Burdell QLD 4818
BlueCare Bluehaven Aged Care Facility	58 Cassady Street, Ingham QLD 4850
Churches of Christ QLD Palms Aged Care Service	59 Sir Arthur Fadden Parade, Ingham QLD 4850
Ozcare Magdalene Villa	9 Stone River Road, Trebonne QLD 4850

Mobile polling will no longer be offered at Churches of Christ QLD Rockingham as the location is no longer available to the ECQ.

This notice is reissued under section 99 of the *Electoral Act 1992*, on 25 November 2025.

E: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au | **P:** 1300 881 665 | **W:** ecq.qld.gov.au
P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | **A:** Level 20, 1 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Appendix B – Statutory notices

Electronically Assisted (Telephone) Voting Eligibility Notice

Electronically Assisted (Telephone) Voting Eligibility Notice 2025 HINCHINBROOK STATE BY-ELECTION SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2025



The Hinchinbrook State by-election will be held on Saturday, 29 November 2025. **Voting is compulsory.**

This notice identifies the classes of electors who, under section 121A of the *Electoral Act 1992* and section 6 of the *Electoral Regulation 2024*, may make an electronically assisted vote (telephone vote) at the 2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election.

Those eligible to use telephone voting for this by-election include:

- Electors who cannot vote without assistance due to an impairment or an insufficient level of literacy.
- Electors who cannot vote at a polling booth because of an impairment.
- Special postal voters who are not detained in lawful custody.
- Distance voters whose enrolled address is more than 20km from a polling booth.
- Electors who are not in Queensland at any time during the voting period, including electors located interstate or overseas.

Information about registering to use the telephone voting service will be available on the ECQ website or by phoning 1300 881 665.

This notice is issued under section 121A of the *Electoral Act 1992*, on 3 November 2025.

E: ecq@ecq.qld.gov.au | P: 1300 881 665 | W: ecq.qld.gov.au
P: GPO Box 1393 Brisbane QLD 4001 | A: Level 20, 1 Eagle Street Brisbane QLD 4000

Appendix C – Communication and advertising campaign

Social media

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

Declared.
08.12.25

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

**We're counting
your votes.**

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

**Early voting
is open.**

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

**One week left of
early voting.**

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

**Today is
election day.**

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

**Candidate
nominations
have closed.**

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

**Request a
postal vote.**

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

**What you need
to know about
the by-elections.**

Hinchinbrook State by-election | ecq.qld.gov.au

Appendix C – Communication and advertising campaign

Print and online advertising

2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election

Early voting
Monday 17 November to Friday 28 November 2025
(on weekdays).

Election day
Saturday 29 November 2025.

FIND A POLLING BOOTH

Or visit
ecq.qld.gov.au/hinchinbrook

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election

EARLY VOTING NOW OPEN!

Early voting
Monday 17 November to Friday 28 November 2025 (on weekdays).

Election day
Saturday 29 November 2025.



Scan the QR code to check if you need to vote in this by-election or visit ecq.qld.gov.au/hinchinbrook

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

ELECTION INFORMATION

A by-election is being held in the Hinchinbrook State electorate to elect a new Member of Parliament on **Saturday, 29 November 2025.**

- Vote early**
Early voting is on weekdays from 8am to 6pm from Monday 17 November to Friday 28 November.
Find an early voting centre at ecq.qld.gov.au/earlyvoting
- Vote on election day**
20 polling booths will be open from 8am to 6pm on Saturday 29 November.
Find the closest polling booth at ecq.qld.gov.au/electiondayvoting
- Looking for more information?**
Visit us at ecq.qld.gov.au/hinchinbrook



Scan or visit check.aec.gov.au to check you're enrolled

VOTING IS COMPULSORY

For more information, visit ecq.qld.gov.au or call 1300 881 865.

2025 Hinchinbrook State by-election

Electoral Commission QUEENSLAND

ELECTION INFORMATION

A by-election is being held in the Hinchinbrook State electorate to elect a new Member of Parliament on **Saturday, 29 November 2025.**

- Vote early**
Early voting is on weekdays from 8am to 6pm from Monday 17 November to Friday 28 November.
Find an early voting centre at ecq.qld.gov.au/earlyvoting
- Vote on election day**
20 polling booths will be open from 8am to 6pm on Saturday 29 November.
Find the closest polling booth at ecq.qld.gov.au/electiondayvoting
- Looking for more information?**
Visit us at ecq.qld.gov.au/hinchinbrook



Scan to check if you need to vote in this by-election

VOTING IS COMPULSORY

For more information, visit ecq.qld.gov.au or call 1300 881 865.

Appendix D – Results

First preference count by booth

Polling booth	CHIESA, Wayde		CLARE, Steven		SOARS, Maurie		CREAGH, Aiden		MOLACHINO, Mark		NICKSON, Amanda		SLEEP, Luke		Formal votes		Informal votes		Total votes
	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	Votes	%	
Bluewater	171	28.12%	4	0.66%	58	9.54%	34	5.59%	207	34.05%	16	2.63%	118	19.41%	608	94.7%	34	5.30%	642
Burdell	481	41.54%	17	1.47%	141	12.18%	67	5.79%	271	23.40%	37	3.20%	144	12.44%	1158	93.84%	76	6.16%	1234
Burdell North	309	33.92%	15	1.65%	94	10.32%	67	7.35%	293	32.16%	34	3.73%	99	10.87%	911	94.31%	55	5.69%	966
Cardwell	273	50.37%	4	0.74%	23	4.24%	23	4.24%	102	18.82%	13	2.40%	104	19.19%	542	94.10%	34	5.90%	576
Deeragun	409	38.22%	10	0.93%	93	8.69%	51	4.77%	367	34.30%	16	1.50%	124	11.59%	1070	95.54%	50	4.46%	1120
Deeragun Early Voting Centre	3610	37.14%	125	1.29%	898	9.24%	313	3.22%	3238	33.31%	206	2.12%	1331	13.69%	9721	96.04%	401	3.96%	10122
Forrest Beach	124	43.06%	1	0.35%	15	5.21%	13	4.51%	77	26.74%	7	2.43%	51	17.71%	288	97.30%	8	2.70%	296
Halifax	79	42.25%	3	1.60%	18	9.63%	5	2.67%	51	27.27%	3	1.60%	28	14.97%	187	97.40%	5	2.60%	192
In Person Declaration Votes	77	35.16%	2	0.91%	26	11.87%	11	5.02%	67	30.59%	5	2.28%	31	14.16%	219	96.48%	8	3.52%	227
Ingham	272	46.90%	7	1.21%	36	6.21%	29	5.00%	130	22.41%	20	3.45%	86	14.83%	580	94.00%	37	6.00%	617
Kennedy	81	44.02%	0	0.00%	8	4.35%	6	3.26%	31	16.85%	2	1.09%	56	30.43%	184	96.84%	6	3.16%	190
Long Pocket	83	55.70%	3	2.01%	7	4.70%	6	4.03%	34	22.82%	2	1.34%	14	9.40%	149	96.75%	5	3.25%	154
Lower Tully	208	34.38%	4	0.66%	42	6.94%	31	5.12%	200	33.06%	7	1.16%	113	18.68%	605	96.65%	21	3.35%	626
Lucinda	45	46.39%	1	1.03%	6	6.19%	4	4.12%	29	29.90%	0	0.00%	12	12.37%	97	95.10%	5	4.90%	102
Macknade	41	56.16%	0	0.00%	3	4.11%	2	2.74%	14	19.18%	1	1.37%	12	16.44%	73	92.41%	6	7.59%	79
Mobile Polling	28	53.85%	1	1.92%	4	7.69%	2	3.85%	12	23.08%	3	5.77%	2	3.85%	52	94.55%	3	5.45%	55
Murray Upper	75	32.05%	1	0.43%	12	5.13%	10	4.27%	80	34.19%	4	1.71%	52	22.22%	234	98.32%	4	1.68%	238
Northern Beaches	326	34.17%	14	1.47%	80	8.39%	38	3.98%	347	36.37%	25	2.62%	124	13.00%	954	94.46%	56	5.54%	1010
Postal Declaration Votes	1857	41.41%	54	1.20%	411	9.17%	176	3.93%	1321	29.46%	84	1.87%	581	12.96%	4484	96.29%	173	3.71%	4657
Returning Officer Hinchinbrook	2900	54.77%	33	0.62%	329	6.21%	85	1.61%	1326	25.04%	109	2.06%	513	9.69%	5295	97.39%	142	2.61%	5437
Rollingstone	113	31.65%	7	1.96%	27	7.56%	8	2.24%	113	31.65%	9	2.52%	80	22.41%	357	94.95%	19	5.05%	376
Rupertswood	460	33.29%	14	1.01%	112	8.10%	39	2.82%	510	36.90%	30	2.17%	217	15.70%	1382	96.04%	57	3.96%	1439
Telephone Voting	10	29.41%	2	5.88%	1	2.94%	4	11.76%	11	32.35%	0	0.00%	6	17.65%	34	100%	0	0.00%	34
Telephone Voting - Early Voting	109	31.14%	11	3.14%	42	12.00%	14	4.00%	92	26.29%	10	2.86%	72	20.57%	350	98.87%	4	1.13%	354
Toobanna	37	45.68%	0	0%	2	2.47%	2	2.47%	16	19.75%	2	2.47%	22	27.16%	81	94.19%	5	5.81%	86
Trebonne	63	77.78%	0	0%	0	0.00%	1	1.23%	9	11.11%	0	0.00%	8	9.88%	81	94.19%	5	5.81%	86
Victoria Estate	30	46.15%	0	0%	2	3.08%	5	7.69%	16	24.62%	1	1.54%	11	16.92%	65	97.01%	2	2.99%	67
Totals	12271	41.23%	333	1.12%	2490	8.37%	1046	3.51%	8964	30.12%	646	2.17%	4011	13.48%	29761	96.06%	1221	3.94%	30982

Appendix D – Results

Full distribution of preferences by booth

Polling booth	CHIESA, Wayde		MOLACHINO, Mark		Total votes
	Votes	Percentage	Votes	Percentage	
Bluewater	268	44.08%	340	55.92%	608
Burdell	655	56.56%	503	43.44%	1158
Burdell North	451	49.51%	460	50.49%	911
Cardwell	361	66.61%	181	33.39%	542
Deeragun	539	50.37%	531	49.63%	1070
Deeragun Early Voting Centre	4848	49.87%	4873	50.13%	9721
Forrest Beach	166	57.64%	122	42.36%	288
Halifax	109	58.29%	78	41.71%	187
In Person Declaration Votes	110	50.23%	109	49.77%	219
Ingham	339	58.45%	241	41.55%	580
Kennedy	116	63.04%	68	36.96%	184
Long Pocket	97	65.10%	52	34.90%	149
Lower Tully	289	47.77%	316	52.23%	605
Lucinda	55	56.70%	42	43.30%	97
Macknade	50	68.49%	23	31.51%	73
Mobile Polling	37	71.15%	15	28.85%	52
Murray Upper	110	47.01%	124	52.99%	234
Northern Beaches	466	48.85%	488	51.15%	954
Postal Declaration Votes	2413	53.81%	2071	46.19%	4484
Returning Officer Hinchinbrook	3332	62.93%	1963	37.07%	5295
Rollingstone	160	44.82%	197	55.18%	357
Rupertswood	641	46.38%	741	53.62%	1382
Telephone Voting	16	47.06%	18	52.94%	34
Telephone Voting - Early Voting	193	55.14%	157	44.86%	350
Toobanna	53	65.43%	28	34.57%	81
Trebonne	68	83.95%	13	16.05%	81
Victoria Estate	40	61.54%	25	38.46%	65
Totals	15982	53.70%	13779	46.30%	29761

Appendix D – Results

Summary of distribution of preferences

Preference distribution	CHIESA, Wayde	CLARE, Steven	SOARS, Maurie	CREAGH, Aiden	MOLACHINO, Mark	NICKSON, Amanda	SLEEP, Luke	Exhausted	Votes remaining in count	Total formal votes
First preference	12271	333	2490	1046	8964	646	4011		29761	29761
CLARE, Steven excluded	88		59	36	53	41	56	0	333	333
Total	12359		2549	1082	9017	687	4067	0	29761	
NICKSON, Amanda excluded	126		75	99	190		197	0	687	687
Total	12485		2624	1181	9207		4264	0	29761	
CREAGH, Aiden excluded	200		702		158		121	0	1181	1181
Total	12685		3326		9365		4385	0	29761	
SOARS, Maurie excluded	1264				1749		313	0	3326	3326
Total	13949				11114		4698	0	29761	
SLEEP, Luke excluded	2033				2665			0	4698	4698
Total	15982				13779			0	29761	29761

Appendix E – Informal ballot paper review categories

Intentional Informal	Definition
Blank	Ballot papers that have been left blank.
Drawing – ballot paper crossed out	The elector has drawn a cross through the ballot paper.
Drawing – discriminatory	Ballot papers featuring offensive drawings with specific imagery, for example racist, Islamophobic, Anti-Semitic or similar themes.
Drawing – offensive	Ballot papers featuring offensive drawings.
Drawing – other	Ballot papers featuring other types of drawings.
Writing – discriminatory	Writing that includes specific themes, for example racist, Islamophobic, Anti-Semitic or other statements.
Writing – against compulsory voting	Writing that protests compulsory voting.
Writing – corruption	Writing referencing alleged corruption.
Writing – voting makes no difference	Writing where the voter states the view that voting is pointless, or words to that effect.
Writing – anti-government	Writing that references opposition to government or democratic institutions more generally, for example sovereign citizens, QAnon or 'against the system' type commentary.
Writing – restricted choice	Writing that protests the choice of candidates or political parties, including dissatisfaction with the choices, or a lack of knowledge of the choices.
Writing – none of the above	The elector has written 'none of the above' or 'NOTA'.
Writing – other protest	The elector has written some other form of protest not captured by the other 'writing' categories.
Writing – other	Writing that does not fit in the other 'writing' categories, including writing in an alternative 'joke' candidate name.
Fragments	Torn ballot papers that have been placed in the ballot box by the elector.
Numbers – deliberate	Intentionally defective numbering, for example where all boxes have been numbered 1.
Ticks, crosses or marks – deliberate	Intentionally defective markings such as all boxes ticked, crossed, or featuring smiley faces.

Unintentional Informal	Definition
Numbers - Just voted 1	The elector has only voted for one candidate and has not preferenced all the other candidates as required under the full preferential voting system.
Numbers insufficient - but more than 1	The elector has allocated preferences for more than one candidate but has not preferenced every candidate as required under the full preferential voting system.
Numbers - 1 and other symbols	The elector allocated a first preference for one candidate, and all other boxes have ticks, crosses or other symbols, and no way to discern an order of preferences.
Numbers - sequence error	The elector has skipped numbers and an order of preferences is unclear.
Numbers - obscured	It is not possible to determine a clear order of preferences, due to unclear or illegible handwriting.
Numbers - repetitions	It is not possible to determine a clear order of preferences, due to numbers being repeated.
Numbers - includes 0	The elector has put 0 against a candidate and the specific order of preferences is unclear.
Numbers - other	Ballot papers featuring unintentional numbering errors that do not fit within the other 'numbers' categories.
Ticks, crosses or marks - preferences 1 candidate	Ballot papers where the elector appears to have unintentionally invalidated their ballot, by using a tick, cross or mark to 'just vote 1'.
Ticks, crosses or marks - other	Ballot papers where the elector appears to have unintentionally invalidated their ballot, by using ticks, crosses or marks, and no clear order of preferences can be discerned.
Voter identified	Ballot papers that contain any writing or mark that identify the elector.
Administrative error	Ballot papers thought to be formal.



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