



Electoral Commission of Queensland

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Overview

The Electoral Commission of Queensland's (ECQ) vision is to deliver electoral excellence with integrity for Queensland. The ECQ's purpose is to deliver accessible, fair, transparent electoral services to all Queenslanders.

The department supports the government's objectives for the community:

- More Jobs in More Industries: Good, secure jobs in our traditional and emerging industries
- Protecting Our Queensland Lifestyle: Protect and enhance our Queensland lifestyle as we grow
- Better Services: Delivering even better services right across Queensland.

The service area within the ECQ align with the following department objectives:

Department's service area	Department's objectives
Electoral Services Deliver fair, accessible, transparent elections for all Queensland electors that maximise voter participation in adherence to electoral law.	Deliver fair and transparent Queensland elections. Increase electoral awareness and participation. Continual improvement in electoral services. Ensure compliance with electoral funding and disclosure laws.

Department highlights

In 2022–23, the ECQ will:

- continue to deliver state and local government by-elections as required
- undertake actions in the local government engagement strategy to strengthen relationships with Queensland's local government sector
- implement business improvements identified in the evaluations into the 2020 state and local government elections and improve future election delivery
- administer and enforce donation caps on political donations
- provide support to the Local Government Change Commission in its reviews of local government boundaries and electoral arrangements referred by the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure.

Budget highlights

In the 2022–23 Queensland Budget, the government is providing:

- funding to facilitate preparations for state and local government elections in 2024.

Further information about new policy decisions can be found in *Budget Paper No. 4: Budget Measures*.

Performance statement

Electoral Services

Objective

Deliver fair, accessible, transparent and COVID-19 safe elections for all Queensland electors that maximise voter participation in adherence to electoral law.

Description

Electoral Services prepares, plans and delivers impartial state and local government elections in Queensland and regulates the funding and disclosure activities of political parties and candidates participating in these elections. The service area also maintains equitable representation across electoral boundaries through periodic reviews of Queensland electoral district boundaries and assessing proposals for changes to local government boundaries and electoral arrangements. These services are provided to electoral clients and conducted in accordance with the requirements of the *Electoral Act 1992*, the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*, the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*.

Service standards	2021–22 Target/Est.	2021–22 Est. Actual	2022–23 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measures			
Level of informal voting - State general election ¹
Level of informal voting - Local government quadrennial elections (Mayoral) ¹
Level of stakeholder overall satisfaction with the voting experience - State general election ^{1,2}
Level of stakeholder overall satisfaction with the voting experience - Local government quadrennial elections ^{1,2}
Proportion of disclosure returns audited that are deemed compliant with electoral law	70%	89.22%	80%
Efficiency measures			
Cost of State general election per elector ¹
Cost of local government quadrennial elections per elector ¹

Notes:

1. As major state and local government elections do not occur each year, figures are only presented as required for the relevant year when the election is held.
2. The level of stakeholder satisfaction measure for State general elections, and local government quadrennial elections has been reworded to contain 'overall' in order to reflect it to be a proxy measure of effectiveness. The calculation methodology has remained the same.

Departmental budget summary

The table below shows the total resources available in 2022–23 from all sources and summarises how resources will be applied by service area and by controlled and administered classifications.

Electoral Commission of Queensland	2021–22 Budget \$'000	2021–22 Est. Actual \$'000	2022–23 Budget \$'000
CONTROLLED			
Income			
Appropriation revenue ¹	28,895	30,247	44,653
Other revenue	30	30	30
Total income	28,925	30,277	44,683
Expenses			
Electoral Services	28,925	30,277	44,683
Total expenses	28,925	30,277	44,683
Operating surplus/deficit	..	..	..
Net assets	26,787	26,998	27,308
ADMINISTERED			
Revenue			
Commonwealth revenue	..	..	..
Appropriation revenue	..	..	..
Other administered revenue	4,429	480	4,429
Total revenue	4,429	480	4,429
Expenses			
Transfers to government	4,429	480	4,429
Administered expenses	..	..	..
Total expenses	4,429	480	4,429
Net assets	..	..	..

Note:

1. Includes State and Commonwealth funding.

Staffing

The table below shows the Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) as at the 30 June in the respective years.

Service area	2021–22 Budget	2021–22 Est. Actual	2022–23 Budget
Electoral Services	76	76	81
Total FTEs	76	76	81

Budgeted financial statements

Departmental income statement

Controlled income statement

The budgeted expenses in 2022–23 are \$44.7 million, an increase of \$14.4 million from the 2021–22 Estimated Actual budget of \$30.3 million. This increase is primarily due to preparation and planning activities to deliver local government elections in March 2024 and the state general election in October 2024.

Administered income statement

The budgeted administered expenses in 2022–23 are \$4.4 million, an increase of \$3.9 million from the 2021–22 Estimated Actual. This is due to a higher volume of local government and state by-elections anticipated as a result of the federal election in May 2022. This includes relevant compliance activities (non-voter).

Departmental balance sheet

The ECQ is not expecting material variances from the previous year as planning and preparation activities that will be undertaken in the 2022–23 financial year will have minimum impact to ECQ's balance sheet on both controlled and administered account.

Controlled income statement

Electoral Commission of Queensland	2021–22 Budget \$'000	2021–22 Est. Actual \$'000	2022–23 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	28,895	30,247	44,653
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	30	30	30
Royalties and land rents	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distributions from managed funds	..	..	..
Other revenue	..	..	..
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	28,925	30,277	44,683
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	11,565	12,020	12,358
Supplies and services	16,438	17,335	31,403
Grants and subsidies	..	..	..
Depreciation and amortisation	1,136	1,136	860
Finance/borrowing costs	(309)	(309)	(33)
Other expenses	95	95	95
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total expenses	28,925	30,277	44,683
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	..	..	..

Controlled balance sheet

Electoral Commission of Queensland	2021–22 Budget \$'000	2021–22 Est. Actual \$'000	2022–23 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	5,236	6,717	7,428
Receivables	399	321	321
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	494	202	202
Other	2,759	2,091	2,091
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	8,888	9,331	10,042
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	1,310	912	880
Intangibles	18,872	17,712	17,310
Other	24	25	25
Total non-current assets	20,206	18,649	18,215
TOTAL ASSETS	29,094	27,980	28,257
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	1,618	343	343
Accrued employee benefits	287	235	235
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	(308)	22	(11)
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total current liabilities	1,597	600	567
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	710	382	382
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	710	382	382
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,307	982	949
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	26,787	26,998	27,308
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	26,787	26,998	27,308

Controlled cash flow statement

Electoral Commission of Queensland	2021–22 Budget \$'000	2021–22 Est. Actual \$'000	2022–23 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	28,895	22,708	44,653
User charges and fees	32	32	32
Royalties and land rent receipts	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	..	..	..
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	890	890	890
Outflows:			
Employee costs	(11,565)	(12,020)	(12,358)
Supplies and services	(17,328)	(18,225)	(32,293)
Grants and subsidies	..	..	..
Borrowing costs	309	309	33
Other	(97)	(97)	(97)
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	1,136	(6,403)	860
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	..	..	..
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	(731)	(384)	(426)
Payments for investments	..	..	..
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	(731)	(384)	(426)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	..	..	..
Equity injections	691	344	386
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	(309)	(309)	(33)
Equity withdrawals	(76)	(76)	(76)
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	306	(41)	277
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	711	(6,828)	711
Cash at the beginning of financial year	4,525	13,545	6,717
Cash transfers from restructure	..	..	..
Cash at the end of financial year	5,236	6,717	7,428

Administered income statement

Electoral Commission of Queensland	2021–22 Budget \$'000	2021–22 Est. Actual \$'000	2022–23 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	..	..	..
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	3,769	300	3,769
Royalties and land rents	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distributions from managed funds	..	..	..
Other revenue	660	180	660
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	4,429	480	4,429
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	..	..	..
Depreciation and amortisation	..	..	..
Finance/borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other expenses	..	..	..
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Transfers of Administered Revenue to Government	4,429	480	4,429
Total expenses	4,429	480	4,429
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	..	..	..

Administered balance sheet

Electoral Commission of Queensland	2021–22 Budget \$'000	2021–22 Est. Actual \$'000	2022–23 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	2,089	223	223
Receivables	946	28	28
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	..	..	..
Other	1	..	..
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	3,036	251	251
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	..	..	..
Intangibles	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	..	..	..
TOTAL ASSETS	3,036	251	251
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	2,407	2	2
Transfers to Government payable	629	249	249
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total current liabilities	3,036	251	251
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	..	..	..
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,036	251	251
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	..	..	..
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	..	..	..

Administered cash flow statement

Electoral Commission of Queensland	2021–22 Budget \$'000	2021–22 Est. Actual \$'000	2022–23 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	..	..	..
User charges and fees	3,769	300	3,769
Royalties and land rent receipts	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	..	..	..
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	660	180	660
Outflows:			
Employee costs	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	..	..	..
Borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Transfers to Government	(4,429)	(480)	(4,429)
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	..	..	..
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	..	..	..
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	..	..	..
Payments for investments	..	..	..
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	..	..	..
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	..	..	..
Equity injections	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	..	..	..
Equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	..	..	..
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	..	..	..
Cash at the beginning of financial year	2,089	223	223
Cash transfers from restructure	..	..	..
Cash at the end of financial year	2,089	223	223