

Local Government Act 1993
Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

Local government elections

**Direction under s 356TB Handing out electoral materials -
arrangements for COVID-19**

Pursuant to section 296(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* and section 275(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the **Regulation**), the Electoral Commissioner is election manager of the local government elections of the councils listed in the Annexure to this Direction.

Section 356TB(1) of the Regulation provides that the election manager may direct that a person must not hand out tangible electoral material in or on:

- (a) a polling place or pre-polling office; or
- (b) relevant premises within 100 metres of -
 - (i) a polling place, or
 - (ii) a pre-polling office.

Pursuant to section 356TB(7) of the Regulation, electoral material includes a how-to-vote card, poster or advertisement, containing an express or implicit reference to or comment on

- (a) an election;
- (b) any council or any previous council;
- (c) any councillor or previous councillor;
- (d) the Government, the Opposition, a previous Government or a previous Opposition, of this or any other State or Territory or of the Commonwealth;
- (e) a member or former member of the Parliament of this or any other State or Territory or of the Commonwealth;
- (f) a political party, a branch or division of a political party or a candidate in an election; or
- (g) an issue submitted to, or otherwise before, the electors in connection with an election.

Pursuant to section 356TB(9) of the Regulation, relevant premises are premises occupied or used by, or under the control or management of:

- (a) the Crown;

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- (b) a NSW agency; or
- (c) a council, county council or joint organisation.

Therefore, to reduce the risk of infection from COVID-19 where the material would be handed out, I direct that, in respect of any of the elections of the councils listed in the Annexure to this Direction, a person must not, on a day during the election period on which voting will be occurring, hand out tangible electoral material in or on:

- (a) a polling place or pre-polling office; or
- (b) relevant premises within 100 metres of -
 - (i) a polling place, or
 - (ii) a pre-polling office.

John Schmidt

Electoral Commissioner for New South Wales

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Annexure

Council elections to which this Direction applies

City of Albury

Armidale Regional

Ballina

Bathurst Regional

Bayside

Bega Valley

Bellingen

Berrigan

City of Blacktown

Bland

Blayney

City of Blue Mountains

Bogan

Bourke

Brewarrina

City of Broken Hill

Burwood

Byron

Cabonne

Camden

City of Campbelltown

Canada Bay

Canterbury-Bankstown

Carrathool

City of Cessnock

Clarence Valley

Cobar

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City of Coffs Harbour
Coolamon
Coonamble
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional
Cowra
Cumberland
Dubbo Regional
Dungog
Edward River
Eurobodalla
Federation
Forbes
Georges River
Gilgandra
Glen Innes Severn Shire
Goulburn Mulwaree
Greater Hume Shire
City of Griffith
Gunnedah
Gwydir
City of Hawkesbury
Hay
Hilltops
Hornsby
Hunter's Hill
Inner West
Inverell
Junee
Kempsey
Kiama

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Ku-ring-gai
Kyogle
Lachlan
City of Lake Macquarie
Lane Cove
Leeton
City of Lismore
City of Lithgow
City of Liverpool
Liverpool Plains
Lockhart
City of Maitland
Mid-Coast
Mid-Western Regional
Moree Plains
Mosman
Murray River
Murrumbidgee
Muswellbrook
Nambucca Valley
Narrabri
Narrandera
Narromine
City of Newcastle
North Sydney
Northern Beaches
Oberon
City of Orange
Parkes
City of Parramatta

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Port Macquarie-Hastings
Port Stephens
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional
City of Randwick
Richmond Valley
City of Ryde
City of Shellharbour
City of Shoalhaven
Singleton
Snowy Monaro Regional
Snowy Valleys
Strathfield
Sutherland Shire
City of Sydney
Tamworth Regional
Temora
Tenterfield
The Hills Shire
Tweed
Upper Hunter Shire
Upper Lachlan Shire
Uralla
City of Wagga Wagga
Walcha
Walgett
Warren
Warrumbungle Shire
Waverley
Weddin
Wentworth

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City of Willoughby

Wollondilly

City of Wollongong

Woollahra

Yass Valley

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