

Results of the 2021 Supplementary Election

ITEM 10.8 10/08/2021
Council

Strategic Alignment - Enabling Priorities

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2021/00832
Public

Approving Officer:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the results of the 2021 Supplementary Area Councillor Election to support Part 3 Section 12(b) of the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 (SA)* and ensures our communities are informed of the election outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the report.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Enabling Priorities Bold leadership and strategic partnerships to meet challenges and take up new opportunities.
Policy	Presentation of this report supports the <i>Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 – Part 3 Section 12(b)</i> .
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The election was conducted in accordance with the <i>Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 (SA)</i> and the <i>City of Adelaide Act 1998</i> .
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
21/22 Budget Allocation	\$70,000
Proposed 22/23 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
21/22 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

1. Due to the resignation of the then Councillor Robert Simms, a supplementary election was conducted to fill the Area Councillor vacancy. Under the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 (SA)*, the Electoral Commissioner of SA (ECSA) is the returning officer for all Local Government Council elections.
2. The supplementary election of an Area Councillor commenced on 15 April 2021 when the notice to conduct the election appeared in the South Australian Government Gazette.
3. There are no provisions within the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999(SA) that provide ECSA the powers to postpone or suspend the election or change the election date once a public notice has been completed.
4. At its meeting on 13 April 2021, Council noted the City of Adelaide's current initiatives for promoting diversity and gender equity on Council.
5. Nominations for the supplementary elections opened on Thursday 27 May 2021 and closed at 12 noon on Thursday 10 June 2021.
6. Voting material comprising ballot paper/s, candidate profiles, a postal voting guide, ballot paper envelope containing the elector's declaration and reply-paid envelope was sent to electors, bodies corporate and groups whose name appeared on the certified voters roll.
7. Voting closed at 12 noon, Monday 26 July 2021. The presentation of this report supports CoA's legislative requirements to advise the local community about the outcome of the elections and polls conducted in its area. The results have also been communicated via social media, and on Council's website.
8. Due to the State-wide COVID-19 lockdown the original day the scrutiny and count was scheduled for, which was Wednesday 28 July, was delayed to Thursday 5 August.
9. The Returning Officer, Mick Sherry, wrote to Acting Chief Executive Office Clare Mockler on 26 July 2021 to confirm assurance that the election vote period was not significantly negatively affected by the State-wide lockdown. The Returning Officer advised that the number of returned envelopes received and processed by the time of the lockdown was higher than at the same period for the previous Area Councillor supplementary election in December 2015.
10. Key dates for the election process were as follows:

Close of voters roll	5:00pm, Friday 30 April 2021
Nominations opened	Thursday 27 May 2021
Nominations close	12 noon, Thursday 10 June 2021
Ballot Packs mailed out	Tuesday 6 July 2021 to Monday 12 July 2021
Close of voting	12 noon, Monday 26 July 2021
Vote Count	9:30 am, Thursday 5 August 2021
11. The key relevant statistics for the supplementary election are:

Enrolled voters:	27,963
Envelopes returned:	4,897
Envelopes accepted:	4,483
Envelopes rejected:	414
Ballot papers not returned in envelope:	1
Voter participation:	4,897 (17.51% of the total enrolment)
Formal votes:	4,458
Informal votes:	24
Quota:	2,230

12. Results as provided by the Electoral Commission of South Australia.

In Ballot Order

Candidate	1st Preference Votes	Percentage
BARBARO, Frank	597	13.39%
SNAPE, Keiran (elected)	1126	25.26%
WALLACE, Andrew	591	13.26%
VLASSIS, Theo	733	16.44%
SAYYAR DASHTI, Shahin	171	3.84%
BOOKLESS-PRATZ, Ingmar (Alex)	158	3.54%
SPENCER, Kel	1082	24.27%

13. After the distribution of preferences, Keiran SNAPE obtained 1753 votes and was provisionally elected under quota.
14. The letter from ECSA to the CEO confirming the results was received at 3:34pm August 10 2021 and can be viewed at Link 1 view [here](#).
15. City of Adelaide is awaiting ECSA's final confirmation on costs involved in managing the election to complete the overall budget expenditure.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – Letter from ECSA to CEO

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -