



**NEBO SHIRE COUNCIL**

Address all correspondence to:  
Chief Executive Officer

POST OFFICE BOX 21  
NEBO QUEENSLAND 4742  
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When phoning  
please ask for:

Please quote  
our reference: A2002/ RRM:jb

Your reference:

Date: 26 September 2000

The Research Director  
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative  
Review Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Attention: Gary Fenlon MLA  
Chair

Dear Sir/Madam

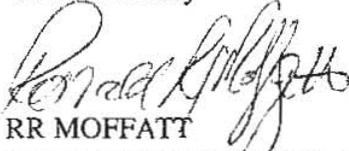
**RE: INQUIRY INTO PREVENTING ELECTORAL FRAUD**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 13 September 2000 relative to the  
abovementioned inquiry.

In reply to your correspondence I enclose a copy of Council correspondence dated 6  
April 2000 and draw your attention to paragraphs 2 and 3. It is my firm belief that the  
process of allowing 10 days after polling day for receipt of postal ballot papers needs  
to be addressed in order to eliminate the potential for 'electoral manipulation' (fraud).

For further clarification, if required, please telephone the undersigned at a time of  
your convenience.

Yours faithfully

  
RR MOFFATT  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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77  
 Our Ref: A2002/ RRM:jb

06 April 2000

Local Government Services  
 C/- Department of Communication and Information  
 Local Government and Planning  
 PO Box 31  
 BRISBANE ALBERT STREET QLD 4006

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS: POSTAL VOTING**

On a positive note may I commence this correspondence by offering congratulations and thanks to your Mr Kent Wain who has been of immense help and support during the recent Local Government Election process.

\* The second principal reason for this correspondence is to draw to the Departments attention the widely contentious issue of allowing the 10 days after polling day for receipt of postal ballot papers. Sections 351 and 359 are explicit in their meaning however the Act could allow illegal manipulation of an election. For example a special interest group could withhold their ballots until preliminary counting is conducted on the evening of the election and then simply fill in their ballots and post them late on the same evening or early within the 10 day period as described in Section 358(2)(d)(iii) of the Act. This scenario is quite feasible when applied to small rural communities where small numbers of voters exist and special interest groups therefore could quite readily manipulate outcomes in their favour.

I realise that there must be numerous reasons why the Act reads as it does however with increased and improved means of communication, transport etc I am of the belief that the Act requires amendment relative to this particular issue.

For further clarification, if required, please telephone the undersigned at a time of your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully

*R.R. Moffatt*  
 R.R. MOFFATT  
 RETURNING OFFICER  
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES 060400 JB