

Question on Notice

No. 638

Asked on 25 May 2021

MS S BOLTON ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the provision of election postal vote application forms and reply-paid envelopes to voters with a reply address that is not that of the Electoral Commission of Queensland—

Will the Attorney-General advise what will be implemented to ensure Queenslanders know who their information is going to, why, and how it is used?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

I also thank the Member for Noosa for writing to the Premier and myself last year on this issue and for also raising the issue with me at the last Estimates Hearing held in December.

I can advise the Member, the advice from the Electoral Commission of Queensland is, it is a matter for the individual elector how they apply for a postal vote.

In accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Act, political parties can request access to electoral roll information and may use this information to engage with electors, including sending applications for postal votes.

Queenslanders have a choice about whether to return a postal vote application to a political party, or apply directly with the ECQ by:

- lodging an online application through the ECQ website
- sending a paper form directly to the ECQ via post or email, or
- calling the ECQ call centre.

Regardless of how an application is made, the ECQ will send eligible electors their postal ballot and it will only be returned to and counted by the ECQ.