



## THE ADMINISTRATION OF NORFOLK ISLAND

### MEDIA RELEASE

#### **Change to voting system for March 21 election**

The Norfolk Island general election for nine members of the Legislative Assembly will be held on 21 March.

This will be the first election conducted under the modified voting system introduced by the 11<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly in 2005. The Norfolk Island *Legislative Assembly Act* provides as before that each elector “...shall be entitled to one or more votes being the number of votes equal in number to the number of members to be elected”. This means that for the current election each elector will have nine votes, all of which must be used.

The major change made to the Act in 2005 was that each elector “...shall vote for more than one candidate but shall not, where he (or she) has more than 2 votes, give more than 2 votes to any candidate”. This means that for the 2007 election, an elector will have to vote for at least five and at most nine candidates, with no more than two votes for any single candidate. The ballot paper will have two boxes next to each candidate’s name to allow voters to signify up to two votes for that candidate.

All persons on the Norfolk Island electoral roll are eligible to vote on election day or may in certain circumstances apply for a postal vote or lodge an absentee vote. Full particulars are available from Returning Officer Mitchell Evans on 22140. Mr Evans can also answer any questions about the electoral roll and arrangements for voting.

9<sup>th</sup> March 2007