

2022 Political Finance Annual Report

Report on the operation of
Part VI of the *Electoral Act 1907*
for the period ended 30 June 2022



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission

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Introduction

This report has been prepared for submission to the Minister, and subsequently each House of Parliament, in accordance with section 175ZG of the *Electoral Act 1907* (the Act). The purpose of this report is to summarise the operation of Part VI of the Act during the 2021–2022 financial year.

Nineteen registered political parties, as well as four unregistered political parties, lodged annual returns for the 2021–2022 financial year. In addition, seven associated entities complied with disclosure requirements by lodging an annual return. Data provided in the annual disclosure returns for the 2021–2022 financial year are detailed on the Commission’s website, www.elections.wa.gov.au.

This report also summarises the public funding for the 2021 State General Election, as activity relating to these claims concluded in the 2021–2022 financial year. Claims for reimbursement were required to be lodged by 2 August 2021 and were published on the Commission’s website on 30 August 2021.



Robert Kennedy
ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER

Summary of disclosures and public funding through the 2021–2022 financial year

1. Financial disclosures

1.1 Annual returns by political parties and associated entities

- \$18,653,798.26 in gifts and other income was declared by twenty–three political parties.
- \$2,293,307.00 in gifts and other income was declared by seven associated entities.

Table 1: Comparison of disclosure returns

Gifts & other income declared by:	Financial year	
	2021-2022	2020-2021
Political parties	\$18,653,798.26	\$24,570,481.47
Associated entities	\$2,293,307.00	\$2,521,432.00

Under section 175N(5) of the Act, political parties and associated entities are entitled to meet their State disclosure obligations by lodging the same return prepared for the Australian Electoral Commission under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 (CEA)*¹, if they are obliged to submit a Federal return. Four political parties and six associated entities met their disclosure requirements by submitting their Federal return for the 2021–2022 reporting period.

1.2 Part VI disclosures

- Three political parties updated details for their party agent.
- Seven political parties changed their party secretary.
- One political party successfully applied to amend their registered party name and abbreviation.
- 122 public agencies disclosed to Parliament expenditure of \$147,138,715.46 relating to advertising agencies, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising agencies.

¹ The CEA disclosure threshold for individual donations for 2020–2021 was \$14,300, whereas the State threshold was \$2,500.

Table 4: Summary of certain expenditure by public agencies during the 2021–2022 financial year

Class of expenditure	Amount of expenditure declared
Advertising agencies	\$42,183,379.02
Market research organisations	\$9,716,671.79
Polling organisations	\$113,047.00
Direct mail organisations	\$4,255,328.40
Media advertising organisations	\$90,897,191.19
Total expenditure declared (122 agencies)	\$147,165,617.40

The appendix to this report provides a breakdown by public agency of each class of expenditure.

2. Public funding

Eligible political parties, candidates and Legislative Council groups that participated in the State General Election, held on 13 March 2021, could submit a claim for reimbursement of their electoral expenditure by 2 August 2021. Reimbursement of electoral expenditure is authorised where a candidate has received more than four percent of the total formal votes. The figure to be reimbursed is the lesser amount of electoral expenditure or the amount determined by using the public funding figure (\$1.96699) per first preference vote received. Two Independent candidates and seven political parties qualified to lodge claims. The last claim was approved on 29 July 2021, and all claims were available to be viewed on the Commission’s website from 30 August 2021.

The Commission reimbursed a total of \$5,067,287.93 for electoral expenditure incurred by eligible parties and candidates for the 2021 State General Election.

Appendix: Summary of expenditure disclosed under section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*

Agency	Advertising agencies (\$)	Market research organisations (\$)	Polling organisations (\$)	Direct mail organisations (\$)	Media advertising organisations (\$)	Total (\$)
Agricultural Produce Commission ^a						
Animal Resources Authority	8,524.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,589.00	32,113.00
Anzac Day Trust ^{a, b}						
Art Gallery of Western Australia	105,118.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	279,998.00	387,616.00
Auditor General, Office of the	24,284.00	0.00	80,382.00	0.00	0.00	104,666.00
Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Department of	64,132.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	158,596.56	222,729.38
Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority	2,735.00	19,200.00	13,920.00	402.64	46,164.81	82,422.45
Bunbury Water Corporation (Aqwest)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,040.00	2,040.00
Burswood Park Board	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Busselton Water Corporation	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,238.00	78,321.00	108,559.00
Central Regional TAFE ^b	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	182,351.86	182,351.86
ChemCentre	12,422.00	384.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,806.00
Child and Adolescent Health Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,199.00	2,199.00
Coal Miners' Welfare Board ^a						
Combat Sports Commission	3,890.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,890.28
Commissioner for Children and Young People	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Communities, Department of	196,974.65	45,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,275.30	243,249.95
Construction Industry Long Service Leave Scheme	1,833.00	0.00	0.00	67,674.00	8,670.00	78,177.00
Construction Training Fund	83,552.46	12,189.69	0.00	166.75	303,664.43	399,573.33
Corruption and Crime Commission of Western Australia	22,007.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22,007.00
Country Health Service, Western Australia	49,041.36	0.00	0.00	450.00	374,492.44	423,983.80
Country Housing Authority	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Curtin University of Technology ^b	1,783,416.00	629,232.00	0.00	0.00	3,965,587.00	6,378,235.00
Development WA	1,251,762.00	127,358.00	0.00	0.00	376,340.00	1,755,460.00

Continued.... Summary of expenditure disclosed under section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*

Agency	Advertising agencies (\$)	Market research organisations (\$)	Polling organisations (\$)	Direct mail organisations (\$)	Media advertising organisations (\$)	Total (\$)
Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment ^a						
Director of Public Prosecutions, Office of	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Disability Services Commission	3,829.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,829.77
East Metropolitan Health Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Economic Regulation Authority	17,439.00	3,612.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,051.00
Edith Cowan University ^b	1,825,849.00	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,728,094.00	5,593,943.00
Education, Department of	735,300.00	106,889.00	0.00	0.00	1,168,489.00	2,010,678.00
Energy Policy WA	14,722.00	43,784.00	0.00	2,561.00	0.00	61,067.00
Environmental Protection Authority ^a						
Finance, Department of	45,196.00	130,950.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	176,146.00
Fire and Emergency Services Superannuation Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire and Emergency Services, Department of	38,450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	554,439.00	592,889.00
Forest Products Commission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,454.27	16,454.27
Fremantle Ports	0.00	54,760.00	0.00	4,181.82	105,296.28	164,238.10
Gaming and Wagering Commission of Western Australia	2,441.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	117,708.00	120,149.00
Gascoyne Development Commission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gold Corporation	1,881,366.00	0.00	0.00	114,404.00	171,327.00	2,167,097.00
Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission	0.00	5,005.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,005.00
Government Employees Superannuation Board (GESB)	0.00	125,391.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	125,391.00
Governors Establishment ^a						
Great Southern Development Commission	0.00	3,720.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,720.00
Health and Disability Services Complaints Office	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	155.00	155.00
Health Support Services	6,256.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,256.00
Health, Department of	735,213.00	1,094,842.00	0.00	1,835.00	2,046,563.00	3,878,453.00
Healthway	22,452.38	63,620.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	86,073.08

Continued.... Summary of expenditure disclosed under section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*

Agency	Advertising agencies (\$)	Market research organisations (\$)	Polling organisations (\$)	Direct mail organisations (\$)	Media advertising organisations (\$)	Total (\$)
Horizon Power	1,267,578.11	238,457.50	0.00	1,537.25	413,585.60	1,921,158.46
Housing Authority	20,970.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	159,681.00	180,651.00
Information Commissioner of Western Australia, Office of the	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Infrastructure Western Australia	15,389.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,389.38
Inspector of Custodial Services, Office of the	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance Commission of Western Australia	17,129.00	74,730.00	0.00	0.00	42,072.00	133,931.00
Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation, Department of	0.00	219,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,241,000.00	1,459,000.00
Justice, Department of	204,516.00	50,545.00	0.00	0.00	155,548.00	410,609.00
Keep Australia Beautiful Council (WA)	19,749.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19,749.00
Kimberley Development Commission	1,193.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,193.17
Kimberley Ports Authority	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,499.00	16,499.00
Law Reform Commission of Western Australia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Legal Aid Commission of Western Australia	0.00	0.00	17,125.00	0.00	68,561.00	85,686.00
Legal Costs Committee ^a						
Legal Practice Board of Western Australia ^a						
Legislative Assembly, Department of	21,584.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,584.00
Legislative Council, Department of ^a						
Liquor Commission of Western Australia	285.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	285.60
Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Department of	17,959.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,609.00	22,568.00
Local Health Authorities Analytical Committee ^a						
Lotterywest	3,649,070.00	569,493.00	0.00	0.00	12,473,807.00	16,692,370.00
Main Roads Western Australia	0.00	236,668.00	0.00	0.00	194,600.00	431,268.00
Mental Health Advocacy Service	4,930.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,930.00
Mental Health Commission	151,834.00	855,001.27	0.00	0.00	5,619,822.29	6,626,657.56
Metropolitan Cemeteries Board	0.00	27,631.00	0.00	0.00	5,535.00	33,166.00

Continued... Summary of expenditure disclosed under section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*

Agency	Advertising agencies (\$)	Market research organisations (\$)	Polling organisations (\$)	Direct mail organisations (\$)	Media advertising organisations (\$)	Total (\$)
Mid West Development Commission	428.00	4,928.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,356.00
Mid West Ports Authority ^a						
Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,633.00	1,633.00
Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, Department of	1,454,526.00	42,813.00	0.00	107,799.00	18,494.00	1,623,632.00
Murdoch University ^b	556,168.00	79,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,862,226.00	3,497,394.00
National Trust of Australia (WA)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
North Metropolitan Health Service	96,672.00	418.00	0.00	0.00	74,226.00	134,201.00
North Metropolitan TAFE ^b	6,686.59	0.00	0.00	5,334.79	71,120.98	83,142.36
North Regional TAFE ^b	177,604.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	56,228.00	233,832.00
Ombudsman Western Australia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	41,863.00	41,863.00
PathWest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	559.00	559.00
Peel Development Commission	0.00	3,932.85	0.00	2,053.23	1,219.44	7,205.52
Perth Theatre Trust	41,730.00	13,201.00	0.00	2,285.00	0.00	57,216.00
Pilbara Development Commission	0.00	4,936.00	0.00	0.00	1,181.80	6,117.80
Pilbara Ports Authority	149,827.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36,600.00	186,427.00
Planning, Lands and Heritage, Department of	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	576,299.00	576,299.00
Postgraduate Medical Council of Western Australia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Premier and Cabinet, Department of the	4,080,611.00	176,513.00	0.00	5,639.00	13,903,421.00	18,166,184.00
Primary Industries and Regional Development, Department of	740,166.00	64,060.00	0.00	7,792.00	424,984.00	1,237,002.00
Professional Standards Councils	801.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	103.48	905.19
Public Advocate, Office of the	12,345.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,345.00
Public Education Endowment Trust	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Public Sector Commission	0.00	90,700.00	0.00	0.00	212,236.00	302,936.00
Public Transport Authority	1,787,489.00	728,674.00	0.00	0.00	292,405.00	2,808,568.00
Public Trustee	0.00	33,364.00	0.00	0.00	45,324.00	78,688.00

Continued.... Summary of expenditure disclosed under section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*

Agency	Advertising agencies (\$)	Market research organisations (\$)	Polling organisations (\$)	Direct mail organisations (\$)	Media advertising organisations (\$)	Total (\$)
Quadriplegic Centre	295.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	295.00
Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre Trust	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Racing and Wagering Western Australia	12,330,000.00	288,000.00	0.00	762,000.00	387,000.00	13,844,000.00
Rottneest Island Authority	64,776.00	37,740.00	0.00	0.00	518,318.00	620,834.00
Rural Business Development Corporation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
School Curriculum and Standards Authority ^a						
Small Business Development Corporation	193,082.00	119,911.00	0.00	0.00	101,362.00	414,355.00
South Metropolitan Health Service	39,688.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,871.00	65,559.00
South Metropolitan TAFE ^b	12,919.66	0.00	0.00	5,532.74	91,188.38	109,640.78
South Regional TAFE ^b	77,553.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	74,933.63	152,487.05
South West Development Commission	12,006.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,006.03
Southern Ports	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,165.00	9,165.00
State Library of Western Australia	2,745.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,834.00	8,579.00
State Records Commission ^a						
State Solicitor's Office	1,213.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,213.63
Swan Bells Foundation ^a						
Tourism Western Australia	281,000.00	1,187,000.00	0.00	0.00	15,587,000.00	17,055,000.00
Training and Workforce Development, Department of	527,233.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,167,342.81	2,694,576.27
Transport, Department of	481,182.00	410,681.00	0.00	0.00	2,454,836.00	3,346,699.00
Treasury Corporation, Western Australian	42,275.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,275.00
Treasury, Department of	13,506.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,506.00
University of Western Australia ^b	919,412.00	197,100.00	0.00	156,660.00	2,861,000.00	4,021,400.00
VenuesWest	0.00	53,078.00	0.00	0.00	261,863.00	314,941.00
Waste Authority	6,367.00	0.00	0.00	183.00	488,009.00	494,559.00
Water and Environmental Regulation, Department of	0.00	0.00	0.00	818.18	1,004,809.96	1,004,809.96

Continued.... Summary of expenditure disclosed under section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*

Agency	Advertising agencies (\$)	Market research organisations (\$)	Polling organisations (\$)	Direct mail organisations (\$)	Media advertising organisations (\$)	Total (\$)
Water Corporation	341,402.53	243,900.00	0.00	0.00	2,167,112.70	2,752,415.23
Western Australian Building Management Authority ^a						
Western Australian Coastal Shipping Commission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Western Australian Electoral Commission	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,600,000.00	28,000.00	2,628,000.00
Western Australian Energy Disputes Arbitrator ^a						
Western Australian Greyhound Racing Association ^a						
Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission, Department of the Registrar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,900.00	13,950.00
Western Australian Land Information Authority [Landgate]	28,083.36	191,279.98	1,620.00	0.00	15,572.06	236,555.40
Western Australian Meat Industry Authority	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Western Australian Museum	0.00	228,688.00	0.00	0.00	904,538.00	1,133,226.00
Western Australian Police Force	1,851,062.76	354,625.00	0.00	0.00	7,073,328.11	9,279,015.87
Western Power	1,464,749.00	350,807.00	0.00	364,877.00	1,672,668.00	3,853,101.00
Wheatbelt Development Commission	1,061.89	3,913.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,975.69
WorkCover Western Australia	6,089.00	0.00	0.00	2,841.00	92.00	9,022.00
Zoological Parks Authority	50,228.00	27,445.00	0.00	8,063.00	242,189.00	327,925.00
Total	42,183,379.02	9,716,671.79	113,047.00	4,255,328.40	90,897,191.19	147,076,962.22^c

Note: The figures above have been reported as stated by agencies in their annual report.

^a Did not report on section 175ZE of the Act.

^b Report was for the 2022 calendar year.

^c Seven agencies have provided figures for their total expenditure that did not equal the sum of the classes of they disclosed. In some cases this is due to rounding by the agency. This figure is the sum of the total expenditure as stated by the agencies. The total expenditure declared, recorded in Table 4 of the report, is the total of the figures provided for expenditure relating to advertising agencies, market research, polling, direct mail and media advertising organisations.

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