



ELECTORAL COMMISSION **ANNUAL REPORT**



SOUTH AFRICA

2022

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2021/22 BY NUM BERS

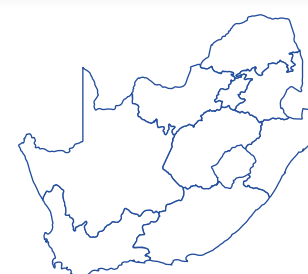


CLEAN
audit verdict/outcome

TARGETS



77%
Achieved in
the time of
Covid-19



22 924
Voting districts



R2.362
Billion revenue



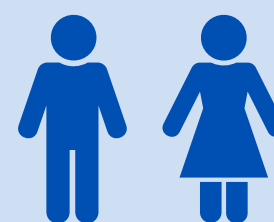
R2.611
Billion expenditure
operating expenses



13
Re-tabled performance
targets



**25.8
million**
Registered voters, 91% with
a complete address 55%
women and 45% men



**Average
age 46**
909 permanent staff
3.4%
Staff turnover



VOTE:
133 municipal ward by-
elections held under Covid-19
restrictions, and declared free
and fair



01
GENERAL
INFORMATION



FOREWORD BY THE **CHAIRPERSON**

It is with a sense of honour and pride that the Electoral Commission presents this annual report as part of its obligation to account to the people of South Africa.

This annual report covers an election year, which occurred during what can be described – at best – as a particularly difficult period in the history of the world, as well as for South Africa and the Commission, which was a consequence of the global public health emergency following the outbreak of Covid-19 and its aftermath.

The State of Disaster regulations, put in place by the government, obligated the rescheduling of many by-elections. It also caused political parties to question whether or not the Commission would have the possibility to hold local government elections in 2021 in a manner that could be considered to be free and fair, as required by the Constitution and the electoral laws.

To examine this fundamental question, the Commission invoked section 14(4) of the Commission Act, Act 51 of 1996, which provides for the Commission, should it deem it to be necessary, to publish a report on the likelihood or otherwise that it will be able to ensure that any pending elections will be free and fair. To this end, the Commission instituted a Commission of Inquiry, chaired by retired Deputy Chief Justice, Dikgang Moseneke, to evaluate the impact of Covid-19 on conditions conducive for the holding of free and fair elections on 27 October 2021.

The Moseneke Inquiry concluded that if elections were held in October 2021 – given the ongoing health

challenges and fears, and the preceding constraints brought about by Covid-19 restrictions, particularly on internal political party processes, campaigning by candidates and the general mobilisation of public participation – these would not be free and fair.

The Inquiry further concluded that any postponement of the local government elections should be to a date no later than the end of February 2022, and that the intervening period should be used to overcome the constraints that had been experienced. The Inquiry suggested that the Commission should consider approaching a court of competent jurisdiction to apply for an order postponing the elections.

The Commission accepted the report of the Inquiry and approached the Constitutional Court. The court declined the proposal to enable such a postponement, but decided to reopen the registration process. Consequently, a new date of 1 November 2021 was promulgated as the date for the elections.

The decision by the highest court in the land to reopen registration brought about a situation whereby the Commission had 42 days to run the legislatively required election timetable for elections in 223 municipalities. This was the shortest time period in the history of South Africa within which the Commission had to attend to all the required steps that must be put in place in advance of the elections.

The fact that the Commission managed to do this, holding a successful registration weekend and the elections on 1 November 2021, bears testimony to the capacity, efficiency, commitment

and mission-readiness of this pre-eminent elections management body.

A total of 323 political parties contested these elections. This figure is significantly higher than the 200 that participated in the 2016 elections. The number of candidates also increased.

We pay tribute to the Commission staff who rose to the occasion and delivered Local Government Elections (LGE) 2021. We pay tribute too, to the 12 million South Africans who visited 23 148 voting stations across the country to cast their votes and make their electoral choices.

In keeping the constitutional imperative for inclusivity, South Africans who are infirm, impaired and lacking mobility, together with those who were not able to be at their voting stations on 1 November, were given the opportunity to apply to cast special votes, either through home visits or at their voting stations, on 30 and 31 October 2021. Special votes served a twin purpose: on the one hand, they enfranchised people in special circumstances, while on the other hand, they assisted with the depopulation of voting stations on Election Day in line with Covid-19 protocols.

Innovations in technology that were used in the 2021 elections have laid a strong foundation for the further, future automation of electoral operations and for our country to move towards the possibility of electronic voting.

In these elections, not having had the opportunity to hold a comprehensive dry-run using the newly acquired

voter management devices (VMDs) prior to the registration weekend, the Commission had to manage a number of operational challenges that emanated from the first-time deployment of the new technology. Nonetheless, it did so for, without the VMDs, it would not have been possible to achieve the 42-day timetable. In addition, these devices have catapulted electoral management in our country to new heights.

The Commission deployed 30 387 VMDs, which were centrally connected through an Access Point Network (APN). Their introduction can only serve to fortify controls in the voting process and enhance our capability to manage the voting and counting processes efficiently.

The Commission manages elections on behalf of all South Africans. The views of the public are very important to us. What continues to assist the Commission in this regard emanates from independent research. To assess voter satisfaction on Election Day, the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) interviewed 12 189 randomly sampled voters at 300 voting stations across the country during different time segments throughout Voting Day. By accepted standards, this is a representative sample that enables generalisations of the entire population of people who voted.

Some 97% of the sampled voters found voting procedures inside our voting stations easy to understand, while 94% found that the ballot paper design and identifiers used provided a clear basis for them to make their choices. This survey further indicated that 96% was satisfied with the secrecy of the ballot, 93% was satisfied with the safety and security arrangements at the voting stations, and 84% expressed confidence in

the accuracy of the counting and tallying processes.

We are pleased that this survey also reflects that 93% of the voters commended the Commission's efforts to mitigate the risk of Covid-19 at the voting stations. Most importantly, the survey indicated that 95% experienced the elections as being free and fair. On the whole, voters are saying their lived experience was positive and consistent with their expectations for the required integrity standards in the voting process. The people have indeed spoken.

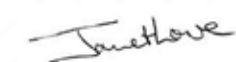
LGE 2021 provided an important foundation on which we will continue to shape future electoral operations. The Commission will also continue to work with all our stakeholders, particularly to increase voter participation, as well as to improve the voter experience.

The Commission expresses its gratitude not only to its staff, but also to all key stakeholders, without whom this project of national importance would not have been possible. In particular, we thank:

- The Minister of Home Affairs, the Honourable Dr Aaron Motsoaledi
- The Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, the Honourable Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma
- The Minister of Police, General Bheki Cele, the leadership of the South African Police Service, other members of the security cluster, including those involved in the national and provincial Joint Operational and Intelligence Structures, and the thousands of police officers who provided excellent security for the elections
- The Minister of Basic Education, the Honourable Angie Motshekga and her entire department

- The National Assembly, the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs, the Select Committee on Security and Justice and the National Council of Provinces
- All political parties, their leaders, candidates and their supporters
- Independent candidates and their supporters
- The various community structures, civil society, business and labour organisations, traditional leaders, religious and faith-based organisations, the medical experts and other groups who participated in many ways to make the elections a success
- Domestic and Southern African Development Community (SADC) observer missions and the members of the diplomatic community
- The various service providers, contractors, business partners and other suppliers of the Electoral Commission
- Strategic partners – Telkom, Eskom and the SABC
- The HSRC, Statistics South Africa and other research institutions
- Fellow commissioners, the Chief Electoral Officer, Sy Mamabolo, as well as the management and staff of the Commission

Our greatest appreciation goes to the South African voters who continue to protect our democracy and participate in our electoral processes, upholding and advancing the promise of our Constitution.



Janet Love
Vice-Chairperson
Electoral Commission of South Africa
31 July 2022



CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER'S OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

It is my singular honour, as Chief Electoral Officer, to present the annual report for the financial year 2021/22, which covers activities undertaken by the Electoral Commission during the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

The conduct of South Africa's sixth democratic municipal elections, LGE 2021, dominated the financial year. This election project was perhaps our biggest challenge yet, given that free, fair and credible elections were delivered during an uncertain coronavirus pandemic and – following a Constitutional Court ruling – in spite of a compressed 42-day election timetable and the introduction of innovative voter management technology.

These challenging conditions make the achievement of a clean audit for the second consecutive year that much more remarkable. It speaks volumes about the dedication shown by the Commission, management and staff to deliver not only on its electoral mandate, but also on a commitment to stringent financial reporting.

Our electoral democracy is on an upward trajectory, LGE 2021 demonstrated this phenomenon. Some of the salient numerical highlights of the elections include the following:

- A novel number of 323 political parties participated in LGE 2021. An increase of 123 from the 200 parties that participated in an equivalent election in 2016.
- A record number of 95 440 candidates contested LGE

2021, up from the 66 014 that contested for seats in LGE 2016. This is 30% more candidates than the previous election of municipal councils.

- There were 34 321 proportional representation and 59 570 ward candidates, as well as 1 549 independent candidates.
- A record number of 99 139 candidates initially submitted nominations to contest the 2021 Municipal Elections. Of those submitted, 3 699 candidates were disqualified for various non-compliance factors, which are in the prescripts.
- A total of 26.2 million South Africans registered for LGE 2021, representing 67.9% of the estimated 38 million voting age population.
- Some 12 million people voted in LGE 2021, resulting in a voter turnout of 46%. The trend of greater female participation in elections continued with a 58% participation rate. A total of 111 0145 special votes were cast in the elections.
- There were 23 148 voting districts in LGE 2021, an increase of 2% from 2016.
- Some 72 million ballot papers were printed for the elections within an 18-day printing window period using six printing sites across the country.
- Some 190 000 electoral staff were recruited and trained to work over the election period.

GENERAL FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The Electoral Commission received R2.25 billion for the period under review by way of parliamentary allocations. Sundry income of

R105.7 million brought the Electoral Commission's total income to R2.36 billion for the year under review, a 9% increase on 2020/21. Expenditure reflected in the annual financial statements – on the accrual basis – was R2.61 billion; a 114% increase, giving an accounting deficit of R251.5 million. The deficit was because of approved rolled-over funds from the prior year to fund the registration weekend and purchase the VMDs. For the year under review, the Electoral Commission procured VMDs, to increase electoral efficiencies, to the value of R546 million. The Electoral Commission succeeded in maintaining its spending within budget. The organisation implemented prudent expenditure control measures to ensure that spending was within the approved budget.

SPENDING TRENDS

In our world of business, expenditure is mainly influenced by the election cycle, peaking during preparations for an election and decreasing again to fund regular activities in non-election cycles. In this regard, it is important to note the influence of the higher number of voting stations as a result of the increase in the number of registered voters on expenditure trends. In addition, the year under review reflected the impact on costs incurred in relation to the purchase of VMDs, the registration weekend, LGE 2021-related expenditure, and Covid-19 mitigation measures, which were implemented at registration and voting stations.

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

I am satisfied that the Electoral Commission has sound supply chain management practices, supported by a procurement policy, standard operating procedures and a fully functional Compliance Unit. In 2021/22, irregular expenditure of R28 million was incurred. Of this, R5.9 million was incurred in previous years, but identified in the current year. This is reflected in Note 28 to the annual financial statements.

The Electoral Commission has a full-time establishment of 1 113 permanent members of staff. As at the close of the financial year, 909 posts were filled.

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure amounting to R227 218 was reported in the current financial year and is reflected in Note 29 of the annual financial statements.

AUDIT MATTERS IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR AND HOW THESE WERE ADDRESSED

The Electoral Commission received a clean audit in the 2020/21 financial year. The focus for 2021/22 was to build on performance by improving on Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-related findings identified in the prior year. Overall, this was achieved by focusing on risk areas identified in the prior year and improving internal controls. Specifically, this was achieved by improving the performance reporting of Electoral Operations and procurement processes, based on detailed audit action plans. Audit findings identified and reported by

the Auditor-General South Africa (AGSA), including those reported in its audit report, are tracked to ensure that the necessary process enhancements are effected and amelioration measures are implemented.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A special note of appreciation goes to the Chairperson and members of the Commission for their strategic leadership, as well as the staff of the Electoral Commission who worked tirelessly in the service of the organisation under deeply challenging circumstances during a pandemic, understanding the importance of its mandate, so that the Electoral Commission can once again present a report of which it is proud.



Simon Mamabolo
Chief Electoral Officer
Electoral Commission
31 July 2022

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND CONFIRMATION OF ACCURACY FOR THE ANNUAL REPORT

To the best of my knowledge and belief, I confirm the following:

- All information and amounts disclosed in this annual report are consistent with the annual financial statements audited by the AGSA.
- The annual report is complete, accurate and free from any omissions.
- The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines on annual reports as issued by National Treasury.
- The Annual Financial Statements (Part E) have been prepared in accordance with the effective standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP) applicable to the Electoral Commission.

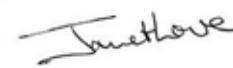
The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of the annual financial statements and for the judgments made in this information

The Accounting Officer is responsible for establishing

and implementing a system of internal control that is designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of the performance information, the human resources information and the annual financial statements.

The external auditors (AGSA) are engaged to express an independent opinion on the annual financial statements.

In our opinion, the annual report fairly reflects the operations, performance information, human resources information and financial affairs of the Electoral Commission for the financial year ended 31 March 2022.



Vice-Chairperson
Janet Love
31 July 2022



Chief Electoral Officer
Simon Mamabolo
31 July 2022

VISION

To be a pre-eminent leader in electoral democracy.

IMPACT STATEMENT

Manage free and fair elections of public representatives into legislative bodies to strengthen electoral democracy.

MISSION

The Electoral Commission is an independent constitutional body, which manages the free and fair elections of legislative bodies and institutions through the participation of citizens, political parties and civil society in deepening electoral democracy.

STRATEGIC OUTCOME-ORIENTATED GOALS

The strategic outcome-oriented goals of the Electoral Commission are as follows:

- Strengthening governance, institutional excellence, professionalism and enabling business processes at all levels of the organisation.
- Achieving pre-eminence in the area of managing elections and referenda, including the strengthening of a cooperative relationship with political parties.
- Strengthening electoral democracy.

VALUES

To enable the Electoral Commission to serve the needs of stakeholders, including the electorate, political parties, the media, and permanent and temporary staff members, the organisation subscribes to the following values:

- **Impartiality** – to act free of favour.
- **Integrity** – the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.
- **Accountability** – to take responsibility for one's actions.
- **Transparency** – to invite trust by revealing that one has nothing to hide.
- **Responsiveness** – the quality of reacting quickly and positively.

LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER MANDATES

The Electoral Commission is a constitutional institution that falls under Schedule 1 of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) (Act 1 of 1999).

CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE

In terms of section 190 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996), the Electoral Commission must do the following:

- Manage the elections of national, provincial and municipal legislative bodies in accordance with national legislation.
- Ensure that those elections are free and fair.
- Declare the results of those elections within a period that must be prescribed by national legislation and that is as short as reasonably possible.

LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

The duties and functions of the Electoral Commission are outlined in Section 5 of the Electoral Commission Act (Act 51 of 1996), and are as follows:

- Manage any election.
- Ensure that any election is free and fair.
- Promote conditions that are conducive to free and fair elections.
- Promote knowledge of sound and democratic electoral processes.
- Compile and maintain a voters' roll by means of a system of registering eligible voters by utilising data that is available from government sources and information furnished by voters.

- Compile and maintain a register of parties.
- Establish and maintain liaison and cooperation with parties.
- Undertake and promote research into electoral matters.
- Develop and promote the development of electoral expertise and technology in all spheres of government.
- Continuously review electoral legislation and proposed electoral legislation, and make recommendations in connection therewith.
- Promote voter education.
- Promote cooperation with and between persons, institutions, governments and administrations for the achievement of its objects.
- Declare the results of elections for national, provincial and municipal legislative bodies within seven days after such elections.
- Adjudicate disputes that may arise from the organisation, administration or conducting of elections and which are of an administrative nature.
- Appoint appropriate public administrations in any sphere of government to conduct elections when necessary.

The duties and functions of the Electoral Commission in respect of national and provincial elections are also outlined in the Electoral Act (Act 73 of 1998). This Act includes, among other things, the requirements for registration as a voter and compilation of the voters' roll. It provides for the administration of elections, election timetables, procedures for voting, counting and determining results, the accreditation of observers, and voter education. Several regulations have been published

in terms of the Electoral Act.

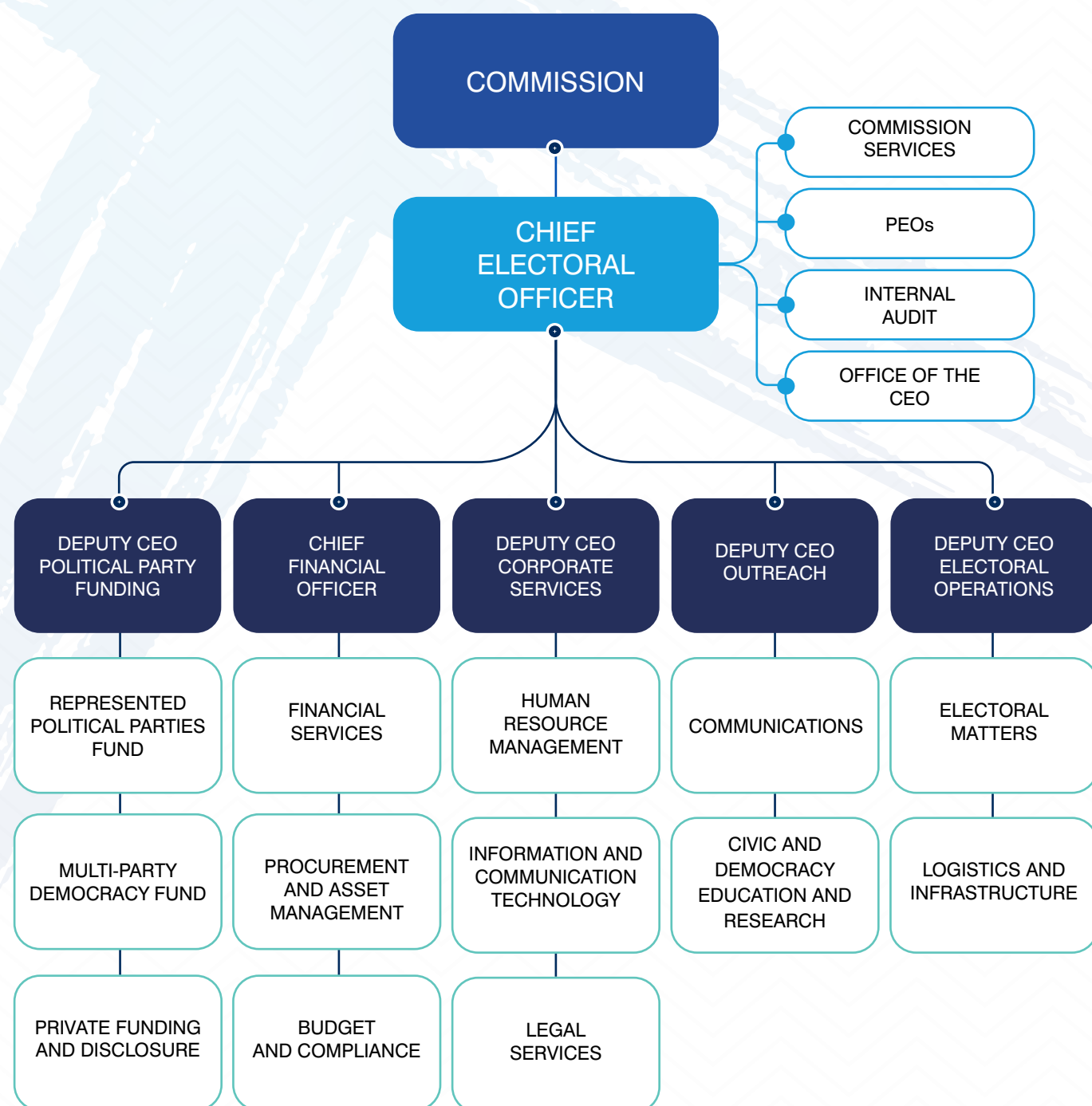
The Municipal Electoral Act (Act 24 of 2000) deals with the specific nature of municipal elections. It provides for the administration of parties and candidates and all related voting and counting issues. As in the case of the Electoral Act, appropriate regulations have been published in support of the provisions of this Act.

The Municipal Structures Act (Act 117 of 1998) deals with the establishment, management and functions of the various municipalities, as well as the electoral system for local government, which includes seat calculation formulae (the conversion of votes into seats). This legislation is required to conclude the results process in respect of municipal elections.

POLICY MANDATES

The Electoral Commission undertakes its work within the Republic of South Africa independently, but the government of South Africa often requests the Commission to assist it with the implementation of foreign policy by providing electoral assistance to other countries. When this happens, funding and permission is sought and obtained from the Department of International Relations and Cooperation.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



COMMISSION



Vice-chairperson:
Commissioner Janet Love

Commissioner Janet Love joined the Electoral Commission as a part-time Commissioner in April 2016, and then full-time as Vice-Chairperson in November 2018. Having played a role in fighting for freedom as an anti-apartheid activist in the 1970s, Ms Love returned to South Africa in 1990 and immediately became involved in negotiating South Africa's new constitution and establishing its first government.

Ms Love served as a Member of Parliament for the African National Congress in the first democratic Parliament from 1994 to 1999 and was a member of the 22-person Constitutional Committee of the Constitutional Assembly, the body responsible for steering the constitution-making process.

Ms Love then served in various government and civil society institutions, including working in the South African Reserve Bank for five years as head of strategic analysis, serving as National Director of the Legal Resources Centre, and as a part-time member of the South African Human Rights Commission.

Year of appointment: May 2015
Finance, Risk and Compliance Committee;
Governance and Ethics Committee

COMMISSION



Commissioner
Glen Mashinini

Mr Glen Mashinini's electoral management experience started when he became part of the founding Executive Management team that was pivotal in establishing the IEC in 1998.

He was responsible for conceptualisation, business processes and organisational design, as well as institutional building with intricate human resources recruitment, programme management, and management systems for the delivery of elections, which have received international acclaim.

Having established the Electoral Commission, Mr Mashinini spread his wings to the rest of the continent, jointly establishing a highly respected consultancy that provided electoral advisory and management services

across the continent, including in Nigeria, Mozambique and Angola.

In 2012, having served as the Deputy Chairperson of the Presidential Review Committee on State-owned Entities tasked with a review of these organisations, Mr Mashinini was appointed as a Special Projects Advisor to the President of the Republic of South Africa to help implement the recommendations.

Year of appointment: May 2015

Finance, Risk and Compliance Committee; Governance and Ethics Committee



Commissioner
Dr Nomsa Masuku

Dr Nomsa Masuku is an academic currently appointed as one of five commissioners of the Electoral Commission.

She has served in several positions in the Electoral Commission's Administration, culminating in the role of Deputy Chief Electoral Officer responsible for Outreach. She previously headed Standard Bank's Corporate Social Investment Unit.

Before joining Standard Bank, Dr Masuku spent eight years working for the Electoral Commission of South Africa, where her portfolio included the strategic development of programmes that assisted the Commission in contributing to the entrenchment of constitutional democracy – including

overseeing the provision and promotion of civic, balloting and voter education.

Dr Masuku has a PhD in Applied English Linguistics from the University of Birmingham, UK.

She has contributed to the body of work related to South Africa's National Curriculum Statement and the protection of human rights, values and inclusivity.

Year of appointment: November 2018

Human Resources Governance Committee Research, Knowledge Management and Publications Committee Management and Publications Committee

COMMISSION



Commissioner
Mosotho Moepya

Mr Moepya joined the Electoral Commission's Commission in November 2018. He has been associated with election management since 1998, when he joined the Commission and successfully held various positions, including that of Director for Electoral Logistics, Senior Manager: Electoral Logistics, Planning and Infrastructure, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, and Chief Electoral Officer.

Prior to his appointment as a member of the Commission, he completed several continental consulting assignments in the management of elections, democratic governance, peacebuilding, and electoral conflict resolution. These assignments included work completed with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International

Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the African Union Commission (AUC), the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA), and the Electoral Commissions Forum of SADC Countries.

He has covered various election-related assignments in diverse jurisdictions, including Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, the Comoros, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Nigeria, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Tanzania, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe.

Year of appointment: November 2018
Elections Management Committee



Commissioner
Judge Dhayanithie Pillay

Judge Dhayanithie Pillay is a defender of human rights and an expert in labour law. She was appointed a Commissioner of South Africa's Electoral Commission in November 2018.

Judge Pillay holds the position of an Extraordinary Professor at the University of Pretoria, while serving as a judge of the High Court in Pietermaritzburg and Durban. She also served as an Acting Judge of the Constitutional Court from February to September 2021. Before this, she was a judge of the Labour Court of South Africa for 10 years until 2010.

Admitted as an attorney in 1982, Pillay was drawn to the plight of political detainees, specialising in human rights and administrative law disputes arising from the various emergency and security laws in force at the time.

She was recognised as a human rights defender by the Amnesty International SA Durban Group in 2005. After turning to labour law and industrial relations, Judge Pillay was selected to be involved in the drafting of key pieces of national legislation, including the Public Service Labour Relations Act, the new Labour Relations Act, and clauses of the Constitution relating to the Public Service Commission and Electoral Commission.

She was a Senior Commissioner (part-time) of the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) since 1996 until her appointment to the bench. Judge Pillay attained a doctorate in law from the University of Pretoria in 2020.

Year of appointment: November 2018

A portrait of Mr. Simon Mamabolo, a middle-aged Black man with a receding hairline, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a blue patterned tie. The background is a soft blue gradient.

Administration

Chief Electoral Officer: Mr Simon Mamabolo

The head of the administration of the Commission is the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), who is appointed by the Commission and who also functions as the Electoral Commission's accounting officer. In consultation with the Commission, the CEO is responsible for appointing additional officers and employees of the Electoral Commission. The Office of the CEO is responsible for managing commission services, internal audits, civic education and research, and the nine Provincial Electoral Offices. Four departments – Corporate Services, Outreach, Electoral Operations and Party Funding – and Financial Management report to the CEO.

Mr Simon Mamabolo is the CEO of the Electoral Commission following his appointment in October 2017. Mr Mamabolo served as Acting Chief Electoral Officer from April to September 2017. Prior to his time, he served as Deputy Chief Electoral Officer of Electoral Operations for five years, during which time he oversaw operations for the 2014 National and Provincial Elections and the 2016 Municipal Elections.

This position entails the strategic leadership of the entire electoral programme, which involves the articulation of the legal mandate into a coherent strategic plan with its concomitant business plans. He spearheaded the legislative amendments in Parliament for both the last general elections. Before that he was Provincial Electoral Officer for Gauteng, the province that is the economic hub of South Africa. Simon Mamabolo has extensive experience in research and public administration. He is a student of politics and holds a bachelor's degree in Arts and a master's degree in Management, both from the University of the Witwatersrand.

A portrait of Ms. Akhtari Henning, a woman with long dark hair and bangs, smiling. She is wearing a dark blue blazer over a white turtleneck sweater. The background is a soft blue gradient.

Corporate Services

Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Ms Akhtari Henning

Corporate Services manages support business functions of the Electoral Commission, which are necessary for both the Commission's compliance as a Chapter 9 institution and to provide for the operation and management of fundamental resources that enable the processes of electoral management. The Human Resources Department implements the Electoral Commission's human resources strategy and plan, in compliance with relevant employment legislation, and includes a Training Unit, an Industrial Relations Unit, and a Support Services Unit responsible for the management of facilities, fleet services, and health and safety. The ICT Department is responsible for all the Commission's platforms, processes and systems supported by appropriate ICT computing infrastructure in respect of core business functions. ICT is the lifeblood of the entire organisation and underpins everything from financial and procurement systems to voter registration and election results. The Legal Services Department maintains a proactive and responsive legal framework for the Electoral Commission, both in terms of supporting the Electoral Commission in respect of litigation and objections arising from the electoral management of all other legal assistance – from service-level agreements to the evaluation of tender processes.

Ms Akhtari Henning joined the Electoral Commission in April 2018 as Deputy Chief Electoral Officer for Corporate Services, where she is responsible for Human Resources and Support Services, Information and Communication Technology, and Legal Services. Before joining the Electoral Commission, she served in a similar role – as Deputy Director-General for Corporate Services – at Statistics South Africa for six years. Ms Henning has hands-on experience as a Chief Financial Officer and has managed a significant team and budget, with multiple projects across a vast logistical landscape. Her strengths lie in complex logistics, integrating resources such as finance, human capital and tools of the trade.

Ms Henning has proven experience in the Public Finance Management Act, Treasury Regulations, and in establishing the King III governance requirements for the Public Sector Guide for National, Provincial and Local Government. She also has experience of leading and overseeing a public-private partnership (PPP) process from the pre-bid phase to completion. Ms Henning has achieved a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting and completed her Articles of Clerkship at Ernst & Young Chartered Accountants. In 2015, she completed the Advanced Management Programme at Harvard Business School in Boston (USA).

A portrait of Mr Mawethu Mosery, a Black man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue patterned shirt. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera.

Outreach

Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Mr Mawethu Mosery

Outreach is responsible for creating interfaces between the legal obligations and operations of the Electoral Commission, and the people the Electoral Commission serves: the citizens of South Africa. The duties of Outreach include civic and voter education, balloting education, research and knowledge management, communications, public relations, and media liaison. These platforms enable the Electoral Commission to maintain a constant flow of engagement with all stakeholders.

Outreach works to continuously inform the discourse and dialogue around voting and democracy – not just during an election year, but all the time – and to explain the decisions and operations of the Electoral Commission in a way that promotes maximum transparency around the democratic and electoral process. A strategic priority of the Electoral Commission is to inform and engage citizens and stakeholders in electoral democracy. The role of the communications function in this regard is to advance and promote electoral processes through communication campaigns on diverse platforms to sustain the visibility of the organisation and its mandate across the electoral cycle.

Civic and democracy education aims to foster participation in electoral democracy and to create a climate conducive to free and fair elections. The Electoral Commission has long been focused on ongoing civic and democracy education to enable an enduring democratisation process, affirming elections as continuous processes rather than isolated events.

As the head of Outreach, Mr Mawethu Mosery is an experienced electoral manager, having been in the service of the Electoral Commission for over 20 years. Before leading the Outreach function, he served for 15 years as Provincial Electoral Officer for KwaZulu-Natal, a highly contested province politically.

Mosery has been integral to the strategic planning and project management of elections at a national level and in the province, including five national and provincial elections, six municipal elections, and countless by-elections. Mr Mosery was assigned to the Outreach function in 2018, ahead of preparations for the 2019 National and Provincial Elections.

A portrait of Mr Masego Sheburi, a Black man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue patterned shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression.

Electoral Operations

Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Mr Masego Sheburi

Electoral Operations houses the core of the Electoral Commission's operations. The national voters' roll, which forms the basis of planning for any electoral event, is maintained by this division. Its components include the following:

- The delimitation of voting districts.
- Registration and de-registration of political parties.
- The compilation and administration of the voters' roll.
- Registration of voters.
- Political party liaison, candidate nomination and the management of proportional representation lists and vacancies.
- The compilation of results.
- Conflict management programmes.

Electoral Operations is also responsible for the Electoral Commission's Logistics and Infrastructure. This department determines the electoral bill of materials for all electoral events, specifications, procurement and disposal of items approved in terms of the bill of materials, warehousing and distribution of electoral materials and equipment, and voting station and local office infrastructure.

As the head of Electoral Operations, Mr Masego Sheburi has extensive experience in public administration, policy formulation and implementation, having served in various capacities in public service for a period of more than 20 years. In the formative years of the democratic state and following the 1994 elections, he was involved in and contributed to the evolution of executive accountability and parliamentary oversight as a necessary pillar for the entrenchment of constitutionalism. Mr Sheburi's tenure at the Electoral Commission started in 2008 and he has been involved in the administration of five elections, two of which were in the capacity of Provincial Electoral Officer for Gauteng, South Africa's most densely populated province, and one as Deputy CEO for Electoral Operations. He holds a BA Law degree.

A portrait of Mr. George Mahlangu, a Black man with a shaved head and a goatee, wearing black-rimmed glasses, a light blue shirt, a patterned tie, and a dark blue suit jacket. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a soft blue gradient.

Party Funding

Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Mr George Mahlangu

The Party Funding Unit oversees the management of the Represented Political Parties Fund (RPPF), the Multiparty Democracy Fund, and the implementation of a disclosure framework through which political parties and donors must disclose donations above a threshold to the Electoral Commission.

The aim of the RPPF is to provide funding for political parties represented in the national and provincial legislatures. Funds for the RPPF are provided annually from the National Revenue Fund and are distributed to political parties represented in the National Assembly or in any provincial legislature.

A seasoned financial expert having served as a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in the private and public sectors for many years, Mr George Mahlangu joined the Electoral Commission on 1 August 2020.

He previously served as CFO at Gauteng's Department of Health (2014–2017) and Department of Local Government (2006–2010), and before that was CFO at the National Youth Commission (2002–2006). He joined the Electoral Commission from the private sector where he was most recently Chief Executive Officer of a transport company.

Mr Mahlangu is qualified with both an LLB and a BCompt (Honours), which provide him with an ideal blend of legal and financial knowledge to fill this important new role as head of the new Party Funding Unit.

As responsible for party funding, Mr Mahlangu oversees the management of the Represented Political Parties' Fund, the Multiparty Democracy, and the implementation of a disclosure framework through which political parties and donors must disclose to the Electoral Commission donations above a threshold.

A portrait of Ms. Dawn Mbatha, a Black woman with long, dark, wavy hair, wearing a dark blue top. She is looking slightly to the right with a gentle smile. The background is a soft blue gradient.

Financial Management

Chief Financial Officer: Ms Dawn Mbatha, CA (SA)

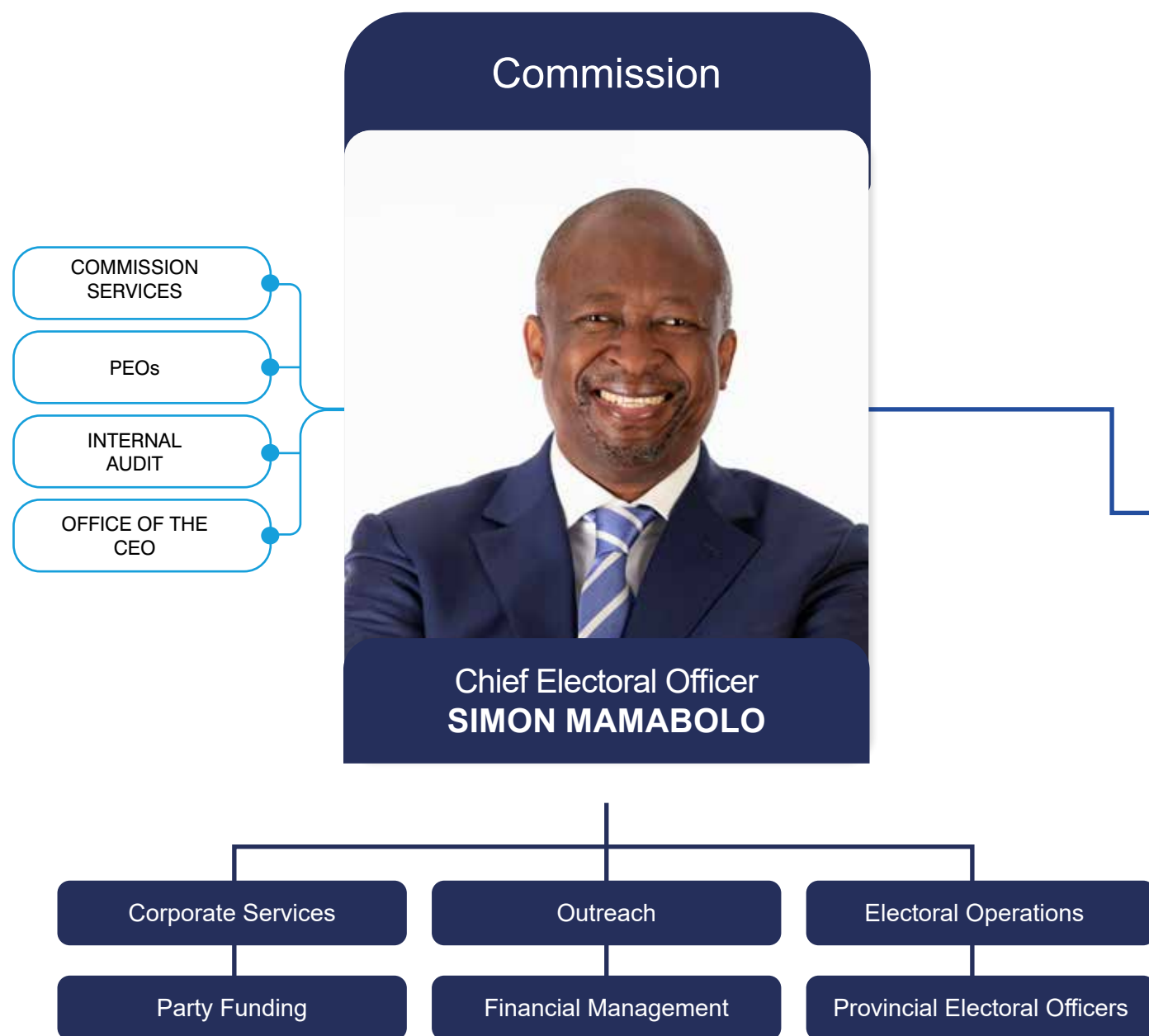
The Finance Department is responsible for the development and implementation of financial policies and standard operating procedures for the processing of all financial transactions. This includes dedicated units working with the Electoral Commission's budgets, procurement processes, compliance, the management of the Electoral Commission's assets and financial services (accounting).

The Compliance Unit assists the Accounting Officer with his statutory obligation in terms of sections 38(1)(n) and 51(1)(h) of the PFMA, which require accounting officers and accounting authorities, respectively, to comply and ensure compliance with the PFMA and any other legislation applicable to the Electoral Commission, which have financial implications. The Procurement Unit is responsible for developing and implementing an effective and efficient supply chain management system for the acquisition of goods and services, and the disposal and letting of state assets, including the disposal of goods no longer required. The Budgeting Unit sets out planned spending in terms of the National Treasury guidelines and policies.

Ms Dawn Mbatha is the Chief Financial Officer of the Electoral Commission, and a former inspector with the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors. She is an experienced and qualified Chartered Accountant, with previous experience as an audit partner, consultant and finance executive with extensive management and operations experience in both the private and public sector. Former clients include the Development Bank of South Africa, Armscor, the, Limpopo Roads Agency, Eskom, the Technology Innovation Agency, Eskom Treasury, MTN SP, the Transnet Group, the Airports Company South Africa, the Department of Defence and the International Market Centre (USA).

Ms Mbatha served on the interim board of Cricket South Africa (CSA). The interim board recently enabled the adoption of a Memorandum of Incorporation in terms of the Companies Act (section 60) after reaching an agreement with Cricket South Africa, a governance model was adopted, which is best practice both in South Africa and internationally.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



NATIONAL GENERAL MANAGERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(EXCO) MEMBER



Libisi Maphanga
Chief Information Officer, Exco member

Granville Abrahams
Electoral Operations

Rekha Raath
Legal Services

Bonolo Gopane
Human Resources, Skills Development and Training

Moagisi Sibanda
Civic Education, Research and Knowledge Management

Marius Steyn
Logistics and Infrastructure

Thabo Masemula
Gauteng Provincial Electoral Officer



Nkaro Mateta
Limpopo Provincial Electoral Officer



Dr Tumelontle Thiba
North West Provincial Electoral Officer



Gugu Langa
Mpumalanga Provincial Electoral Officer



Jabulani Tshabalala
Free State Provincial Electoral Officer



Ntombifuthi Masinga
KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Electoral Officer



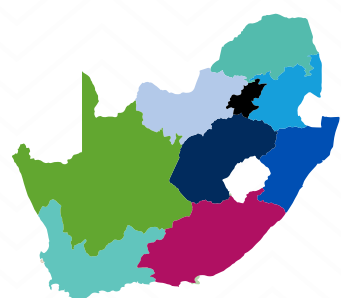
Kayakazi Magudumana
Eastern Cape Provincial Electoral Officer



Michael Hendrickse
Western Cape Provincial Electoral Officer



Bonolo Modise
Northern Cape Provincial Electoral Officer



PROVINCIAL ELECTORAL OFFICERS





02

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

PREDETERMINED OBJECTIVES

The Auditor-General South Africa (AGSA) currently performs the necessary audit procedures on the performance information to provide reasonable assurance in the form of an audit assessment. The audit assessment of performance against predetermined objectives is included in the AGSA's audit report under the heading "Other matters" in the "Report on the audit of the annual performance report" section. Refer to page 151.

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

social political and economic environment

The social, political and economic landscape in South Africa continues to be liquid, impacted by domestic and international developments. At home, the internal contestation within and between political parties, the economic impact of Covid-19, as well as the July 2021 riots, contributed to the evolving environment. The war in Ukraine has not only changed global politics, but has had an adverse effect on the performance of economies around the world.

Accordingly, the period under review reflects a constrained economic environment. The government revised its economic growth estimate, a move that reflected a combination of the impact of changes in the global environment, along with South Africa's unique challenges.

On the political front, South Africa's multiparty democracy continues to grow. A record number of 323 political parties registered for LGE 2021. This was an increase of 123 from the 200 that registered for LGE 2016. A new record was also set by the 95 440 candidates who contested LGE 2021, up from the 66 014 that vied for seats in LGE

2016. The register of parties had 508 political parties on 31 March 2022. Following the successful implementation of the Political Party Funding Act, the Commission has

from the Represented Political Party Fund and the Multiparty Democracy Fund. The unit is also responsible for ensuring regulatory compliance as it relates to the use of money from the funds and, importantly, the declared direct donations received by political parties.

The Commission appreciates the interest that South Africans have demonstrated in this important act of transparency and accountability. We urge members of the public who may have suggestions on how the legislation can be further strengthened to use the channels provided by Parliament for this purpose.

We equally encourage all political parties to be model citizens and comply with the law by submitting four quarterly declarations and one set of audited financial statements. To assist political parties, the Commission embarked on a national training programme to assist the parties with the preparation of audited statements. Over the five-year planning period, and in adherence with its constitutional mandate, the strategic focus of the Commission will be the management and delivery of National and Provincial Elections



efficiently executed its mandate in managing the funds for registered and unregistered political parties. The Commission – through the newly established Political Party Funding Unit – issued four quarterly reports and is in the process of finalising the Unit's inaugural annual report.

The mandate of the Political Party Funding Unit is to disburse funds

(NPE) 2024 and LGE 2026, and to ensure that both elections are free and fair.

Following a judgment of the Constitutional Court in the New Nation matter, NPE 2024 will be managed under a new electoral system in terms of which independent candidates will, for the first time, be able to contest elections.

The public health emergency that was declared after the outbreak of Covid-19 appears to have come to an end. However, health protocols designed to reduce the spread of Covid-19 remain in place in our offices, as well as at voting stations. During registration and elections for LGE 2021, the Commission took action to promote procedures that maintained good public health in the electoral process, guided by

health experts. The interventions included the provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) for the 190 000 staff members at 23 146 voting stations across the country.

STRATEGIC OUTCOME-ORIENTED GOALS

Division	Strategic Outcome-oriented Goal	Number of targets	Number achieved/exceeded	Number not achieved	Percentage achievement
Programme 1: Administration	Goal 1: Strengthening governance, institutional excellence, professionalism and enabling business processes at all levels of the organisation	4	3	1	77%
Programme 2: Electoral Operations	Goal 2: Achieving pre-eminence in the area of managing elections and referenda, including the strengthening of a cooperative relationship with political parties	2	0	2	0%
Programme 3: Outreach	Goal 3: Strengthening electoral democracy	5	5	0	100%
Programme 4: Party Funding	Goal 4: Contributed to the enhancement of transparency in elections and party funding	2	2	0	100%
Total		13*	10	3	77%

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

by programme

PROGRAMME 1: ADMINISTRATION

Programme 1 supports the achievement of Strategic Outcome-oriented Goal 1. It provides for the overall strategic management of the Electoral Commission, as well as centralised support services. This programme focuses on strengthening governance by refining institutional governance arrangements (including the Commission's committees and structures), exercising oversight, monitoring, evaluation and support. It encompasses Commission Services, Internal Audit, Human Resource Development, Financial Management, Supply Chain Management, and Information and Communication Technology.

Commissioners provide oversight in respect of the activities of the organisation, and facilitate the promotion of the principles of peaceful, free and fair elections.

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) monitors the implementation of and adherence to the Commission's strategic priorities, as well as organisational policies as articulated in the organisational scorecard.

Corporate Services focuses on strengthening institutional excellence and professionalism at all levels of the organisation, building institutional capacity,

expanding human capital development, adhering to performance standards, becoming people-centred, managing human resources well, maintaining sound industrial relations and building institutional memory.

This programme provides for enabling business processes and systems in respect of legal services, information and communication technology (ICT), human resources management and facilities management to efficiently and effectively support the core business of the Electoral Commission.

Strategic objectives

Strategic Objective 1.1	Exercise oversight (monitoring, evaluation and leadership) to ensure the effective implementation of the Electoral Commission's core mandate, strategic goals and objectives, aligned with the corresponding budget allocation
Strategic Objective 1.2	Exercise oversight (monitoring, evaluation and support), the provisioning of assurance and risk management services
Strategic Objective 1.3	Build institutional capacity to enable the Electoral Commission to deliver on its constitutional mandate
Strategic Objective 1.4	Manage financial resources efficiently to protect the public image of the Electoral Commission as an accountable institution
Strategic Objective 1.5	Provide and maintain a stable, secure and scalable ICT environment that meets the functional needs of the Electoral Commission to ensure the credibility of electronic electoral processes



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, PLANNED TARGETS AND ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

PROGRAMME 1: ADMINISTRATION

	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / actual performance 2019/20
1.1.1	Strengthened institutional effectiveness	Exercise leadership and governance, monitoring and evaluation to ensure the effective implementation of the Electoral Commission's core mandate, strategic outcomes and outputs, aligned with the corresponding budget allocations and risk mitigation	Number of quarterly reviews of the strategic risk register by the Executive Risk Management Committee within 30 days after the start of the next quarter.	4
1.1.2		Provide a cutting-edge, stable, secure ICT environment that meets all functional needs of the Electoral Commission and supports innovative business processes	Minimum annual percentage network and application systems availability measured in hours (system-generated report available)	97.3% (2 180.096 hours)
1.1.3		Recruit and retain a talented permanent staff complement to meet operational requirements, as well as constitutional obligations	Number of funded positions filled per annum	88% (906 filled posts)
1.1.4		Effectively manage financial resources in compliance with legislation.	Obtain a clean audit outcome from the annual external audit process	NEW

Audited / actual performance 2020/21	Planned annual 2021/22	Actual achievement 2021/22	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2021/22	Reasons for deviations
4	4	4	0	Target achieved
97.384% (2 156.060 hours)	97% of (2 214 hours achieved)	98.3% of (2 214 hours achieved)	1.3%	Target achieved
81% (909 filled of 1 121 approved posts)	90% of 1 113 posts calculated pro-rata over the year	81.4% of 1 113 posts filled (906 / 1 113)	(8.6%)	Target not achieved. Filling of vacancies delayed due to CCMA challenge of HR review implementation process.
Obtained a clean audit	Obtain a clean audit	Clean audit	None	Target achieved

COMMISSION SERVICES

During the period under review, the Covid-19 pandemic continued to wreak havoc across the globe. Governments and other institutions such as the Electoral Commission had to operate in a context of radical uncertainty, and faced with difficult trade-offs given the health, economic and social challenges the pandemic raised. In the midst of the public health emergency, the Electoral Commission had to fulfil its constitutional mandate of delivering free and fair elections, and also manage other processes that are required to achieve that mandate.

During this period, the Commission engaged a number of stakeholders in preparation for the general municipal elections that were scheduled for 2021. These engagements were held to determine whether or not elections could be undertaken in a limiting environment caused by the pandemic, without violating the rights of citizens of this country.

Following the successful LGE 2021, the Commission held debriefing sessions with domestic election

observers to fully understand issues that the observers witnessed on the ground. The Commission also embarked on an internal debriefing session where all business units had an opportunity to reflect on their performance during these elections. The purpose of the debriefings was to improve on the Electoral Commission's delivery of its mandate of ensuring free and fair elections.

The Commission continued to play a leading role in facilitating the activities of the Forum of Institutions Supporting Democracy (FISD) and made critical contributions to the continued coordinated efforts of the FISD in support of constitutional democracy in South Africa.

The prevalence of the Covid-19 pandemic and its restrictive effects required innovative ways of conducting engagements with our international counterparts and also in our continued efforts to play a meaningful role in electoral democracy internationally. As a result, the Electoral Commission

embarked on a number of international engagements and projects virtually, in particular with organisations such as the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB), the Electoral Commissions Forum (ECF) of the SADC region and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).

The Commission is currently the Vice-Chairperson of the A-WEB and is expected to take over as Chairperson when it hosts the 4th meeting of the A-WEB's General Assembly in October 2022.

Members of the Commission are appointed for a term of seven years. The Commission appoints the CEO. It also adopts the Strategic Plan, monitors and oversees its implementation, and reports annually to the National Assembly. The Commission has established a number of committees to process matters for resolution in Commission meetings.

Commission meetings		
Name	Date appointed	Number of meetings attended
Mr Glen Mashinini	18 May 2015	20
Ms Janet Love	20 April 2016	20
Dr Nomsa Masuku	24 November 2018	18
Mr Mosotho Moepya	24 November 2018	20
Judge Dhaya Pillay	24 November 2018	20

INTERNAL AUDIT

Every institution to which the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) applies must have an internal audit function under the control and direction of an Audit Committee. To this end, the Chief Audit Executive (CAE) reports functionally to the statutory Audit Committee, and administratively to the Accounting Officer.

The Electoral Commission operates a co-sourced model of internal auditing. In terms of Treasury Regulation 3.2.4, the internal audit function (IAF) may be partly contracted to an external organisation with specialist audit expertise. The Commission's in-house Internal Audit Department, consisting of the CAE, the Deputy Manager: Performance and Internal Auditing, together with the co-sourced internal audit service providers, constitutes the IAF mandated by the PFMA.

The CAE confirms that, during the year under review, the applicable formal terms of reference governing the IAF, as contained in the Internal Audit Charter, were approved by the Statutory Audit and Risk Committee (ARC).

With regard to the 2021/22 internal audit plan ahead of LGE 2021, the ARC determined its assurance need from the independent internal audit activity operating within the combined assurance model to be a focus of between 85 and 90% on core election management functions. To this end and also informed by management's determination of key projects, i.e. eProjects along the critical path in the electoral value

chain, the CAE drafted a risk-based operational plan focusing on the core business processes in the run up to LGE 2021, e.g. materials provisioning, those covering LGE 2021 Election Day modalities, those graveyard "roll-back" activities as voting stations close, election results processing, objections/complaints handling and assessing the adequacy of 100% of "ballot storing" boxes in provincial warehouse facilities. This draft 2021 internal audit operational plan served at the Executive Committee (EXCO) without any objections, and was thereafter fully endorsed by the Accounting Officer. On 30 April 2021, the ARC subsequently approved the 2021/22 internal audit plan with 12 audit projects, for which 21 reports were conceptualised for tabling at the ARC.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

DIGITAL LEARNING

Following the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic and the evolving digital revolution, the need for speed to reinvent the workplace for tomorrow has never been greater. The Electoral Commission introduced and piloted eLearning for the training of electoral staff. The blended approach, constituting the traditional contact training session and eLearning, was adopted.

Eight modules were developed and uploaded on the platform for both voting station staff and permanent members of staff. The eLearning modules introduced are as follows:

Module 1 – About the Electoral Commission
Module 2 – Voter Registration
Module 3 – Special Votes
Module 4 – Voting
Module 5 – Counting
Module 6 – Voter Education
Module 7 – Observers
Module 8 – Performance Management

Although it was its initial implementation, a substantial number of voting stations and permanent employees accessed the various eLearning training modules. The table on the following page describes enrolment figures, as well as an indication of performance on assessment:

TABLE 1:
E-LEARNING MODULE REPORT

	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4	Module 5
Enrolled	24 394	24 347	24 341	24 378	24 385
Never accessed	5 644	17 040	21 053	21 053	22 020
Final accessed	9 654	2 132	950	839	1111
Passed 80%	8 218	2 070	858	782	872
Percentage of assessment attempts that passed with 80%	85%	97%	90%	93%	78%

The availability of the eLearning platform enabled all aspiring South African citizens who want to work as electoral staff or those who want to do their training at their own time, pace and the comfort of their homes to know more about electoral processes.

The assessment framework provided both a formative and summative component. Competency levels are recorded on the learning management system and can be utilised for electoral staff recruitment purposes.

The platform will also be utilised for the training of permanent members of staff for skills development purposes. This adds value to the process without incurring the huge travel costs that are normally allocated to attending such training interventions.

CHANGE MANAGEMENT FOR E-LEARNING

One of the cornerstones of the success of a new project is getting

buy-in not only from organisational management, but from end-users as well. A change management project was an integral part of the introduction of eLearning. It included awareness sessions.

A survey to gauge the reception of a new system was limited to permanent employees and the training of change agents to ensure sustainability and continuity.

The change process played a critical role in alleviating fears and concerns, and creating excitement about the eLearning system.

BURSARY SCHEME

Even though 2021 was an election year, 97 bursary holders registered for the academic year. Nine employees successfully attained their qualifications. Human Resource Development is in the process of finalising the on-the-job training framework, which will grant those who attain qualifications the opportunity to acquire relevant work experience.

ATTENDANCE OF SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND SHORT COURSES

In line with the Electoral Commission's commitment to providing excellence at all levels in the organisation, 344 training and development interventions were provided for various employees.

A total of 247 of these were skills development-related and 97 were for employee bursaries. Some of these interventions were done virtually, which ensured that planned training continued cost-effectively.

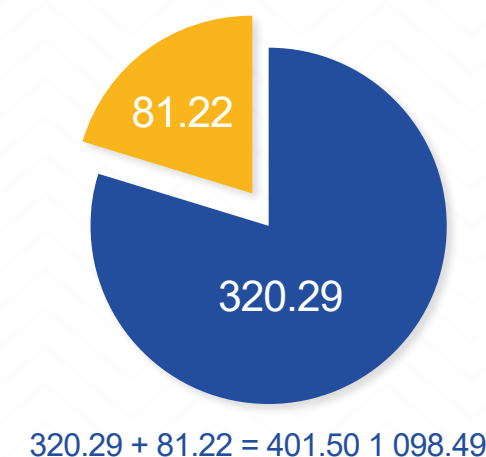


FIGURE 1:
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES DURING 2021/22

TABLE 2:
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES DURING 2021/22

Course description	Number of attendees
Proficient Business Writing	3
Leadership and Quality Management for Electoral Stakeholders [LEAD-Q]	3
Leadership and Conflict Management for Electoral Stakeholders [LEAD]	3
Logistical Operations, Recruitment and Procurement Plans	3
Security of Elections	3
Bid Committee Training	15
Wage Negotiations Training	15
Civic and Voter Education	2
Domestic Electoral Observation, Accreditation and Parallel Vote Tabulation	3
Preventing Mitigating and Managing Electoral Conflicts and Conflict Mapping	3
Online Master in Electoral Policy and Administration	1
Results Transmission, Aggregation and Proclamation	3
Evaluation and Audit of Electoral Processes	3
Online Master in Electoral Policy and Administration	3
ENSafrica Employment Law Virtual Conference	4
Payroll Webinar	1

Course description	Number of attendees
SAPA Virtual Conference	5
ACFE 14th Annual African Fraud Conference	2
Advanced Law of Evidence	1
Putting Workplace Compassion into Action	3
HR Capability Model Think Tank	4
Articulate Train the Trainer	25
Virtual New Age Records Management	7
Virtual Organisational Development Conference	1
Applied Risk Management	1
Online Behavioural Linguistics Masterclass	1
Graphic Design, Web Design and Publishing Course	1
Records Management Course	2
Online Job Profile Writing Workshop	10
MS Suite (MS Word–Basic, Intermediate, Advanced]	33
Corporate Governance Training	16
Project Management Training	62
SAPA Tax Update	5
TOTAL	247

INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

The 24-month Internship Programme is one of the flagship programmes of the Electoral Commission. It is aimed at providing opportunities for young graduates to acquire workplace skills and knowledge. The programme is advertised extensively on the Electoral Commission eRecruitment system to provide equal opportunities to all eligible graduates across the country.

The current interns had a great opportunity of taking part in both the registration and election-related events. This provided candidates with valuable electoral and generic work experience, which will stand them in good stead for future career development.

For the year under review, 25 interns were appointed, which is a

substantial increase compared to the 11 appointed in the previous financial year. The operation areas of the Electoral Commission in which interns were offered opportunities are indicated in Figure 2.

APPOINTED INTERNS

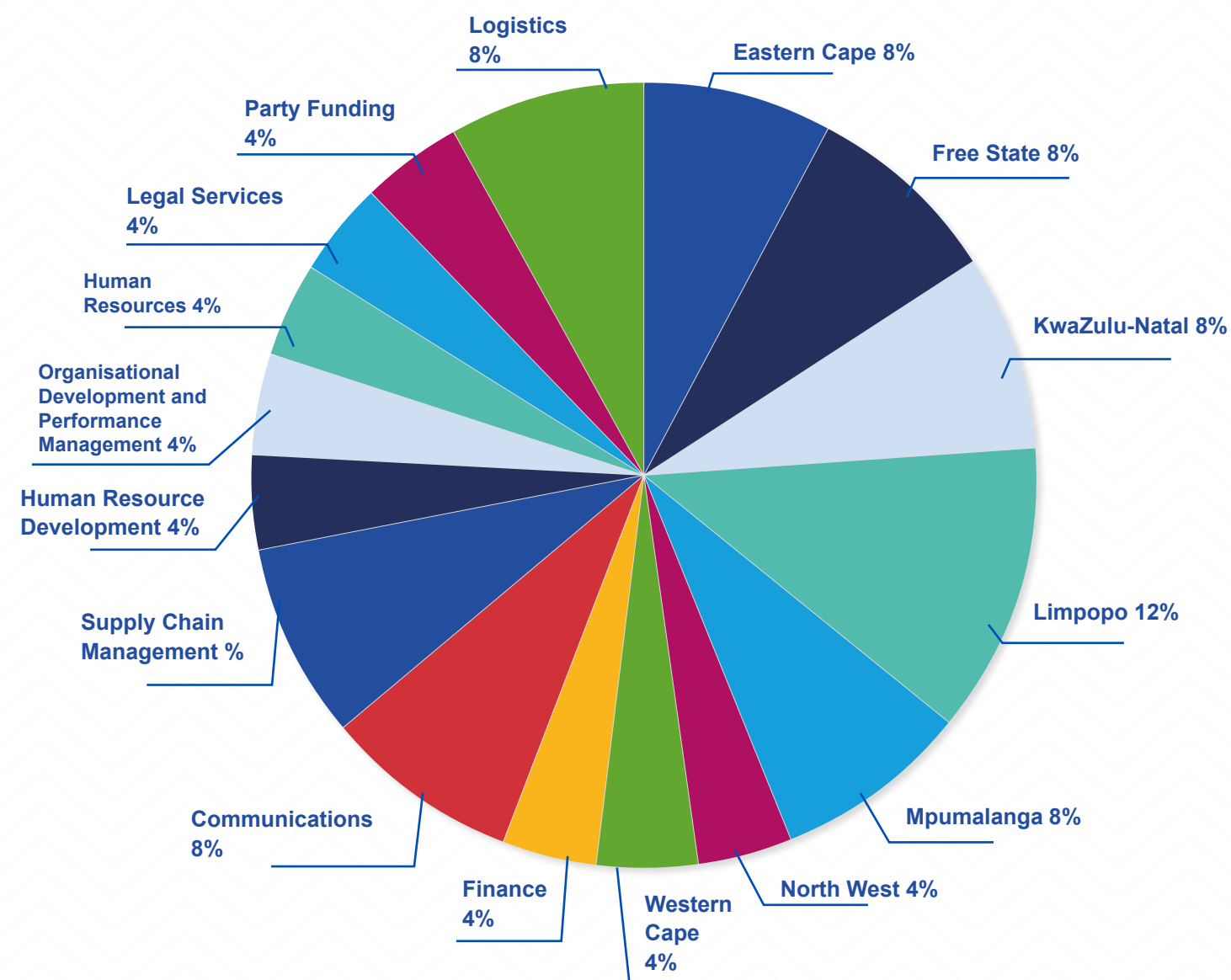


FIGURE 2:
ALLOCATION OF INTERNS

ELECTORAL STAFF TRAINING

In preparation for LGE 2021, the Electoral Commission used a dual approach for the training of electoral staff. A blended approach was implemented successfully in areas where connectivity was not a challenge. Traditional contact sessions, with strict adherence

to Covid-19 protocols, were conducted in other areas. All practical assessments were done through contact sessions as participants had to demonstrate their competency, specifically on the use of the various applications in the VMD.

The diagram overleaf provides information on the number of electoral staff trained in preparation for the LGE 2021 registration and election event.

MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT

The registration or voting station is the place where the substantial proportion of the electorate interfaces with the Electoral Commission. A team of competent voting station staff is an overriding imperative. This ensures that the elections are conducted in a manner that accords with the constitutional standards of credibility, freeness and fairness.

Well-written and user-friendly training material plays a critical role

in ensuring that the electoral staff are efficient and knowledgeable. The training material is used during training sessions and is provided at the voting station level as reference material for electoral staff. To enhance the transparency of the electoral processes, all training material is shared with the relevant stakeholders, including political parties.

In preparation for LGE 2021, two modules and two diaries were developed specifically for the registration event. A further three

modules and three diaries, as well as poster packs for both voting stations and voting centres, were developed. The Covid-19 protocols were incorporated into all the training materials, and process flow posters were developed to guide voting station staff and members of the public in the voting stations. Over and above these materials, operating training manuals and demonstration videos were developed for training on the utilisation of the VMD.

TRAINING MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION

2021 LGE

MATERIAL DESCRIPTION

Province	Module 3 Special Voting	Module 4 Voting	Module 5 Counting	Voting Station Diary	Voting Centre Diary	Area Manager Diary	Voting Station / Centre Poster Packs
Eastern Cape	27 000	27 000	27 000	27 000	700	3 500	700
Free State	12 000	12 000	12 000	12 000	1 000	2 000	1 000
Gauteng	18 000	18 000	18 000	18 000	4 400	2 500	4 400
KwaZulu-Natal	27 000	27 000	27 000	27 000	3 000	4 500	3 000
Limpopo	18 000	18 000	18 000	18 000	1 000	2 500	1 000
Mpumalanga	12 000	12 000	12 000	12 000	1 000	2 500	1 000
North West	14 000	14 000	14 000	14 000	1 000	2 000	1 000
Northern Cape	8 000	8 000	8 000	8 000	400	1 500	400
Western Cape	12 000	12 000	12 000	12 000	2 000	2 500	2 000
National Office	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	500	2 500	500
TOTAL	150 000	150 000	150 000	150 000	15 000	26 000	15 000

TRAINING MODEL FOR ELECTIONS

Taking into account the large number of election staff that needs to be trained, the Electoral Commission is still utilising the cascading model, over and above the eLearning material. The train-the-trainer approach starts at the national and provincial levels,

and culminates in the training of election staff at the voting station.

Trainers are equipped with various training techniques to disseminate information to trainees that is easy to understand and eliminates confusion. The assessment of

the three key voting station staff members, the Presiding Officer, the Deputy Presiding Officer and the Voters' Roll Officer/VMD operator was conducted. These officers had to obtain a minimum of 80% to be declared competent.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Electoral Commission's revenue for the financial year is R2.25 billion, which was a parliamentary allocation. Additionally, R105.7 million was derived from sundry income, consisting mainly of interest earned from short-term investments,

lease revenue, sponsorship income and election-related revenue.

The annual budget covers the costs of administration (i.e. compensation of employees, office rentals and other ongoing costs

for goods and services), as well as the costs of electoral events (i.e. voter registration and election day activities, and by-elections).

REVENUE VS EXPENDITURE

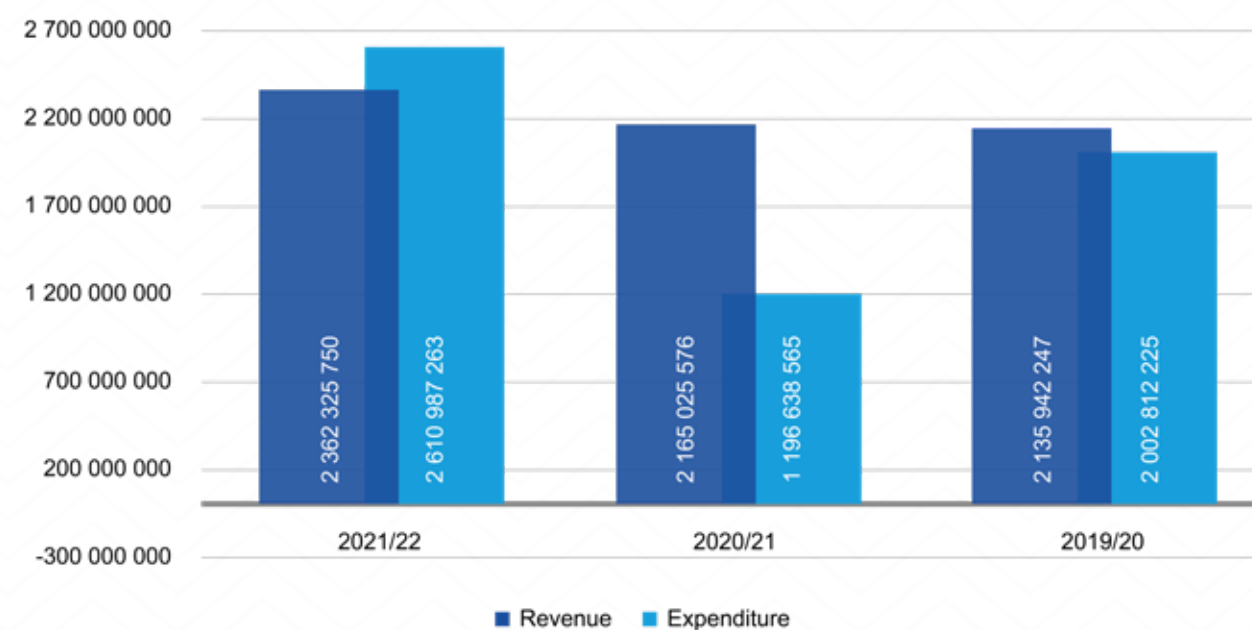


FIGURE 3:
COMPARISON OF REVENUE VS EXPENDITURE SINCE 2019/20

The financial highlights of the current year are reflected below.

Revenue increased by 9% to R2.36 billion. This was driven by the following factors:

- A 7% increase in parliamentary revenue due to this being an election year
- A 7% increase in investment revenue due to a higher return on investment
- Sponsorship income and election-related revenue due to this being an election year
- A 50% increase in party registration fees due to there being more registrations of new political parties contesting LGE 2021.

Operating expenses increased by 114% to R2.61 billion. This increase is mainly due to budgeted

election expenses, as well as a voter registration event and the procurement of more new VMDs than were initially planned for the previous financial year. A roll-over amount of R1.456 billion was approved, resulting in a total of R3.731 billion.

Key elements of expenditure for 2021/22 included the following:

- Employee costs increased by 27% to R962 million due to the appointment of fixed-term and expansion staff during elections.
- R382 million was spent on registration and electoral support staff costs.
- R270 million was spent on professional services, mainly for ICT consultants, a legal panel, security services, a results audit and call centre agents.
- R205 million was spent on communication and advertising campaigns for voter registrations and the election.

- R36 million was spent on the rental of voting stations.
- R78 million was spent mostly on the printing of ballot papers.
- R105 million was spent on the rental of office buildings for national, provincial and local offices.
- R84.6 million went to depreciation, amortisation and impairment. This has increased mainly due to the procurement of new VMDs.
- R16 million was spent on repairs and maintenance to capital assets.
- Property, plant and equipment of R600 million was acquired during the current year, of which R546 million relates to new VMDs. In addition, R22 million worth of enhancement to electoral systems were made.

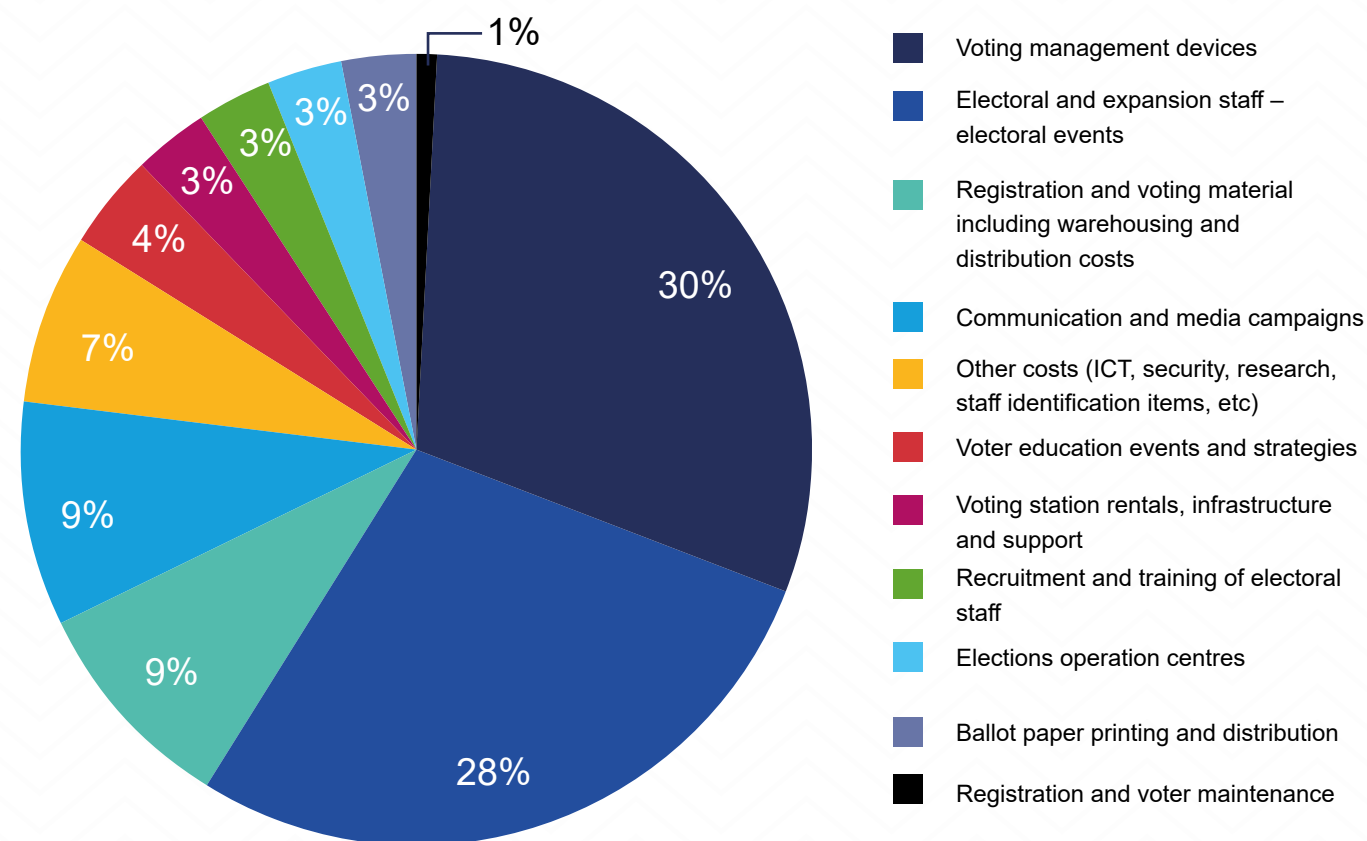


FIGURE 4:
ELECTION-SPECIFIC COSTS IN THE 2021/22 FINANCIAL YEAR

A deficit of R251 million was recorded for the year (2020/21: surplus of R946 million). The decrease from the prior year is due to expenses relating to the election, registration event and procurement of VMDs carried over from the prior year, which was funded from the approved retention of cash surpluses.

Liquidity of 5 (2021: 10) was recorded and a cash ratio of 4.4 (2021: 9.6). The decrease is because of the approved roll-over from the prior year to fund the purchase of VMDs and the registration weekend.

Cash receipts from customers amounted to 7% (2021: 3%) of total cash inflows amounting to R2.3 billion. Cash paid to suppliers and employees amounted to 109% (2021: 54%) of the total cash flows, amounting to R2.5 billion (2021: R1.2 billion). Capital investment amounted to R618 million (2021: R86.4 million), of which R22 million (2021: R41 million) has been invested in intellectual property, and R600 million (2021: R55 million) has been invested in capital assets. This brings capital expenditure over the past three years to R778 million.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major global economic impact that has impacted the operations of organisations. By-elections and the registration weekend were postponed, which is reflected in our spending trend.

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

The Electoral Commission continues to strive to achieve compliance with the PFMA and Treasury Regulations, as well as to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of its supply chain management (SCM) process. To achieve this, the following projects were undertaken in the

2021/22 financial year:

- Various interactive sessions with stakeholders to identify challenges and opportunities to revamp and refresh the SCM framework and operational requirements within the Electoral Commission.
- A review of the procurement policy, standard operating procedures (SOPs) and the terms of reference (ToRs) of bid committees to ensure alignment with statutory SCM requirements. This included the continuous adjustment, where necessary, of procurement systems and processes.
- The effective development, utilisation and operational management of electronic SCM systems (SAP, eProcurement and the SCM system).
- Targeting of broad-based black economic empowerment (B-BBEE) and small, medium and micro enterprise (SMME) suppliers to strengthen and enlarge the Electoral Commission's supplier database, as aligned with National Treasury's Central Supplier Database (CSD).
- Stringent and effective due diligence audits on companies under consideration for contracts, especially to ensure the validity of supplier claims in terms of the provisions of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (PPPFA) and B-BBEE.
- Reporting, as required, to National Treasury in respect of procurement plans and quarterly reports, as well as specific reporting requirements on deviations and variations to contracts as may be applicable.
- The operationalisation of minimum local content requirements relating to textiles, office furniture, prefabricated offices and PPE.

- Communication and skills development initiatives at the national, provincial and local offices for SCM functions.
- Alignment of the Electoral Commission's procurement systems and processes to the requirements of general instructions and directives issued by National Treasury, as well as the integration of the Electoral Commission's systems with National Treasury's CSD.
- The conclusion of various tenders, electronic procurement through eProcurement and requests for quotations (RFQs). Among these, the successful conclusion of the procurement processes around the requirements for LGE 2021.
- The bulk of these achievements were conducted and concluded under trying circumstances brought on by an inadequate and incomplete SCM structure, which has a dire impact on the capacity and capability of the SCM Department. The Covid-19 pandemic added further challenges, which required first-ever changes to business approaches, processes and dynamics to still achieve optimum results.
- The heightened activity procurement spend relating to LGE 2021 was successfully executed and committed in 2020/21.
- In response to the Constitutional Court judgement of 16 February 2022, which declared the PPPFA of 2017 to be invalid, the Director-General of National Treasury informed all organs of state on 25 February 2022 that the Minister of Finance would, on an urgent basis, seek confirmation from the Constitutional Court that the invalidity of the PPPFA of

2017 has been and continues to be suspended for a period of 12 months. Also, in the same communication, organs of state were advised that:

- Tenders advertised before 16 February 2022 should be finalised in terms of the extant Procurement Regulations.
- Tenders advertised before or after 16 February 2022 should be held in abeyance.
- No new tenders should be advertised.

The Electoral Commission recognised the advice exerted by National Treasury in the notice issued on 25 February 2022. As such, the Electoral Commission has not advertised any new tenders (which includes RFQs with a value in excess of R30 000 including VAT) with effect from 16 February 2022 until the end of the financial year.

- The prevailing situation also impacted on the Electoral Commission's panels of service providers, which include the following:
 - General Printing Panel
 - By-election Printing Panel
 - Legal Services Panel
 - SCM Panel
 - Internal Audit Services Panel
 - ICT Business Systems Panel
 - ICT Operations Panel
 - ICT SAP Panel
- As such, it is also not possible to pursue any further work through these panels where the sourcing of services is dependent on the outcome of RFQs or eProcurement auctions.
- National Treasury published draft preferential procurement regulations on 10 March 2022

for public comment with a closing date of 11 April 2022.

- The new preferential procurement regulations and further instructions from National Treasury are awaited.
- The fact that the Electoral Commission has not been in a position to advertise any new bids above the threshold of R30 000 including VAT has had a severe impact on the organisation's continued and viable business operations.

In the reporting year, 152 web-based electronic competitive bids (reverse auctions) were run on the Electoral Commission's eProcurement system. This resulted in contracts with an estimated value of R165.3 million being awarded. Of these, 91% of the contracts to the value of around R150.4 million were awarded to B-BBEE companies, as illustrated in the following figures.

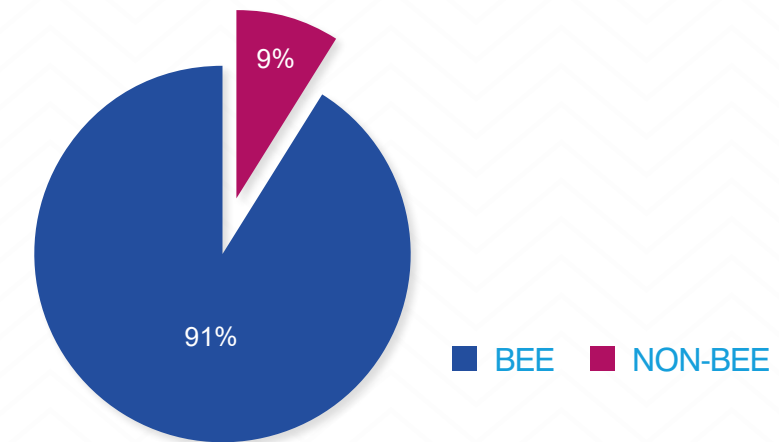


FIGURE 5:
AUCTIONS AWARDED BY BEE STATUS

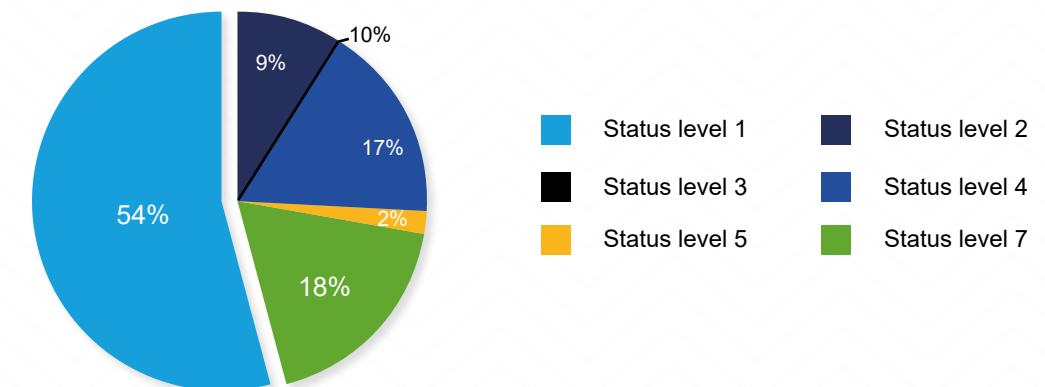


FIGURE 6:
AUCTIONS AWARDED BY B-BBEE CONTRIBUTOR STATUS

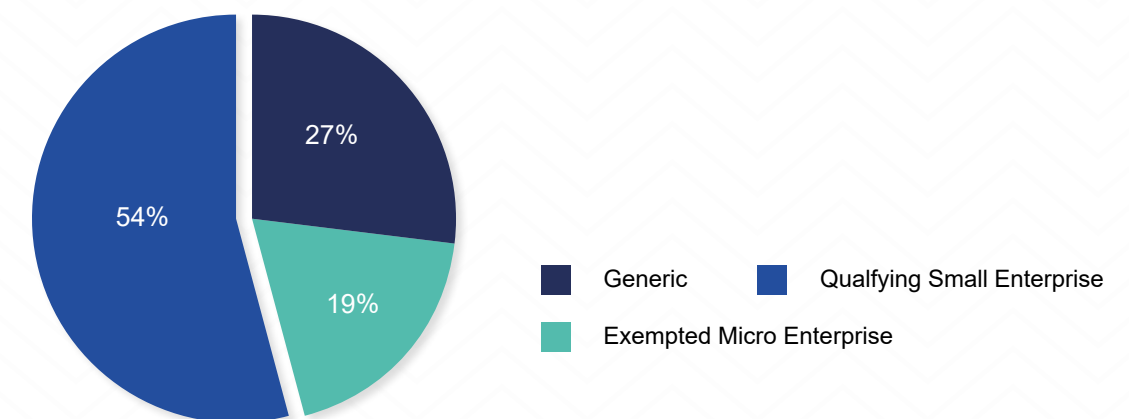


FIGURE 7:
AUCTIONS AWARDED BY ENTERPRISE TYPE

In 2021/22, 25 competitive bids (tenders) were run, which resulted in contracts with an estimated value of R294.2 million being awarded. Of these, 68% of the contracts to the value estimated around R200.6 million were awarded to B-BBEE companies, as illustrated below.

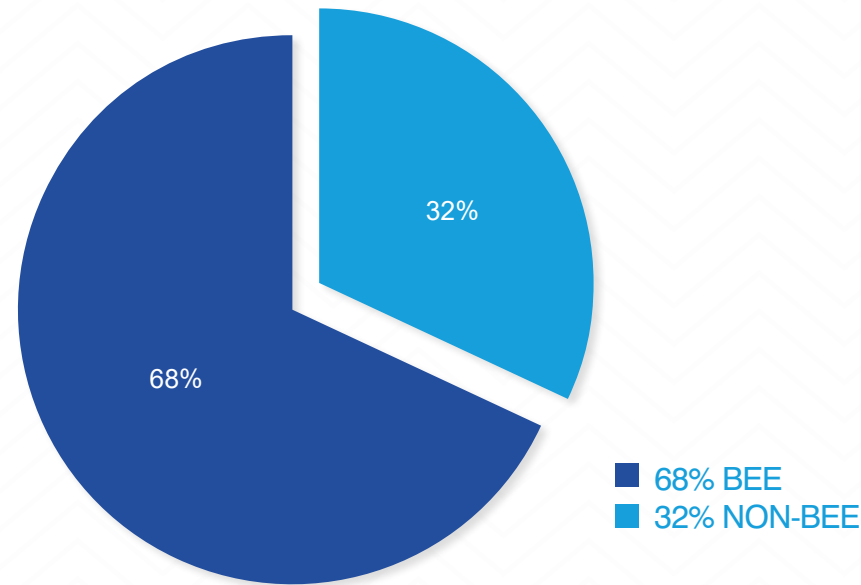


FIGURE 8:
TENDERS AWARDED BY B-BBEE CONTRIBUTOR STATUS

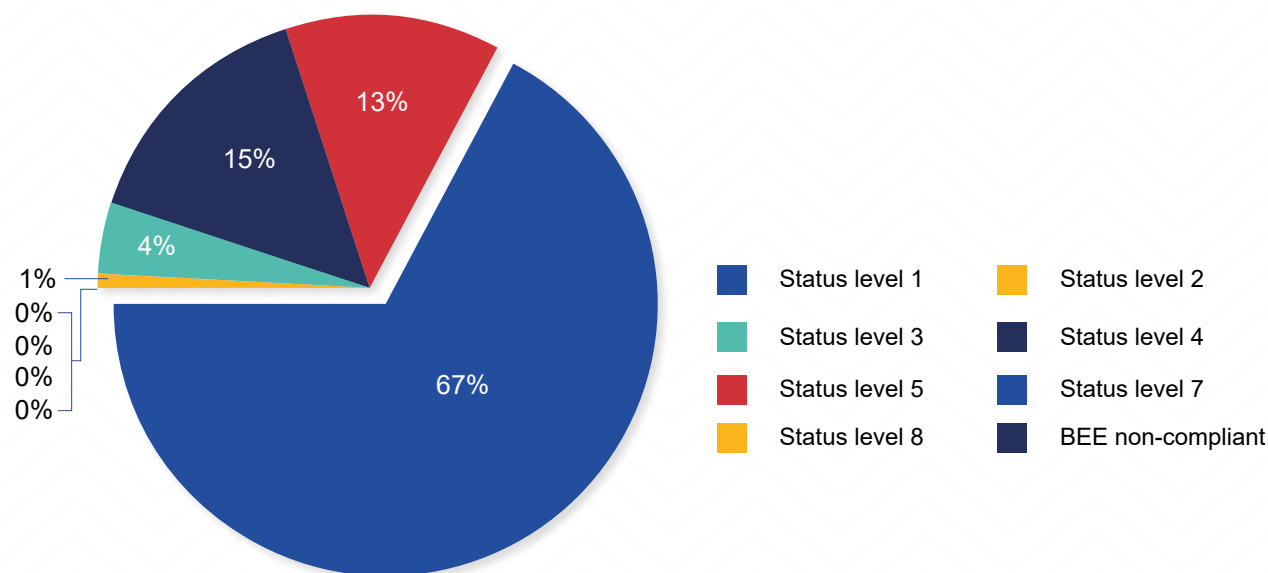


FIGURE 9:
TENDERS AWARDED BY B-BBEE CONTRIBUTOR STATUS LEVEL

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

ICT continues to play a critical role in supporting the various processes of the Electoral Commission. The following continuous support services are at the core of the Commission's ICT capability, and provide the foundation for all other ICT activities:

- Stable applications to support and enable all business processes
- Closely integrated systems aimed at ensuring a seamless flow of information across the different systems
- A stable and secure ICT infrastructure, a stable network at both wide area network (WAN) and local area network (LAN) levels and at the data centre
- Scalable network and background server capacity, with the required capability of supporting increased election activity and network traffic
- The management of risks, disaster recovery and business continuity processes
- Integrated online self-service facilities for citizen engagement through the internet using websites, mobile applications, SMS and social media
- Ensuring that the Electoral Commission can take advantage of and fully utilise all available and relevant technologies in the ICT market
- Stable and effective open-data platforms – providing an integrated technology-enabled platform for all stakeholders through application programming interface (API)
- Secure platform with controlled and restricted access and intrusion prevention mechanisms in place.

Specific projects are undertaken in accordance with changing and evolving business requirements in the various areas. During preparations for elections, the number of projects escalates and additional resources are sourced to service the additional workload.

In addition, a number of maintenance and business support processes are executed to effectively support all relevant business processes in the Electoral Commission.

During the 2021/22 financial year, the focus was on local government elections until November 2021, followed by debriefings and new projects in 2022.

LGE 2021 SYSTEMS BUSINESS SYSTEMS

During the preparations for LGE 2021, a number of exciting projects were undertaken using new technology.

Some of the key innovations include the following:

- New VMDs were procured ahead of LGE 2021. New-generation technology using a mobile framework allowed for enhanced voter registration and the monitoring of voter participation in real time. All the VMD applications were developed as mobile modules to provide mobile capability to support internal systems where the processed data is received and consolidated into a common database. The following applications, based on a mobile framework, were developed to be run on the VMD:

- Voter Registration (into Voter Registration System) – provided the ability to capture voters' addresses or places of residence in real-time during registration, and to verify the address against voting district and ward boundaries. This ensured that voters are always registered in their correct wards, based on their addresses of ordinary residence, from anywhere.
- Voters' Roll (into Voter Registration System) – used for voter verification and participation information. It is used to check if a voter has already voted and to record details of voters having voted on the central voters' roll, and to update voter turnout figures on an internal system in real time. This is important to mitigate the risk of double voting.
- Staff Attendance (into Electoral Staff System) – to record staff attendance at voting stations and feed information to the internal Electoral Staff System for payment.
- Ballot Paper Tracking (into Tracking System) – used to track the movement and distribution of ballot papers from production, printing, throughout the distribution processes to the voting station.
- Voting Station Monitoring (into Voting Station Monitoring) – used to update and report on the opening and closing of voting stations.
- Calculator – used to support any calculations that may be required, especially when completing results slips.

The following image depicts the landing page of the applications on the VMDs.



VMD SUPPORTING APPLICATION

Two key application solutions were procured and deployed to provide support and management to the VMDs. These include the following:

- Mobile Device Management (MDM) – this solution enables ICT administrators to securely monitor and manage the mobile devices (VMDs) that access sensitive business

data. It includes storing essential information about mobile devices, deciding which applications can be present on the devices, locating devices, and securing devices if they are lost or stolen. For these purposes, all 40 000 VMDs were on-boarded into the MDM solution.

- Access Point Network (APN) – an access point is a gateway between a cellular network and the internet. An APN provides all

the details that a mobile device needs to connect to a mobile data network. A mobile device that makes a data connection must be configured with an APN to present to the carrier and to assign an IP address to the device, determine what kind of network access it needs, and implement security measures. The APN is the medium through which mobile data bundles for VMD connectivity are provided.

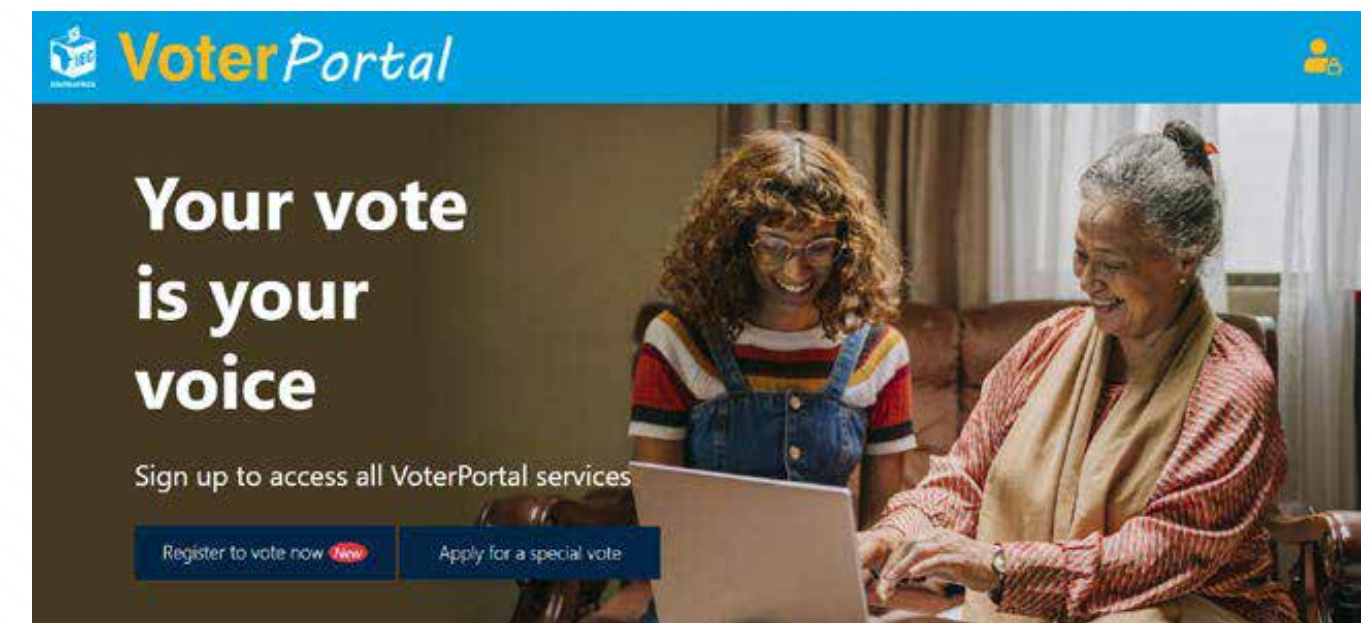
VMD transaction statistics highlights

	Transaction descriptions	Count
1	Number of real-time voter participation transactions processed during LGE 2021	22 215 692
2	Number of real-time voter registration transactions processed during the LGE 2021 registration weekend (18, 19 and 20 September 2021)	1 988 295
3	Total number of VMDs configured and deployed	40 000
4	Number of VMDs used during LGE 2021	30 389
5	Number of VMDs used during the LGE 2021 registration weekend (18, 19 and 20 September 2021)	32 939

An online registration system (registertovote.elections.org.za) using progressive web application technology, an online real-time self-service voter registration application, was built and made available on the public website for all citizens to be able to register and/or update their

voter registration details. Through this application, 549 663 successful new registrations were processed in the period between its inception on 5 July 2021 and Proclamation Day on 20 September 2021. The applicant can either create a profile or simply register directly.

A copy of the person's ID number is uploaded for verification and, based on the voter address provided, a voting station (district) is assigned. This facility extended and replaced Click Check and Confirm.



Other activities include the following:

- A revamped public website for improved navigation and communications was developed and successfully deployed.
- A public reporting application for disinformation on social media was developed in association with Media Monitoring Africa (MMA). This module will form part of a larger electoral justice system.
- An eLearning platform was created through which several online self-service training modules are made available for the training of election staff. This enabled staff to train themselves online at their own time and pace.

- An eRecruitment platform was created to facilitate staff recruitment processes for internal staff appointments, as well as those of electoral staff. This enables the online publishing of available vacancies. Interested persons can submit an application online. This includes online assessment to facilitate the selection process. Test scores will be received and incorporated from eLearning where relevant. Enhancements were made to the Online Candidate Nomination system to incorporate recent changes in regulations and business processes. This is an upgrade

of an existing application that had been used successfully by parties during the previous two general elections and by-elections.

- The voter registration system was upgraded and revamped to incorporate recent changes in regulations and business processes.
- The Online Observer Application System was developed and introduced, which allowed election observer entities and individuals to apply online for accreditation as election observers. This application was developed in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme.

- Enhancements were made to the LGE results system, as well as the introduction of a module to deal with the Local Council to District Council elections, which occur within two weeks after the elections.
- A management dashboard was developed and introduced, providing an integrated reporting platform, and most of the key processes and activities in elections preparatory processes. Reporting took place on available data from key projects and systems. This is critical in providing detailed data and graphical reporting for progress and performance.

A wide-ranging number of other activities in support of the various business processes was also undertaken by the various teams in ICT.

- Addresses on the voters' roll, delimitation, voter registration and continuous support: Following the 2018/19 programmes of address sourcing, geospatial processing and address assignment to voters without addresses, the focus shifted to the maintenance of addresses on the voters' roll as preparations for LGE 2021 got under way. The best approach to address maintenance was to geocode the entire voters' roll. Faced with challenges of the best and most affordable geocoding tool locally and abroad, a new geocoding tool was designed and developed in-house using legacy and newly acquired updates of the National Address Database (NAD). Complete and potentially complete addresses totalling 24.8 million

records were processed in less than two weeks.

Internal batch geocoding resulted in 35% (8.6 million) of the 24.8 million addresses being successfully linked to individual voting districts and wards. A new web-based geocoding tool was created, and local Electoral Commission officials were allowed to be included in the project.



To date, the manual geocoding has increased the percentage of the geocoded voters' roll to 73% or 18.2 million geocoded addresses. With the geocoded voter addresses, the Electoral Commission was able to assess incorrect registrations and issue section 12 notices affecting correct registrations.

Despite the lack of certainty due to Covid-19 restrictions, the following map products were produced and delivered as planned. Over 4 500 A1-size delimitation working maps

- About 70 000 A3-size voter registration maps. Unlike in previous elections, these maps had to include physical addresses. With the size remaining the same at A3, the creation, production, printing and quality assurance of the 2021 voter registration maps under tight timelines proved challenging, but were still delivered as expected.
 - Almost 5 000 A3-size targeted communication registration maps
 - About 250 A1- and A0-size municipal orientation maps
 - Some 4 468 A1 size final wards maps

A number of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) improvements were also done in this period:

- Voting Station Finder:** Covid-19 testing sites were geo-processed and integrated into the internal Voting Station Finder. Electoral Commission staff were able to use their addresses and locate their nearest Covid-19 testing site. This provided additional help in facilitating the return to office following the first hard lockdown.
- IEC custom base-map for house numbers:** With Google confirming that it would not be rolling out house numbers or physical addresses on the standard Google base map, the GIS team went on to create a new layer of addresses (NAD), overlaid on an already customised Google base map. This helped tremendously in areas where Google does not have addresses.
- GIS APIs:** Being the key drivers on all Electoral Commission

systems consuming maps, the GIS APIs were revamped and disaggregated to provide dedicated mapping services to both internal and external applications, such as the Voter Registration System (VRS), Online-Delim, the VMD and the voter portal.

- ID auto verification:** With new legislation allowing online remote voter registration, valid personal identity became key to process registrations. The manual visual verification of documents was not an option as it would create bottlenecks. A Computer Vision API was

intergrated into the voter portal facilitating ID image analysis and ID validation, making the online voter registration process instantaneous. By-election support was provided in respect of registration maps, geocoding and the quality assurance of voters' roll addresses, verifying the correctness of registered voters, locating addresses in relation to the by-election ward, as well as the movement of voters in terms of section 12 of the Electoral Act, Act 73 of 1998. Results-capturing processes were

also supported to ensure that capturing took place timeously.

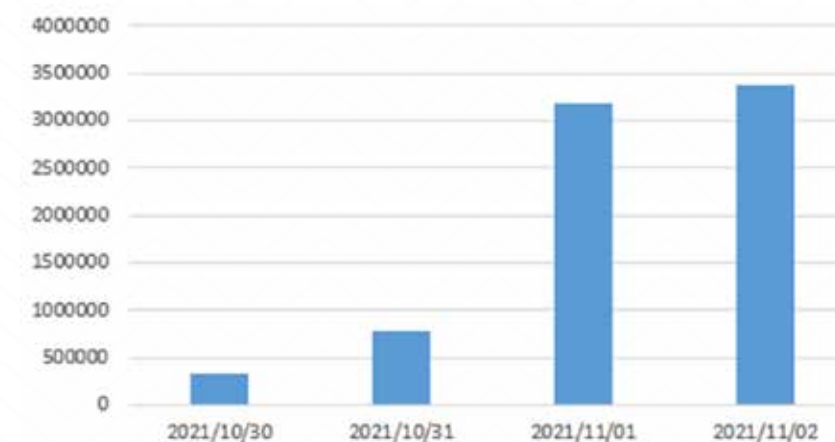
ELECTION HIGHLIGHTS

During the elections results period, between 30 October and 2 November 2021, ICT business systems, GIS and information technology (IT) operations support was provided at the various Results Operations Centres (ROCs).

Information was disseminated nationally and internationally to all stakeholders through a number of supported ICT platforms:

Day Index	Page views
2021/10/30	332 370
2021/10/21	778 111
2021/11/01	3 188 192
2021/11/02	3 366 424
Total	7 665 097

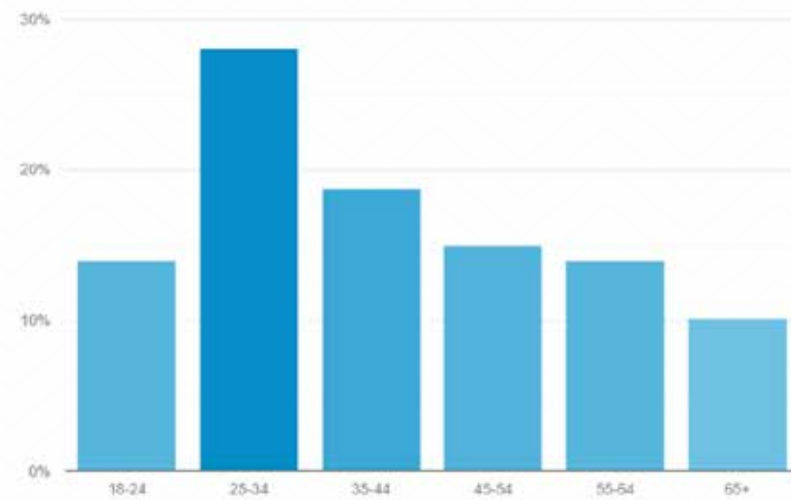
FIGURE 10:
PAGE VIEWS



Where Google could identify identifiers and age groups, the following statistics was collected:

DEMOGRAPHICS:

Age



Gender

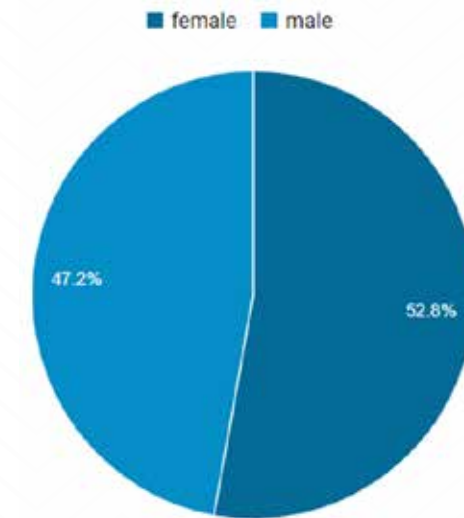


FIGURE 11:
USERS' DEMOGRAPHICS

Most of the users were from South Africa, followed by the United States and the United Kingdom:

Country	Percentage users
South Africa	97.20%
United States	0.50%
United Kingdom	0.33%
Australia	0.11%
Germany	0.09%
Netherlands	0.09%
New Zealand	0.09%
Canada	0.07%
Namibia	0.06%
Zimbabwe	0.05%

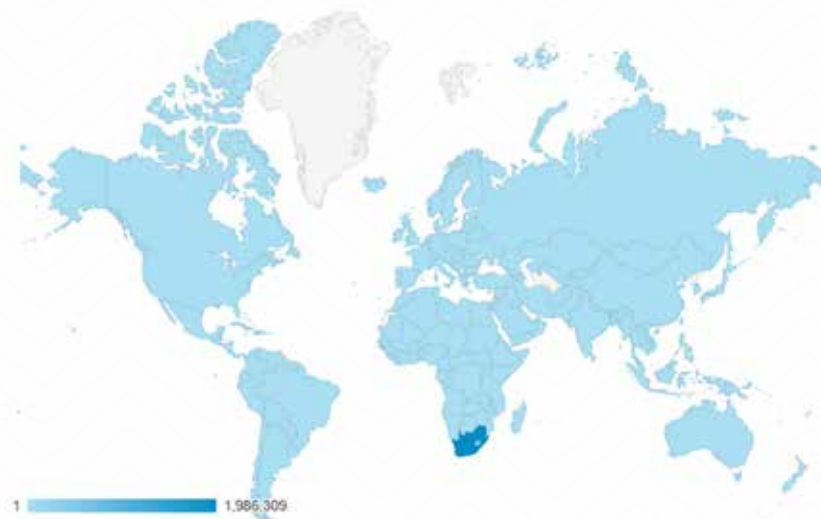
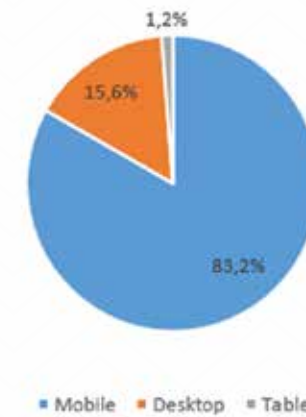


FIGURE 12:
USERS BY COUNTRY

Most of the users access the sites from mobile devices:

Device category	Percentage Users
Mobile	83,21%
Desktop	15,55%
Tablet	1,24%

Device category



Devices

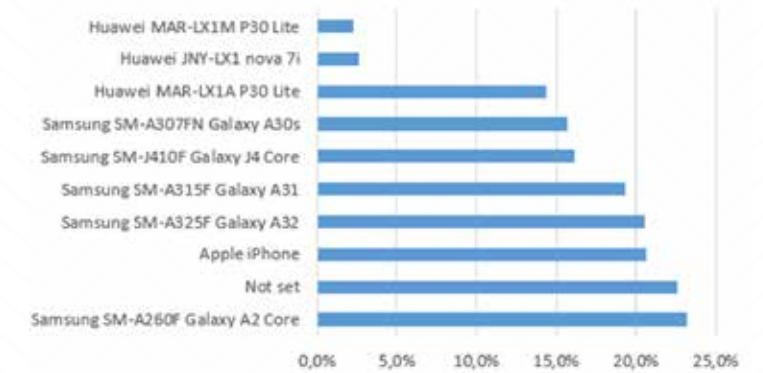


FIGURE 13:
USERS BY DEVICE



A MAP SHOWING THE LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT FOR THE 2021 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

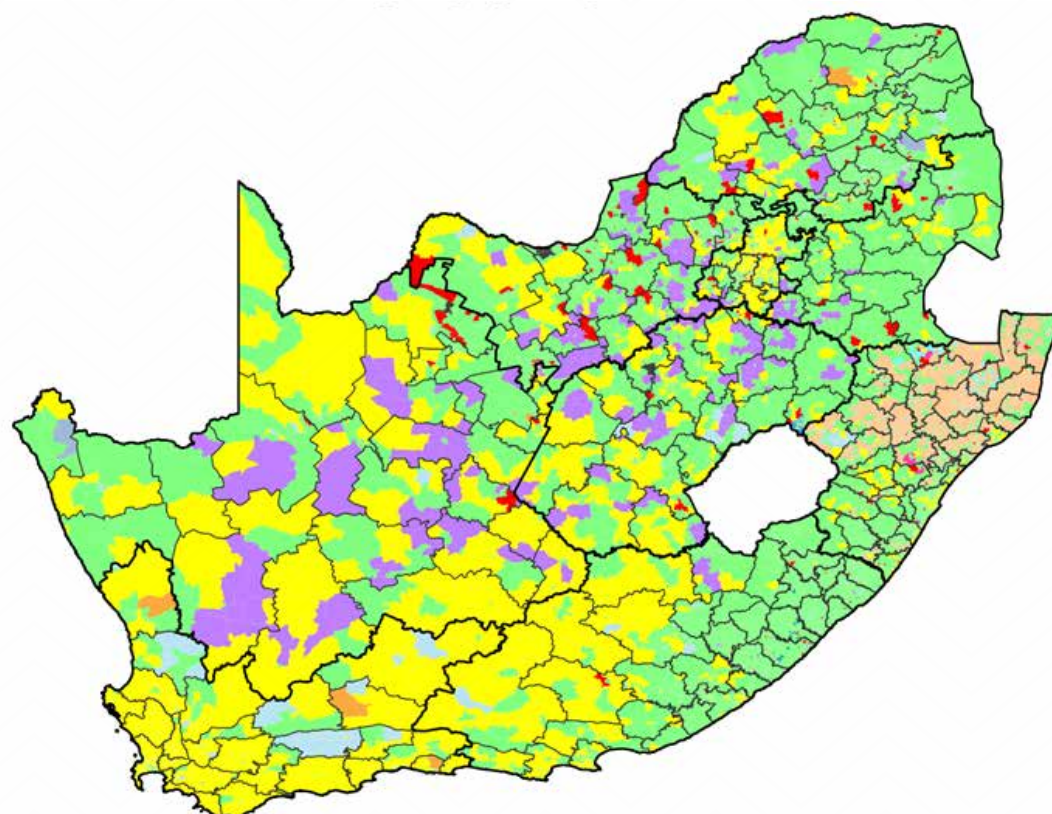
LEGEND

- Provincial boundary
- Municipal boundary

Leading party

- ABC
- ACTIONSA
- ANC
- DA
- EFF
- F4SD
- IFP
- MAP16
- NFP
- PA
- UDM
- VF PLUS
- INDEPENDENT
- OTHER PARTIES

LEADING PARTY BY VOTING DISTRICT– 2021



Website page views

- 7 665 097 total website
- 2 431 897 LGE2021 Results Dashboard
- 854 723 Am I registered?
- 405 049 Voting Station Finder

SMS: 179 131 – the number of SMS requests to 32810

API requests – 10 741 604

- 107 633 from the Electoral Commission's mobile application

- 3 472 046 from Times Media
- 214 154 from Mail & Guardian
- 157 809 from Daily Maverick
- 6 503 from political parties
- 6 784 459 from other media houses

The following week, 3 to 10 November 2021, the average number of hits was still very high, as is evident from the statistics below:

API requests – average of 75 915 per day

LGE 2021 Results Dashboard page views – average of 291 124 per day

Page views of all website page – average of 513 118 per day

Above is a map showing the leading party by voting district for LGE 2021.

LGE 2021 ACTIVITIES

IT operations

Once the elections were proclaimed, support was provided for various election processes, including candidate nomination and ballot paper production, through applicable systems and technical business process support.

The establishment of 10 Results Operations Centres across the country required the following IT operations activities:

- The distribution of 1 300 workstations to various results centres.
- The distribution of 185 printers to various results centres.
- The utilisation of 1 214 network cables of various kinds for provincial results centres for connectivity purposes.
- The utilisation of 704 network cables at the National Results Centre for connectivity and redundancy purposes. The cables varied from Cat6 to fibre cables.
- The utilisation of 20 switches at the National Results Centre and 28 in the provincial results centres. Another 52 switches were utilised at the provincial results centres. All switches were 24-port switches.
- The establishment of nine provincial results operations centres and their secure connection to the national network to provide real-time access to all electoral data and results.
- The configuration of network connectivity to all 10 results operations centres with fail-over redundancy to ensure business continuity in case of connectivity problems.
- The facilitation of connectivity

to media house, with a special focus on the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC).

- Connection of the contact centre (call centre) at Gijima to the Electoral Commission's network.
- Upgraded bandwidth at Municipal Electoral Office (MEO) sites to provide increased bandwidth for speedy response times and processing.
- The establishment of 43 temporary results-capturing sites at MEO level.
- The recruitment, training and deployment of 42 technical support personnel to provide additional persons to support operations at the Results Operations Centres.
- The adoption of an integrated approach to network connectivity, using fibre, microwave, VSAT and LTE in that priority sequence depending on availability.

Other election-related activities included the following:

- Three different independent organisations performed ICT audits that consisted of vulnerability scans and penetration tests against the Electoral Commission's infrastructure and applications. This was to establish the security posture of the Electoral Commission and identify areas of vulnerability, improvement and hardening in time for elections. As a result of the audits, the security environment was improved to better mitigate cybersecurity risks.
- As is standard practice, the Electoral Commission's website moved to external hosting at an

internet service provider (ISP) to leverage access to increased bandwidth and infrastructure capacity for flexible and scalable provisioning. Virtualisation was key to enabling flexibility and scalability.

- The website was secured using a security infrastructure that consisted of on-site distributed denial of service (DDoS) appliance and a remote upstream DDoS facility, on-site redundant firewalls, redundant web application firewalls, redundant web application firewalls and redundant load balancers. There were also utilities servers incorporating active directory, domain name servers (DNSs) and anti-virus servers.
- Intrusion detection and management virtual servers were deployed, and firewalls were upgraded and deployed across the network.
- Internet connectivity was upgraded to provide for increased traffic and processing.



PROJECTS AFTER LGE 2021

In addition to the activities listed above, the following ICT projects were also undertaken:

Project name	System/project description	Enhancements
Electoral Commission intranet portal rewrite	The Electoral Commission's intranet portal is being rewritten and modernised.	The Electoral Commission intranet portal rewrite is the first step in modernising the way functions are performed. Future phases will include collaboration with a central repository, obviating the need for document sharing via email.
Electoral Event Management (EEM) enhancements	The EEM is a central system to all electoral applications and governs issues such as applicable dates and the delimitation set associated with any event. The latter part also facilitates accurate historical information.	A number of enhancements are required due to the increase in the number of by-elections. This causes overlapping events, which need to be separated.
Data centre capacity upgrade	Upgraded storage and backup infrastructure	Following an infrastructure capacity review, it was found that increased storage backup, and server and virtualisation capacity were required to meet increased operational demands and provide for elections capacity requirements.
Network capacity upgrades	Upgraded network capacity	Following a network review, potential capacity constraints and vulnerabilities were identified: This included increased bandwidth in selected areas such as internet connectivity, backhaul to the national office, the Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP) line, and selected Provincial Electoral Office (PEO) and MEO sites.
Call centre support	Support and enablement of call centre processes	Network connectivity, systems and infrastructure were provided to enable operations at the Election call centre and to continue to provide operational support.
Firewalls at the PEOs	Roll-out of firewalls at the provincial electoral offices.	This provided perimeter security and segmentation at the PEO.
ISP migration	Migration of internet services to a new ISP	The migration of all internet services to the new ISP was completed.

Project name	System/project description	Enhancements
Systems Information and Events Management (SIEM)	Deployment of a new SIEM solution	A new SIEM solution was installed. This will provide a repository for logs to assist with the monitoring of what is happening on the network, including identifying problems and performance issues.
PBX	Deployment of a new virtual PBX	Support Services is replacing the old PBX system with a new virtual PBX system. The virtual environment or services will reside within the ICT infrastructure. This is still in the implementation process.
Old SAN swap-out	Replacement of old-generation SAN with a new-generation SAN	The old-generation ISE 2 (G2) SAN hardware is being replaced with new-generation ISE 4 (G4) SAN hardware

GENERAL ICT MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

These activities include, but are not limited to the following:

- By-elections support: This includes supporting pre-by-elections voter registration activities, address capture support and investigations, and generating ballot papers and certified voters' rolls for by-elections. On By-election Day, support is provided for the capturing of results and scanning of results slips. Support is concluded with the generation of payment files and reimbursements.
- Ad hoc data requests: Requests from outside parties are frequently made to the relevant line function departments for information pertaining to various election statistics. Once approved, this information is investigated, interpreted and consolidated by the appropriate ICT team, depending on the nature of the request.
- System investigations and impact analyses regarding new systems, potential changes or enhancements required by line function departments:
- Subsequent to discussions and/or investigations, project charters are compiled for line functions to capture their requirements. These provide the basis for further action.
- SAP stack maintenance and SAP governance, risk and compliance support pack upgrades are performed.
- Daily system checks are conducted in all environments to ensure that all systems are available and stable before the start of business. This includes servers, switches, SAN devices and provincial uninterrupted power supplies (UPSs).
- All systems are backed up according to the schedules set by the organisation and tapes are removed off-site on a weekly basis.
- Security monitoring of the ICT infrastructure: This includes malicious code and virus propagation, operating system vulnerabilities and exploits, user activity monitoring, network analysis and monitoring, daily audit and operational tasks.
- All LAN and WAN activity is monitored on a daily basis to ensure the provision of high availability and adequate capacity.
- A disaster recovery site of all business-critical systems is maintained.
- Monthly maintenance weekends take place where patches and updates are deployed and systems are refreshed.
- Old systems, in the form of old hardware, operating system and legacy applications, are being retired. These include Windows 2008 servers, Exchange 2010 servers, the unsupported Forefront TMG system and the old IBM server hardware.
- The VMware infrastructure is regularly patched and updated to newer versions.
- In the quest to stabilise the email system, the following activities took place:
 - Two additional servers were added to the cluster of email servers.
 - Dedicated processing resources were allocated to all Exchange or email servers.
 - Old Exchange 2010 servers and their related services are being retired. The migration of the said services to the new Exchange 2016 servers is under way.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

by programme

PROGRAMME 2: ELECTORAL OPERATIONS

Programme 2 supports the achievement of Strategic Outcome-oriented Goal 2. Electoral Operations Management provides the strategic management for Programme 2. It encompasses Electoral Matters and Electoral Logistics and Infrastructure.

Electoral Matters facilitates the participation of voters in regular free and fair elections, using sustainable systems, people and processes. Activities include the delimitation of voting district boundaries, the compilation and maintenance of the

national voters' roll, and the planning and coordination of activities during registration weekends, on Voting Day and on special voting days, as well as for home visits. The counting of votes, collation of results and seat calculations are the eventual activities of the Department.

Political Liaison facilitates the participation of parties in regular free and fair elections.

Logistics and Infrastructure provides logistics, warehousing and distribution services, plus

infrastructure, including voting stations and municipal electoral offices, and ensures the provisioning of electoral materials and equipment as specified in the Bill of Materials (BOM) for electoral projects.

Electoral Capacity-building provides for the salaries, allowances and training costs of all categories of electoral staff. The staff structure is expanded significantly during election periods when additional resources are imperative to cope with the huge workload and difficult logistical arrangements.

Strategic objectives

Strategic Objective 2.1	Manage free and fair elections in accordance with the applicable electoral timetables to ensure the efficient and credible execution of the mandate of the Electoral Commission.
Strategic Objective 2.2	Maintain an accurate national common voters' roll to ensure the credibility of elections.
Strategic Objective 2.3	Ensure efficient election delivery by the timely establishment of accessible and suitable voting facilities and processes and by applying infrastructure and logistical resources to meet operational demands for main electoral events.
Strategic Objective 2.4	Provide consultative and cooperative liaison platforms between the Electoral Commission and political parties to facilitate free and fair elections.
Strategic Objective 2.5	Strive for excellence at voting station level to enhance the integrity of elections and to enable the Electoral Commission to deliver on its mandate.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, PLANNED TARGETS AND ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

PROGRAMME 2: ELECTORAL OPERATIONS

	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited /actual performance 2019/20
2.1.1	Free and fair elections delivered	Manage free and fair elections in accordance with the applicable electoral timetables to ensure the efficient and credible execution of the mandate of the Electoral Commission	Number of elections set aside	0 (None)
2.1.2		Maintain credible national voters' roll that is cutting-edge technology	Number of registered voters as at 31 March each year	26 614 275

Audited / actual performance 2020/21	Planned annual 2021/22	Actual achievement 2021/22	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2021/22	Reasons for deviations
0 (None)	0 (None)	1 election set aside	1 election set aside	Target not achieved. The Electoral Court set aside the Ward 33 election in Enoch Mgijima Municipality, principally because circumstances surrounding the elections in the ward were dangerous and chaotic. While counsel had advised that there were prospects of success on appeal, the Commission has opted not to appeal in order to contribute to the stability of governance in the municipality.
25 802 362	26 540 000	26 096 884	(443 116)	Target not achieved. Traditionally, the Electoral Commission holds two general voter registration events ahead of a general election. Owing to Covid-19 and the regulations promulgated to curb the spread of the virus, it was not possible for the Electoral Commission to schedule two registration events.

ELECTORAL MATTERS



VOTING DISTRICT DELIMITATION

The Electoral Act requires the Electoral Commission to compile and maintain a voters' roll. To assist in this regard, the Electoral Commission delimits voting districts. This entails the creation of manageable geographic entities to facilitate registration and electoral processes. A voter is required to register to vote in a voting district of a ward in which they are ordinarily resident. Each voting district is serviced by one voting station. A registered voter will only find their name on the voting district segment of the voters' roll at which they applied to register to vote.

Delimitation is undertaken to do the following:

- Ensure that voters have reasonable access to voting stations and are not required to wait at their voting station for

unreasonable periods of time to vote

- Ensure that voters do not vote more than once in an election
- Align voting district boundaries to both municipal and ward boundaries
- Assist the Electoral Commission with elections staff and material planning.

While the Electoral Commission is responsible for the delimitation of voting district boundaries as a means to maintain the national voters' roll, the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) is responsible for demarcating (outer) municipal boundaries and delimiting ward boundaries. The MDB handed the final set of wards for LGE 2021 to the Electoral Commission in December 2020. In preparation for voter registration for LGE 2021, the

Electoral Commission adjusted its network of voting districts (VDs) that were split by redelimited wards to the new wards before voter registration could commence. Registered voters in split VDs needed to be re-registered into their new VDs and wards before the close of the voters' roll for LGE 2021.

The national common voters' roll used in LGE 2021 contained 23 148 VDs, which were serviced by 23 148 voting stations. The number of VDs, as at 31 March 2022, compared with the number of VDs at 31 March 2021, is shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3:
CHANGE IN THE GEOGRAPHY OF VOTING DISTRICTS: 31 MARCH 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

Province	Number of voting districts: 31 March 2021	Number of voting districts: 31 March 2022 (percentage change)
Eastern Cape	4 791	4 809 (0.3%)
Free State	1 529	1 564 (2.2%)
Gauteng	2 771	2 815 (1.5%)
KwaZulu-Natal	4 885	4 940 (1.1%)
Limpopo	3 157	3 186 (0.9%)
Mpumalanga	1 772	1 786 (0.7%)
North West	1 733	1 743 (0.5%)
Northern Cape	707	728 (2.9%)
Western Cape	1 579	1 577 (-0.1%)
TOTAL	22 924	23 148 (0.9%)

An increase in the number of VDs between general elections translates into improved voter access to voting stations.

The increase in the number of VDs also results in a general decrease in the average number of registered voters per VD, which further translates into a reduction in the time voters need to wait in queues at voting stations on Voting Day.

The number of VDs for LGE 2021 represented an increase of 2% (536 VDs) compared with LGE 2016.

VOTERS' ROLL AND REGISTRATION STATISTICS

A voters' roll is the cornerstone for free and fair elections. The Electoral Commission is enjoined to compile and maintain a national common voters' roll through a process of registering eligible persons. This is because the right to vote includes the responsibility on the part of citizens to register as voters.

At the commencement of the reporting period on 1 April 2021, there were 25 802 362 voters on

the voters' roll. At the end of the reporting period, on 31 March 2022, the voters' roll reflected 26 096 884 voters, which is 294 522 more voters or an increase of 1.14%. Table 4 illustrates that the voters' roll displays growth, owing mostly to increased activity just before LGE 2021 and efforts at encouraging online self-registration.

The provinces of Limpopo and the Northern Cape experienced the highest gains, while the Free State and Gauteng experienced negative growth in their segments.

TABLE 4:
CHANGES TO THE VOTERS' ROLL: APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022

Province	March 2021	March 2022	Change	Percentage change
Eastern Cape	3 204 080	3 233 359	29 279	0.91%
Free State	1 404 758	1 403 060	-1 698	-0.12%
Gauteng	6 168 630	6 165 711	-2 919	-0.05%
KwaZulu-Natal	5 350 980	5 444 701	93 721	1.75%
Limpopo	2 508 860	2 580 971	72 111	2.87%
Mpumalanga	1 878 393	1 895 920	17 527	0.93%
North West	1 644 199	1 661 006	16 807	1.02%
Northern Cape	604 796	619 346	14 550	2.41%
Western Cape	3 037 666	3 092 810	55 144	1.82%
TOTAL	25 802 362	26 096 884	294 522	1.14%

The pattern of more females than males registered on the voters' roll is well entrenched and endures. Some 55% of all voters, or 14 407 218 of the 26 096 884 registered voters, are female. Table 5 gives a breakdown of the registered voters by province and gender for the period under review.

TABLE 5:
REGISTERED VOTERS BY GENDER AS AT THE END OF MARCH 2022

Province	Gender		Total
	Female	Male	
Eastern Cape	1 845 930	1 387 429	3 233 359
Free State	776 779	626 281	1 403 060
Gauteng	3 225 765	2 939 946	6 165 711
KwaZulu-Natal	3 075 830	2 368 871	5 444 701
Limpopo	1 523 473	1 057 498	2 580 971
Mpumalanga	1 040 873	855 047	1 895 920
North West	879 014	781 992	1 661 006
Northern Cape	332 740	286 606	619 346
Western Cape	1 706 814	1 385 996	3 092 810
TOTAL	14 407 218	11 689 666	26 096 884

The Disaster Management Regulations had the impact of curtailing certain planned activities, including the postponement of scheduled registration weekends.

TABLE 6:
REGISTERED VOTERS BY AGE AND GENDER AS AT THE END OF MARCH 2022

Age category	Gender		Total
	Female	Male	
18–19	87 639	66 672	154 311
20–29	2 296 208	1 916 902	4 213 110
30–39	3 609 258	3 134 617	6 743 875
40–49	2 987 275	2 703 964	5 691 239
50–59	2 424 249	1 947 858	4 372 107
60–69	1 662 935	1 210 723	2 873 658
70–79	860 704	519 902	1 380 606
80+	478 950	189 028	667 978
TOTAL	14 407 218	11 689 666	26 096 884

The trend of older voters constituting the biggest proportion of voters on the voters' roll persists. Voters who are 40 years and older constitute 57% of all registered voters. The age cohort 30–39 years enjoys the greatest representation on the voters' roll. The Electoral Commission is resolved to persist with strategies targeted at the youth with a view to further invert the under-representation of persons in the age bands 18–29 years.

ONLINE SELF-REGISTRATION

In an attempt to offer greater access to registration opportunities, the Electoral Commission introduced an online voter registration platform to supplement the existing in-person registration methods. This allowed voters to register themselves remotely, and to capture and update their address details. This innovation was introduced at a very opportune moment, given the uncertainty of holding a registration weekend in the run up to LGE 2021. A total of 564 307 voters availed themselves of the platform. Of that number,

197 168 voters were new registrants. The technology seems to have found resonance with voters in the 18–29 age groups, having recorded 148 627 new registrations in this age category. More voters are expected to embrace this technology and the convenience it brings.

ADDRESSES ON THE VOTERS' ROLL

Following the decision of the Constitutional Court in both Kham and Mhlophe, an address on the voters' roll has almost been elevated to a condition precedent to free and fair elections. In those orders, the court determined that a voter's address on the voters' roll serves two functional purposes. The first is to enable contestants to canvass voters. The second is to ensure that only voters entitled to participate in an election within a geographic boundary do so, and those not entitled to participate are not allowed to do so.

At the time the court made its order in 2016, only 35% of the voters who appeared on the voters' roll had

addresses, with 65%, or 16.2 million voters, appearing on the voters' roll with an incomplete address or no address at all. By 31 March 2022, a quantum leap was registered in that 25 million voters on the voters' roll had an address. This translates into 96% of voters with some form of address on the voters' roll. The big task ahead for the Electoral Commission is to ensure that there is a nexus between the address of the voter and the ward in which they are registered to vote.

Some 362 627 voters took advantage of the introduction of the online self-registration platform to update their address details, thus improving the correctness of their registrations in relation to the ward of representation.

Table 7 illustrates the number of voters without addresses by province. The highest instances of voters without addresses are found in the two provinces with the highest number of registered voters: Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal.

TABLE 7:
NO ADDRESS PER PROVINCE AS AT THE END OF MARCH 2022

Age category	Voters' role address		TOTAL
	Has an address	No address	
Eastern Cape	3 115 011	118 348	3 233 359
Free State	1 311 374	91 686	1 403 060
Gauteng	5 822 193	343 518	6 165 711
KwaZulu-Natal	5 284 550	160 151	5 444 701
Limpopo	2 501 770	79 201	2 580 971
Mpumalanga	1 782 166	113 754	1 895 920
North West	1 596 162	64 844	1 661 006
Northern Cape	595 936	23 410	619 346
Western Cape	3 047 800	45 010	3 092 810
TOTAL	25 056 962	1 039 922	26 096 884

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

The electoral scheme requires a political party to be registered before it can contest elections. The Electoral Commission is the registrar of political parties. For this reason, it maintains a register of all registered political parties. For the period under review, the register reflected 508 political parties, with 300 registered at national level, and 208 registered at municipal level. A total of 114 parties had been registered at some point during the financial year. Previously, before LGE 2021, a party could only be registered at national and municipal level. The legislation has since been amended to allow parties to register at national, provincial, district and metropolitan levels.

Furthermore, parties previously registered at municipal level are now deemed to have been registered at district level. Registration at the national level entitles a party to contest all elections anywhere in the Republic. Parties registered provincially can contest any elections within a particular province. This would include elections for the provincial legislature, as well as the district, metropolitan and local councils in that particular province. District registration will allow a registered political party to contest any elections within a particular district municipality and in local municipalities in the district.

Of the total of 508 registered political parties, 167 enjoy representation in some form in one or a combination of the three legislative bodies (National Assembly, Provincial Legislature and Municipal Council). The increase in the level of contestation has a corresponding increase in the

number of parties and candidates on the ballot paper. This increase has a bearing on the size, look and feel of the ballot paper. These factors influence the ability of voters to identify their preferred parties or candidates, and to make a mark on an informed basis.

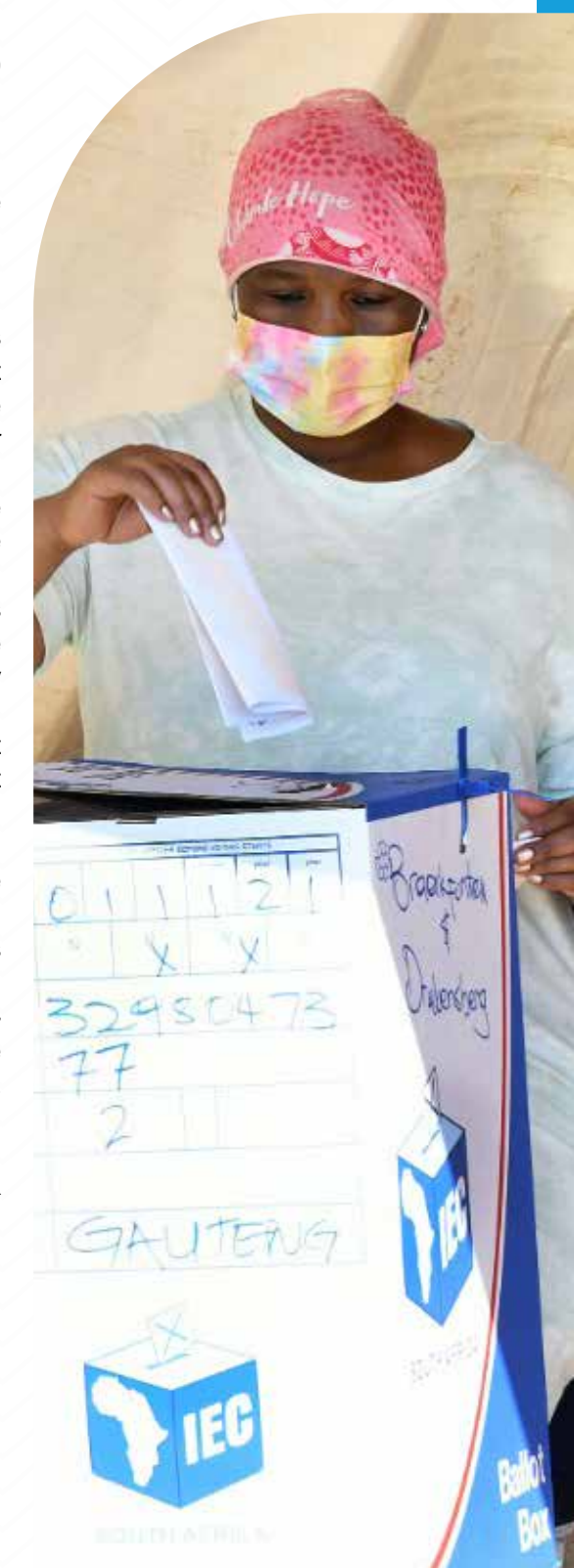
VOTING

Voting Day was on Monday, 1 November 2021, with special voting days on Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 October 2021. Historically in South Africa, Voting Day is held on a Wednesday, with special voting days held on the preceding Monday and Tuesday.

Voters who were registered in Metropolitan Council municipalities received two ballot papers at their voting stations: one to vote for a candidate to represent their ward and a second proportional representation (PR) ballot to vote for a party to represent them in the Municipal Council. Voters registered in Local Council municipalities received three ballot papers: one for the ward, a PR ballot for a party in the Local Council, and a third PR ballot for a party to represent them in the District Council (District Council 40% PR).

The different types of ballots are due to the mixed member proportional electoral system that applies to municipal elections (which combine the PR and first-past-the-post systems). In total, there were 4 725 unique ballot papers in LGE 2021 (up from 4 649 in LGE 2016). This figure comprised 4 468 ward ballots, 205 Local Council PR ballots, eight Metropolitan Council PR ballots, and 44 District Council PR ballots.

On Voting Day (1 November 2021), voting stations opened at 07:00 and closed at 21:00. Some 90% of voting stations had opened by the start of voting at 07:00, with the balance of voting stations opening by 09:00. By the close of voting at 21:00, any voter standing in the queue at the voting station was still allowed to vote.



LGE 2021 was administered during the Covid-19 pandemic. Accordingly, health and safety controls were introduced at voting stations to minimise the spread of the virus. These controls included the following:

- All people inside voting stations were required to wear face coverings.
- Prior to entering voting stations, the hands of voters and officials were sanitised.



- All people inside voting stations were required to maintain a distance of 1.5 metres.
- Standard pens containing indelible ink to mark the finger

of voters after voting were replaced with disposable cotton wool buds.

- Voting officials were supplied with protective equipment, including disposable gloves, face shields and masks.

Registered voters were afforded an opportunity to vote by bringing their South African citizenship identity document or smart identity card to the voting station at which they were registered to vote. The voter's identity document or card was scanned using a programmable bar-code scanning unit (PBSU), which indicated whether the voter was registered to vote at that voting station and the sequence number of the voter on that VD segment of the voters' roll. A voting official would redirect a voter registered in another VD segment of the voters' roll to the correct voting station.

Before the voter's name was marked off the paper copy of the voters' roll, the identity card or document of the voter was scanned using the VMD to determine whether the voter had voted in the same election. This was facilitated by a real-time digital link to a computer server hosting the national voters' roll.

In addition, and following the ruling of the Constitutional Court on 14 June 2016 relating to the Tlokwe by-elections, registered voters for whom the Electoral Commission did not have an address recorded on the voters' roll were required to provide their residential address to a voting official. The details of the addresses of registered voters were recorded on the VMD.

Thereafter, the voter's left thumb nail was marked with indelible ink. Voters then received the relevant

number and types of ballot papers that had been stamped on the back for authentication purposes, and voters voted in secret.

SPECIAL VOTING

Special voting in municipal elections was introduced for the first time in 2011. The law provides for two categories of special voters: those who cannot travel to the voting station due to physical infirmity or disability, and those who can visit the voting station, but who cannot do so on Voting Day.

A voter who intended to cast a special vote was required to apply for a special vote between 20 September 2021 and 4 October 2021. The Municipal Electoral Act was amended ahead of the previous municipal elections in 2016 to broaden the manner in which registered voters were able to apply for a special vote. This now included online and mobile telephone SMS applications – along with the existing method of applying in person (or through a proxy) at the municipal electoral office responsible for the VD in which the voter was registered to vote.

In LGE 2021, the Electoral Commission received 1 147 759 applications for special votes. This represented 4% of the total number of registered voters. The number of special vote applications increased by 54% compared with LGE 2016 (741 721 special vote applications). Of the 1 147 759 special vote applications received in LGE 2021, 3% of the applications were declined. Accordingly, 1 110 330 special vote applications were approved for LGE 2021. Special vote applications were declined because applicants were not registered to vote; or

owing to the physical address of an applicant who applied for a home visit not being located in the same VD as that in which the applicant was registered to vote.

All special vote applicants were notified of the outcome of their application by way of a paper print-out from the MEO on application, mobile telephone text message and email. Applicants could also check the outcome of their application on the Electoral Commission's website.

Of the 1 110 330 approved special vote applications, 586 292 special votes were cast on 30 and 31 October 2021. This represented a 52% special voter turnout, compared with a 56% special voter turnout in LGE 2016, and a 70% special voter turnout in LGE 2011.

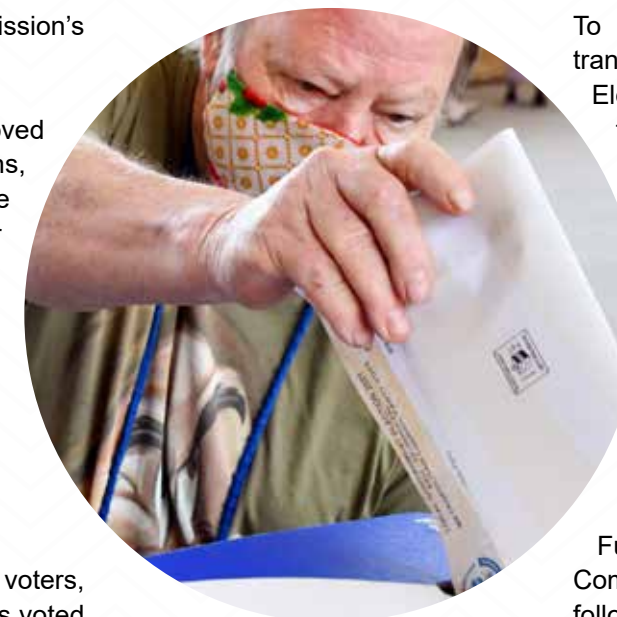
VOTER TURNOUT

Out of 26 203 811 registered voters, 12 063 886 registered voters voted in LGE 2021 and 98 589 MEC 7 votes were cast. This provides for a voter turnout in LGE 2021 of 45.87%. Voter turnout in LGE 2021, which was arranged during the Covid-19 pandemic, showed a marked decrease compared with previous municipal elections (57% in LGE 2016 and 2011; and 48% in LGE 2006 and 2000).

The percentage of ballots that were regarded as being spoilt in LGE 2021 stood at 1.92% compared with 1.83% in LGE 2016, 1.89% in LGE 2011, 1.83% in LGE 2006 and 2.36% in LGE 2000.

An MEC 7 vote is a vote cast when a voter's name does not appear on

the VD segment of the voters' roll, yet the voter has proof of having applied to register as a voter in the VD in question. Consequently, the voter is deemed to be a registered voter in the VD in question and is provided with an MEC 7 vote. A total of 98 589 MEC 7 votes were cast in LGE 2021, compared with 55 893 in LGE 2016, 54 655 in LGE 2011 and 146 535 in LGE 2006.



close of voting at each voting station where votes were cast. Counting occurred in the presence of party agents and accredited election observers. Results slips were completed by counting officers in the presence of party agents and observers, and party agents were afforded the opportunity to sign the completed results slips, as well as take a photographic image of the completed results slips.

To enhance the credibility and transparency of the count, the Electoral Commission established ten election results operation centres: one at national level, and one in each of the nine provinces. The aim of the results centres was to provide a national record of the results, and a focal point for the media, political parties contesting the elections and other electoral stakeholders.

Furthermore, the Electoral Commission has implemented the following measures to enhance the transparency and credibility of the counting and results process:

- Results systems were audited by independent external IT auditors, and tested extensively. Political parties were invited to avail their IT specialists to do the same.
- The results system was designed with automated quality checks to ensure that anomalies were investigated and corrected before being publicly released.
- The recorded results were audited by external independent auditors (BDO Advisory Services) at the municipal electoral offices where the

In addition, the domestic and international media, political parties, and domestic and international election observers judged LGE 2021 to be free and fair.

COUNTING AND RESULTS

The Electoral Commission is committed to ensuring that there is transparency in the counting process to parties, candidates, observers, the media and the public. For this reason, the Electoral Commission has invested substantial resources in this aspect of its work. The counting of votes took place immediately after the

election results were recorded onto the municipal election results system.

- Election result slips were scanned at municipal electoral offices. The scanned images of all result slips were available to political parties and Electoral Commission officials at the national and provincial results centres. Being able to view the scanned image of results slips enabled the further verification of results as recorded on the results system.
- Political party and media representatives at the results centres were able to access the municipal election results system to monitor the recording and verification of results, and to monitor the performance of political parties.

Furthermore, during the counting and recording of the results, senior officials of the Electoral Commission conducted regular meetings with political party representatives at the results operation centres to explain the process and respond to questions and complaints openly and in a timely manner.

ELECTION RESULTS

In terms of the law, the Electoral Commission is required to declare the results of elections within seven days after such elections.

By the evening of 2 November 2021 (24 hours after voting stations had closed), 60% of the results slips had been captured, audited and scanned. By the evening of 3 November 2021 (48 hours after voting had closed), 99% of results slips had been captured, audited and scanned. The final results of

LGE 2021 were available within 72 hours of the close of voting.

The Electoral Commission announced the results of the municipal elections at a function at the national results centre on 4 November 2021. The results were published in the Government Gazette on 9 November 2021. This served to declare the designated councillors elected.

The election of district councils occurred partly on 1 November 2021 (40% of district councillors are elected on a PR basis by voters) and partly within 14 days after the publication of the elected councillors in the Government Gazette. These remaining 60% of district council seats were filled by representatives elected from and by the local councils.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION REPLACEMENTS

The Local Government Municipal Structures Act prescribes that a councillor elected from a party list onto a local council and who ceases to hold office must be replaced from that party's reserve list of candidates. The CEO must declare, in writing, the person at the top of the party's list of candidates as elected. A party may amend its candidate list within 21 days of the vacancy occurring. The person at the top of the candidate list must be declared elected within 14 days after the expiration of the 21 days. The Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal led with the most PR replacements for the reporting period. The Northern Cape had the least number of PR replacements.



TABLE 8:
BREAKDOWN OF PR REPLACEMENTS PER MONTH PER PROVINCE

Month	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng	KwaZulu-Natal	Limpopo	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	North West	Western Cape	Total
April 2021	22	0	5	5	3	4	1	1	4	45
May 2021	0	5	1	8	1	1	0	1	5	22
June 2021	3	2	1	4	6	2	0	1	4	23
July 2021	1	3	6	3	3	0	0	6	4	26
August 2021	2	1	8	3	4	1	0	0	4	23
September 2021	0	1	3	7	7	0	0	0	7	25
October 2021	1	3	4	0	3	0	0	0	10	21
November 2021	2	5	1	2	1	2	4	2	7	26
December 2021	4	5	5	10	7	19	5	5	8	68
January 2022	7	8	2	4	3	0	7	3	1	35
February 2022	3	3	7	5	3	6	0	1	5	33
March 2022	4	2	5	11	4	0	1	1	2	30
TOTAL	49	38	48	62	45	35	18	21	61	377

A total of 377 PR councillor replacements were processed during the period covered by this report. The figure represents an increase compared to the previous reporting period. Table 9 compares the number of PR councillors replaced since 2019 and points to a slight increase between March 2021 and March 2022.

TABLE 9:
COMPARISON OF PR COUNCILLOR REPLACEMENT PER PROVINCE SINCE 2020

Province	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022
Eastern Cape	90	69	49
Free State	33	25	38
Gauteng	59	30	48
KwaZulu-Natal	87	53	62
Limpopo	59	33	45
Mpumalanga	28	47	35
North West	48	26	21
Northern Cape	44	22	18
Western Cape	52	46	61
TOTAL	500	351	377

BY-ELECTIONS

A total of 66 by-elections to fill municipal ward vacancies were conducted during the year. Table 10 provides a historical overview of the number of by-elections held each year since 2009/10.

TABLE 10:
COMPARISON OF THE NUMBER OF BY-ELECTIONS HELD ACROSS FINANCIAL YEARS

Financial year	Number of by-elections
2009/10	139
2010/11	126
2011/12	76
2012/13	63
2013/14	134
2014/15	228
2015/16	93
2016/17	25
2017/18	131
2018/19	100
2019/20	144
2020/21	133
2021/22	66

The number of by-elections conducted in 2021/22 (66) shows a decrease compared with the previous period (133). Over the past 13-year period, an average of 112 by-elections were held per year. The number of by-elections held during 2021/22 (66) is thus lower than the 13-year average and is attributed to the six-month moratorium on conducting by-

elections ahead of LGE 2021, as well the deferral of holding by-elections as a consequence of the lockdown, and the implementative stages of disaster management alert levels owing to Covid-19. Ward vacancies are required by law to be filled within 90 days of the date on which the vacancy occurs. All 66 ward vacancies were filled within 90 days.

The result of the Enoch Mgijima Ward 33 elections from LGE 2021 was set aside by the Electoral Court on 21 February 2022 and the Electoral Commission was ordered to conduct a by-election. The by-election was held and the results declared on 20 April 2022.

The reasons for the 66 ward vacancies that occurred in the period under review are shown below.

TABLE 11:
REASONS FOR BY-ELECTIONS IN 2021/22

Reason for ward vacancy	Number (and percentage) of ward vacancies
Death of councillor	44 (66%)
Resignation of councillor	17 (26%)
Expulsion or termination of membership from party of councillor	5 (8%)
TOTAL	66 (100%)

Details of the by-elections conducted, as well as the number of associated voting districts and registered voters, are presented in the table below.

TABLE 12:
NUMBER OF BY-ELECTIONS FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

Province	By-elections	Number of voting districts	Number of wards	Number of registered voters
Eastern Cape	10	74	10	41 988
Free State	2	10	2	10 357
Gauteng	15	106	15	227 005
KwaZulu-Natal	18	96	18	126 280
Limpopo	5	33	5	29 849
Mpumalanga	8	32	8	36 132
North West	2	7	2	11 526
Northern Cape	3	7	3	11 419
Western Cape	3	11	3	24 261
TOTAL	66	376	66	518 817

In terms of the Local Government Municipal Electoral Act, the Electoral Commission is required to announce election results within seven days of an election. The results of all 66 by-elections were announced within a day of the by-elections being held.

ELECTIONS LOGISTICS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

VOTING STATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Voting stations provide an essential platform for the delivery of elections. They are a prism through which the voting public formulates perceptions about the performance of the Electoral Commission. For LGE 2021, 23 148 voting stations were utilised. Changes to ward and voting district boundaries imposed by the MDB resulted in a 0.9% increase in the number of voting districts during the year under review.

Although the trend of a stable voting station network is expected to continue into the medium to long term, factors such as population growth, new settlement patterns, the requirement of improving voter accessibility, as well as revised municipal demarcation, will continue to contribute to the need for increasing the voting station footprint. For the period under review, 93.85% of the voting

stations have remained unchanged from LGE 2019.

Fixed and permanent structures, especially schools, are preferred venues to serve as voting stations. Table 13 illustrates the increase in the use of schools as preferred voting stations. It further illustrates the rate of temporary voting stations where there are no alternative permanent structures.

TABLE 13:
TYPES OF VOTING STATIONS AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

Voting stations	NPE 2014	LGE 2016	NPE 2019	LGE 2021	Percentage shift from NPE 2019 to LGE 2021
Total VDs	22 263	22 612	22 924	23 148	↑ 0.98%
Schools	14 458	14 572	14 375	14 626	↑ 1.75%
Temporary VDs	1 495	1 228	1 046	1 125	↑ 7.55%
Mobiles	32	32	29	30	↑ 3.45%

The Electoral Commission continues to drive a concerted effort to reduce the use of temporary facilities, as these have security and other implications for election administration and also create a negative experience for the voting public. The use of temporary facilities has been reduced over successive electoral cycles. However, during LGE 2021, a marginal increase was recorded, primarily because of withdrawal of their use by certain landlords over Covid-19-related concerns.



TABLE 14:
PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE USE OF TEMPORARY VOTING FACILITIES

Voting stations	NPE 2014	LGE 2016	NPE 2019	LGE 2021	Percentage shift from NPE 2019 to LGE 2021
Eastern Cape	174	161	119	118	↓ 0.84
Free State	212	189	148	179	↑ 20.95
Gauteng	455	327	295	271	↓ 8.14
KwaZulu-Natal	167	133	116	154	↑ 32.76
Limpopo	202	145	138	152	↑ 10.14
Mpumalanga	76	82	65	73	↑ 12.31
North West	120	115	126	134	↑ 6.35
Northern Cape	28	26	4	7	↑ 75.00
Western Cape	61	50	35	37	↑ 5.71
TOTAL	1 495	1 228	1 046	1 125	↑ 7.55

TABLE 15:
VOTING STATION FACILITIES AND AMENITIES AS AT MARCH 2022

Voting stations	NPE 2014	LGE 2016	NPE 2019	LGE 2021	Percentage shift from NPE 2019 to LGE 2021
Without electricity	3 008	3 003	2 699	2 055	↓ 23.86%
Without water	2 626	3140	3 010	2 237	↓ 25.68%
Without sanitation	1 952	2127	2 173	1 642	↓ 24.44%
Without cell phone coverage	101	93	76	62	↓ 18.42%

Since the majority of venues are schools, in order to stabilise and improve the voting station network, the Electoral Commission has formed long-term strategic partnerships with public and private bodies such as the Department of Basic Education, the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation, Eskom and the GSM network operators. Initiatives involving these partners are aimed at improving the infrastructure at these voting stations by prioritising them for infrastructure enhancements and upgrades.

LOCAL MUNICIPAL OFFICE INFRASTRUCTURE

The Electoral Commission maintains a footprint of over 270 local offices in 213 municipalities throughout the country to provide services to the public and to deliver election projects at a local level. The Electoral Commission continues to benefit from cooperation extended by municipal councils in support of

the democracy project. One such benefit relates to the Electoral Commission's appointment of local representatives, known as municipal electoral officers (MEOs), for each of the 213 municipalities. These MEOs are typically suitably qualified senior municipal employees, who assume the responsibility for providing election-related assistance in their specific municipal areas. They facilitate cooperation between the Electoral Commission and their respective municipalities, and promote the functional relationship between the Electoral Commission and the municipality in the registration of voters, the management of elections and the provision of amenities to support electoral processes. The MEOs are not, however, directly involved in day-to-day operational matters.

ELECTRONIC SUPPORT SYSTEMS

The Electoral Commission's Logistics Information System (LIS) is a computerised system that underpins the planning, monitoring,

management and control of electoral material in the Electoral Commission. A comprehensive Bill of Materials is created for each electoral event. By registering the BOM on the LIS, detailed Materials Requirement Plan (MRP) lists are produced to enable the accurate procurement, distribution and allocation of electoral material per province, municipality and voting district.

DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

The Electoral Commission's logistics distribution network consists of 10 warehouses: one central warehouse controlled from the national office and one warehouse in each of the nine provinces. The Electoral Commission maintains minimal permanent resources in support of this distribution network in the interests of cost containment. Contracted-in resources, such as human capacity and vehicles, are utilised as and when needed at the appropriate scale. These resources and support activities are scalable to handle the logistical demands of the various election cycles.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION by programme

PROGRAMME 3: OUTREACH

Programme 3 supports the achievement of Strategic Outcome-oriented Goal 3.

Outreach encompasses Civic and Democracy Education, Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Knowledge Management, and Communications and Media Relations.

Civic and Democracy Education informs and educates the public on electoral democracy with a view to strengthening participation in electoral processes.

Stakeholder Engagement seeks to establish and maintain open and fruitful relationships with key stakeholders internationally and nationally to promote collaboration and partnerships in support of shared objectives.

Research and Knowledge Management collects, collates and analyses available data to inform organisational planning and other strategic decision-making processes. This includes tracking emerging trends (perceptions and attitudes) in the social context that assists the Electoral Commission to plan and determine its response. It considers the latest developments in democratic elections administration. Knowledge Management also performs an important archiving function within the organisation.

Communication and Media Relations actively supports the Electoral Commission's efforts to strengthen electoral democracy and ensure free and fair elections through strategic communication with all stakeholders, including

registered and eligible voters, political parties and candidates, the media and other key stakeholder groups.

It seeks to ensure a high level of knowledge and understanding of the electoral democracy process and the ongoing work of the Electoral Commission to enhance participation and understanding, and to protect the Commission's reputation.

Strategic objectives

Strategic Objective 3.1	Encourage the electorate's engagement with and participation in electoral processes to facilitate the right to vote as enshrined in the Constitution.
Strategic Objective 3.2	Achieve a low rate of spoilt ballots as a measure of the effectiveness of civic and democracy programmes.
Strategic Objective 3.3	Enhance the Electoral Commission's reputation as a credible and trustworthy electoral management body.
Strategic Objective 3.4	Provide thought leadership in the field of electoral management and related fields as per Vision 2018 in order to strengthen electoral democracy.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, PLANNED TARGETS AND ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

PROGRAMME 3: OUTREACH

	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / actual performance 2019/20	Audited / actual performance 2020/21
3.1.1	Informed and engaged citizens and stakeholders in electoral democracy	Provide impactful research and thought leadership to strengthen electoral democracy.	The number of research initiatives achieved per annum	5	0
3.1.2			The number of thought leadership interactions achieved per annum	New	4
3.1.3		Actively promote and foster awareness and participation in electoral processes through civic and democracy education programmes	The number of civic and democracy education events held per annum	30 726	13 036
3.1.4		Interact with domestic, regional and international stakeholders to build an understanding of the Electoral Commission's role in delivering credible elections.	Number of meetings Electoral Commission holds with key stakeholders per annum	New	70

Planned annual 2021/22	Actual achievement 2021/22	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2021/22	Reasons for deviations
2	3	1	Target achieved and exceeded. Ad-hoc research was undertaken to assess the impact of Covid-19 on the elections given the environment and circumstances at that time and the objectivity of the assessment being undertaken by Judge Moseneke.
10	10	0	Target achieved.
24 000	42 619	18 619	Target achieved and exceeded. Target exceeded due to an increase in the number of civic and democracy education events as a build-up to voter registration and Election Day.
15	55	40	Target achieved and exceeded. Target exceeded due to an increase in consultations with stakeholders due to the build-up for voter registration and elections. Meetings were held with blind, deaf and labour trade unions. Engagements with tertiary institutions for the civic and democracy education, and voter registration campaign.

3.1.5

Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / actual performance 2019/20	Audited / actual performance 2020/21
Informed and engaged citizens and stakeholders in electoral democracy	Advance and promote electoral processes through communication campaigns on diverse platforms to sustain visibility across the electoral cycle.	Recorded reach across multimedia communications platforms (digital, television, print, radio and out-of-home) includes recorded number of placements of messages in media platforms.	New	New

Planned annual 2021/22	Actual achievement 2021/22	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2021/22	Reasons for deviations
Digital (all social media and online content: Facebook ad reach – 35 million impressions Twitter ad reach – 2 million YouTube ad views – 2 million WhatsApp – New Google Adwords – 2 million impressions SMSs sent – 2 million Please Call Me – 150 million Television – 6 000 000 viewers Radio – 5 000 000 listeners Print – 6 million readers Out-of-home – 150 billboards, 180 000 street pole posters, 2 000 transit TV screens Commuter transport – 20 long-distance buses	Facebook – 36 952 653 Twitter – 2 950 332 YouTube – 58 265 162 Google Adwords – 5 069 419 impressions SMS – 3 368 411 Please Call Me – 165 035 871 Television – 25 155 000 Radio – 32 132 000 Print – 16 553 000 Billboards – 238 Street-pole posters – 13 232 012 Transit TV – 4 294 Commuter transport – 50 long-distance buses	Facebook – 1 952 653 Twitter – 950 332 YouTube – 56 265 162 Google Adwords – 3 069 419 impressions SMS – 1 368 411 Please Call Me – 15 035 871 Television – 19 155 000 Radio – 27 132 000 Print – 10 553 000 Billboards – 88 Street-pole posters – 13 052 012 Transit TV – 2 294 Commuter transport – 30 long-distance buses	Target achieved and exceeded. Facebook ads – target exceeded due to the high numbers reached on the platform. Twitter – exceeded planned target as it had an extended reach. YouTube – target exceeded as it saw the most added value from Media24, Wi-Fi banner ads and the IOL network. WhatsApp – no adverts can be placed on WhatsApp as a platform. Please Call Me – target exceeded as this platform was geo-targeted to new voters, mainly the youth. Radio – target exceeded as radio ads were placed nationally, regionally and locally. SMS – target exceeded as this platform was utilised extensively to reach voters. Television – target exceeded as campaign material was placed on national, regional and local television. Print – target exceeded as campaign material was placed in national, regional and local newspapers, thus it had a wider reach. Out-of-home – target exceeded as billboards were utilised nationally to reach voters, especially in new settlements. Bus backs – target exceeded as campaign was undertaken nationally. Street pole posters – target exceeded as campaign was undertaken nationally, regionally and locally, especially in new settlements. Transit TV – target exceeded as this platform was utilised nationally, and new areas were reached.

CIVIC AND DEMOCRACY EDUCATION

Civic and democracy education (CDE) refers to the ongoing dialogue and discourse about broad concepts of democratic society and citizen participation, with a broad focus on the Constitution, human rights and democracy. CDE aims to foster participation in electoral democracy and to create a climate conducive to free and fair elections. The Electoral Commission has long been focused on ongoing CDE to enable an enduring democratisation process, affirming elections as continuous processes rather than isolated events.

Civic education is an ongoing programme through the Electoral Commission's various outreach projects, which are carried out in schools and universities, in communities, at non-formal education locations, and in partnership with civil society organisations and other key stakeholders. It also includes improving the election environment before each election cycle to create a climate that is conducive to free and fair elections.

The 2021/22 period was an election year in which LGE 2021 took place. Therefore, CDE and research programmes were heightened to

focus on the election for the year. The CDE activities also took place against the background of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Electoral Commission was, however, able to adapt to varied alert levels to deliver CDE programmes in a safe and innovative manner.

There were limitations to face-to-face physical CDE engagements, owing to the pandemic restrictions. The CDE activities had to engage alternative strategies to reach voters ahead of LGE 2021. This included developing content for delivery on digital platforms, social media, and public broadcast television and radio, in particular community radio.

DIGITAL CDE CAMPAIGN

In May 2021, the Electoral Commission started preparing for the roll-out of a major digital campaign that focused on educating and preparing the electorate to register and participate in the elections. This migration to digital channels was, in part, a response to Covid-19 and the limitations it placed on face-to-face interactions, as well as the advanced reach of social media to the populace. CDE content was developed for use on the Electoral Commission's new

WhatsApp Business platform, in addition to its existing social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube, to deliver voter and democracy education messages.

The target audience for this campaign included the youth as major users of social and digital media platforms, women and the general public. The aim of this campaign was to motivate and inspire citizens to take action by registering to vote and subsequently to vote. Using storytelling expertise to create content that people would find relatable, easy to understand and enlightening on electoral matters was more effective.

The content was designed to cover the following topics:

- Register to vote: Why it matters?
- Online voter registration
- Registration Covid-19 safety
- Elections Covid-19 safety
- Voter management device
- Electoral fraud and offenses
- Electoral Code of Conduct
- Free and fair elections
- Municipal elections
- Voting process flow
- Choose – tertiary institutions
- Schools democracy
- Universal ballot template

ANIMATED AND AUDIO CONTENT

The animated short videos and social media content featured a mascot named Vota, who represented voters. Animated videos, social media toolkits and loud-hailer audios were produced and shared on various social media platforms as a means of driving the digital communication campaign for LGE 2021.

Most of the digital material was produced in all 11 official languages to cater for different sectors of

the population. The placement of these videos was done on the mainstream television platforms of the SABC channels, eNCA and eTV, Newzroom Afrika and some DStv channels in the lead-up to LGE 2021.

VOTA ANIMATED SERIES PRODUCED IN ALL 11 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Fourteen million people were reached during the voter education television broadcasts in the period just before the elections of 1 November 2021. These viewers

were reached with an opportunity to be exposed to the messages on average four times, according to the TV Audience Measurement Survey (TAMS). Significantly, the percentage reach achieved against the youth/young adult target market was at a level similar to that achieved with the broader population.

During the CDE social media campaign, Facebook recorded the greatest reach at 8.3 million, followed by Twitter with a reach of 4.4 million and Instagram with a reach of 1.2 million.

TABLE 16:
LGE 2021 CDE TELEVISION ANIMATION CAMPAIGN SUCCESSES

LGE 2021 TV CAMPAIGN SUCCESSES

	Age 18+ (35,761,000)	Reach %	Reach '000s	Duplicated Viewers '000s	No. Of Spots	Average Frequency	GRP's
TV	6 Oct - 24 Oct	34.4	12 302	41 209	269	3.4	115.3
	28 Oct - 1 Nov	19.6	7 145	16 268	51	2.3	45.6
	28 Oct - 1 Nov	39.3	14 054	57 477	320	4.1	160.9
	Age 18-35 (16 758 000)						
	6 Oct - 24 Oct	30.0	5 027	15 113	269	3.0	90.3
	28 Oct - 1 Nov	17.1	2 866	6 845	51	2.4	41.0
	28 Oct - 1 Nov	35.2	5 899	21 959	320	3.7	131.3

Source: TAMS

WHATSAPP

With the reach of cell phones in the hands of millions of South Africans, and a growing number of active social media users, content for this application was prioritised as a vehicle for targeted CDE content delivery to eligible South African voters. The host company of the application found civic education

very important, and partnered with the Electoral Commission to host the account and promote its use.

In July 2021, in an effort to better interact with voters during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Electoral Commission launched a WhatsApp for Business line on 060 088 0000. Members of the public could access information

about electoral processes and download fact sheets and other CDE information to their phones using the WhatsApp number, including the very informative Vota animations.

The advantage of WhatsApp is that it enables the sharing of information widely and safely, and can reach the electorate directly via



their mobile phones, which helped counter disinformation with reliable information from the Commission.

In the period leading up to the September 2021 voter registration weekend, the chatbot attracted 7 738 active users and 8 870 total users, with over 50 000 messages. During election week, from 26 October to 1 November 2021, the chatbot reached 10 720 active users and 27 000 total users, with over 209 000 messages.

The WhatsApp platform was promoted and shared with audiences utilising a social media graphic (right) to guide users on how to access the platform to retrieve credible information.



TABLE 17:
ELECTORAL COMMISSION'S WHATSAPP PLATFORM ANALYTICS FOR 2021/22

Period	Active users	Engagement
14 September 2021 to 20 September 2021	7 738	50 723 total messages
31 August 2021 to 29 September 2021	10 559	69 683 total messages
29 September 2021 to 22 October 2021	2 010	113 484 total messages
26 October 2021 to 1 November 2021	10 720	209 640 total messages
30 October 2021 to 5 November 2021	9 718	231 209 total messages
29 January 2022 to 31 March 2022	911	2 949 total messages

SOCIAL MEDIA PARTNERSHIP

The Electoral Commission formed a strategic partnership with a social media-based platform to broaden its reach. The partnerships assisted in youth engagement and educating the youth about participation in electoral democracy and elections.

The Electoral Commission partnered with The Agenda Network to produce a four-part series of CDE discussion shows, which were published weekly on The Agenda Network's Facebook and YouTube platforms in October 2021 in the lead-up to LGE 2021. The four Electoral Commission-

sponsored episodes reached over 168 000 people, and generated over 168 600 impressions and 62 534 views combined by the end of November 2021.

The four episodes were published on The Agenda Network's Facebook and YouTube platforms per theme as follows:

- 8 October 2021: Youth participation in elections
- 13 October 2021: Covid-19 and elections
- 20 October 2021: Local government electoral systems
- 26 October 2021: Why voting matters

KEY PROGRAMMES TARGETING THE YOUTH

SCHOOLS DEMOCRACY PROGRAMME

One of the challenges for the Electoral Commission has been to get the youth to register and vote. The largest proportion of unregistered voters is found among the young voters of the age cohort (16–19 years), affirming the focus on youth during registration and

voting. Initiatives such as the Schools Democracy Programme (SDP) set out to address the profound challenge of increasing the youth vote and ensuring a culture of voting among youth. The objective of the programme is to support the implementation of the school curriculum to foster and develop responsible citizens. It will also entrench registration, voting and active participation as fundamental civic responsibilities.

This is to encourage, educate and empower learners to understand and participate in the democratic processes of the country, and ultimately assist in deepening constitutional democracy in general.

The Electoral Commission has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Basic Education (DBE), effective from 1 March 2019. The agreement is aimed at

jointly conducting and facilitating educational and electoral projects of common interest. The MoU continues to be a key enabling tool for the implementation of the Schools Democracy Programme. The written directive from the DBE at the beginning of the year, as requested by the Electoral Commission, also assisted to facilitate the implementation of the programme and access to schools.

In 2021, the SDP ran in schools countrywide from April to June 2021. The timing was intended to coincide with Freedom Day on 27 April, when South Africa celebrated the anniversary of its first democratic elections, and continued into Youth Month in June. The programme extended over a period of three months for the first time to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on the movement and gathering of people.

TABLE 18:
DISTRICTS, SCHOOLS AND LEARNERS REACHED IN THE 2021 SCHOOLS DEMOCRACY PROGRAMME

Province	DBE districts	Schools reached	Learners reached
Eastern Cape	23	267	19 105
Free State	5	35	2 488
Gauteng	15	100	7 403
KwaZulu-Natal	12	241	2 185
Limpopo	5	231	14 968
Mpumalanga	4	75	10 329
Northern Cape	5	127	8 431
North West	4	187	4 241
Western Cape	8	120	6 210
TOTAL	81	1 383	75 360

Some of the provinces launched local programmes, which helped draw attention to and generate excitement for the project in 2021/22. The Commission visited schools, making use of structured content to aid the success of events and sessions. The loud-hailers were also utilised to address learners in open spaces in a socially distanced environment, adhering to Covid-19 protocols.

In general, the project was a success, as it was implemented across all nine provinces under the limitations of Covid-19 lockdown regulations. The SDP reached 1 383 schools and 75 360 learners. SDP events were also combined with

registration drives and resulted in 5 239 voter registrations.

Encouraging young people to register and vote in elections is a critical component of ensuring the continued participation of future elections. It shows that a history of voting has a clear and positive impact on participation in electoral democracy. Campaigns that successfully target youth for electoral participation create citizens that will return again and again to vote.

DEMOCRACY ON STAGE

The Electoral Commission partnered with the United Nations

Development Programme for the Democracy on Stage project. Four edutainment shows were showcased in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West and Gauteng. The aim of the street theatre show was to galvanise the youth's interest and participation in elections. The shows were recorded for use in youth civic education sessions and for various other digital platforms utilised by the Electoral Commission for civic education.

TABLE 19:
REACH OF DEMOCRACY ON STAGE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNDP

Province	Recommended areas	Date	Audience
Mpumalanga	Middleburg	12 October 2021	400
Limpopo	Belabela	11 October 2021	250
North West	Rustenburg	19 October 2021	510
Gauteng	Tshwane	21 October 2021	200

TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS PROGRAMME

The Electoral Commission had a breakthrough in its direct relationship with institutions of higher learning. The institution received commitment and support from the governance structures of tertiary institutions at both universities and technical vocational education and training (TVET) colleges. These institutions distributed CDE messages and encouragement to participate in LGE 2021 further and students

were encouraged to participate in their citizens' role and responsibility of voting. Digital CDE materials were distributed through these institutions' platforms.

Tertiary institutions' CDE and voter education campaign plan was crafted, approved and shared with the provincial offices at the beginning of 2022 for implementation as part of their youth action plans.

The primary aim of this CDE programme and campaign was to

instil a culture of democracy and active citizenry in young citizens, targeting students at tertiary institutions to enhance their voter participation in elections.

The goals of the campaign included the following:

- Promote CDE within institutions of higher learning
- Engage students' views about democracy and elections on a formal platform
- Promote online voter registration to students within institutions of

- higher learning
- Conduct on-campus voter registration with VMDs
- Promote the Vota animated series to tertiary students
- Empower students to participate meaningfully in democratic and electoral processes

To launch this campaign, some provinces were able to conduct CDE and voter registration activations at select campuses during their orientation week period in February 2022. This was followed by a national launch of the campaign on 22 March 2022 at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits University), coinciding with Human Rights Week.

The event was well covered by the media, including SABC, eNCA and Newzroom Afrika, as well as interviews on radio stations and online media. On 24 March 2022, a voter education-based debate was held at Wits University on the theme "Does youth vote matter?".

It featured the following speakers: Fasiha Hassan (the youngest member of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature), Zulaikha Patel (anti-racism and social justice activist) and Mmakgabo Ramatlhodi (from the Electoral Commission).

The session was attended by approximately 90 students and streamed live on social media.

The majority of the provinces held activations at various universities and colleges across the country in March 2022. These events were posted on the Electoral Commission's social media platforms.



TABLE 20:
TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS VISITED BY 31 MARCH 2022

Province	Universities	TVET/ private colleges
Gauteng	Wits University, Main Campus	Ekurhuleni West College (six campuses)
	University of Pretoria, Main Campus	Western TVET College (six campuses)
KwaZulu-Natal	University of Zululand (two campuses)	
Western Cape		South Cape College
Eastern Cape		East Cape Midlands College (three campuses)
		Port Elizabeth College
		Ikhalala FET College
		Nonesi FET College
		Ingwe TVET College
		Ikhalala TVET College
		King Hintsa TVET College
		Midlands College

Province	Universities	TVET/ private colleges
Limpopo	University of Venda	Sekhukhune TVET College
Mpumalanga	Vaal University of Technology, Secunda Campus	Balfour TVET College
		Sibanesetfu TVET College
		Evander TVET College
		Pretoria College – Secunda Campus
		Witbank TVET College
		Mpondozankomo TVET College
		Middleburg TVET College
		Midcol TVET College
		Waterval Boven TVET College
		CN Mahlangu TVET College
		Mthimbe TVET College
Free State	—	Flavious Mareka FETCollege
		Mphohadi FET College
Northern Cape	—	—
North West	North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus	—
TOTAL	6	25

This campaign was implemented from February 2022 and will continue until September 2022, leveraging the activity around the various commemorative holidays in the South African calendar.

COMMUNITY RADIO PROJECT

The LGE 2021 community radio project began in most provinces in June 2021. More sessions were provided to intensify the programme as Election Day approached, particularly in September and

October 2021. Through talk shows on electoral democracy, topics covered included why voting matters, how to register to vote and requirements to register to vote, Covid-19 safety protocols at voting stations, and balloting education, among others.

Radio activity for LGE 2021 was as follows:

- Eastern Cape: 29 radio stations, three programmes per month and 167 radio slots aired
- Free State: Four radio stations, two programmes per month and one radio slot aired

- Gauteng: 28 radio stations, one programme per month and 112 radio slots aired
- KwaZulu-Natal: 32 radio stations, one programme per month and 160 radio slots aired
- Limpopo: 30 radio stations, one programme per month and 90 radio slots aired
- Mpumalanga: 15 radio stations, two programmes per month and 56 radio slots aired
- Northern Cape: Seven radio stations, one programme per month and 21 radio slots aired
- North West: 13 radio stations,

one programme per month and 26 radio slots aired

- Western Cape: 23 radio stations, one programme per month and 46 radio slots aired

PUBLIC BROADCASTING SABC TELEVISION AND RADIO PARTNERSHIP

The Electoral Commission leverages strategic partners to amplify and broaden the reach and impact of its CDE. This was more pivotal when operating during the time of a pandemic, which limited social interaction.

Through an existing agreement with the SABC to support ongoing CDE, various television, radio and digital content was delivered to audiences across the country. During the period of reporting, attention was focused on the production of programming for the municipal elections. Programmes included the following:

Public radio: 13 x 24-minute episodes across public broadcasting service stations targeting the youth and general public. Topics included civic matters (13 stations) and Youth ke Yona (18 stations).

Public service announcements: Four public service announcements were produced and aired between September and November 2021. Topics included registration, women voting, youth voting and Covid-19 safety.

Television: A daily Thetha show, featuring six 46-minute slots, ran from 4 October to 8 November 2021. The show featured an election matters theme every Monday on SABC 1's flagship mid-morning live talk show aimed at the youth.

SABC Digital: SABC Digital implemented content on its digital media platforms. SABC Education posted election advert banners across all SABC Corporate sites, which generated 2 501 065 impressions and 6 635 clicks between July to 19 September 2021. SABC Education's social media platforms and a voter education mobisite were also utilised to carry CDE videos, fillers and audios, which further increased reach.

LOUD-HAILERS AND SPEAKERS

During the period under review, Outreach provided each region or district a budget for the procurement of four loud-hailers and four mobile speakers. This provision enabled the dissemination of CDE messages to voters in communities, while adhering to health and safety regulations and protocols, which seek to limit social contact. Audio files and scripts were also developed and provided for loud-hailing to ensure common, accurate and relevant messaging to the public.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND MOBILISATION

The Electoral Commission recruited staff to perform functions as municipal outreach coordinators (MOCs) to intensify community voter education campaigns. Some 350 MOCs were allocated countrywide from 1 June until the end of November 2021.

The MOCs were spread across all nine provinces, with at least one MOC per municipality to encourage overall participation in LGE 2021. They worked in collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, such as the DBE (schools), the Department

of Higher Education and Training (universities and TVET colleges), non-governmental organisations and traditional leaders, and conducted CDE on community radio and on SABC Radio.



TABLE 21:
ELECTORAL COMMISSION'S DEDICATED EDUCATIONAL
CAPACITY FOR COMMUNITY MOBILISATION IN LGE 2021

Province	Number of municipalities	Number of wards	Allocation
Eastern Cape	39	705	53
Free State	23	309	31
Gauteng	11	529	32
KwaZulu-Natal	54	870	62
Limpopo	27	566	39
Mpumalanga	20	400	25
North West	22	407	32
Northern Cape	31	204	36
Western Cape	30	402	40
TOTAL			350

This project was adversely impacted by the different Covid-19 alert level lockdown regulations, which restricted the movement and physical gathering of people. However, as a build-up to voter registration and Election Day, there was an increase in the number of CDE events.

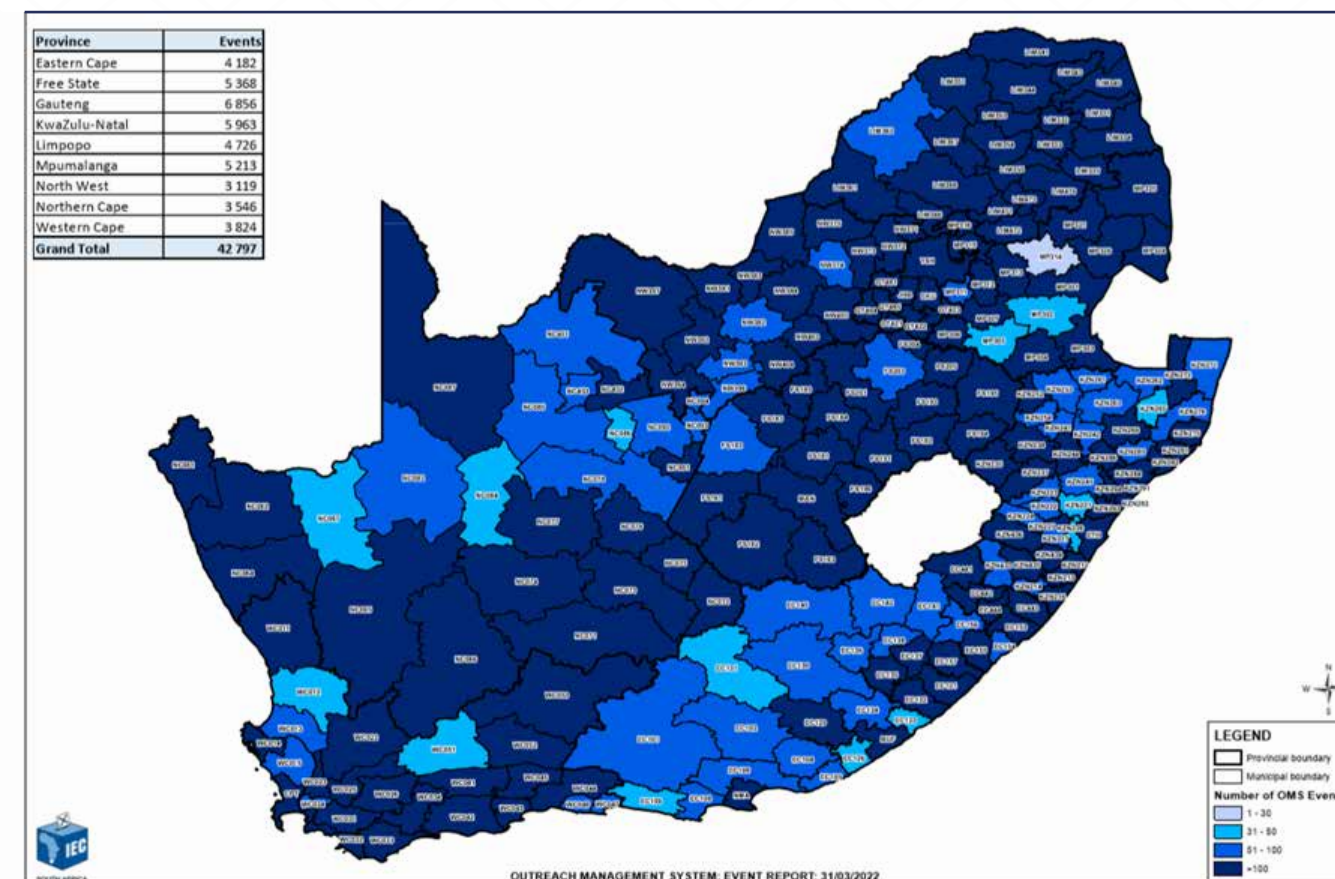
Provision was made nationally for an additional 50 positions for the disability sector. The recruitment process encountered challenges related to the requirements for the position to successfully fill all the positions.

In the 2021/22 financial year, the Electoral Commission conducted

42 797 CDE events at community level – with health and safety protocols in place. This exceeded the annual target of 24 000 events. Contributing to the success of the total number of events held was the lowering of pandemic restrictions to Alert Level 1 at different intervals in the reporting period. Success is also due to the use of alternative non-contact CDE methods, including the use of community radio, loud-hailing, the production and dissemination of video animations, audio material and social media toolkits, which were published online and distributed through stakeholders and partners.



FIGURE 14:
A VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THE FREQUENCY OF THE ELECTORAL
COMMISSION'S CDE EVENTS HELD NATIONWIDE IN 2021/22



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

In the year under review, the Electoral Commission conducted stakeholder engagements with civil society organisations, faith-based organisations, traditional leadership structures, schools and tertiary education institutions, trade unions, the business sector, the agricultural sector, the mining sector, tertiary institutions, government departments, political parties and persons with disabilities, among others. These channels facilitated informed discourse on constitutional imperatives, as well as the rights

and powers of both political parties or candidates and voters – and the responsibilities and processes of the Electoral Commission.

The Commission partnered with the DBE, the SABC, organisations representing visually impaired persons such as Blind SA and the South African National Council for the Blind (SANCB), the Deaf Federation of South Africa (Deaf SA), the National Community Radio Forum and various others to help spread the message of democracy.

The Electoral Commission held informative meetings with state departments, traditional leaders, civil society organisations, the business sector, labour organisations and faith-based organisations. Stakeholder engagements took place at national, provincial, district and local level.

Various relevant CDE materials were continuously shared with these sectors.

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

ELECTORAL RESEARCH

Several research tools formed part of the Electoral Commission's portfolio of longitudinal cross-sectional surveys and ad-hoc studies, conducted in partnership with the HSRC during the year under review.

The Voter Participation Survey (VPS) enables the Electoral Commission to get a broad view of the socio-political landscape ahead of a general election. The intention of the VPS is to inform and guide the Electoral Commission in its plans, policies and practices by evaluating voting behaviour in South Africa and ascertaining people's interests in and perceptions of forthcoming elections, and how these have been changing over time.

The VPS 2021 was a qualitative study conducted nationally by the HSRC through face-to-face interviews. It was nationally representative of those aged 16 years and older in private households across the nine provinces. Five hundred small area layers were selected using the Census 2011 Framework.

The VPS 2021 provided important insights ahead of LGE 2021, with the added interest around an election that takes place during a global pandemic.

The main aim of the Election Satisfaction Survey (ESS) is to determine the operational efficiency

of the Electoral Commission on each Election Day. The HSRC carried out the ESS on the day of the election to determine the opinions and perceptions of voters regarding the freeness and fairness of the electoral process, and to assess the operational efficiency of the Electoral Commission in managing municipal elections.

Pressing issues in the electoral environment, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, were measured through the Elections and Covid-19 Online Voter Participation Survey 2021. Given the constraints of conducting face-to-face, random probability surveys during the Covid-19 lockdown, the HSRC undertook an online public opinion survey.

The results were shared with the Electoral Commission to help understand South Africans' views on planned electoral registration and participation in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The online survey was conducted from 6 to 24 July 2021 with 5 650 questionnaires completed at a time when the third wave of infections was occurring, and the President had moved the country back to Alert Level 4 lockdown restrictions.

The survey collected data from South African citizens aged 18 years and older using the #datafree Moya Messenger platform hosted by Datafree (formerly biNu). Moya Messenger app users could access the online survey link to complete the Online Voter Participation Survey.

The data was weighted to align with Statistics South Africa's demographic estimates based on age, population group and education using the 2016 Community Survey. This allowed the survey data to be broadly indicative



The HSRC sampled 12 229 voters from 300 voting stations across the country. The ESS assessment report overwhelmingly determined that LGE 2021 was free and fair. The HSRC said that voters provided an overwhelmingly positive evaluation of the management performance of the Electoral Commission and its officials at voting stations.

of the attitudes and behaviour of the South African population.

The survey questionnaire consisted of 48 questions, which were structured around voter registration, voting and electoral attitudes, coronavirus experiences and beliefs, as well as a set of questions focusing on background information about the survey respondents.

Most of the survey questions were in a pre-coded format, although three open-ended questions were included to capture self-provided reasons for voting intention, as well as suggestions for the Electoral Commission to consider in encouraging registration and electoral turnout in the context of LGE 2021. As such, the intermediate findings from the survey provided key insights into voter registration, voting intention, political mood and electoral attitudes, views on Covid-19 and elections, as well as general coronavirus attitudes.

These research studies have the common intention of doing the following:

- Examining the behaviour, attitudes and disposition of the Electoral Commission's key stakeholders towards democracy, electoral processes and activities to produce insights to guide operational planning and efficiency in all areas of the Commission's work. Understanding the dynamics among the electorate and key stakeholders over time.
- Influencing change and innovation in conducting electoral activities on an ongoing basis.

The ultimate aim of electoral research is to mitigate election

vulnerabilities, strengthen electoral operating systems, and enhance electoral integrity and transparency. These surveys were nationally representative. The VPS and ESS have been conducted in a similar format for national, provincial and municipal elections for a number of elections.

KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

Knowledge Management has an efficient and functional Knowledge Centre, which is responsible for providing various services to internal stakeholders, including an in-house library, a records management section, reproduction services, messenger and postal services, as well as an extensive photo library and archive. The centre also works closely with the government's National Archives.

Annually, all documented information is filed and preserved according to relevant legislation, in the form of the National Archives and Record Service of South Africa Act, Act 43 of 1996; the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Act 2 of 2000; and the Electronic Communications and Transactions Act, Act 25 of 2002.

During 2020 and 2021, these services continued within the limitations of Covid-19. Records Management continued to archive both electronic and hard-copy records, supporting both staff and researchers by providing them with the information they required.

The Electoral Commission's library collection, established and amassed since 1998, is befitting of its role as an independent national institution. It is a knowledge repository for learning material related to democracy, free and fair

elections, and to the core functions and programmes of the Electoral Commission.

The library supported staff and any researchers who used its services by providing them with reference material, books, publications and journals, as well as electronic material. The organisation subscribes to the notion of lifelong learning and having relevant information at its fingertips.



COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA RELATIONS

COMMUNICATION: MEDIA AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

The LGE 2021 communication strategy was produced and implemented at the onset of the deadly Covid-19 pandemic that redefined the rules of engagement across all dimensions of human endeavour. It pushed the boundaries of communications and had a catalytic effect in the adoption of web-based multimedia platforms and digital solutions for communication with the public. The normal way, as conventionally known, was irreversibly changed.

In an election year, a key priority of the Electoral Commission is to galvanise the nation and build awareness of impending election events by reaching eligible citizens and encouraging them to register and vote on Voting Day.

Communication plays a vital role in promoting electoral democracy by providing information, facilitating education, creating awareness and encouraging action in support of the objectives of the Electoral Commission.

The communication campaign engaged the full spectrum of the communication function, including internal and external

communications, advertising, media relations and reputation management, events management, stakeholder relations, branding, the provision of an up-to-date website and contact centre, and the production of publications across traditional and new digital media channels. Furthermore, the campaign also provided information to South Africans on the Electoral Commission's other activities and programmes, including CDE, by-elections and the Multiparty Democracy Fund.

EVERY VOICE TOGETHER CAMPAIGN

CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

Informing and engaging South African citizens and stakeholders in our electoral democracy have never been more challenging than in 2021, given the uncertainties associated with conducting general elections during a global pandemic. The construction of the communication campaign was based on market research aimed at understanding the environment and attitude of voters (especially young voters) towards local elections and voting in general. The insights gained and findings reached were used to develop a communication strategy.

From this strategy document, the creative concept for the LGE 2021 was born with the slogan: "Every voice together".

The rationale for this campaign was to inspire more South Africans, particularly the youth, to make their voices heard in LGE 2021. There is nothing greater than the sentiment of home, our community, where we are from and where we belong.

"Every voice together" embodies the sentiment and spirit of communities coming together, and the power that we have in numbers, because the actual work starts within our communities, the possibilities of every "X", every voice in every community coming together at the ballot box. Hence the tagline, "Put an X for your community. Every voice together".

The advertisement spending for the campaign entailed 33% spent on television placement, 22% on radio, 17% on out-of-home advertising, including street-pole posters, 6% on print and 19% on digital advertising, which included social media.

The election campaign was launched at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg on 9 June 2021. In line with the restrictions on gatherings under the Adjusted Alert

Level 2 Regulations then in force, this was a hybrid event limited to 150 attendees. Guests were limited to leaders of political parties, government officials, members of the diplomatic corps and the media. The event was broadcast live on various news channels and online platforms.

The campaign was rolled out over two phases across all channels nationwide. The first phase entailed a voter registration campaign ahead of the registration weekend,

initially planned for 17 to 18 July 2021, but then postponed to 18 to 19 September 2021. The second phase was rolled out ahead of Election Day on 1 November 2021.

LGE 2021 CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

A 360-degree campaign was launched that included out-of-home nationwide advertising, print adverts on major and community newspapers, radio advertisements in all 11 official languages, and

television adverts that flighted on major television channels. This was amplified with a digital campaign made with the cast of a television commercial, who shared their stories of inspiration with South Africans to come together and make their voices heard.

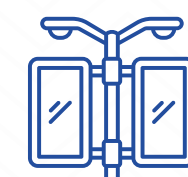
The Electoral Commission's registration drive and voting campaign were broadcast on the following media platforms:



- **Television:** Among the key creative products of the three-month campaign were two 30-second television adverts, one each for registration and voting, featuring a diverse range of dynamic South Africans en route to registering and voting, which was broadcast on all major SABC channels, eTV and eNCA, and selected DStv channels. The registration campaign advertisements flighted from 10 to 19 September 2021. The voting campaign advertisements flighted from 12 October to 1 November 2021 and reached approximately 25 million viewers. Reached: 25 155 000



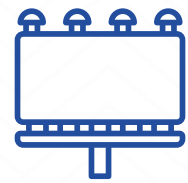
- **Radio:** The television adverts were supported by radio adverts in all 11 official languages, which were featured across all 18 SABC radio stations, 11 commercial stations, and community and regional radio stations from 14 to 18 September 2021. This radio campaign reached over 31 million listeners. For the election campaign, commercial and community radio adverts ran from 18 to 22 October 2021. Reached: 32 132 000



- **Street-pole posters:** To further reinforce the voter registration messaging, the Electoral Commission produced 180 000 posters in all 11 official languages, which were distributed and erected throughout South Africa ahead of the September 2021 registration weekend. Reached: 13 232 012



- **Print:** The print strategy focused on the placement of print advertisements of various sizes in mainstream weekly and daily newspapers, as well as community newspapers across all nine provinces during the registration and voting campaigns. Reached: 16 553 000



- **Out-of-home activation:** The Electoral Commission pursued various formats, sizes and platforms in its out-of-home activation for the registration campaign. The approach was to have various touchpoints and destinations where the Electoral Commission could reach as wide an audience as possible across all nine provinces. Touchpoints included major arterials, township exit and entry points, commuter nodes and sites deep in the townships. During LGE 2021, the Electoral Commission printed 238 billboards, murals and bus-back advertisements. Reach: 238

DIGITAL CAMPAIGN FOR LGE 2021

Digital and social media were once again key channels for communication in the LGE 2021 campaign. Newer communication technologies have increased the possibilities relating to how people send and receive information. The Electoral Commission has not been oblivious to the shift from traditional media to digital and social media as a source of news and information, especially among the youth. In addition, as Covid-19 protocols increasingly restricted people to their homes, digital and social media gained greater use in LGE 2021.

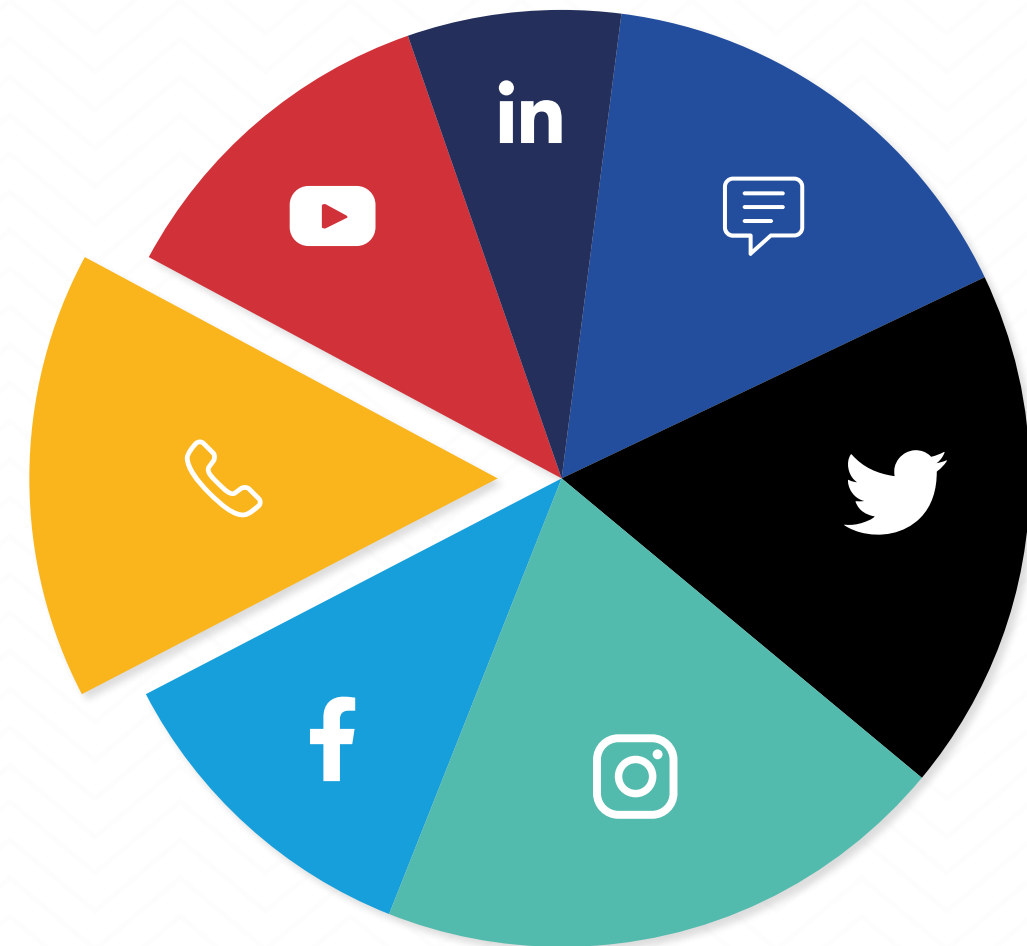
The social media campaign launched with a registration event and saw organic and promoted content on its social media platforms:

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and digital banner advertising and home page takeovers on South Africa's major news sites such as News24 and IOL. The campaign focused on motivating eligible voters to register to vote, and educating them about the importance of municipal elections, sharing details of registration processes, and key registration weekend dates.

The following was the key reach of the digital campaign, based on information sourced from individual platforms and the Electoral Commission's media buying service provider. The impact of the social media strategy was significant. Between June and November 2021, the Electoral Commission enjoyed the following engagement on key social media platforms:

- A young, highly engaged Twitter reach of 2.9 million, which included engagement with a predominantly male following, aged 24–35 and 35–44 years old.
- A highly engaged Facebook ad reach impressions of 36 million, with more than half of all followers aged 25–34 and 35–44 years old.
- The Electoral Commission's fledgling presence on the Instagram photo-sharing platform reached 1.5 million impressions.
- LinkedIn reached 41 751 impressions.
- SMSs distributed reached 2 million, whereas the Please Call Me feature had a reach of 150 million in total.

SOCIAL MEDIA OVERVIEW



Please Call Me
• Reach: 165 million



SMS
• Reach: 3.6 million



Facebook
• Reach: 36 million impressions



YouTube
• Reach: 58 million



Twitter
• Reach: 2.9 million impressions



LinkedIn
• Reach: 41 751



Instagram
• Reach: 1.5 million

ELECTIONS EVENTS MANAGEMENT

All planned events of the Electoral Commission were held in a hybrid format. While a limited number of guests attended physically, others were following the events virtually on the Electoral Commission's social media platforms in adherence to Covid-19 protocols.

The events were extensively covered by print and electronic media, while being followed by South Africans on the Electoral Commission's social media platforms.

KEY EVENTS HOSTED DURING THE ELECTION PERIOD

Launch of Every Voice Together campaign on 9 June 2021

The launch of the LGE 2021 campaign took place at the Sandton Convention Centre, with a maximum of 150 guests and a sizeable media presence physically and online due to the pandemic. Only a limited number of guests could be invited for the hour-long unveiling of the elections logo and launch of the LGE 2021 event. The event was hybrid, streamed live on YouTube and virtually on Zoom.

National Code of Conduct pledge signing and ballot paper draw

This national event was held at NASREC in Johannesburg, followed by nine provincial Code of Conduct pledge-signing ceremonies in the nine provinces. The event saw political leaders pledging to uphold the Electoral Code of Conduct as they entered the electioneering period. The Electoral Commission only hosted leaders of political parties and their representatives. Media covered the event, which was broadcast live on national television and also beamed on social media platforms, including a virtual Zoom broadcast.

Launch of the national and provincial Results Operations Centres

The launch of the national ROC took place at the Tshwane Events Centre on 26 October 2021. As with the previous two election events, and in compliance with Covid-19 restrictions, the venue was booked for the maximum number of guests permissible, i.e. 300 guests, and the event was live-streamed on the Electoral Commission's social media platforms.

Among the guests were representatives of political parties, Chapter 9 institutions, government officials, members of Parliament, members of the diplomatic corps, sponsors such as Telkom and the SABC, the judiciary, the MDB, the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and members of the Commission, incorporating senior management and the media. The hour-long programme incorporated an audio-visual production, as well as a guided walkabout tour of officials to showcase the ROC facilities. The event was broadcast live on national television.

Announcement of the election results

On 4 November 2021, the Commission hosted a live broadcast event to announce the official results of LGE 2021. A limited number of guests was invited to be present at the event. Live coverage of the event ensured that millions of South Africans were following the results announcements of LGE 2021.

MEDIA RELATIONS

The Electoral Commission hosted a number of activities to promote and report on LGE 2021. This included live media broadcasts, media briefings and electoral events, as well as the training of journalists.

Over 1 000 journalists, representing the print media, online, broadcast and various digital platforms, converged at the National Results Centre to report on elections.

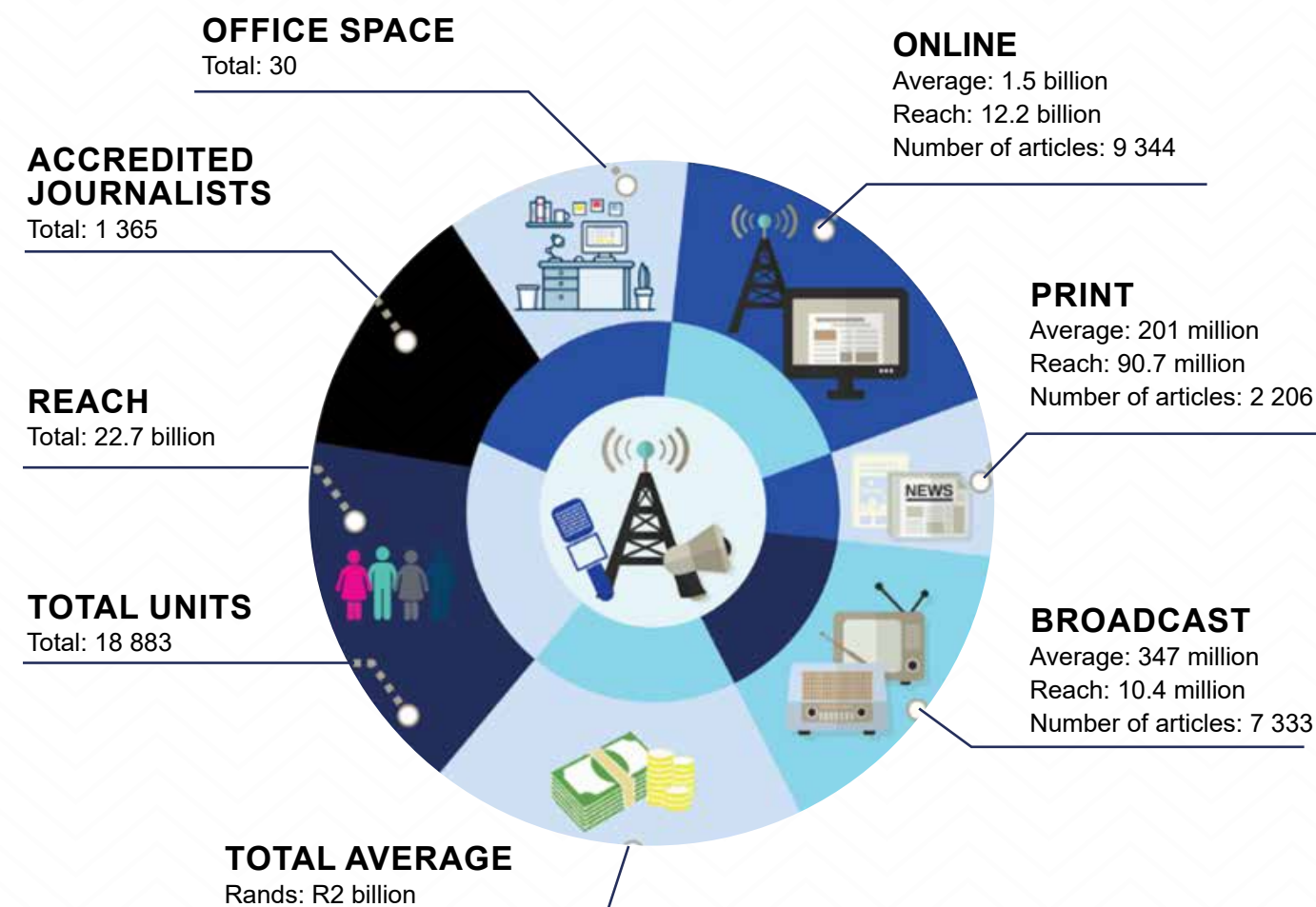
Throughout the election campaign, the Electoral Commission dealt with thousands of media enquiries and interview requests from a pool of over 1 000 journalists, and facilitated their accreditation for the 10 ROCs (one national and nine provincial).

The Electoral Commission also disseminated 62 media statements, hosted 25 media briefings and conducted national training workshops for journalists during the year under review.

Our synergistic partnership with the media produced a record number of published opinion pieces – over and above news stories published in *The Star*, *The Daily News*, *The Argus* and the *Sunday Independent*. These included the following:

- An opinion piece on political tolerance published on IOL
- An opinion piece on party funding published in *The Cape Argus*, IOL and other group publications
- An opinion piece on political tolerance
- An opinion article on women, elections and gender-based violence published in the Independent Group of newspapers.
- Editorials by Adrian Basson and Cyril Madlala, contextualised articles on the Commission's function and role, which helped balance the undue negative narrative that was in the media. These articles were also published in *The Star*, *The Daily News* and *The Argus*.

LGE 2021 MEDIA ACTIVITIES



MEDIA MONITORING

During the year under review, the Electoral Commission continued to ensure that coverage of its activities was widely tracked. Where relevant, it immediately corrected any disinformation.

Media reports recorded from April 2021 to March 2022 were as follows

- 2 581 reports were positive assessments of the organisation
- 21 040 reports contributed to neutral reporting

- 3 136 reports were assessed as having a negative impact on the organisation's reputation

TABLE 22:
MONTHLY MEDIA ANALYSIS FOR THE 2021/22 FINANCIAL YEAR

Month	Positive reports	Neutral reports	Negative reports	Total number of reports
April 2021	443	22	394	859
May 2021	552	664	0	1 216
June 2021	456	471	19	946
July 2021	115	1 851	11	1 977
August 2021	80	2 940	258	3 278
September 2021	337	7 357	63	7 757
October 2021	151	2 240	826	3 217
November 2021	447	5 495	1 565	7 507
December 2021 – contract expired	0	0	0	0
January 2022 – contract expired	0	0	0	0
February 2022 – contract expired	0	0	0	0
March 2022 – contract expired	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2 581	21 040	3 136	26 757

CONTACT CENTRE

The growing demands on the organisation to provide its various stakeholders with information on elections at their convenience, particularly the LGE 2021, motivated the Electoral Commission to once again establish an integrated inbound contact centre.

Contact centre agents were deployed with working hours from 08:00 to 17:00 on weekdays, offering extended hours during the registration weekend and in the week

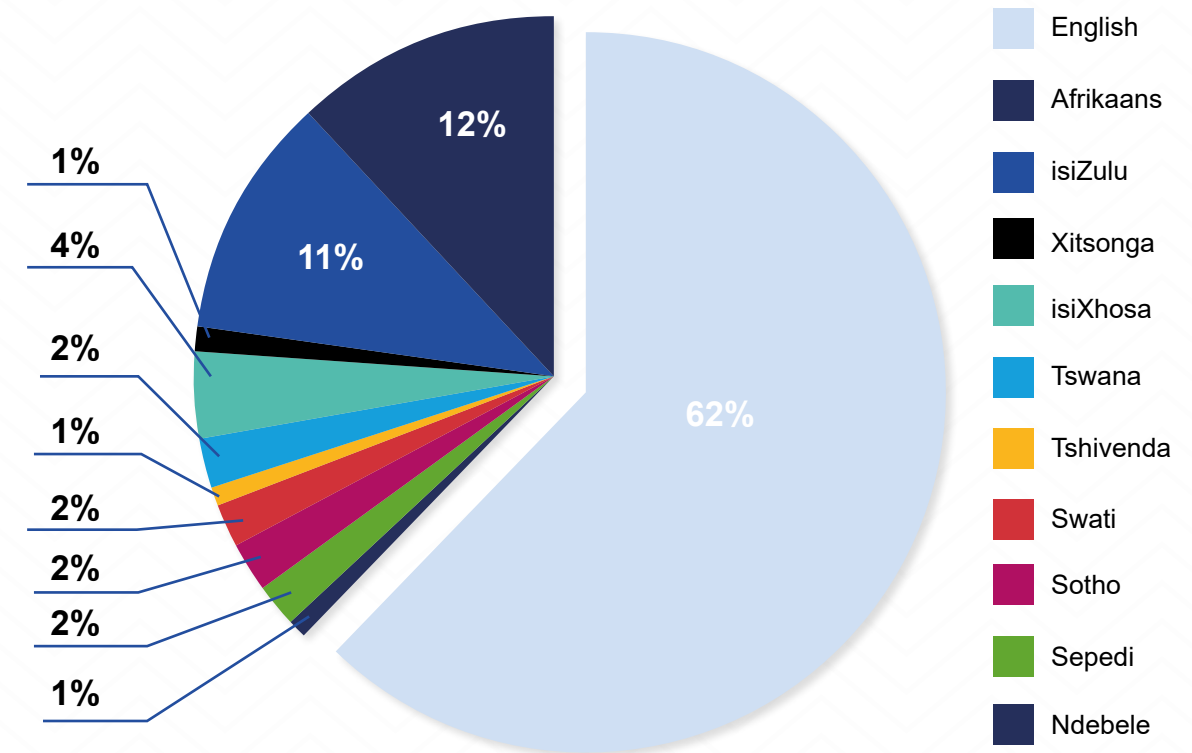
immediately before registration and voting weeks (07:00 to 19:00).

The contact centre was operational until the end of November, following the conclusion of LGE 2021 and the announcement of the results early in November 2021.

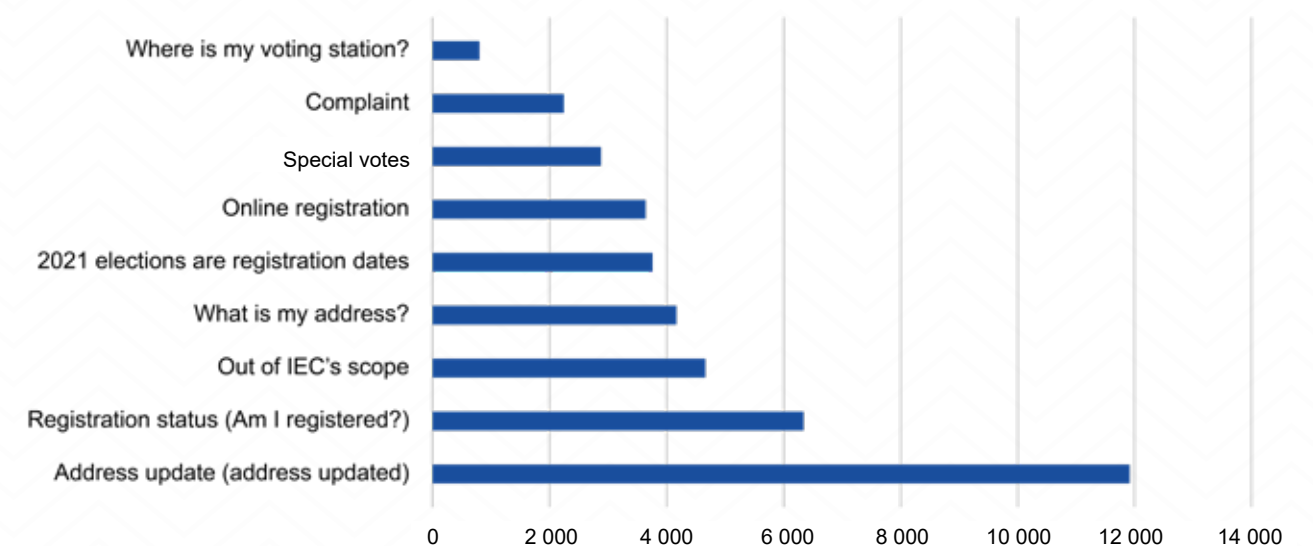
The Electoral Commission's social media channels were incorporated into the contact centre function in order to reach South Africans, especially young, unregistered voters, in a more integrated and accessible way.

The contact centre was divided into a traditional call centre, accessed through a toll-free number, 0800 11 8000, and interactive internet-based communication tools, including social media applications such as Facebook and Twitter, and the Electoral Commission's general email address: info@elections.org.za.

TOTAL CALLS BY LANGUAGE



CALLS BY TYPE



PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

by programme

PROGRAMME 4: PARTY FUNDING

Programme 4 supports the achievement of Strategic Outcome-oriented Goal 4. Party Funding provides the strategic management for Programme 4.

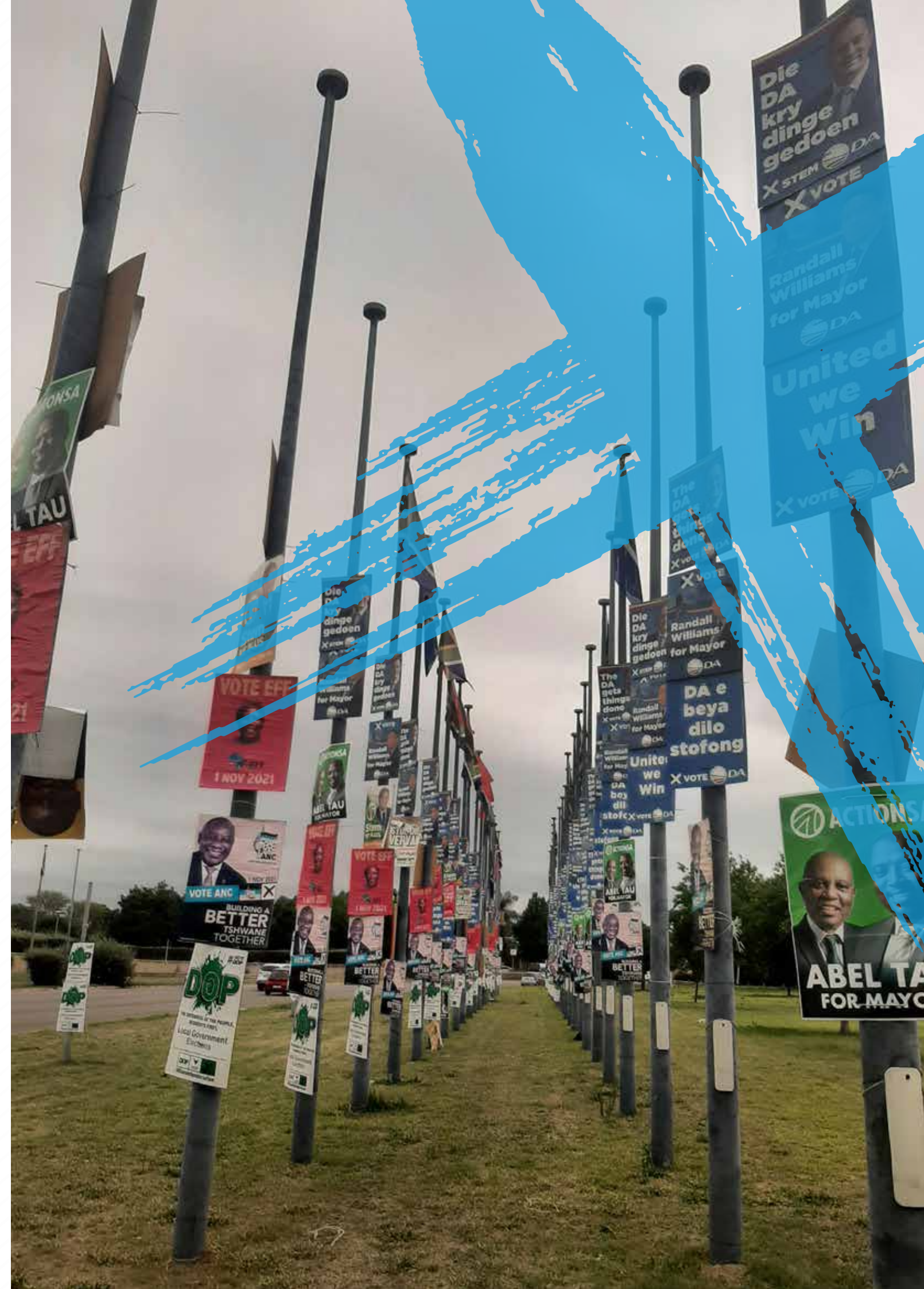
This programme focuses on the strategic outcome of contributing to the enhancement of transparency in elections and party funding.

The programme manages party funding and donations in compliance with legislation, and strengthens cooperative relationships by providing consultative and liaison platforms between the Electoral Commission and political parties and candidates, using systems, people and processes that are sustainable.

It also provides the effective management of the registration of political parties and processing of the nomination of candidates for various electoral events.

Strategic objectives

Strategic Objective 4.1	Number of disbursements to represented parties per annum
Strategic Objective 4.2	Number of liaison sessions held with members of party liaison committees at national (one), provincial (nine) and municipal (213) levels per annum



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, PLANNED TARGETS AND ACTUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

PROGRAMME 4: PARTY FUNDING

	Outcome	Outputs	Output indicators	Audited / actual performance 2019/20
4.1.1	Contributed to the enhancement of transparency in elections and party funding	Manage party funding in compliance with relevant legislation	Number of disbursements to represented parties per annum	New
4.1.2		Provide consultative and cooperative liaison platforms between the Electoral Commission and stakeholders and potential contributors to promote the funding of multi-party democracy.	Number of liaison sessions held with stakeholders and potential contributors to the Multiparty Democracy Fund	New

Audited / actual performance 2020/21	Planned annual 2021/22	Actual achievement 2021/22	Deviation from planned target to actual achievement 2021/22	Reasons for deviations
4	4	4	0	Target achieved.
10	10	19	9	Target achieved and exceeded. Target was exceeded due to the fact that the Political Party Funding Act became effective on 1 April 2021 and the unit received several requests from various stakeholders to present and clarify the provisions of the Political Party Funding Act.

POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING

DISBURSEMENTS TO REPRESENTED POLITICAL PARTIES

The Political Party Funding Act (Act 6 of 2018) repeals the Public Funding of Represented Political Parties Act (Act 103 of 1997), but retains the Represented Political Parties Fund originally established in 1997. The aim of the Fund is to provide funding for political parties represented in the national and provincial legislatures. Funds for the RPPF are provided annually through a parliamentary allocation and are distributed to represented political parties.

In addition to the RPPF, the new Act establishes a Multiparty Democracy Fund (MPDF) to raise and distribute contributed funds from the private sector to represented political parties. The Electoral Commission is mandated to administer the fund, including accepting funds for the MPDF from corporate and private donors and distributing these funds in much the same way as it does with the RPPF.

During the period under review, four disbursements, totalling an amount of R165 431 692, were made to represented parties, one every quarter. These disbursements

include the distribution of an amount of R4 926 838 generated through the MPDF. This disbursement was made in the fourth quarter.

One political party, the African Independent Congress (AIC), had its funds suspended due to failure by the party to comply with the requirements of the Act. This suspension of the funds is in accordance with the provisions of the same Act, which stipulate that the Commission may suspend the payment of money to a represented political party if it is satisfied that the represented party has failed to

TABLE 23:
DATES AND AMOUNTS OF DISBURSEMENT

Fund	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Represented Political Parties Fund	R20 761 323	R57 216 430	R42 329 098	R40 198 004	R160 504 855
Multiparty Democracy Fund	-	-	-	R4 926 838	R4 926 838
TOTAL	R20 761 323	R57 216 430	R42 329 098	R45 124 842	R165 431 693

POLITICAL PARTY LIAISON

comply with this Act.

Political parties are an indispensable component of a vibrant democracy. In recognition of this fact, the Electoral Commission maintains party liaison committees (PLCs) with represented political parties at national, provincial and municipal level to facilitate free and fair elections. The PLCs are a platform for consultation and cooperation

between the Electoral Commission and the represented political parties. A total of 2 042 PLC meetings were held in the period under review. This translates into 258 more meetings than was planned.

The increase in the number of meetings can be attributed to the flurry of electoral activities in the build-up to LGE 2021. It is worth

noting that, while the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted on traditional face-to-face meetings, consultations were still possible and conducted through online platforms such as Zoom and Skype for Business.

The online channels ensured that the Commission was still able to consult with one of its chief

TABLE 24:
BREAKDOWN OF PARTY LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETINGS AS AT THE END OF MARCH 2022

Province	Provincial	Municipal	Total
Eastern Cape	8	320	328
Free State	12	196	208
Gauteng	10	83	93
KwaZulu-Natal	13	397	410
Limpopo	10	241	251
Mpumalanga	8	147	155
North West	8	163	171
Northern Cape	4	195	199
Western Cape	10	196	206
National Office	21	-	21
TOTAL	104	1 938	2 042

stakeholders, political parties. For the party funding programme, 19 liaison sessions were held in the period under review, translating into nine more meetings than was planned. The focus of the meetings was largely on the newly enacted

Party Funding Act, with the main focus of providing stakeholders with training on the Act and its requirements for political parties, donors and contributors in general. The members of the media fraternity, especially those under the

umbrella body of the South African National Editors Forum (SANEF), also formed a critical stakeholder with whom several liaison sessions took place.

TABLE 25:
DETAILS OF LIAISON SESSIONS

Liaison session	Quarter 1		Quarter 2		Quarter 3		Quarter 4		Total	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
National Party Liaison Committee (NPLC) and other stakeholders (e.g. SANEF, My Vote Counts)	2	11	2	2	3	3	3	3	10	19

DECLARATION AND PUBLICATION OF DONATIONS

The Political Party Funding Act requires political parties to make quarterly disclosures to the Electoral Commission of all donations received above R100 000, whether monetary, in-kind or both. The Act also requires that donors disclose

all donations above R100 000 to the Electoral Commission within 30 days of making the donation. The Electoral Commission is required to monitor and publish the declarations on its website quarterly.

During the period under review, the Electoral Commission published three disclosure reports.

The fourth will be issued during May 2022. This is because declarations are, according to plan, published two months after the end of the quarter. Table 26 shows details of all the declaration reports.

TABLE 26:
DATES OF DECLARATION PUBLICATIONS

Declarations report	Date	Number of Declarations	Amount
Quarter 1	9 September 2021	17	R30 008 842.00
Quarter 2	18 November 2021	29	R56 880 644.00
Quarter 3	2 March 2022	39	R46 036 590.00
Quarter 4	To be published in May 2022		

The Electoral Commission is further required to submit a report to Parliament annually containing the audited financial statements of the RPPF and the MPDF, the extracts from the represented political parties' audited annual financial statements, as well all the declarations submitted by registered political parties and published on the website. These will be reported in greater detail in the Political Party Funding Annual Report.



VOTER REGISTRATION

 **18-19 SEPT**

 **8AM-5PM**

ELECTIONS.ORG.ZA

 **0800 11 8000**



**SCAN THE
QR CODE
FOR MORE INFO**



  @IECSouthAfrica  SMS ID to 32810 (R1/SMS)



03

GOVERNANCE

INTRODUCTION

Corporate governance embodies processes and systems by which institutions are directed, controlled and held to account. In addition to legislative requirements based

on the Electoral Commission Act, corporate governance principles and the PFMA and its various regulations are applied in the governance of the institution. Parliament, the executive

authority, the commissioners, Audit Committee, and the CEO of the Electoral Commission are responsible for various aspects of corporate governance.

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

The Electoral Commission reports directly to Parliament and interacts primarily with the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs in the National Assembly and with the Select Committee on Security and Justice in the National Council of Provinces.

The Portfolio Committee and the Select Committee are multi-party committees established in terms of the Rules of Parliament. An extraordinary number of interactions with the committees took place during the course of the year under review. This was mainly due to the consideration of legislative amendments in preparation for LGE 2021.

These included the following sessions:

- 11 May 2020: Briefing of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on Annual Performance Plans, Strategic Plans and budgets for the 2020/21 financial year.
- 26 June 2020: Briefing of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on the implications of the Constitutional Court judgement in relation to the electoral system.
- 7 July 2020: Briefing of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on revised budget allocations in view of the Covid-19 pandemic.

- 14 July 2020: Briefing of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on preparations for LGE 2021.
- 18 August 2020: Briefing of Chairpersons of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs and of the Select Committee on Security and Justice on the integrated road map on the Electoral Act.
- Consideration of the submissions on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill [B 22 – 2020].
- 10 November 2020: Deliberation in the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill.
- 17 November 2020: Response by the Electoral Commission to submissions on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill.
- 24 November 2020: Deliberations in the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill [B 22 – 2020].
- 27 November 2020: Further deliberations in the Portfolio on Home Affairs on the Electoral Amendment Bill [B 22 – 2020].
- 8 December 2020: Briefing of the Select Committee on Security and Justice on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill.

- 9 February 2021: Briefing of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill.

- 10 February 2021: Consideration of submissions on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill in the Select Committee on Security and Justice.
- 17 February 2021: Response by the Electoral Commission on the submission on the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill in the Select Committee on Security and Justice.
- 24 February 2021: Consideration of the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill in the Select Committee on Security and Justice.
- 9 March 2021: Briefing of the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs on the proposed amendments to Electoral Laws Amendment Bill [B 22B – 2020].
- 9 March 2021: Consideration of the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill in the National Council of Provinces.
- 12 March 2021: Consideration, adoption of the report and finalisation of the Electoral Laws Amendment Bill [B 22B – 2020] in the Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY

In terms of Treasury Regulation 1.1 of the PFMA, the executive authority of the Electoral Commission is the Chairperson of the Commission. The Accounting Officer, who is the CEO, submits quarterly reports on performance against strategic objectives to the executive authority. These reports are discussed at meetings of the Commission,

as well as through the management process of the Electoral Commission. Issues raised at these meetings are considered when implementing plans for the remainder of the year.

Commission who attended these meetings are reflected in Table 27

THE COMMISSION

The membership of the Electoral Commission is provided for in terms of section 6 of the Electoral Commission Act. The Commission meetings and the members of the

TABLE 27:
COMMISSION MEETINGS

Name	Date appointed	Number of meetings attended
Mr Glen Mashinini	18 May 2015	20
Ms Janet Love	20 April 2016	20
Dr Nomsa Masuku	24 November 2018	18
Mr Mosotho Moepya	24 November 2018	20
Judge Dhaya Pillay	24 November 2018	20

COMMISSION COMMITTEES

To exercise its oversight responsibilities, the Commission established Commission Committees. The committees are an interface between the Commission and administration, and deal with matters that require Commission consideration and approval, including recommendations.

Each Committee is chaired by a member of the Commission and is also composed of the CEO, Deputy CEOs and project owners. The committees and their meeting frequency are as follows:

- Elections Management Committee (monthly)
- Governance and Ethics Committee (twice yearly)
- Finance, Risk and Compliance Committee (monthly)
- Human Resources Governance Committee (monthly)
- Outreach, Communications and International Relations Committee (monthly)
- Research, Publications and Knowledge Management Committee (quarterly).

RISK MANAGEMENT

Section 38(1) of the PFMA requires the Accounting Officer of the Electoral Commission to have and maintain effective, efficient and transparent systems of risk management.

In fulfilling this responsibility, the Electoral Commission employs a comprehensive Risk Management Policy, Methodology and a Risk Management Framework, which has been approved by the Executive Risk Management Committee and the executive authority of the Commission. The Electoral

Commission's Risk Management Policy and Framework is based on the principles embodied in the Committee of Sponsoring Organisations (COSO) of the Tredway Commission, and the Public Sector Risk Management Framework (PSRMF) (14(30)), which stipulates, among others, that accounting officers or authorities should hold management accountable for designing, implementing, monitoring and integrating risk management in their day-to-day activities, and Principle 4.2 of the King IV Code on Corporate Governance, which prescribes that the governing body of an organisation should identify emerging risks as part of its monitoring functions.

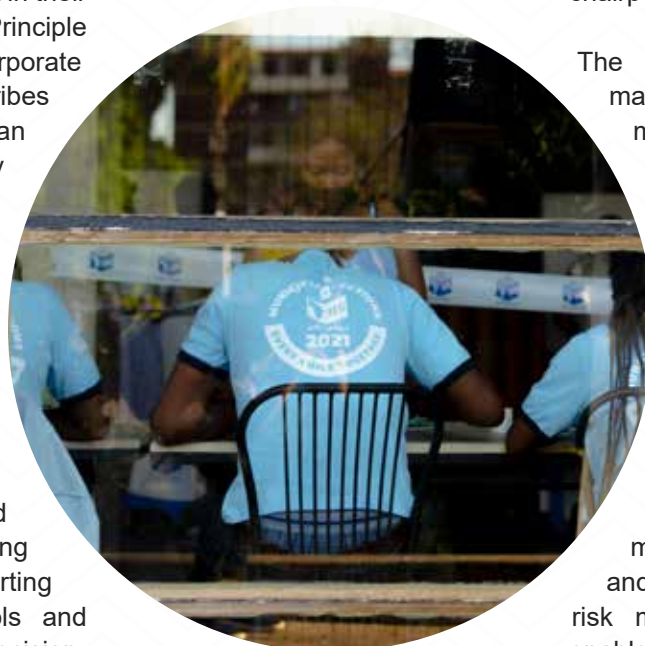
These risk management standards and frameworks have been customised for the Electoral Commission and are applied in identifying critical risk events and opportunities, assessing risks, monitoring risks, reporting risks, implementing controls and mitigations, implementing decision-making and project management, and in all other business processes.

Risk management is a fundamental part of the Electoral Commission's business strategy and effective corporate governance. The Electoral Commission adopted a risk philosophy aimed at maximising business opportunities and minimising adverse outcomes, thereby enhancing value by effectively balancing risk and reward.

The identification and management of risk reduce the uncertainty associated with the execution of the Electoral Commission's

business strategies, and allow the organisation to maximise opportunities that may arise.

The profile of the Electoral Commission's key strategic risks was developed through formalised risk assessment workshops with the organisation's Executive Committee and Management Committee, and in conjunction with each department's managers.



As risk takes on many forms and can have materially adverse impacts on the organisation's ability to achieve its strategic outcomes and objectives by potentially impacting on its reputation, operation, human resources and financial performance, risk assessment workshops were conducted to consider various risk-related factors. These included risk factors within the global economy, the South African risk profile and the perceptions of the media coverage on the Electoral Commission.

In discharging its risk management responsibilities, the Electoral

Commission has established the Executive Risk Management Committee. This committee meets quarterly to fulfill its governance oversight role of risk management by monitoring the organisation's strategic and operational profiles, mitigation plans and other significant key risks against the organisation's risk-bearing capacity, including monitoring the implementation of the annual risk implementation plan. The Committee is chaired by an external chairperson.

The Electoral Commission's management promoted a risk-mature culture and set the risk management tone through the approval of the Risk Management Policy and Framework. Greater emphasis had to be placed on the development of the appreciation of risk as an integrated discipline. Furthermore, Risk Management embarked on a journey to make risk management even more robust and forward looking, and elevated risk management as a strategic enabler. It made the following achievements during the period under review.:

- Reviewed the governance documents (Risk Management Framework, Policy and Strategy, and the Executive Risk Management Committee's terms of reference and its approval in March 2022)
- Developed the Electoral Commission's Risk Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Conducted a risk maturity survey
- Held formalised risk assessment workshops at an operational and management level, which ultimately contributed to the

development of a strategic risk profile for 2022/23. The implementation of the Electoral Commission's Strategic Plan 2020–2025 will be closely guided by the risk profile to ensure that the organisation meets its predesigned outcomes and objectives.

- Enhanced mechanisms for reporting on the monitoring of mitigation actions throughout the Electoral Commission (strategic, operational, project and ICT risks)

The Electoral Commission continued to work towards embedding a risk-aware culture in the organisation through initiatives such as awareness workshops and risk assessment sessions throughout the financial year. These were aimed at promoting principles of risk management and familiarising staff with them.

INTERNAL AUDIT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Electoral Commission employed a co-sourced model for its statutory internal audit function in line with the Treasury Regulation (TR0 3.2.4 from inception through tender IEC/Fin/32-2000). Likewise, in February 2018, the Electoral Commission again partly contracted the internal audit function to external organisations with specialist audit expertise through a selection process in accordance with government's relevant competitive tendering procedures. The most recent in the array of internal audit tenders awarded is tender IEC/IA-01/2017, which required the provisioning of internal audit services in such a co-sourced capacity for activities up to the

finalisation of the 2022/23 internal audit operational plan. Awards in the amount of R20 million each for three service providers admitted over the period were published in the Government Gazette

The statutory Audit Committee of the Electoral Commission convened for nine meetings during the financial year. Details of the individual members of the Audit Committee and attendance at meetings during 2020/21 are as follows:

TABLE 28:
AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Name of member (all external)	Qualifications	Date appointed	Attended	Apologies	Total attended
Mr CD Boltman	MBA	June 2017	9	N/A	9
Dr MEC Moleki	PhD	March 2018	9	N/A	9
Ms SP Mzizi	CA(SA)	August 2018	7	2	6
Adv Thato Mohapi	LLM	February 2020	1	N/A	8

TABLE 29:
AUDIT COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE

Name of member	14 May 2020	28 May 2020	29 July 2020	24 August 2020	28 September 2020	30 November 2020	27 January 2021	8 March 2021	30 March 2021
Mr CD Boltman (Chairperson from 15 February 2021)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr MEC Moleki	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms SP Mzizi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Adv Thato Mohapi	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Officials of the Office of the AGSA, the CAE and members of the internal audit activity, the Accounting Officer and the Chief Financial Officer have attended general sessions of the Audit Committee sittings.

The Audit Committee also held individual confidential discussions with these officials as and when required. In addition, the Audit Committee, in terms of Treasury Regulation 3.1.15, shares

information on oversight matters with the executive authority, being the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

A detailed review of all procurement processes and documentation is undertaken after each external audit, and a continuous process of monitoring the legislative environment is in place. The Electoral Commission has a fully functional compliance unit, and all procurement transactions are reviewed to ensure compliance with the relevant prescripts.

FRAUD AND CORRUPTION

The Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy and the Whistleblowing Policy were drafted. They were approved by the Commission on 6 March 2015. In addition, the Fraud Prevention Strategy was reviewed and revised, and approved on the same date.

Key elements in the Fraud Prevention Implementation Plan include the drafting of standard operating

procedures and a communication campaign to reinforce the Electoral Commission's zero tolerance of fraud and corruption.

During the latter part of 2016, a company was appointed that specialises in whistleblowing processes to ensure that suspected fraud and corruption cases are handled independently and objectively.

MINIMISING CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Electoral Commission recognises that conflicts extend beyond procurement matters, and, on 18 March 2016, the Commission approved a Conflict of Interest Policy that addresses the broader issues related to conflict of interest. The need to be aware of potential conflicts and how to address these is reinforced at financial management workshops.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Electoral Commission has a Code of Conduct that is contained in its Employee Policy Manual. Section 9 of the Electoral Commission Act contains a Code for Commissioners. Both codes are currently in the process of being reviewed by the Governance and Ethics Committee for recommendations to be made to the Electoral Commission.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993) was adhered to and no contraventions were reported. The Electoral Commission has established a Health and Safety Committee for its national office, in accordance with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act. During the period under review, this committee met twice to carry out its functions in terms of the Act.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Electoral Commission has established a Governance and Ethics Committee, which will develop a Policy on Social Responsibility. Currently, the Electoral Commission's employees are encouraged to participate in various initiatives to contribute to social development. Such initiatives are organised centrally, and time is allowed for this. Direct financial contributions are regulated by the PFMA.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Audit and Risk Committee of the Electoral Commission of South Africa is pleased to present its report for the financial year ended 31 March 2022.

Audit Committee responsibility

The Audit and Risk Committee was established in terms of section 77 of the Public Finance Management Act of 1999, as amended. The ARC hereby confirms that it has complied with its responsibilities as prescribed in Treasury Regulation 3.1, has adopted formal terms of reference as its charter and has satisfied its responsibilities in compliance with this charter.

Details of Audit Committee meetings held, meeting attendance and member composition are included on pages 123 and 124.

Effectiveness of internal control Management operating in the first and second lines of defence are responsible to ensure that

internal controls put in place by the Accounting Officer are adequate, effective and efficient for their areas of operations. These include the safeguarding of assets, ensuring the efficient management of liabilities and working capital, ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory provisions, as well as with standing policies, as these elements work in tandem to ensure that core operations to deliver on the constitutional mandate will succeed within the requirements of the PFMA.

The ARC has, over the years, based on various reports of the independent assurance providers (the internal audit activity and the AGSA), recommended enhancements in the procurement and provisioning system. In particular, the Electoral Commission has a functional compliance verification section, i.e. an Internal Control Unit, as reported on page 123, that verifies SCM compliance before orders can be issued to suppliers to provide the requested services.

During 2021/22, management identified irregular expenditure going back to the inception of a panel constituted in February 2018, i.e. undetected over three financial years before the standing policy, as well as the adequacy of those tender specifications to enforce the calling of competitive price quotations from panellists, notwithstanding the fact that fixed rate cards were a stated pre-qualification preferential procurement criteria for tender IEC/IA-01/2017, which called for the provision of internal audit services in a co-sourced capacity for activities up to the finalisation of the 2022/23 Internal Audit Operational Plan.

Accordingly, it can be concluded that the system on internal control

for the period under review was not entirely adequate and effective.

Quality of in-year management

The ARC considered quarterly in-year reports tabled by management. To this end, the ARC recommended the adoption of the 2021/22 Performance Information Report of the CEO to the Commission for inclusion in the annual report.

Risk management

In addition to the information on risk management reflected on page 121, the ARC is pleased that the newly appointed Chief Risk Officer is making progress with embedding enterprise risk management.

Compliance with legal and regulatory provisions

The ARC is gravely concerned with the reported non-compliance with supply chain management laws and regulations, and instances of irregular expenditure reported. However, the ARC has implored the Accounting Officer to extract adequate interpretations from the high-level SCM provisions in the PFMA towards infusing the applicable policy, and furthermore to determine standard operating procedures along the end-to-end supply chain management value chain, specifically as they relate to holistic panel arrangements for the Electoral Commission.

Internal audit function

In addition to the information regarding the internal audit function reflected on page 123, the ARC hereby wishes to report that the approved 2022 Internal Audit

Operational Plan was not executed for the 2021/22 financial year, rendering the internal audit function to be wholly ineffective.

This must be understood against the backdrop of the Commission's preferred model of co-sourcing, whereby internal auditing is provided by a panel of service providers under direction of the CAE, assisted by her deputy as the only in-house resources.



the Electoral Commission requires deep institutional knowledge, while the county-wide electoral delivery mechanism requires the reach facilitated through an external service provider.

It then follows that the ARC must re-open discussions with the Electoral Commission, as well as the Accounting Officer, towards spawning a best-fit statutory internal audit dispensation for the dynamic business model of the Electoral Commission going forward.

What has sharply come to the fore is the fundamental dependency that the effectiveness of the Internal Audit Function has on the tone at the top, which must also ensure that all management support services, especially within SCM as the administrative genesis supporting most operational deliverables, are based on clear prescripts that are not open to various interpretations.

Governance arrangements

The Audit Committee will be operating on a revised charter, with necessary enhancements towards formalising its engagement protocols with management, the Accounting Officer, as well as the executive authority, being the Chairperson of the Commission. These engagements will remain focused on areas of governance towards agreeing on the position fit of statutory functions within the Electoral Commission of South Africa.

Other identified concerns

Key to the many responsibilities the PFMA assigns to the ARC, its direction and control of the statutory Internal Audit Function are responsible for providing independent assurance to the ARC. In this regard, the role of the Internal Audit Function to independently pronounce on the governance, risk management and systems of internal controls, together with assurance flowing from the regulatory audit performed by the AGSA, informs and focuses the holistic oversight that the ARC is required to exercise over the operations of the Electoral Commission.

It therefore follows that the general responsibility of the Accounting Officer to ensure that the Electoral Commission has and maintains a system of internal audit, as specified in section 38(a)(ii) of the PFMA, becomes the bedrock for the ARC to execute its many responsibilities with regard to the Internal Audit Function.

It is in this regard that the ARC wishes to point out that, notwithstanding the many and varied attempts of the ARC towards spawning strategic management interventions to secure the appointment of external service providers to execute the 2022 Internal Audit Plan, focusing on LGE 2021's core business processes, various procurement attempts for internal audit service providers proved to be non-starters, with the final attempt overtaken by the court ruling on the unconstitutionality of the PPPFA.

As a result, the untenable fact that no independent assurance was provided regarding the governance, risk management and systems of controls put in place for LGE 2021, and in particular the procurement

processes for the new VMD, the efficacy of the change processes flowing from deploying the VMD as mitigation for significant risks in the electoral processes identified during NPE 2019, cannot be emphasised enough. Most regrettably, the informed legal opinion that confirmed the five-year tenure of then appointed panel of internal audit service providers up to the completion of the 2022/23 operational plan was not given any credence to prevent the cancellation of contracts after the due establishment of the panel was confirmed by the AGSA, as the key fault-line reported by the AGSA required a correction to the call for price quotations in the allocation of assignments to those panellists going forward.

Evaluation of audited Annual Financial Statements

The Audit Committee has done the following:

- Reviewed and discussed the Management Report from the AGSA with management and the Accounting Officer
- Reviewed the appropriateness of the accounting policies and practices
- Reviewed and discussed the audited annual financial statements with management

The ARC resolved, on 31 July 2022, to recommend the conclusions of the AGSA on the annual financial statements and the final management report of the AGSA. To this end, the ARC recommended approval of the audited annual financial statements by the Accounting Officer and the executive authority. The Audit Committee wishes to congratulate the Commission and management on achieving the

2021/22 clean audit milestone for the related assessment of financial management, performance information and compliance with laws and regulations selected in the PFMA audit for another consecutive year.



Mr Cedric Boltman
Chairperson of the Audit Committee
31 July 2022



04 HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The employee turnover for the period under review was 4.19%, which is slightly higher than the previous financial year's rate of 3.4%. The increase could be attributed to the increased number of resignations and ageing workforce, as the Electoral Commission continued to see a number of employees retiring before the maximum retirement age of 65. Out of the 38 terminations, 11 (29%) were resignations, which is higher than the five of 2020/21. There was also a nominal increase in retirements.

The feedback from the exit interviews indicates that most employees leave due to personal reasons. The Electoral Commission is still seen as an employer of choice as employees indicated that they could return to the Electoral Commission.

Budget availability, and the approval and grading of posts are the key determinants for the filling of positions. The delay in the finalisation of the dispute over the grading of positions affected the finalisation of the grading and filling of the newly created vacant position. The target of filling 90% of the approved and funded positions was thus not attained. The vacancy rate at the end of the period under review stood at 19.2%.

The average age is now 46.26. In order to respond proactively to the possible risk of losing critical skills, a talent management strategy was developed and presented to the relevant structures within the organisation. The purpose of the talent management strategy is to ensure that systems and programmes are in place for finding, developing, growing and retaining human talent for now and in the future.

The one-year wage agreement was concluded and implemented with the recognised trade union for the period, and implemented for 2021/22. However, by the end of the financial year, the union had not submitted its demands or

proposals for the 2022/23 wage negotiations, as required. In a bid to strengthen the functioning of the Electoral Commission Bargaining Forum, the members attended the governance training, as well as the wage negotiation post-assessment training session for wage negotiations.

Fifteen cases were referred to the CCMA by either the recognised trade union and/or employees for various reasons. Nine of these instances were finalised, while six cases are still pending finalisation. Seven cases that were finalised were found in favour of the Electoral Commission, while the remaining two cases were dismissed.

The Employment Equity (EE) Report was compiled and submitted to the Department of Labour in January 2022. Awareness was created of the importance of attaining the numerical targets set in the Electoral Commission's EE Plan. The adverts for vacant posts were amended to ensure that they lead to the attainment of numerical targets.

Organisational Covid-19 protocols were developed and amended as and when necessary, which were in line with the various Covid-19 lockdown regulations.

The introduction of the new balanced scorecard performance management system was well received, and ongoing support was provided to all the departments to

entrench an understanding of the system. A client satisfaction survey was conducted. The purpose of the survey was to measure perceptions of client satisfaction internally. The aim was to test the current service delivery support among the different divisions, and promote a supportive work environment for sustainable service delivery.

Twenty-five interns were appointed for a period of 24 months. This is an increase of 44% from the previous financial year. Various divisions have started to show an interest in hosting interns. This will ensure that the Electoral Commission's commitment to contribute to the reduction of unemployment and to the upskilling of unemployed graduates is attained.

The new eRecruitment system was introduced during the period under review. The system has helped improve the shortlisting turnaround time. The system was piloted with the recruitment of election expansion and electoral staff. It is now utilised for the recruitment of permanent staff members. In order to reach a wide range of potential applicants, positions are advertised on the Electoral Commission's social media platforms. This has also proven to be cost-effective.

In the build-up to and during the elections, the Electoral Commission's organogram expands to ensure that sufficient capacity is available to deliver the

elections. To this end, the expansion staff and electoral voting staff members are appointed on fixed-term contracts. Over 200 000 fixed-term employees were appointed in line with the relevant approved recruitment and payment plans.

The VMD and the traditional paper registers were utilised to maintain

the attendance of electoral staff members at the various voting stations. After uploading the data utilising the Electoral Staff System and SAP system, the payment of electoral staff members was processed. The organisation will continue to use the VMD to capture attendance during by-elections to ensure improvement, as the mid-

term goal is to do away with paper registers. The organisation is of the view that this will enable it to finalise the payment of electoral staff within a short space of time, and eliminate non-payment complaints that may harm its image.

HUMAN RESOURCES OVERSIGHT STATISTICS

EXPENDITURE ON REMUNERATION

A summary of expenditure on remuneration by occupational band during the year under review is illustrated in Table 30.

TABLE 30:
PERSONNEL COST ACCORDING TO SALARY BAND

Level	Personnel expenditure (R'000)	Percentage of personnel expenditure to total personnel cost (R'000)	Number of employees (R'000)	Average personnel cost per employee (R'000)
Commissioners	9 560 269	1.03%	4	2 390 067
Top Management	17 816 912	1.92%	7	2 545 273
Senior Management	79 780 594	8.58%	39	2 045 656
Middle Management	162 741 169	17.51%	132	1 232 888
Professionals	450 402 298	48.45%	631	713 791
Skilled	19 275 326	2.07%	65	296 544
Semi-skilled	161 483 982	17.37%	6 603	24 456
Very low skilled	28 550 131	3.07%	9 508	3 003
TOTAL	929 610 681	100%	16 989	9 251 678

TABLE 31:
EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES ACCORDING TO RANK

Occupational band	Number of employees 2021/22	Approved posts 2021/22	Number of vacancies 2021/22	Percentage of total vacancies
Top Management	4	5	1	0.46%
Senior Management	36	44	8	3.72%
Professional qualified	705	792	87	40.46%
Skilled	91	61	-30	0.76%
Semi-skilled	27	30	3	1.39%
Unskilled	43	56	38	17.57%
New positions (not yet evaluated)	0	133	133	61.86%
TOTAL	906	1 121	215	100%

*Discrepancy between filled positions and vacancies due to filled over establishment posts not being included in the total number of posts approved.

TABLE 32:
EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES BY STRUCTURE

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Office of the CEO	CEO	1	1	0
	General Manager (new)	1	0	1
	Manager	2	2	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	2	1	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer (new)	1	0	1
	New posts	3	0	3

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Commission Services	Manager	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	New post	1	0	1
Chief Executive: Political Party Funding	Deputy CEO	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	2	1	1
	Administrative Officer	4	1	3
Deputy CEO: Corporate Services	Deputy CEO	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0
Support Services	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	2	2	0
	Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	2	2	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	12	10	2
ICT Operations	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	2	2	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	3	3	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	0	0	0
	Administrative Officer	5	4	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	New posts	61	0	61

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Human Resource Management	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	2	2	0
	Deputy Manager	5	5	0
	Assistant Manager	1	0	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	3	1	2
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	2	1	1
	New posts	4	0	4
Legal Services	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	1	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	New post	1	0	1
Deputy CEO: Electoral Operations	Deputy CEO	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0
Logistics and Infrastructure	General Manager	1	0	1
	Manager	2	2	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	3	3	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	1	1	0
Electoral Matters	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	2	1	1
	Deputy Manager	1	0	1

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Electoral Matters	Assistant Manager	2	2	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	New posts	2	0	2
Deputy CEO: Outreach	Deputy CEO	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0
Communications	General Manager	1	0	1
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	1	1
	Assistant Manager	1	0	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	0	1
Civic Education, Research and Knowledge Management	Senior/Administrative Clerk	2	0	2
	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	0	1
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Administrative Officer	1	0	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Photocopy Operator	1	1	0
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	4	8	-4
Chief Financial Officer	New posts	3	0	3
	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	3	3	0
	Deputy Manager	6	4	2

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Chief Financial Officer	Assistant Manager	2	1	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	6	5	1
	Administrative Officer	19	15	4
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	New posts	13	0	13
Provincial electoral staff: Eastern Cape	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	12	11	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	14	17	-3
	Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	86	89	-3
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior/Administrative Clerk	8	8	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	Cleaner	30	26	4
	New posts	8	0	8
Provincial electoral staff: Free State	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	9	9	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	10	7	3
	Administrative Officer	2	1	1
	Local Electoral Project Officer	30	28	2
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	5	6	-1
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	New posts	5	0	5

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial electoral staff: Gauteng	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	9	8	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	10	9	1
	Administrative Officer	3	2	1
	Local Electoral Project Officer	48	42	6
	Assistant Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	5	5	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	Cleaner	8	2	6
	New posts	5	0	5
Provincial electoral staff: KwaZulu-Natal	General Manager	1	0	1
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	15	16	-1
	Senior Administrative Officer	17	17	0
	Administrative Officer	3	3	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	86	81	5
	Assistant Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	11	10	1
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
Provincial electoral staff: Limpopo	New posts	10	0	10
	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	2	1	1
	Assistant Manager	8	8	0

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial electoral staff: Limpopo	Senior Administrative Officer	9	11	-2
	Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	57	57	0
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	5	4	1
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	New posts	6	0	6
Provincial electoral staff: Mpumalanga	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	7	7	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	7	7	0
	Administrative Officer	2	1	1
	Local Electoral Project Officer	33	32	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	3	3	0
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	0	2
	New posts	4	0	4
Provincial electoral staff: Northern Cape	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	1	0
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	9	9	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	15	8	7
	Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	21	26	-5
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	5	6	-1

Division	Rank	Approved posts	Posts filled	Vacant posts
Provincial electoral staff: Northern Cape	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	New posts	5	0	5
Provincial electoral staff: North West	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	0	1
	Deputy Manager	1	1	0
	Assistant Manager	8	7	1
	Senior Administrative Officer	9	9	0
	Administrative Officer	2	1	1
	Local Electoral Project Officer	32	33	-1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	4	3	1
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	2	0
	Cleaner	18	14	4
	New posts	4	0	4
Provincial electoral staff: Western Cape	General Manager	1	1	0
	Manager	1	0	1
	Deputy Manager	2	2	0
	Assistant Manager	10	10	0
	Senior Administrative Officer	12	10	2
	Administrative Officer	2	2	0
	Local Electoral Project Officer	38	37	1
	Assistant Administrative Officer	1	1	0
	Senior Administrative Clerk	6	7	-1
	Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	2	1	1
	New posts	6	0	6
TOTAL		1 121	906	215

Note: Negative figures reflect staff permanently absorbed on the organogram in terms of the relevant legislation.
Note: New posts indicated but not evaluated yet.

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES

The turnover rate in the Electoral Commission is generally low. In the period under review, it was approximately 4.19%, which is slightly higher than the previous financial year (3.4%). Most terminations were as a result of resignations and retirements, as indicated in Table 34. Most of the terminations were from

the professionally qualified staff band, which accounts for most of the positions in the Electoral Commission. As illustrated in Table 33, the Electoral Commission appointed 35 new employees in the period under review, while there were 38 terminations as a result of resignations, dismissals, retirements or deaths.

The number of employees retiring remained almost the same as last year, with an increase of one. However, during this reporting period, three members of the management services retired. This is in line with the average employee age, which now stands at 45.73.

TABLE 33:
STAFF MOVEMENT DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Salary band	Employment at the beginning of the period	Recruited	Promoted	Demoted	Terminated	Employment at the end of the period
Top Management	4	0	0	0	0	4
Senior Management	37	2	1	0	3	36
Professional qualified	722	13	10	0	30	705
Skilled	75	17	6	0	1	91
Semi-skilled	26	2	0	0	1	27
Unskilled	45	1	0	0	3	43
TOTAL	909	35	17	0	38	906

TABLE 34:
REASONS FOR STAFF LEAVING

Reason	Number	Percentage of total number of staff terminations
Death	9	23.7%
Resignation	11	29.0%
Dismissal	1	2.6%
Retirement	17	44.7%
Ill-health	0	0%
Expiry of contract	0	0%
Other	0	0%
TOTAL	38	100.0%

TABLE 35:
STAFF MOVEMENT ACCORDING TO RANK

	Recruited	Promoted	Demoted	Termination
CEO	0	0	0	0
Deputy CEO	0	1	0	0
Senior Manager/Provincial Electoral Officer	1	0	0	1
Manager	1	0	0	2
Deputy Manager	1	0	0	2
Assistant Manager	0	1	0	4
Senior Administrative Officer	1	4	0	7
Administrative Officer	11	3	0	17
Assistant Administrative Officer	0	2	0	0
Senior/Administrative Clerk	17	6	0	1
Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver/Handyman	2	0	0	4
Cleaner	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	35	17	0	38

TABLE 36:
STAFF RESIGNATIONS FOR 2019/20 TO 2021/22

Year	Number of terminations	Percentage
2019/20	9	0.80%
2020/21	31	3.41%
2021/22	38	4.19%

TABLE 37:
WELLNESS SESSIONS HELD FROM 2018/19 TO 2020/21

Year	Number of sessions
2018/19	7
2019/20	5
2020/21	9
2021/22	2

TABLE 38:
SICK LEAVE ABSENTEEISM FROM 2019/20 TO 2021/22

Year	Total number of sick leave days taken	Estimated cost	Number of employees who took 15 consecutive days or more
2019/20	1 177	R2 839 614	20
2020/21	3 541	R8 551 874	22
2021/22	4 001	R10 165 759	24

TABLE 39:
SPECIAL SICK LEAVE ABSENTEEISM FOR 2021/22

Year	Total number of special sick leave days taken	Estimated cost	Number of employees who took special sick leave
2019/20	4 224	R10 103 456	65
2020/21	1 148	R3 099 622	18
2021/22	926	R2 162 166	23

TABLE 40:
AVERAGE SICK LEAVE TAKEN ACCORDING TO RANK

Rank/level	Average days
CEO	2
Deputy CEO	8
Senior Manager	5.6
Manager	6.3
Deputy Manager	8.3
Assistant Manager	6.5
Senior Administrative Officer	7.86
Administrative Officer	7.5
Assistant Administrative Officer	7.13
Senior/Administrative Clerk	6.1
Messenger/Housekeeper/Driver	6.1
Cleaner	9.5

TABLE 41:
EMPLOYEE DEATHS DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

Office	Name	Date of death
PEO Western Cape	Lester Martin	3 April 2021
MP306 Dipaleseng	Bavelile Dyavu	16 November 2021
KZN245 Umvoti	Christopher Naidoo	23 January 2022
MP324 Nkomazi	Fanyana Shabangu	4 August 2021
PEO Free State	Mpepuwa Swarts	15 July 2021
PEO Eastern Cape	Thobeka Dakela	25 December 2021
EC154 Port St Johns	Andile Mpikasho	24 August 2021
Office of the CEO	Marco Granelli	12 August 2021
EKU Ekurhuleni	Andrew Molokelwa	22 July 2021

TABLE 42:
AVERAGE AGE OF THE DECEASED FOR 2019/20 TO 2021/22

Year	Number of deaths	Average age of deceased
2019/20	3	41.6
2020/21	6	58.0
2021/22	9	51.0

LABOUR RELATIONS

Formal disciplinary action was taken against five employees for various acts of misconduct, including, among others, contravention of procurement prescripts, prejudicing the administration and/or misconduct. All five cases were

finalised during the period under review.

Fifteen cases were referred to the CCMA by either the recognised trade union and/or employees for various reasons. Nine of these instances

were finalised, while six cases are still pending finalisation. Of the nine instances finalised, seven were found in favour of the Electoral Commission, while the remaining two cases were dismissed.

TABLE 43:
CCMA DISPUTES

Nature of disputes	Number of employees
Section 191(1) [191(5)(a)]: Dismissal related to misconduct	2
Section 191(5)(a)(iii): Reason for dismissal unknown	2
Section 186(2)(a): Unfair conduct – promotion, demotion, probation, training or benefits	6
Section 73A (BCEA) – Claims for failure to pay any amount owing (not national minimum wage agreement)	2
Section 186 (1)(a) – Termination of contract with or without notice	1
Section 198D(1) – Interpretation or application of sections 198A, 198B or 198C	1
Section 72 – Disputes about minimum services	1
TOTAL	15

As illustrated in Table 44, the number of cases referred to the CCMA increased in the period under review.

TABLE 44:
DISPUTES REFERRED TO THE CCMA FOR 2019/20 TO 2021/22

Disputes referred	Number of cases
2019/20	18
2020/21	14
2021/22	15

TABLE 45:
EMPLOYMENT EQUITY TARGETS AMONG MALE STAFF MEMBERS FOR 2021/22

Level	Male							
	African		Coloured		Indian		White	
	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target
Top Management	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
Senior Management	10	15	5	3	2	2	3	3
Professional qualified	62	62	5	6	4	4	3	5
Skilled	257	305	20	32	6	10	7	30
Semi-skilled	5	7	1	1	0	0	0	1
Unskilled	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	338	392	31	43	12	17	13	39

TABLE 46:
EMPLOYMENT EQUITY TARGETS AMONG FEMALE STAFF MEMBERS FOR 2021/22

Level	Female							
	African		Coloured		Indian		White	
	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target	Current	Target
Top Management	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
Senior Management	12	13	1	2	1	1	3	3
Professional qualified	34	50	5	6	3	3	14	14
Skilled	318	318	42	42	5	5	24	24
Semi-skilled	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unskilled	45	36	2	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	419	418	50	52	9	10	41	42

TABLE 47:
EMPLOYMENT EQUITY NUMERICAL GOALS: 2018 TO 2023

Period	Male				Female			
	African	Coloured	Indian	White	African	Coloured	Indian	White
Numerical goals (until the end of September 2012)	348	52	17	60	305	53	10	47
Numerical goals (until the end of September 2018)	524	77	27	79	500	67	18	71
Numerical goals (until the end of September 2023)	402	48	18	46	429	52	10	43





05
ANNUAL FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL TO PARLIAMENT ON THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

1. I have audited the financial statements of the Electoral Commission set out on pages 158 to 211, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2022, the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Changes in Net Assets, Cash Flow Statement and Comparison of Budget Information with Actual Expenditure for the year then ended, as well as Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

2. In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Electoral Commission as at 31 March 2022, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (Standards of GRAP) and the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act, Act 1 of 1999 (PFMA).

Basis for opinion

3. I conducted my audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor-General's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report.

4. I am independent of the constitutional institution in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International code of ethics for professional

accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA code), as well as other ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit in South Africa. I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA code.

5. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of matters

6. I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

Irregular expenditure

7. As disclosed in Note 28 to the financial statements, the constitutional institution incurred irregular expenditure of R28 262 244 relating to the current year. In addition, irregular expenditure of R5 952 662 relating to the prior year was detected by the institution's internal control processes.

Restatement of corresponding figures

8. As disclosed in Note 31 to the financial statements, the corresponding figures for 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2020 were restated as a result of an error in the financial statements of the institution at, and for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer for the financial statements

9. The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation and

fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the Standards of GRAP and the requirements of the PFMA, and for such internal control as the Accounting Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

10. In preparing the financial statements, the Accounting Officer is responsible for assessing the constitutional institution's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to a going concern and using the going-concern basis of accounting unless the appropriate governance structure either intends to liquidate the constitutional institution or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor-General's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

11. My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to

influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

12. A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is included in the annexure to this auditor's report.

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Introduction and scope

13. In accordance with the Public Audit Act 25 of 2004 (PAA) and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I have a responsibility to report on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information against

predetermined objectives for selected programmes presented in the annual performance report. I performed procedures to identify material findings, but not to gather evidence to express assurance.

14. My procedures address the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information, which must be based on the constitutional institution's approved performance planning documents. I have not evaluated the completeness and appropriateness of the performance indicators included in the planning documents. My procedures do not examine whether the actions taken by the constitutional institution enabled service delivery. My procedures do

not extend to any disclosures or assertions relating to the extent of achievements in the current year or planned performance strategies and information in respect of future periods that may be included as part of the reported performance information. Accordingly, my findings do not extend to these matters.

15. I evaluated the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information in accordance with the criteria developed from the performance management and reporting framework, as defined in the general notice, for the following selected programmes presented in the constitutional institution's annual performance report for the year ended 31 March 2022:

Programmes	Pages in the annual performance report
Programme 2 – Electoral Operations	66–84
Programme 4 – Political Party Fund	110–116

16. I performed procedures to determine whether the reported performance information was properly presented and whether performance was consistent with the approved performance planning documents. I performed further procedures to determine whether the indicators and related targets were measurable and relevant, and assessed the reliability of the reported performance information to determine whether it was valid, accurate and complete.

17. I did not identify any material findings on the usefulness and reliability of the reported performance information for these

programmes:

- Programme 2 – Electoral Operations
- Programme 4 – Political Party Fund

Other matter

18. I draw attention to the matter below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Achievement of planned targets

19. Refer to the annual performance report on pages 36 to 116 for information on the achievement of planned targets for the year and management's explanations provided for the under-achievement of targets.

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

Introduction and scope

20. In accordance with the PAA and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I have a responsibility to report material findings on the constitutional institution's compliance with specific matters in key legislation. I performed procedures to identify findings, but not to gather evidence to express assurance.

21. I did not identify any material findings on compliance with the specific matters in key legislation set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA.

OTHER INFORMATION

22. The Accounting Officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report. The other information does not include the financial statements, the auditor's report and those selected programmes presented in the annual performance report that have been specifically reported in this auditor's report.

23. My opinion on the financial statements and findings on the reported performance information and compliance with legislation do not cover the other information and I do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion on it.

24. In connection with my audit, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the selected programmes presented in the annual performance report, or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

25. If based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement in this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Internal control deficiencies

26. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, reported performance information and compliance with applicable legislation; however, my objective was not to express any form of assurance on it. I did not identify any significant deficiencies in internal control.

Pretoria
31 July 2022

Auditor-General



AUDITOR-GENERAL
SOUTH AFRICA

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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ELECTORAL COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The Electoral Commission is a constitutional institution established in terms of section 181(1)(f) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) to promote and safeguard representative democracy in South Africa. The Electoral Commission is publicly funded and accountable to Parliament, yet independent of government. Its core function is the impartial management of free and fair elections in all spheres of government.

The Accounting Officer has the pleasure of presenting this report, which forms part of the audited annual financial statements of the Electoral Commission for the period ended 31 March 2022. This report and the annual financial statements comply with the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act, Act 1 of 1999 (PFMA), the Electoral Commission Act, Act 51 of 1996, and the Political Party Funding Act, Act 6 of 2018.

The Accounting Officer of the Electoral Commission is the Chief Electoral Officer in terms of section 36(2)(b) of the PFMA.

NATURE OF BUSINESS

The nature of the Electoral Commission's business is to manage the elections of national, provincial and municipal legislative bodies in accordance with national legislation, to ensure that those elections are free and fair, and to declare the

results of those elections within a period that is prescribed by national legislation and that is as short as reasonably possible.

The Electoral Commission also has a mandate to promote knowledge of sound and democratic electoral processes.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

The registered office of the Electoral Commission is Election House, Riverside Office Park, 1303 Heuwel Avenue, Centurion, Gauteng.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Electoral Commission received R2 250 255 000 for the period under review by way of parliamentary allocations, sponsorship revenue of R67 151, elections-related revenue of R55 095 532, lease revenue of R6 293 884 and sundry revenue of R50 614 183, comprising mainly interest earned, bringing the Electoral Commission's total revenue to R2 362 325 750 (page 159).

All funds have been accounted for and are disclosed in the annual financial statements.

TARIFFS

Treasury Regulations 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 state that the Accounting Officer of an institution must review, at least annually when finalising the budget, all fees, charges or the rates, scales or tariffs of fees and charges that are not fixed or cannot be fixed by any law and that relate

to revenue accruing to a revenue fund. The Accounting Officer must obtain approval from the relevant treasury for the proposed tariff structure. Tariffs were reviewed and, in an effort to enhance the activities of political parties and members of the general public, the Electoral Commission has determined the following prices, the basis of which was approved by National Treasury.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Prices of map products not statutorily provided for				
Size	Electronic image in pdf	Printed copies	Size	Lamination price
A4	R10.00	R15.00	A4	R60.00 per film run irrespective of the number of A4 pages
A3	N/A	N/A	A3	R60.00 per film run irrespective of the number of A3 pages
A2	R60.00	R75.00	A2	R60.00 per film run irrespective of the number of A2 pages
A1	R105.00	R120.00	A1	R60.00
A0	R160.00	R180.00	A0	R120.00

Maps are only provided to political parties and members of the general public when the Electoral Commission is able to do so without negatively impacting on its own mapping requirements and activities.

In addition, the following services are provided via our website free of any charge:

- Am I registered to vote?
- Voting station finder
- Election and by-election results data
- Registration status, level and contact details of IEC local offices
- Online address capture
- Online Candidate Nomination System
- Special vote application
- Online registration
- Political Party Funding system
- Online Observer Application system
- eRecruitment

MATERIAL LOSSES THROUGH CRIMINAL CONDUCT, IRREGULAR, FRUITLESS AND WASTEFUL EXPENDITURE

Section 40(3)(b) of the PFMA requires the Electoral Commission to include in the annual report particulars of any material losses through criminal conduct, any irregular expenditure, and any fruitless and wasteful expenditure that occurred during the financial year.

The Electoral Commission has sound supply chain management practices, supported by a procurement policy, standard operating procedures and a fully functional Compliance Unit. Irregular expenditure of R28 262 244 was incurred. Of this, R5 952 662 is expenditure identified in the current financial

year relating to the prior year and is reflected in Note 28 of the annual financial statements. Condonation letters have been sent to National Treasury for consideration while other transactions are still under investigation.

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure amounting to R227 218 was incurred in the current financial reporting period and is reflected in Note 29 of the annual financial statements. The fruitless and wasteful expenditure mostly relates to interest paid on overdue accounts and other expenditure meeting the definition of fruitless and wasteful expenditure. The expenditure will be investigated to determine whether it will be economical to recover. Steps have been taken to prevent recurrence.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Various sections of the PFMA place responsibility on the Accounting Officer to ensure that the organisation complies with all applicable legislation. Any non-compliance with legislation is reported to the Executive Committee (EXCO) and the Commission.

The Accounting Officer has the responsibility for establishing a framework of internal control, including the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements, thus ensuring that the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

The control measures are also designed to provide cost-effective assurance that assets are safeguarded, and that liabilities and working capital are efficiently managed. Internal controls operated effectively during the year. Where necessary, continued enhancements are effected.

The Accounting Officer is also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records and an effective system of risk management.

The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Electoral Commission's annual financial statements. These statements comprise the following:

- Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2022
- Statement of Financial

Performance for the period ended 31 March 2022

- Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the period ended 31 March 2022
- Cash Flow Statement for the financial period ended 31 March 2022
- Comparison of actual and budgeted expenditure for the period ended 31 March 2022
- Accounting policies and notes to the annual financial statements

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the South African Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice, issued by the Accounting Standards Board. The Auditor-General is responsible for reporting on whether the annual financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.

GOING CONCERN

The Electoral Commission is funded by National Treasury via a vote of the Department of Home Affairs and funding is secured over a three-year cycle in terms of the Medium-term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). The financial statements have thus been prepared on the going-concern basis.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

Most restrictions in terms of the Disaster Management Act have been lifted. The Commission will assess and consider the impact as and when the President makes new announcements on new measures that affect the economy.

The impact of Covid-19 on the reported financial statements of the Electoral Commission has been considered. The Electoral Commission receives its revenue directly from National Treasury in terms of the approved MTEF.

OTHER MATTERS: THE POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING ACT

The Political Party Funding Act, Act 6 of 2018, came into effect on 1 April 2021. The Act establishes the Represented Political Party Fund to replace the Represented Political Parties' Fund, which was established by the Public Funding of Represented Political Parties Act, Act 103 of 1997. The Act also establishes the Multiparty Democracy Fund.

PREFERENTIAL PROCUREMENT POLICY 2017

On 24 February 2022, the Director-General of National Treasury issued an advisory note to all public entities to hold in abeyance all procurement of goods and service from 16 February 2022, except for tenders running on or before 16 February 2022.

This is as a result of the Constitutional Court outcome of Minister of Finance vs Agribusiness NPC [2022] ZACC 4. This impacted on the running of the organisation as all procurement above R30 000 was stopped until the exemption was received.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING TREATMENT

The Electoral Commission accounted for the lump-sum retirement benefit in terms of GRAP 19 (Provisions) as a provision. During the period under review, the Electoral Commission reviewed the adequacy of the accounting treatment and disclosure of lump-sum retirement benefits. After the review, the Electoral Commission determined that the correct accounting treatment would be to apply GRAP 25 (Employee benefits) and not GRAP 19 (Provisions). The error has been disclosed in Note 12 and Note 31.

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT JUDGEMENT

In 2020, the Constitutional Court declared that the Electoral Act is unconstitutional in so far as it requires candidates to contest national and provincial elections only as a member of a political party. The Constitutional Court provided Parliament with 24 months to revise the legislation. This period ends in June 2022.

The Minister of Home Affairs has tabled a Bill to amend the Electoral Act, Act 73 of 1998, to accord with the Constitutional Court ruling. Parliament is, however, unable to conclude the processing of the Bill before the expiry period of the suspension. Consequently, Parliament approached the Constitutional Court for an extension of the period of suspension of the invalidity until December 2022.

The financial impact of the amendment to the Electoral Act, Act 73 of 1998, is expected to be significant in the future.

EVENTS AFTER BALANCE SHEET DATE

The Electoral Commission has obtained exemption from the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act and its regulations following the Constitutional Court judgement of 16 February 2022, which declared the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017, to be invalid.

The request for the exemption followed the Constitutional Court judgement, which declared the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017, to be invalid, thus effectively exempting the Electoral Commission from preferential procurement.

The exemption will be valid until such time as the new regulations and statutory provisions take effect or the Constitutional Court confirms the suspension of the order of the invalidity of the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2017, for a period of 12 months, whichever comes first.

The Constitutional Court, on 10 June 2022, granted Parliament six months extension to amend the Electoral Act.

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The annual financial statements of the Electoral Commission, set out on pages 158 to 211, have been approved by the Accounting Officer.



Mr Simon Mamabolo
Chief Electoral Officer
31 July 2022

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	31 March 2022	*Restated 31 March 2021
		R	R
Assets			
Current assets		918,862,630	1,649,851,552
Cash and cash equivalents	3, 4	818,753,225	1,595,175,540
Trade and other receivables from exchange transactions	5	52,525,340	31,338,191
Short-term portion of operating lease	11	4,718,559	251,761
Inventories	6	42,865,506	23,086,060
Non-current assets		852,751,172	321,466,177
Property, plant and equipment	7	728,778,785	203,202,537
Heritage assets	8	1,671,143	1,671,143
Intangible assets	9	112,425,362	107,400,900
Trade and other receivables from exchange transactions	5	9,875,882	9,191,597
Total assets		1,771,613,802	1,971,317,729
Liabilities			
Current liabilities		184,690,802	165,401,370*
Trade and other payables from exchange transactions	3, 10	180,733,802	158,296,370
Lump sums retirement benefit	12	3,957,000	7,105,000*
Non-current liabilities		206,326,344	173,826,409*
Operating lease liability	11	33,213,344	28,909,409
Lump sums retirement benefit	12	173,113,000	144,917,000*
Total liabilities		391,017,146	339,227,779*
Net assets			
Accumulated surplus		1,380,596,656	1,632,089,950*
Total liabilities and net assets		1,771,613,802	1,971,317,729

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	31 March 2022	*Restated 31 March 2021
		R	R
Revenue			
Revenue from non-exchange transactions	13	2,256,616,035	2,100,748,078
Parliamentary allocation		2,250,255,000	2,100,534,000
Sponsorship revenue		67,151	-
Lease revenue		6,293,884	214,078
Revenue from exchange transactions	14	105,709,715	64,277,498
Political party registration fees		53,500	35,700
Foreign and local aid assistance		-	17,412,117
Elections-related revenue		55,095,532	-
Investment revenue		50,088,680	46,595,195
Other operating revenue	14.1	472,003	234,486
Total revenue		2,362,325,750	2,165,025,576
Expenditure		(2,610,987,263)	(1,221,021,993)*
Employee-related costs	15	(962,041,899)	(755,091,106)*
Goods and services	16	(1,448,634,297)	(308,861,718)
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	17	(84,649,952)	(48,041,098)
Audit fees	18	(10,159,351)	(6,282,236)
Lease rental costs	19	(105,280,948)	(102,413,000)
Finance costs	20	(2,767)	(3,258)
Debt impairment	21	(218,049)	(329,577)
Total expenditure		(2,610,987,263)	(1,221,021,993)*
(Deficit) / surplus on disposal of assets	22	(2,831,780)	2,119,309
(Deficit) / surplus for the year		(251,493,293)	946,122,892 *

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	R Accumulated surplus	R Total net assets
Balance at 1 April 2020 as previously reported	805,448,814	805,448,814
Prior-period error	(119,481,758)	(119,481,758)
Restated opening balance at 1 April 2020	685,967,056	685,967,056
Restated surplus for the period	946,122,892	946,122,892
Restated balance at 1 April 2021	1,632,089,948	1,632,089,948
Deficit for the period	(251,493,292)	(251,493,292)
Balance at 31 March 2022	1,380,596,656	1,380,596,656

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		31 March 2022	*Restated 31 March 2021
	Note	R	R
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from customers		2,299,612,644	2,157,242,337
Parliamentary allocation received		2,250,255,000	2,100,534,000
Foreign and local aid assistance		-	11,406,700
Investment revenue received		48,832,141	45,031,451
Receipts from sale of goods and services		525,503	270,186
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		(2,457,952,516)	(1,175,014,604)
Cash payments to employees		(824,198,743)	(620,653,533)*
Interest payments		(2,460)	(3,258)
Cash payments to suppliers		(1,633,751,313)	(554,357,813)
Net cash flows from operating activities	23	(158,339,872)	982,227,733
Cash flows from investing activities		(618,082,443)	(86,407,808)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	7	(600,273,715)	(54,931,351)
Purchase of intangible assets	9	(21,734,791)	(41,188,610)
Proceeds from sale of heritage assets	8	-	87
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	7, 9	3,926,063	9,712,066
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(776,422,315)	895,819,925
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,595,175,540	699,355,615
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	3, 4	818,753,225	1,595,175,540

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

COMPARISON OF ACTUAL AND BUDGETED EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		31 March 2022 R	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2022 R
		Adjusted budget (Estimates of National Expenditure published by National Treasury)	Actual as per the Statement of Financial Performance	Variance
Revenue				
Revenue from non-exchange transactions		2,250,255,000	2,256,616,035	6,361,035
Parliamentary allocation		2,250,255,000	2,250,255,000	-
Sponsorship revenue		-	67,151	67,151
Lease revenue		-	6,293,884	6,293,884
Revenue from exchange transactions		32,577,000	105,709,715	73,132,715
Political party registration fees		20,000	53,500	33,500
Investment revenue		32,000,000	50,088,680	18,088,680
Elections-related revenue		-	55,095,532	55,095,532
Other operating revenue		557,000	472,003	(84,997)
Total revenue	30	2,282,832,000	2,362,325,750	79,493,750
Expenditure		(3,124,562,133)	(2,610,987,263)	513,574,870
Employee-related costs		(977,243,655)	(962,041,899)	15,201,756
Goods and services		(2,049,784,584)	(1,564,295,412)	485,489,172
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		(97,533,894)	(84,649,952)	12,883,942
Total expenditure	30	(3,124,562,133)	(2,610,987,263)	513,574,870
Deficit on disposal of assets		-	(2,831,780)	(2,831,780)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	30	(841,730,133)	(251,493,293)	590,236,840

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting and are in accordance with historical cost convention, unless otherwise specified. A summary of the significant accounting policies, which have been consistently applied, except where an exemption or transitional provision has been granted, are disclosed below.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the effective Standards of GRAP, including any interpretations and directives issued by the Accounting Standards Board (ASB).

The financial statements encompass the reporting period as specified in the PFMA.

Going-concern assumption

The financial statements have been prepared on a going-concern basis. The Electoral Commission is fully dependent on the state for funding.

The impact of Covid-19 on our allocation has been assessed and does not impact our going-concern status.

Comparative figures

When the presentation or classification of items in the annual financial statements is amended, prior-period comparative amounts are restated, unless a Standard

of GRAP does not require the restatements of comparative information. The nature and reason for the reclassification are disclosed. Where material accounting errors have been identified in the current year, the correction is made retrospectively as far as is practicable, and the prior-year comparatives are restated accordingly. Where there has been a change in accounting policy in the current year, the adjustment is made retrospectively as far as is practicable, and the prior-year comparatives are restated accordingly.

Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in South African rand, which is the Electoral Commission's functional currency. All information has been rounded off to the nearest rand.

Budgetary information

The financial statements for the Electoral Commission are prepared on the accrual basis, using a classification based on the nature of expenses in the Statement of Financial Performance. The budget is approved on the accrual basis. Reasons for variances between actual and budgeted amounts are provided for in Note 31. A difference above R13.1 million is considered to be material.

Offsetting

Assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses have not been offset, except when offsetting is permitted or required by a Standard of GRAP.

New standards, amendments to existing standards adopted

No new standards were adopted.

1.1 SIGNIFICANT JUDGMENTS AND SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts represented in the annual financial statements and related disclosures.

Use of available information and the application of judgment are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual results in the future could differ from these estimates, which may be material to the annual financial statements.

Significant estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected. Significant judgments include the following:

Allowance for impairment of trade and other receivables

The Electoral Commission assesses its trade receivables and other receivables for impairment at each reporting date. In determining whether an impairment loss should be recorded in surplus or deficit, the Electoral Commission makes judgments as to whether there is observable data indicating a measurable decrease in the

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

estimated future cash flows from a financial asset. The impairment for trade and other receivables is calculated on a portfolio basis and all debts over three months old, where payments are not being received, are impaired.

Impairment and useful life review of property plant and equipment and intangible assets

The Electoral Commission determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation or amortisation charges for property, plant and equipment, and intangible assets. This estimate is based on the condition and use of the individual assets in order to determine the remaining period over which the asset can and will be used. The impairment of assets is estimated in line with Accounting Policy 1.16 below.

Provisions

The Electoral Commission assesses its provisions at each reporting date in determining whether an adjustment should be recorded in surplus or deficit.

Post-employment benefit – lump sum benefit

A defined-benefit plan is a plan that defines an amount of benefit that an employee will receive on retirement. The Electoral Commission pays a lump sum benefit to employees who retire at age 60 to a maximum age of 65.

The defined-benefit liability is the aggregate of the present value of the defined-benefit obligation and unrecognised actuarial gains and losses, reduced by unrecognised past service costs. The plan is

unfunded. The defined benefit obligation is calculated using the projected unit credit method, incorporating actuarial assumptions and a discount rate based on the government bond rate. Valuations of these obligations are regularly carried out by independent qualified actuaries, as may be required for fair presentation.

Actuarial gains or losses are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Performance (refer to Note 12).

1.2 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Electoral Commission's financial assets comprise trade and other receivables from exchange transactions, and cash and cash equivalents. Financial assets are categorised, according to their nature, as financial assets at fair value, financial assets at amortised cost or financial assets at cost. The Electoral Commission's financial liabilities comprise trade and other payables from exchange transactions. The subsequent measurement of financial assets and liabilities depends on this categorisation.

Initial recognition

Financial assets and liabilities are only recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when the Electoral Commission becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. The Electoral Commission recognises financial assets using trade date accounting.

Measurement

When a financial asset or financial liability is initially recognised, the

Electoral Commission measures it at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset or a financial liability not subsequently measured at fair value, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liability. Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets and liabilities are measured as described below.

Trade and other receivables from exchange transactions

Trade and other receivables from exchange transactions originated by the Electoral Commission classified as financial assets are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of trade and other receivables is reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that an impairment loss has occurred. If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, for example, a default on payment arrangements or a delinquent debtor, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate.

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance. Interest income continues to be accrued on the reduced carrying amount based on the original effective interest rate of the asset.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

If, in a subsequent year, the amount of the estimated impairment loss increases or decreases because of an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is increased or reduced by adjusting the allowance account, and the amount of the gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short-term highly liquid investments, readily convertible into known amounts of cash that are held with registered banking institutions with maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

For purposes of the Cash Flow Statement, as well as the Statement of Financial Position, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and other short-term investments. Cash and cash equivalents are measured at amortised cost.

Trade and other payables from exchange transactions

Trade and other payables from exchange transactions are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method. The Electoral Commission's trade and other payables from exchange transactions relate to amounts owed to suppliers.

Derecognition of financial instruments

Financial assets are derecognised when the Electoral Commission loses control of the contractual rights that comprise the financial assets. The Electoral Commission

loses control if the right to benefits specified in the contract are realised, the rights expire or the Electoral Commission surrenders those rights.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Offsetting

A financial asset and a financial liability shall be offset and the net amount presented in the Statement of Financial Position when and only when the Electoral Commission:

- currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts; and
- intends to either settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

1.3 INVENTORIES

Inventories are initially measured at cost. Inventories shall be recognised as an asset if, and only if:

- it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the line item will flow to the entity; and
- the cost of the inventories can be measured reliably.

Electoral and promotional items stock is subsequently measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost where they are held for distribution at no charge. The cost of inventories is based on the weighted average principle, and includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the inventories and other costs incurred in bringing them to their existing location and condition. Consumable stores are subsequently measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated

value in use in the ordinary course of business, less the estimated costs of completion. Net realisable value for consumables is assumed to approximate the cost price due to the relatively short period that these assets are held in stock.

When inventories are sold, exchanged or distributed, the carrying amount of those inventories is recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised. If there is no related revenue, the expense is recognised when the goods are distributed, or a related service is rendered.

The amount of any write-down of inventories to net realisable value or current replacement cost and all losses of inventories shall be recognised as an expense in the period in which the write-down or loss occurs.

The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories, arising from an increase in net realisable value or current replacement cost, shall be recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

1.4 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, plant and equipment are tangible assets that are held for use in the production or supply of goods and services or for administrative purposes, and are expected to be used during more than one financial period.

An item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if it is probable that economic

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ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Electoral Commission and the cost can be measured reliably. Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. Elements of cost include the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located, and the obligation that the Electoral Commission incurs either when the item is acquired or as a consequence of having used the item during a particular period for purposes other than to produce inventories during that period.

Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost shall be measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Property, plant and equipment are stated in the Statement of Financial Position at cost less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. These assets are depreciated on the straight-line basis at rates that will result in each asset being written off over its useful life. When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

The estimate of the useful life of an asset is a matter of judgement, based on the Electoral Commission's experience with similar assets. The expected useful lives assigned to the assets in their respective asset classes upon initial recognition are reviewed on an annual basis.

The estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment upon initial recognition are as follows:

Class	Estimated useful life in years
Prefabricated buildings	10 to 30 years
Furniture and fittings	8 to 15 years
Motor vehicles	5 to 15 years
Office equipment	5 to 10 years
Computer equipment	3 to 20 years
Voter management devices	10 years
Scanners	10 years
Cell phones	3 years
Appliances	5 to 10 years

Notwithstanding the above estimates, the useful life of each newly acquired asset is considered on capitalisation of the asset, and should it seemingly differ with the above guidelines, a more reliable useful life is assigned.

In assessing the useful life of an asset, the following factors may be considered:

- The period that the Electoral Commission expects to gain service potential from the asset
- The ability to redeploy the asset within the Electoral Commission over time
- Whether the asset has been acquired for a specific project or purpose
- The past experience of similar assets in use and the appropriateness of this given

the technology embedded in the asset

- Any assessment performed by an independent advisor on the condition of the asset or its expected life expectancy
- The opinion of the user or relevant expert about the asset's "useful life".
- The repairs and maintenance practice of the Electoral Commission in assessing the useful life of an asset

Each part of an item of property, plant and equipment with a cost that is significant in relation to the total cost of the item is depreciated separately. Depreciation is recognised in surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment.

Leasehold improvements are capitalised, as the Electoral Commission controls the assets for the period of the lease. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the assets' useful lives.

The Electoral Commission reviews the useful lives, residual values and depreciation methods of items of property, plant and equipment at least annually. Where expectations differ from previous estimates, the change(s) are accounted for as a change in accounting estimate. The review of assets' useful lives may, or may not, result in useful lives that differ with the estimates per asset class assigned upon initial recognition.

Subsequent costs

The cost of replacing part of an item

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of property, plant and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied within the part will flow to the Electoral Commission and its cost can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. The costs of the day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in surplus or deficit as incurred.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the assets) is included in the Statement of Financial Performance in the year it is recognised.

1.5 HERITAGE ASSETS

Heritage assets are assets that have a cultural, environmental, historical, natural, scientific, technological or artistic significance and are held indefinitely for the benefit of present and future generations.

A heritage asset is recognised as an asset if, and only if:

- it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset will flow to the Electoral Commission; and
- the cost or fair value of the asset can be measured reliably.

A heritage asset that qualifies for recognition as an asset shall be measured at its cost. Where a

heritage asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost shall be measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

The cost of a purchased heritage asset comprises:

- its purchase price, including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, after deducting trade discounts and rebates; and
- any costs directly attributable to bringing the heritage asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Directly attributable expenditure includes, for example, costs initially incurred to acquire and assess the state of the heritage asset, costs to restore it, costs initially incurred to remove it or restore the site where it was located, professional fees, property transfer taxes, initial delivery and handling costs, installation and assembly costs, and other transaction costs.

After recognition as an asset, a heritage asset is not depreciated and is carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

The Electoral Commission will assess, at each reporting date, whether there is an indication that heritage assets may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the Electoral Commission shall estimate the recoverable amount or the recoverable service amount of the heritage asset. In assessing whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired, the Electoral Commission shall consider, as a

minimum, the following indications:

External sources of information:

- During the period, a heritage asset's market value has declined significantly more than would be expected as a result of the passage of time or normal use.
- The absence of an active market for a revalued heritage asset.

Internal sources of information:

- Evidence is available of physical damage or deterioration of a heritage asset.
- A decision to halt the construction of the heritage asset before it is complete or in a usable form.

Compensation from third parties for heritage assets that have been impaired, lost or given up shall be included in surplus or deficit when the compensation becomes receivable.

Transfers from heritage assets shall be made when, and only when, the particular asset no longer meets the definition of a heritage asset.

The carrying amount of a heritage asset shall be derecognised:

- on disposal; or
- when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss arising from derecognition of a heritage asset shall be determined as the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the heritage asset. Such difference is recognised in surplus

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ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

or deficit when the heritage asset is derecognised.

Information about assets that might be regarded as a heritage asset, but which, on initial recognition, do not meet the recognition criteria of heritage assets because they cannot be reliably measured, is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements when applicable.

1.6 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

An intangible asset is an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance.

An intangible asset shall be measured initially at cost. Where an intangible asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its initial cost at the date of acquisition shall be measured at its fair value as at that date.

The cost of an intangible asset comprises:

- its purchase price, including import duties and non-refundable purchase taxes, after deducting trade discounts and rebates; and
- any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Directly attributable expenditure includes, for example, professional fees, initial delivery and handling costs, installation and assembly costs, and other transaction costs.

Acquired intangible assets

Intangible assets are recognised

when it is probable that future economic benefits specifically attributable to the assets will flow to the Electoral Commission and the cost of the intangible assets can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are stated at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

Internally generated intangible assets

Internally generated intangible assets arising from the development phase of internal projects are recognised when:

- the Electoral Commission has an intention to complete and use the intangible asset, and adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development are available;
- the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits or service potential; and
- the Electoral Commission is able to measure the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset reliably during its development.

Internally generated brands, mastheads, publishing titles, mobile apps, customer lists and items similar in substance are not recognised as intangible assets. Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortised on a straight-line basis over their useful lives.

Item	Estimated useful life in years
Computer software	5–10 years

The amortisation period and the

amortisation method for intangible assets are reviewed at the end of each reporting period. The amortisation charge for each period shall be recognised in surplus or deficit, unless this or another standard permits or requires it to be included in the carrying amount of another asset. Intangible assets not ready for use are not amortised.

The carrying amount of an intangible asset shall be derecognised:

- on disposal; or
- when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

1.7 REVENUE FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Revenue from exchange transactions refers to revenue that accrued to the Electoral Commission directly in return for services rendered or goods sold, the value of which approximates the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

When goods or services are exchanged or swapped for goods or services that are of a similar nature and value, the exchange is not regarded as a transaction that generates revenue. When goods are sold or services rendered in exchange for dissimilar goods or services, the exchange is regarded as a transaction that generates revenue. The revenue is measured at the fair value of the goods or services received, adjusted by the amount of any cash or cash equivalents transferred. When the fair value of the goods or services

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ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

received cannot be measured reliably, the revenue is measured at the fair value of the goods or services given up, adjusted by the amount of any cash or cash equivalents transferred.

Political party registration

Political party registration income is an income application fee by political parties and is recognised as revenue on receipt.

Investment revenue

Investment revenue comprises interest income on invested funds. Interest income is recognised on a time-proportion basis using the effective interest method.

1.8 REVENUE FROM NON-EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Revenue from non-exchange transactions refers to transactions where the Electoral Commission receives revenue from another entity without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange. Revenue from non-exchange transactions includes parliamentary allocations, sponsorship income and voting station rentals received at no cost from service providers.

Parliamentary allocations and sponsorship income are recognised when there is reasonable assurance that the Electoral Commission will comply with the conditions attached to them, and the allocation will be received. Revenue is recognised when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Electoral Commission and these benefits can be measured reliably.

Revenue is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, and represents the amounts receivable for services provided in the normal course of business.

Recognition

An inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction recognised as an asset is recognised as revenue, except to the extent that a liability is also recognised in respect of the same inflow.

Measurement

Revenue from a non-exchange transaction is measured at the amount of the increase in net assets recognised by the Electoral Commission. When, as a result of a non-exchange transaction, the Electoral Commission recognises an asset, it also recognises revenue equivalent to the amount of the asset measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition, unless it is also required to recognise a liability. Where a liability is required to be recognised, it will be measured as the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date, and the amount of the increase in net assets, if any, recognised as revenue. When a liability is subsequently reduced, because the taxable event occurs or a condition is satisfied, the amount of the reduction in the liability is recognised as revenue.

1.9 THE EFFECTS OF CHANGES IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

A foreign currency transaction is recorded, on initial recognition, in the functional currency, by applying

to the foreign currency amount the spot exchange rate between the functional currency and the foreign currency at the date of the transaction.

Monetary items (i.e. cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables from exchange transactions, and trade and other payables from exchange transactions) are translated using the closing rate.

Non-monetary items (i.e. property, plant and equipment) are translated using the exchange rate either at the date that the transaction occurred (when these items are carried at historical cost) or when fair value is determined (when these items are carried at revalued amounts).

Foreign currency differences arising from settlement or the translation of monetary items are included in surplus or deficit, whereas any differences on the translation of non-monetary items are included in net assets (where any gains or losses on those items are recognised in net assets) or surplus or deficit.

1.10 FINANCE COST

Finance cost comprises the following:

- Interest expense on overdue accounts from service providers
- All finance costs are recognised in surplus or deficit using the effective interest method.

1.11 FOREIGN AND LOCAL AID ASSISTANCE

In terms of foreign and local aid assistance requirements contained in financial agreements with benefactors, unexpended foreign

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

and local aid assistance ring-fenced for specific projects are reflected as current liabilities in circumstances where such funds are repayable to donors in the event of the funds not being utilised on the specific project. Unexpended foreign and local aid assistance funds that are not required to be repaid and that relate to completed projects are treated as operating revenue in the year that the projects are deemed completed.

1.12 TAXATION

No provision is made for taxation as the Electoral Commission is exempt from tax in terms of section 10(1)(cA) of the Income Tax Act.

The Electoral Commission is not registered for value-added tax (VAT).

1.13 SEGMENT REPORTING

A segment is an activity of an organisation:

- that generates economic benefits or service potential (including economic benefits or service potential relating to transactions between activities of the same organisation);
- whose results are regularly reviewed by management to make decisions about resources to be allocated to that activity and in assessing its performance; and
- for which annual financial information is available.

The Electoral Commission is organised in geographical areas and has a national office, a Party Funding Unit, nine provincial offices, 10 warehouses and 272 local offices. All services to voters and potential voters are delivered at all provincial

and local offices. The national office is responsible for strategic and support services. For reporting purposes, a segment is a province that includes the provincial offices, warehouses and local offices of that province. Head Office is treated as a separate segment. Party Funding is treated as a segment as the allocated funds are ring-fenced for specific use.

1.14 OPERATING LEASES AS THE LESSEE

Lessees shall, in addition to meeting the requirements of GRAP 104, make the following disclosures for operating leases:

(a) The total of future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods:

- not later than one year;
- later than one year and not later than five years; and
- later than five years.

(b) The total of future minimum sublease payments expected to be received under non-cancellable subleases at the reporting date

(c) Lease and sublease payments recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period, with separate amounts for minimum lease payments, contingent rents, and sublease payments

(d) A general description of the lessee's significant leasing arrangements, including, but not limited to, the following:

- The basis on which contingent rent payable is determined
- The existence and terms of renewal or purchase options and escalation clauses
- Restrictions imposed by lease arrangements, such as those concerning return

of surplus, return of capital contributions, dividends or similar distributions, additional debt, and further leasing

Leases of assets under which all the risks and rewards of ownership are effectively retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Performance on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

Free leases

(a) Voting stations – The Electoral Commission use the facilities rent-free mostly from municipalities and schools. An average of all voting station payments made in a financial year is used to determine the rent-free portion. Revenue is then recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

(b) Leases – The Electoral Commission entered into free leases with various municipalities across the country. The cost cannot be reliably measured so the Electoral Commission does not disclose amounts.

1.15 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT COST

Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are measured on an undiscounted basis and are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the reporting period in which the related service is delivered.

Post-employment benefits – defined-benefit plans

The Electoral Commission pays a lump sum benefit to employees who retire at the age of 60 to a maximum

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

age of 65, employees who are discharged as a result of injury on duty, appointment by the President or Premier, incapacity due to own accord, and incapacity not due to own accord, and employees who are discharged as a result of ill health in terms of Regulation 8A. The funds are accounted for at year-end. The expected costs of these benefits are accrued over the period of employment.

Independent qualified actuaries carry out valuations of these obligations. The cost of providing benefits under the defined-benefits plan is determined using the projected unit credit method.

Actuarial gains and losses during the valuation period, arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Retirement benefits – defined-contribution plans

A defined-contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the Electoral Commission pays fixed contributions into a separate entity (the Government Employees' Pension Fund) and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. As a condition of service, all employees are members of Government Employees Pension Fund (GEPF).

Accrual for leave pay

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognised when they accrue to employees. An accrual based on the basic salary, after taking into account the estimated leave to be forfeited, is raised as

a result of services rendered by employees up to the reporting date.

Long-service awards

Long-service awards are paid to employees who have reached five, 10 or 15 years of service with the Electoral Commission.

1.16 IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

Non-cash-generating assets

Non-cash-generating assets are assets other than cash-generating assets. The Electoral Commission assesses, at each reporting date, whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required, the Electoral Commission estimates the asset's recoverable service amount. An asset's recoverable service amount is the higher of a non-cash-generating asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. If the recoverable service amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable service amount. That reduction is an impairment loss recorded in the Statement of Financial Performance.

The value in use of a non-cash-generating asset is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential. Fair value less costs to sell is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's-length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties, less the costs of disposal. The Electoral Commission assesses, at each reporting date, whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior

periods for an asset may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the Electoral Commission estimates the recoverable service amount of that asset. An impairment loss recognised in prior periods for an asset is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable service amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. If this is the case, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to its recoverable service amount. The increased carrying amount of an asset attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of depreciation or amortisation) had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods. Such a reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

1.17 IRREGULAR EXPENDITURE

Irregular expenditure, as defined in section 1 of the PFMA, is expenditure other than unauthorised expenditure, incurred in contravention of, or that is not in accordance with, a requirement of any applicable legislation, including any one the following:

- The PFMA
- The State Tender Board Act, Act 86 of 1968, or any regulations made in terms of the Act
- Any provincial legislation providing for procurement procedures in that provincial government.

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ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

National Treasury Practice Note No 4 of 2008/09, which was issued in terms of sections 76(1) to 76(4) of the PFMA, requires that, from 1 April 2008, irregular expenditure that was incurred and identified during the current financial year and that was condoned before year-end and/or before finalisation of the financial statements is recorded appropriately in the irregular expenditure register. In such an instance, no further action is taken except that the note to the financial statements is updated.

All irregular expenditure is recognised in the annual financial statements in the period in which it is incurred and disclosed separately. Irregular expenditure is accounted for as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Performance and, where recovered, is subsequently accounted for as revenue in the Statement of Financial Performance. Where irregular expenditure was incurred in the previous financial year and is only condoned in the following financial year, the register and the disclosure note to the financial statements are updated with the amount condoned.

Irregular expenditure that was incurred and identified during the current financial year, and which was not condoned by National Treasury or the relevant authority, is recorded appropriately in the irregular expenditure register. If liability for the irregular expenditure can be attributed to a person, a debt account is created if such a person is liable in law. Immediate steps must thereafter be taken to recover the amount from the person concerned. If recovery is not possible, the

Accounting Officer may write off the amount as debt impairment and disclose such in the relevant note to the financial statements. The irregular expenditure register must also be updated accordingly. If the irregular expenditure has not been condoned and no person is liable in law, the expenditure related thereto remains against the relevant programme or expenditure item, and is disclosed as such in the note to the financial statements and updated accordingly in the irregular expenditure register.

All irregular expenditure is investigated. In instances where fraud, corruption or criminal activities have been identified, the necessary disciplinary procedures are implemented, and civil and criminal cases will be made as appropriate. In other instances, the controls are reviewed, and improved where necessary, and training interventions conducted.

Irregular expenditure that has not been condoned by National Treasury or the relevant authority will be removed from the irregular expenditure register by the Accounting Officer if all the requirements of paragraph 58 of the Irregular Expenditure Framework have been met.

1.18 FRUITLESS AND WASTEFUL EXPENDITURE

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure means expenditure that was made in vain and could have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised. The expenditure is accounted for as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Performance and

is classified in accordance with the nature of the expense, and where recovered, is accounted for as revenue in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Writing off of debts owing to the state in terms of sections 76(1)(e) and 76(4)(a) of the PFMA, an Accounting Officer may only write off a debt if he or she is satisfied that:

- (a) all reasonable steps have been taken to recover the debt, in accordance with a policy determined by the Accounting Officer; and
- (b) he or she is convinced that:
 - (i) recovery of the debt would be uneconomical;
 - (ii) recovery would cause undue hardship to the debtor or their dependants; or
 - (iii) it would be to the advantage of the state to effect a settlement of its claim or to waive the claim.

All debts written off must be disclosed in the financial statements, indicating the policy in terms of which the debt was written off.

1.19 PROVISION, COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Provisions

A provision is a liability where the timing or amount of the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential is uncertain.

A provision is recognised when:

- the Electoral Commission has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation; and

- a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount of a provision shall be the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the present obligation. The discount rate shall reflect current market assessments of the time value of money and risks specific to the liability. The amount of a provision is the best estimate of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date.

Provisions are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate. Provisions are reversed if it is no longer probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation. Where discounting is used, the carrying amount of a provision increases in each period to reflect the passage of time. This increase is recognised as an interest expense.

A provision is only used for expenditures for which the provision was originally recognised.

Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses and are derecognised once the liability is realised.

Commitments

A commitment is an agreement between two or more parties that is binding on those parties to the degree that, to renege on

the agreement, will be costly. Commitments represent orders issued to suppliers that have been approved, but where no delivery has taken place as at year-end and there are contractual commitments.

Commitments are not recognised as liabilities or assets in the Statement of Financial Position, but are included in the disclosure notes. The Electoral Commission discloses the amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment, and intangible assets.

An onerous contract is a contract for the exchange of assets or services in which the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits or service potential expected to be received under it. The Electoral Commission has no onerous contracts.

Contracted commitment – where the expenditure has been approved and the contract has been awarded at the reporting date.

Approved but not contracted commitment – where the expenditure has been approved and the contract is awaiting finalisation at the reporting date. Items are classified as commitments when the Commission commits itself to future transactions that will normally result in the outflow of resources.

Where uncertainty exists and management cannot reliably estimate the value of the split between operational and capital commitments, management will not include those amounts in the disclosure note, but will provide narrative explanations

of the value involved and the reasons for the uncertainty. A contract is only removed from the schedule if the contract is fully paid, cancelled or terminated.

Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is a possible obligation that arises from past events, the existence of which will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events that are beyond the control of the Electoral Commission. Alternatively, a contingent liability is a present obligation that arises from past events, but which is not recognised because:

- it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation; or
- the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Contingent liabilities are included in the disclosure note.

The contingent liability is removed from the schedule once the matter is closed by way of a court case and mutual agreement.

Contingent assets

Contingent assets arise from unplanned or other unexpected events that are not wholly within the control of the Electoral Commission and give rise to the possibility of an inflow of economic benefits or service potential to the Electoral Commission. Contingent assets are not recognised.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1.20 RELATED PARTIES

Related-party transactions are transactions that involve the transfer of resources, services or obligations between related parties, regardless of whether a price is charged. Related-party relationships exist throughout the public sector for the following reasons:

- Constitutional institutions, departments and municipalities are subject to the overall direction of an executive government or council, and ultimately, Parliament, and operate together to achieve the policies of government.
- Constitutional institutions, departments and municipalities frequently conduct activities necessary for the achievement of different parts of their responsibilities and objectives through separate controlled entities, and through entities over which they have significant influence.
- Public entities enter into transactions with other

government entities on a regular basis.

- Ministers, councillors or other elected or appointed members of the government and other members of management can exert significant influence over the operations of the Electoral Commission.
- Where related-party transactions are at arm's length, the Electoral Commission applies the exemption regarding disclosure in terms of GRAP 20 and disclosure is limited to the outstanding balances at year-end and narrative disclosures of the nature of the transactions.

Implicit in the definition of a related party are other government entities and joint ventures that have a significant influence on the Electoral Commission and its activities.

Key management personnel are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling

the activities of the Electoral Commission directly or indirectly.

2. EFFECT OF NEW STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS OF GRAP

The following standards and interpretations of GRAP have been approved, but are not yet effective:

- GRAP 104: Financial Instruments
- GRAP 25: Employee Benefits

The effective date for the above standards has not yet been determined.

The adoption of these Standards of GRAP, when they become effective, is not expected to have a significant impact on the financial statements because it is currently being applied. The following standards are being applied:

Standard/interpretation	Effective date	Details	Impact
GRAP 25 (R): Employee Benefits	Not yet determined	The standard is currently being applied under 1.15 of the Accounting Policy	The adoption of the revised GRAP 25, when it becomes effective, is not expected to have a significant impact on the financial statements because it is currently being applied.
GRAP 25 (R): Employee Benefits	Not yet determined	The standard is currently being applied under 1.15 of the Accounting Policy	The adoption of the revised GRAP 25, when it becomes effective, is not expected to have a significant impact on the financial statements because it is currently being applied.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Note	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
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3. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BY CATEGORY

The accounting policies for financial instruments have been applied to the line items below.

Financial assets recognised at amortised cost

Accrued interest	5	1,059,030	1,420,922
Cash and cash equivalents	4	818,753,225	1,595,175,540
Cash collateral provided: property rentals	5	9,875,882	9,191,597
Sundry receivables	5	14,799,053	11,521,207
		844,487,190	1,617,309,266

Financial assets are not pledged as collateral for liabilities or contingent liabilities.

Financial liabilities recognised at amortised cost

Trade and other payables	10	180,733,802	158,296,370
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4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash on hand	306,926	257,450
Bank balances	38,956,575	42,159,661
Short-term notice deposits	779,489,724	1,552,758,429
	818,753,225	1,595,175,540

The notice deposits are carried at an effective floating interest rate that varied between 3.30% and 3.67% (2021: 3.06% and 3.58%).

Included in the balance is an amount of R41.4 million allocated to Programme 4: Party Funding. These funds were appropriated specifically for the use of Programme 4: Party Funding and are ring-fenced for this purpose.

5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Current

Accrued interest	1,059,030	1,420,922
Prepayments	22,208,757	18,396,062
	29,257,553	11,521,207
Sundry receivables*	30,329,123	12,422,229
Less: Impairment allowance	(1,071,570)	(901,022)
	52,525,340	31,338,191

*Included in the amount is a receivable relating to a barter agreement with SABC.

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NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

31 March 2022
R

31 March 2021
R

Non-current

Cash collateral – property rental

9,875,882 9,191,597

Cash collateral represents deposits paid to landlords for office accommodation for the operations of the Electoral Commission. The amounts are carried at cost and are only recovered when the lease expires.

Trade and other receivables past due, but not impaired

As at 31 March 2022, all debt that was past due was impaired, as well as the prior year.

Trade and other receivables impaired

As of 31 March 2022, trade and other receivables of R1 071 570 (2021: R901 022) were impaired and provided for. Factors taken into account when considering impairment included the age of the debt and the likelihood of recovery.

The ageing of impaired debts is as follows:

Not due	5,718	2,457
31–120 days past due	49,085	177,064
121–365 days past due	151,148	-
More than 365 days past due	865,619	721,501
	1,071,570	901,022

Reconciliation of allowance for impairment of trade and other receivables

Opening balance	901,022	628,038
Recoveries	(35,404)	-
Provision for impairment	205,952	329,577
Write-off	-	(56,593)
	1,071,570	901,022

The creation and release of the provision for impaired receivables have been included in operating expenses as a deficit.

Trade and other receivables pledged as security

The Electoral Commission has not pledged any trade and other receivables as collateral.

5.1 PREPAYMENTS

Administrative expenses
Software licences
Subscription and membership

246,586 36,000
21,788,214 18,292,418
173,957 67,644
22,208,757 18,396,062

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

31 March 2022
R

31 March 2021
R

6. INVENTORIES

Consumable stores
Promotional items
Electoral stock

542,525 503,338
3,870 4,521
42,319,111 22,578,201
42,865,506 23,086,060

Electoral stock or supplies acquired were used during LGE 2021 and during monthly by-elections. These include items such as ballot boxes, voting compartments, demarcation tapes and by-elections security items. Inventories are not pledged as security.

7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

		31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	Cost	Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying amount	Cost	Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses
Appliances	4,987,454	(4,268,281)	719,173	4,792,782	(4,204,267)
Cell phones	8,131	(2,675)	5,456	535	(530)
Computer equipment	242,304,061	(140,601,525)	101,702,536	216,206,519	(131,248,393)
Furniture and fittings	90,104,810	(53,074,950)	37,029,860	85,369,521	(48,062,339)
Leasehold improvements	4,909,101	(3,743,476)	1,165,625	4,609,487	(3,471,948)
Motor vehicles	84,300,926	(28,925,535)	55,375,391	85,617,168	(30,322,901)
Office equipment	51,862,712	(42,147,784)	9,714,928	48,450,611	(40,066,980)
Pre-fabricated buildings	21,892,865	(4,278,863)	17,614,002	19,070,976	(3,569,399)
Voter management devices	545,098,394	(39,678,275)	505,420,119	-	-
Scanners	180,706,473	(180,674,778)	31,695	180,706,473	(180,674,778)
TOTAL	1,226,174,927	(497,396,142)	728,778,785	644,824,072	(441,621,535)
					203,202,537

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

RECONCILIATION OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT – 31 MARCH 2022

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment loss	Closing balance
Appliances	588,515	276,244	(2,300)	(141,744)	(1,542)	719,173
Cell phones	5	7,596	-	(2,145)	-	5,456
Computer equipment	84,958,126	36,708,058	(451,883)	(19,452,089)	(59,676)	101,702,536
Furniture and fittings	37,307,182	5,087,266	(48,639)	(5,184,900)	(131,049)	37,029,860
Leasehold improvements	1,137,539	370,403	(22,526)	(319,791)	-	1,165,625
Motor vehicles	55,294,267	5,362,229	(2,815,377)	(2,465,728)	-	55,375,391
Office equipment	8,383,631	3,847,914	(26,255)	(2,476,608)	(13,754)	9,714,928
Pre-fabricated buildings	15,501,577	2,821,889	-	(709,464)	-	17,614,002
Voter management devices	-	545,792,116	(635,761)	(39,736,236)	-	505,420,119
Scanners	31,695	-	-	-	-	31,695
TOTAL	203,202,537	600,273,715	(4,002,741)	(70,488,705)	(206,021)	728,778,785

1. There are no restrictions on title and disposal of property, plant and equipment. Property, plant and equipment are not allowed to be pledged as securities for liabilities. Asset condition and technological obsolescence were taken into consideration when determining whether the asset should be impaired. Repairs and maintenance relating to property, plant and equipment is R16 102 322 (2021: R7 118 605).

2. The Electoral Commission contracted Maintenance and Support Services for R25 971 200 for the voter management devices over two years commencing on the second anniversary of the final delivery.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

RECONCILIATION OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT – 31 MARCH 2021

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment loss	Closing balance
Appliances	679,383	119,195	(3,639)	(204,446)	(1,978)	588,515
Cell phones	8	-	-	(3)	-	5
Computer equipment	88,206,446	12,819,580	(160,724)	(15,779,152)	(128,024)	84,958,125
Furniture and fittings	35,253,770	7,225,442	(209,887)	(4,841,657)	(120,486)	37,307,183
Leasehold improvements	1,273,188	130,245	-	(265,894)	-	1,137,539
Motor vehicles	38,356,524	29,394,220	(7,137,320)	(5,061,794)	(257,363)	55,294,267
Office equipment	9,508,552	2,453,892	(80,951)	(3,481,944)	(15,918)	8,383,631
Pre-fabricated buildings	13,282,279	2,788,776	-	(569,478)	-	15,501,578
Voter management devices	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scanners	2,042,281	-	(235)	(2,010,351)	-	31,694
TOTAL	188,602,431	54,931,350	(7,592,756)	(32,214,719)	(523,769)	203,202,537

8. HERITAGE ASSETS

		31 March 2022			31 March 2021
	Cost	Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying amount		
Artwork	1,676,384	(5,241)	1,671,143	1,676,384	(5,241)

RECONCILIATION OF HERITAGE ASSETS – 31 MARCH 2022

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Impairment loss	Closing balance
Artwork	1,671,143	-	-	-	1,671,143



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NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

RECONCILIATION OF HERITAGE ASSETS – 31 MARCH 2021

	Opening balance	Additions	Disposals	Impairment loss	Closing balance
Artwork	1,671,230	-	(87)	-	1,671,143

Asset condition was taken into account when determining whether the asset should be impaired. There are no restrictions on title and disposal of heritage assets. Heritage assets are not pledged as securities for liabilities.

9. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	31 March 2022			31 March 2021		
	Cost	Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying amount	Cost	Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses	Carrying amount
Computer software	74,396,001	(69,445,984)	4,950,017	82,995,912	(78,427,588)	4,568,324
Internally generated software	197,103,956	(89,628,611)	107,475,345	187,249,122	(84,416,546)	102,832,576
TOTAL	271,499,957	(159,074,595)	112,425,362	270,245,034	(162,844,134)	107,400,900

RECONCILIATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS – 31 MARCH 2022

	Opening balance	Additions	Work in progress	Amortisation	Disposals/ derecognition	Closing balance
Computer software	4,568,324	1,079,751	-	(698,031)	(27)	4,950,017
Internally generated software	102,832,576	18,321,786	2,333,254	(13,257,195)	(2,755,076)	107,475,345
TOTAL	107,400,900	19,401,537	2,333,254	(13,955,226)	(2,755,103)	112,425,362

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NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

31 March 2022
R

31 March 2021
R

RECONCILIATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS – 31 MARCH 2021

	Opening balance	Additions	Amortisation	Closing balance
Computer software	6,688,797	274,942	(2,395,415)	4,568,324
Internally generated software	74,826,104	40,913,667	(12,907,195)	102,832,576
TOTAL	81,514,901	41,188,609	(15,302,610)	107,400,900

Intangible assets are not pledged as securities for liabilities.

10. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Trade payables
Payroll payables
Leave pay accruals
Deposits received
EFTs not cleared for payment at year-end*

60,625,212
28,008,019
84,976,065
799,300
6,325,206

180,733,802

51,095,557
28,276,414
78,215,505
544,200
164,694

158,296,370

* Refers to amounts paid on the last day of the financial year that do not reflect on the bank statement.

11. OPERATING LEASE LIABILITY

Operating lease straight-lining

Due within 12 months
Due after 12 months

(4,718,559)
33,213,344

28,494,785

(251,761)
28,909,409

28,657,648

Total minimum lease payments

Not later than one year
Later than one year and not later than five years
Later than five years

98,238,386
211,107,663
25,193,623

334,539,672

95,662,206
267,267,676
24,927,357

387,857,239

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022 R	Restated* 31 March 2021 R
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The minimum lease payments reflected above relate to building lease commitments in respect of contracts that were in place and active as at 31 March 2022 only. Other contractual commitments, including new leases that were not active at 31 March 2022, are included under Note 24.

Operating lease payments represent rentals payable by the Electoral Commission, including the national office, nine provincial offices, 10 warehouses and 272 local electoral offices (2021: 272). No contingent rent is payable. New contracts entered into have an average term of five to seven years, and escalate at an average of 8% per annum. The Commission has leased 66 (2021: 70) local offices from various municipalities across the country at no cost to the Commission.

12. LUMP-SUM RETIREMENT BENEFIT

Post-retirement benefits: Lump-sums retirement	177,070,000	152,022,000
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The liability is reconciled as follows:

Balance at the beginning of the year	152,022,000	130,707,000*
Current-year provision	38,652,548	36,379,498
Interest cost	19,361,000	16,857,000
Current service costs	10,317,000	9,075,000
Actuarial gain or loss	8,974,548	10,447,498
Less: Payments made	(13,604,548)	(15,064,498)
Balance at the end of the year	177,070,000	152,022,000
Non-current portion	173,113,000	144,917,000
Current portion	3,957,000	7,105,000

12.1 PLAN ASSETS

Currently, no long-term assets are set aside off the balance sheet in respect of the employer's post-employment benefit.

Changes in the value of the obligation:

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
Present value of the defined-benefit obligation as at the valuation date	177,070,000	152,022,000	130,707,000	130,527,000

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

A cash benefit is given to employees when retiring between the ages of 60 and 65. The Electoral Commission will pay the employee an amount equal to 15 days' salary for every completed period of 12 months that the employee has been in service of the Electoral Commission.

The liability amount was calculated as the expected amount payable to an employee on each age between 60 and 65, and then discounting the expected benefit value to the valuation date.

The actuarial valuation was performed by independent actuarial consultants using the project unit credit method. The valuation will be on a yearly basis.

The valuation is based on the following principal actuarial assumptions:

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Discount rate ¹	11.14%	12.51%
Expected retirement age	60 to 65	60 to 65
Number of employees	911	859
Consumer Price Index	7.22%	8.32%
Salary inflation rate	7.22%	8.32%
Net effective discount rate	3.66%	3.87%

¹Discount rate

The fund benefit liability to the Electoral Commission as at 31 March 2022 has been discounted at a rate determined on the basis of the nominal and real-zero curves as supplied by the JSE.

12.2 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

Withdrawal rate

Deviations from the assumed level of withdrawal experience of the eligible employees will have a large impact on the actual cost to the Electoral Commission. If the actual rates of withdrawal turn out to be higher than the rates assumed in the valuation basis, the cost to the Electoral Commission in the form of benefits will reduce, and vice versa. Illustrated below is the effect of higher and lower withdrawal rates by increasing and decreasing the withdrawal rates by 20%. The effect is as follows:

2022 withdrawal rate	-20% withdrawal rate	Valuation assumption	+20% withdrawal rate
Total accrued liability	182,054,000	177,070,000	172,398,000
Current service cost	12,054,000	11,642,000	11,262,000
Interest cost	20,765,000	20,187,000	19,645,000

2021 withdrawal rate	-20% withdrawal rate	Valuation assumption	+20% withdrawal rate
Total accrued liability	156,444,000	152,022,000	147,885,000
Current service cost	10,685,000	10,317,000	9,978,000
Interest cost	19,937,000	19,361,000	18,822,000

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

12.3 BENEFIT INCREASE RATE

The cost of the lump-sum retirement benefit is dependent on the increase in the benefit amounts paid to employees. The rate at which these benefits increase will thus have a direct effect on the liability of future employees.

The effect of a 1% p.a. change in the benefit increase assumption is shown below.

2022 benefit increase rate	-1% normal salary Inflation	Valuation assumption	+1% normal salary Inflation
Total accrued liability	158,453,000	177,070,000	198,423,000
Current service cost	10,320,000	11,642,000	13,176,000
Interest cost	18,039,000	20,187,000	22,652,000

2021 benefit increase rate	-1% normal salary Inflation	Valuation assumption	+1% normal salary Inflation
Total accrued liability	136,232,000	152,022,000	170,165,000
Current service cost	9,160,000	10,317,000	11,659,000
Interest cost	17,313,000	19,361,000	21,714,000

31 March 2022
R

31 March 2021
R

13. REVENUE FROM NON-EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Parliamentary allocation
Sponsorship revenue¹
Lease revenue²

2,250,255,000
67,151
6,293,884

2,256,616,035

2,100,534,000
-
214,078

2,100,748,078

¹ Sponsorship revenue related to a service provider that provided the Electoral Commission with a WhatsApp Business account, license fee, and onboarding and training free of charge by TURN.IO.

² Lease revenue represents savings on voting stations offered at no cost by service providers during LGE 2021 and monthly by-elections.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	31 March 2022 R	Restated* 31 March 2021 R
14. REVENUE FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS			
Political party registration fees		53,500	35,700
Investment revenue ¹		50,088,680	46,595,195
Foreign and local aid assistance		-	17,412,117
Elections-related revenue ²		55,095,532	-
Other operating revenue	14.1	472,003	234,486
		105,709,715	64,277,498

¹ Investment revenue represents funds received on cash and cash equivalents. These investments are held with Standard Bank.

² Elections-related revenue represents a barter agreement with the SABC. The SABC was provided with space and logistical arrangements at the Electoral Commission's Results Centres for LGE 2021 in exchange for advertising space on radio, television and other digital platforms.

14.1 OTHER OPERATING REVENUE

Elections-related revenue	4,250	11,950
Commissions earned	4,257	6,481
Short message services (SMS)	290,731	15,693
Bad debt recovered	35,404	-
Other operating income ¹	137,361	200,362
	472,003	234,486

¹ Other income is mostly made up of the sale of waste paper.

15. EMPLOYEE-RELATED COSTS

Wages and salaries	797,727,201	618,016,034
Allowances	26,874,721	10,642,530
Employer contributions to defined-contribution plan (GEPF)	45,347,926	43,333,109
Employer contributions: other	25,586,061	17,947,580
Leave accrual	16,038,807	11,914,642
Lump sums retirement benefit	36,832,193	45,848,616*
Relocation costs	536,775	1,006,497
Long-service awards	13,087,707	6,379,897
Deployment cost	10,508	2,201
	962,041,899	755,091,106*

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

16. GOODS AND SERVICES

	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
Advertising	113,642,668	2,582,325
Bank charges	2,698,005	626,680
Catering	1,776,504	315,270
Communications and connectivity	91,412,306	53,604,164
Conferences and workshops	88,481,994	2,021,866
Consumables	79,019,592	13,063,621
Insurance	2,359,428	1,666,611
Inventory	63,968,531	570,495
Printing and stationery	87,355,983	5,385,850
Professional services	269,915,450	134,443,413
Property expenses – other	24,340,181	20,711,506
Property expenses – voting station rentals	36,046,862	1,051,093
Rentals equipment	25,602,034	589,890
Software licenses	45,293,630	33,090,489
Storage and distribution costs	31,269,044	6,324,573
Study expenditure	3,051,674	2,578,633
Repairs and maintenance	16,102,322	7,118,605
Subscriptions and membership fees	1,671,896	1,720,233
Subsistence and travel	418,843,370	8,401,299
Voting station staff	381,679,100	5,855,064
Other permanent and fixed-term staff	37,164,270	2,546,235
Sundry expenditure	546	5,463
Travel expenses	45,782,277	12,989,639
	1,448,634,297	308,861,718

17. DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT

Amortisation	13,955,226	15,302,610
Depreciation	70,488,705	32,214,719
Increase in impairment allowance – property, plant and equipment	206,021	523,769
	84,649,952	48,041,098

18. AUDIT FEES

Auditor-General	10,159,351	6,282,236
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19. LEASE RENTAL COSTS

Lease rental costs	105,280,948	102,413,000
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The lease rental cost is the smoothed cost of the rentals paid for national, provincial, local and municipal offices and warehouses.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

20. FINANCE COSTS

Interest paid on late payments to suppliers	2,460	3,258
Exchange loss (gain)	307	-
	2,767	3,258

21. DEBT IMPAIRMENT

Write-offs	12,098	56,293
Debt impairment	205,951	272,284
	218,049	329,577

22. (DEFICIT) / SURPLUS ON DISPOSAL OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

(Deficit) / surplus on disposal of non-current assets	(2,831,780)	2,119,309
Composition of deficit from sale of non-current assets		
Disposal of non-current assets	(3,817,641)	(644,335)
Proceeds from sale of non-current assets	985,861	2,763,644
(Deficit) / surplus on disposal of non-current assets	(2,831,780)	2,119,309

23. CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATIONS

(Deficit) / surplus for the year	(251,493,293)	946,122,892*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	84,649,952	48,041,098
Surplus (deficit) on disposal of assets	2,831,780	(2,119,309)
Movements in operating lease liability and accruals	(162,863)	(2,439,093)
Movements in lump-sum benefits	25,048,000	28,152,839
Debt impairment	218,049	329,577
Foreign exchange	307	-
Prior-period error	-	(3,839,258)
Foreign and local aid assistance	-	(27,693,314)
Changes in working capital:		
(Decrease) / increase in inventories	(19,779,446)	(9,097,560)
(Decrease) / increase in trade and other receivables	(22,089,483)	(225,245)
Increase (decrease) in trade and other payables from exchange transactions	22,437,125	4,995,106
	(158,339,872)	982,227,733

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

24. COMMITMENTS

Commitments for capital expenditure

	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
Approved, but not contracted	6,291,672	540,160,000
Total capital commitments	6,291,672	540,160,000

This relates to vehicles ordered at year-end with an expected delivery date in the new financial year.

Not later than one year	-	-
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	-
Later than five years	-	-
Approved but not contracted	6,291,672	540,160,000
Total capital commitments	6,291,672	540,160,000

Commitments for operational expenditure

Contracted	171,902,069	250,047,691
Approved, but not contracted	3,320,173	6,115,518
Total operational expenditure commitments	175,222,242	256,163,209

Not later than one year	84,662,755	114,453,219
Later than one year and not later than five years	86,955,221	132,480,816
Later than five years	284,093	3,113,656
Approved but not contracted	3,320,173	6,115,518

Total operational expenditure commitments	175,222,242	256,163,209
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Total expenditure commitments	181,513,914	796,323,209
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Commitments disclosed take into consideration the escalation clauses as per the contractual agreements. The operating lease commitments in respect of contracts on which payments had been made during the year have been disclosed in the operating lease liability note (Note 11)

25. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Legal	5,515,580	4,829,403
Staff	-	309,312
Other	-	1,545,432
Total contingencies	5,515,580	6,684,147

Legal contingencies relate to civil claims against the Electoral Commission. The likelihood of these succeeding is difficult to determine.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

26. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT RISK MANAGEMENT

Financial risk management

The Electoral Commission's activities have limited exposure to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk. Risk management is carried out by the Executive Risk Management Committee under policies approved by the Commission.

The Electoral Commission has developed a comprehensive risk strategy in terms of Treasury Regulation 28.1 in order to monitor and control these risks. The risk management process relating to each of these risks is discussed under the headings below.

Liquidity risk

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash through the proper management of working capital, capital expenditure and cash. Due to the dynamic nature of its underlying operations, the Electoral Commission aims to maintain sufficient funding through a robust MTEF budgeting process.

The following are the contractual maturities of financial liabilities:

	Carrying amounts R	Contractual cash flow R	1–12 months R	2–5 years R	Later than 5 years R
2022					
Trade and other payables	180,733,802	180,733,802	180,733,802	-	-
2021					
Trade and other payables	158,296,370	158,296,370	158,296,370	-	-

Credit risk

The carrying amounts of the financial assets represent the maximum credit exposure. With respect to credit risk arising from cash and cash equivalents, cash is placed with authorised financial institutions.

	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
The maximum exposure at the reporting date was:		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 4)	818,753,225	1,595,175,540

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The maximum exposure to credit risk for trade receivables at the reporting date by category is:

Cash collateral provided (Note 5)

Accrued interest

Sundry receivables – employees and suppliers (Note 5)

Less: Impairment allowance

9,875,882	9,191,597
1,059,030	1,420,922
15,870,623	12,422,229
(1,071,570)	(901,022)
25,733,965	22,133,726

Impairment losses

The ageing of trade receivables net of the allowance for credit losses at the reporting date was:

Not past due	25,733,965	22,133,726
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An amount of R1 071 570 (2021: R901 022) has been provided for as doubtful debts and is included in the amounts disclosed above. This provision relates to identified debtors that were considered doubtful and were not likely to be received.

Cash flow

The Electoral Commission manages its cash flow risk by aligning the monthly parliamentary allocation to its estimated monthly activity levels.

Parliamentary allocation	2,250,255,000	2,100,534,000
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27. RELATED PARTIES

Key management compensation

Commissioners	Salary	Short-term benefits	Total 2022	Total 2021
Glen Mashinini – Chairperson	1,673,742	951,701	2,625,443	2,612,070
Janet Love – Vice-Chairperson	1,359,908	951,701	2,311,609	2,298,236
Dr Nomsa Masuku – Commissioner	1,359,908	951,701	2,311,609	2,298,236
Mosotho S Moepya – Commissioner	1,359,908	951,701	2,311,609	2,298,236
TOTAL	5,753,466	3,806,803	9,560,270	9,506,778

Commissioners do not qualify for membership of the GEPP.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Executive management salaries	Salary	Short-term benefits	Heightened activity	Total 2022	Total 2021
Sy Mamabolo – CEO	2,350,824	566,559	325,694	3,243,077	3,113,517
Masego Sheburi – Deputy CEO: Electoral Operations	1,872,264	258,358	255,007	2,385,630	2,260,400
Mawethu Mosery – Deputy CEO: Outreach ¹	1,798,121	275,127	243,512	2,316,761	2,187,837
Akhtari Henning – Deputy CEO: Corporate Services	1,872,264	258,358	255,007	2,385,630	2,260,400
George Mahlangu – Chief Executive: Political Party Funding	1,817,328	251,587	247,625	2,316,540	2,195,293
Dawn Mbatha CA(SA) – Chief Financial Officer	1,987,176	273,312	274,451	2,534,939	2,324,650
Libisi Maphanga – Chief Information Officer	1,813,512	251,839	250,768	2,316,119	2,542,298
Total Executive management salaries	13,511,489	2,135,140	1,852,064	17,498,696	16,884,397
Total key management compensation	19,264,955	5,941,943	1,852,064	27,058,964	26,391,175

¹ Deputy CEO: Outreach was appointed effective 1 February 2022

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
Balances with other related parties		
Related-party balances		
Department of International Relations and Cooperation	-	(6,005,417)
South African Broadcasting Corporation ¹	(4,013,040)	-
South African Broadcasting Corporation ²	14,458,500	-
Relationship with Political Party Funds		
Represented Political Parties Funding	75,272	2,827,848

¹ Refer to Note 10

² Refer to Note 5

The Electoral Commission is a constitutional institution established in terms of section 181(1)(f) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) to promote and safeguard representative democracy in South Africa. The Electoral Commission is publicly funded and accountable to Parliament, yet independent of government in carrying out its operational functions.

As a constitutional institution, the Electoral Commission reports to the

National Assembly. Accordingly, a related-party relationship is implied, notwithstanding that all Electoral Commission transactions with government entities are at arm's length and on commercial terms.

The core function of the Electoral Commission is the impartial management of free and fair elections in all spheres of government. The adequate funding of the Electoral Commission through parliamentary appropriation is necessary to ensure that the

Commission delivers on its mandate in terms of electoral prescripts.

The parliamentary allocation transferred through the Department of Home Affairs has been disclosed in Note 13.

The Political Party Funding Act, Act 6 of 2018, provides for the establishment and management of funds to fund represented political parties sufficiently. The Electoral Commission and the funds have the same Accounting Officer and, as a result, the funds and the Electoral Commission are related parties.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

28. IRREGULAR EXPENDITURE

	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
Opening balance	58,920,106	19,473,223
Add: Irregular expenditure incurred in the current year	22,309,581	15,610,612
Add: Irregular expenditure incurred in previous years identified in current year	5,952,662	24,873,177
Less: Amount condoned in the current year	(16,915,466)	(19,944)
• Non-compliance with SCM regulations	(16,915,466)	(19,944)
Less: Irregular expenditure condoned during the year by the Accounting Officer	(3,763,902)	-
• Contravention of Treasury Instruction 1 of 2013	(638,542)	-
• Non-compliance with Treasury Instruction 3 of 2016/17	(2,759,225)	-
• Bid rigging	(182,200)	-
• Non-compliance with SCM regulations	(183,935)	-
Less: Irregular expenditure removed during the year due to internal conclusions	-	(1,016,962)
• Bid rigging	-	(59,337)
• Incorrect scoring applied	-	(570,840)
• Failure to indicate evaluation criteria on requests for quotations above R30 000	-	(386,785)
	66,502,981	58,920,106

Irregular expenditure relates to non-compliance with the Treasury Regulations, Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act (PPPFA) and non-compliance with any other regulations governing the Electoral Commission.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
28.1 IRREGULAR EXPENDITURE INCURRED		
Other current-year non-compliance	28,262,244	40,483,789
Non-compliance identified in the current year relating to expenditure incurred in the current and prior year where processes were non-compliant with procurement regulations.		
	28,262,244	40,483,789

28.2 EXPENDITURE AWAITING CONDONATION

Non-compliance with section 8 of National Treasury Instruction SCM Instruction Note 3 of 2016/17: Preventing and Combating Abuse in the Supply Chain Management System was identified during the year.
Non-compliance with Treasury Instruction 5 of 2020/21: Procurement of Covid-19-related and protective gear
Non-compliance with SCM regulations
Incorrect (10%) cash allowance benefit paid to Commissioners
Other non-compliant matters

5,807,486	5,811,447
3,960	3,960
2,040	
1,796,569	1,796,569
58,892,926	51,308,130
66,502,981	58,920,106

28.3 CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

In instances where fraud, corruption or criminal activities have been identified, the necessary disciplinary procedures have been implemented, and civil and criminal cases have been made as appropriate. In other instances, the controls have been reviewed and improved where necessary, and training interventions have been or will be conducted. Investigations are ongoing in relation to transactions that have been identified as potentially irregular. If confirmed as irregular, this will be disclosed in the year in which the irregularity is confirmed.

28.4 EXPENDITURE CONDONED DURING THE YEAR

Non-compliance with SCM regulations	17,099,401	19,944
Contravention of Treasury Instruction 1 of 2013	638,542	-
Non-compliance with Treasury Instruction 3 of 2016/17		2,759,225
Bid rigging	182,200	59,337
Failure to indicate evaluation criteria on requests for quotations above R30 000	-	386,785
Incorrect scoring supplied	-	570,840
	20,679,368	1,036,906

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	31 March 2022 R	31 March 2021 R
29. FRUITLESS AND WASTEFUL EXPENDITURE		
Fruitless and wasteful expenditure	1,721,081	1,493,862
Made up as follows:		
Opening balance	1,493,862	1,324,521
Add: Fruitless and wasteful expenditure in the current year		
• Interest incurred due to late payment of invoices	2,460	55,335
• Tax directive on lump-sums paid to the South African Revenue Service (SARS) on behalf of former employees	-	114,006
• Payment to incorrect bank account	111,715	-
• Cancellation fees	2,586	-
• SARS penalties	110,458	-
	1,721,081	1,493,862

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure incurred in the current year is being investigated and corrective action will be taken.

30. EXPLANATION OF VARIANCES BETWEEN BUDGET AND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

¹ **Revenue:** The increase in revenue is due to investment revenue being higher than projected as a result of higher bank balances owing to various project delays. This included the delayed delivery of the VMDs, as well as the national registration event, and 2021 LGE being delayed due to Covid-19. In addition, lease revenue and election-related revenue (sponsorships) are not budgeted for and were therefore not included in the Estimates of National Expenditure.

² **Employee-related costs:** The underspend on employee-related costs is mainly due to permanent staff vacancies not being filled due to an ongoing CCMA case related to the implementation of an organisational review.

³ **Goods and services:** Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Electoral Commission sought postponement of the elections. A recommendation was received to postpone the elections to February 2022. This recommendation was opposed by several parties. The Electoral Commission approached the Constitutional Court to seek a postponement of the elections. The postponement was denied by the Constitutional Court stating that the elections should be held by November 2021. The impact of the Constitutional Court ruling resulted in the Electoral Commission holding elections on a shortened, compressed election timetable. Initially, due to the recommendation of the postponement of the elections, planned projects, such

as the appointment of expansion staff, were delayed and temporary warehouse contracts were shortened. The shortened period resulted in huge cost savings.

⁴ **Depreciation, amortisation and impairment:** Depreciation was slightly less than projected during the Estimates of National Expenditure, mainly due to VMDs not being depreciated for a full financial year as projected (delivery was staggered and the final cost was less than budgeted). The procurement of computer equipment and prefabricated office units was also delayed and projected depreciation thereon did not materialise.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

31. PRIOR-YEAR PERIOD ERROR

Change in accounting treatment – Retirement lump-sum benefit

Background

In terms of the Electoral Commission's condition of service Regulations 8A, the Electoral Commission will give a cash benefit to employees upon retirement between the ages of 60 and 65. The Electoral Commission will pay the employee an amount equal to 15 days' salary for every completed period of 12 months that the employee has been in the service of the Electoral Commission.

The Electoral Commission accounted for the lump-sum retirement benefit in terms of GRAP 19 (Provisions) as a provision. During the period under review, the Electoral Commission reviewed the adequacy of the accounting treatment and disclosure of the lump-sum retirement benefit. After the review, the Electoral Commission determined that the correct accounting treatment would be to apply GRAP 25 (Employee Benefits) and not GRAP 19 (Provisions).

	31 March 2021
Decrease in provisions (Statement of Financial Position) – 31 March 202	(11,996,072)
Increase in employee cost (Statement of Financial Performance)	
– 31 March 2021	24,383,425
Increase in lump-sum benefit current liability (Statement of Financial Position)	
– 31 March 2021	7,105,000
Increase in lump-sum benefit non-current (Statement of Financial Position)	
– 31 March 2021	144,917,000
Net decrease in retained earnings (1 April 2020)	(119,481,758)
Decrease in retained earnings (1 April 2020)	
Impact on opening balances as at 1 April 2020	
Increase in lump-sum benefit liability (Statement of Financial Position)	(130,707,000)
Decrease in provisions	8,226,000
Prior-period error (historical)	3,839,258
Net decrease in retained earnings (1 April 2020)	(119,481,758)



ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

32. SEGMENT REPORTING

SEGMENT REPORTING AS AT 31 MARCH 2022 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

2021/22	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
REVENUE					
Revenue from non-exchange transactions	-	-	-	-	-
Inter-segment transfers	669,632,825	52,138,370	274,722,600	113,481,771	189,935,551
Sponsorship revenue	67,151	-	-	-	-
Lease revenue	-	-	237,557	791,207	1,717,564
Revenue from exchange transfers	105,582,572	-	-	5,799	56,255
Total segment revenue	775,282,548	52,138,370	274,960,157	114,278,777	191,709,370
Employee cost	214,612,457	7,093,890	128,211,152	56,190,744	82,481,655
Goods and services	784,163,345	3,620,068	117,929,303	50,334,639	95,243,311
Depreciation and amortisation	67,627,863	1,257,946	2,387,753	1,165,596	1,728,020
Audit fees	10,159,351	-	-	-	-
Debt impairment	218,049	-	-	-	-
Finance cost	307	-	-	-	-
Operating lease expense	24,628,821	-	18,238,960	4,910,436	5,947,174
Total segment expenses	1,101,410,193	11,971,904	266,767,168	112,601,415	185,400,160
(Deficit) on sale of assets	(3,469,622)	-	178,955	79,714	48,775
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(329,597,267)	40,166,466	8,371,944	1,757,076	6,357,985

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
285,792,456	123,260,398	178,215,229	97,910,756	121,313,362	143,851,682	2,250,255,000
-	-	-	-	-	-	67,151
2,012,881	215,847	224,874	146,105	375,912	571,937	6,293,884
65,089	-	-	-	-	-	105,709,715
287,870,426	123,476,245	178,440,103	98,056,861	121,689,274	144,423,619	2,362,325,750
138,109,964	58,436,926	56,111,634	86,929,737	60,533,003	73,330,737	962,041,899
134,235,161	52,152,779	29,986,886	78,911,121	48,353,830	53,703,854	1,448,634,297
2,753,221	1,251,442	1,463,993	2,072,105	1,394,621	1,547,392	84,649,952
-	-	-	-	-	-	10,159,351
-	-	-	-	-	-	218,049
-	-	-	-	2,460	-	2,767
11,189,660	8,637,764	7,668,995	8,069,390	6,177,088	9,812,660	105,280,948
286,288,006	120,478,911	95,231,508	175,982,353	116,461,002	138,394,643	2,610,987,263
(304,906)	59,601	99,794	118,262	323,934	33,713	(2,831,780)
1,277,514	3,056,935	83,308,389	(77,807,230)	5,552,206	6,062,689	(251,493,293)

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

2021/22	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
Current assets	885,427,000	-	5,588,946	2,810,288	5,051,735
Trade and other receivables	52,461,905	-	7,404	7,200	6,605
Cash and cash equivalents	809,066,888	-	774,387	1,078,675	2,003,140
Current short-term portion of lease	1,010,047	-	899,329	144,817	57,559
Inventories	22,888,160	-	3,907,826	1,579,596	2,984,431
Non-current assets	689,412,367	19,764,403	22,305,893	9,681,494	12,996,467
PPE	580,320,754	9,996,350.16	21,002,825	9,331,960	12,709,909
Heritage assets	1,476,683	789	111,951	13,399	25,099
Intangibles	102,658,098	9,767,264	-	-	-
Trade and other receivables	4,956,832	-	1,191,117	336,135	261,459
Total assets	1,574,839,367	19,764,403	27,894,839	12,491,782	18,048,202

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
5,432,679	2,432,230	2,969,973	3,279,517	2,635,944	3,234,318	918,862,630
-	40,788	920	-	-	518	52,525,340
1,159,273	640,975	1,376,342	627,862	680,938	1,344,745	818,753,225
520,003	435,666	317,334	393,336	394,468	546,000	4,718,559
3,753,403	1,314,801	1,275,377	2,258,319	1,560,538	1,343,055	42,865,506
26,462,834	10,826,675	13,281,601	20,178,103	14,326,146	13,515,189	852,751,172
25,809,059	10,401,924	12,888,820	19,917,072	14,049,543	12,350,569	728,778,785
10,723	7,234	-	7,573	15,595	2,097	1,671,143
-	-	-	-	-	-	112,425,362
643,052	417,517	392,781	253,458	261,008	1,162,523	9,875,882
31,895,513	13,258,905	16,251,574	23,457,620	16,962,090	16,749,507	1,771,613,802

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

2021/22	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities	79,358,912	323,776.00	16,697,498	8,181,041	10,920,609
Trade payables	75,401,912	323,776.00	16,697,498	8,181,041	10,920,609
Lump-sum retirement benefit	3,957,000	-			
Non-current liabilities	188,874,955	-	5,580,225	740,130	568,182
Operating lease liability	15,761,955	-	5,580,225	740,130	568,182
Lump-sums retirement benefit	173,113,000	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	268,233,867	323,776.00	22,277,723	8,921,171	11,488,791
Accumulated surplus	1,380,596,656		-	-	-
Total liabilities and net assets	1,648,830,525	323,776.00	22,277,723	8,921,171	11,488,791

2021/22	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
No. of permanent employees	131	4	158	57	79
No. of offices	2	0	40	20	38

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
21,944,605	7,734,262	9,712,180	12,454,151	9,103,572	8,260,196	184,690,802
21,944,605	7,734,262	9,712,180	12,454,151	9,103,572	8,260,196	180,733,802
						3,957,000
1,916,318	1,508,630	1,929,683	1,954,223	1,365,934	1,888,064	206,326,344
1,916,318	1,508,630	1,929,683	1,954,223	1,365,934	1,888,064	33,213,344
-	-	-	-	-	-	173,113,000
23,860,923	9,242,892	11,641,863	14,408,374	10,469,506	10,148,260	391,017,146
-	-	-	-	-	-	1,380,596,656
23,860,923	9,242,891	11,641,864	14,408,374	10,469,505	10,148,259	1,771,613,802

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
133	54	57	88	72	73	906
52	18	27	26	19	30	272

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

32. SEGMENT REPORTING

SEGMENT REPORTING AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

*RESTATED

2020/21	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
REVENUE					
Revenue from non-exchange transactions			-	-	-
Inter-segment transfers	1,359,141,668	38,560,959	133,246,777	51,299,082	68,776,956
Lease revenue	-	-	4,788	7,142	95,271
Revenue from exchange transfers	63,864,777	-	-	30,000	5,648
Total segment revenue	1,423,006,445	38,560,959	133,251,565	51,336,224	68,877,875
Employee cost	203,933,748	4,499,284	101,831,588	39,451,884	54,773,664
Goods and services	257,481,400	694,059	9,353,933	3,642,182	5,415,473
Depreciation and amortisation	29,533,820	1,352,655	2,572,170	1,278,896	1,796,123
Audit fees	6,282,236	-	-	-	-
Debt impairment	329,577	-	-	-	-
Finance cost	-	261	-	-	-
Operating lease expense	29,561,835	-	16,153,166	4,402,024	5,745,633
Total segment expenses	527,122,616	6,546,259	129,910,857	48,774,986	67,730,893
(Deficit) on sale of assets	(9,289)	-	129,370	-	8,812
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	895,874,540	32,014,700	3,470,078	2,561,238	1,155,794

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
122,216,584	62,281,340	58,427,659	81,227,979	55,357,448	70,211,626	2,100,748,078
38,714	2,240	7,669	11,187	8,767	38,300	214,078
102,141	-	-	22,790	38,064	-	64,063,420
122,357,439	62,283,580	58,435,328	81,261,956	55,404,279	70,249,926	2,165,025,576
100,655,555	46,864,495	41,374,302	66,083,359	43,591,562	52,031,665	755,091,106*
7,924,900	4,827,707	6,026,014	4,956,721	3,195,273	5,344,056	308,861,718
2,981,303	1,353,890	2,244,717	1,614,829	1,615,839	1,696,856	48,041,098
-	-	-	-	-	-	6,282,236
-	-	-	-	-	-	329,577
2,201	-	-	-	796	-	3,258
9,997,456	7,988,465	6,858,592	7,180,276	5,533,854	8,991,699	102,413,000
121,561,415	61,034,557	56,503,625	79,835,185	53,937,324	68,064,276	1,221,021,993*
804,460	277,147	438,995	15,688	5,798	448,328	2,119,309
1,600,484	1,526,170	2,370,698	1,442,459	1,472,753	2,633,978	946,122,892*

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

2020/21	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
Current assets	1,621,748,187	-	4,263,326	1,812,168	4,096,365
Trade and other receivables	31,327,538	-	-	5,085	-
Cash and cash equivalents	1,584,622,665	-	2,158,171	675,781	1,181,298
Current short-term portion of lease	(1,023,442)	-	101,398	48,001	11,277
Inventories	6,821,426	-	2,003,757	1,083,301	2,903,790
Non-current assets	172,292,062	11,276,401	19,920,673	9,053,033	11,619,995
PPE	69,720,793	309,178	18,876,194	8,729,703	11,340,437
Heritage assets	1,473,453	4,019	111,951	13,399	25,099
Intangibles	96,437,696	10,963,204	-	-	-
Trade and other receivables	4,660,120	-	932,528	309,931	254,459
Total assets	1,794,040,249	11,276,401	24,183,999	10,865,201	15,716,360

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
4,854,016	2,445,110	1,866,960	2,946,322	2,680,273	3,138,825	1,649,851,552
-	-	-	1,611	-	3,957	31,338,191*
662,453	1,345,591	1,051,891	1,075,991	999,150	1,402,549	1,595,175,540
239,585	189,999	52,799	125,709	195,313	311,122	251,761
3,951,978	909,520	762,270	1,743,011	1,485,810	1,421,197	23,086,060
24,909,619	11,264,791	20,527,085	13,154,434	14,694,701	12,753,383	321,466,177
24,256,063	10,840,831	20,153,092	12,900,976	14,418,098	11,657,172	203,202,537
10,723	7,234	7,573	-	15,595	2,097	1,671,143
-	-	-	-	-	-	107,400,900
642,833	416,726	366,420	253,458	261,008	1,094,114	9,191,597*
29,763,635	13,709,901	22,394,045	16,100,756	17,374,974	15,892,208	1,971,317,729

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

2020/21	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities	157,523,627	-	855,535	295,381	180,316
Trade payables	150,418,627	-	855,535	295,381	180,316
Lump-sums retirement benefit	7,105,000	-	-	-	-
Non-current liabilities	157,692,253	-	4,876,182	660,914	502,883
Operating lease liability	12,775,253	-	4,876,182	660,914	502,883
Lump-sums retirement benefit	144,917,000	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities	315,215,880	-	5,731,717	956,295	683,199
Accumulated surplus	1,632,089,950	-	-	-	-
Total liabilities and net assets	1,947,305,830	-	5,731,717	956,295	683,199

2020/21	National Office	Party Funding	Eastern Cape	Free State	Gauteng
No. of permanent employees	139	4	160	54	77
No. of offices	2	-	40	20	38

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
3,724,022	277,308	1,104,794	611,120	481,727	346,540	165,400,370*
3,724,022	277,308	1,104,794	611,120	481,727	346,540	158,295,370
-	-	-	-	-	-	7,105,000*
1,863,738	1,450,373	1,722,598	1,785,977	1,359,504	1,911,987	173,826,409*
1,863,738	1,450,373	1,722,598	1,785,977	1,359,504	1,911,987	28,909,409
-	-	-	-	-	-	144,917,000
5,587,760	1,727,681	2,827,392	2,397,097	1,841,231	2,258,527	339,226,779*
-	-	-	-	-	-	1,632,089,950*
5,587,760	1,727,681	2,827,392	2,397,097	1,841,231	2,258,527	1,971,316,729*

KwaZulu-Natal	Mpumalanga	Northern Cape	Limpopo	North West	Western Cape	Total
139	58	55	89	71	67	913
52	18	27	26	19	30	272

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

33. CHANGE IN ESTIMATE

Useful life review – property, plant and equipment

As per the accounting policy, the Electoral Commission reviews the useful lives of all the asset classes at the end of each reporting period. In management's best estimate, there was a change in estimate of the useful lives of the following asset classes and there was a resultant reduction in depreciation in the current period as a result of the extension of the relevant useful lives of the assets listed below.

	Cost R	Accumulated depreciation R	Net book value R
Appliances			
Before useful life review	4,985,630	(4,348,255)	637,375
After useful life review	4,985,630	(4,266,460)	719,170
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(81,795)	81,795
Cell phones			
Before useful life review	8,131	(2,677)	5,454
After useful life review	8,131	(2,675)	5,456
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(2)	2
Computer equipment			
Before useful life review	242,311,772	(141,672,687)	100,639,085
After useful life review	242,311,772	(140,609,236)	101,702,536
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(1,063,451)	1,063,451
Furniture and fittings			
Before useful life review	90,097,099	(53,175,608)	36,921,491
After useful life review	90,097,099	(53,067,240)	37,029,859
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(108,368)	108,368
Leasehold improvements			
Before useful life review	4,909,101	(3,740,566)	1,168,535
After useful life review	4,909,101	(3,743,476)	1,165,625
Difference due to change in estimate	-	2,910	(2,910)
Motor vehicles			
Before useful life review	84,300,926	(32,728,720)	51,572,206
After useful life review	84,300,926	(28,925,536)	55,375,390
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(3,803,184)	3,803,184
Office equipment			
Before useful life review	51,864,536	(43,587,605)	8,276,931
After useful life review	51,864,536	(42,149,604)	9,714,932
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(1,438,001)	1,438,001

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Cost R	Accumulated depreciation R	Net book value R
Prefabricated buildings			
Before useful life review	21,892,865	(4,280,850)	17,612,015
After useful life review	21,892,865	(4,278,863)	17,614,002
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(1,987)	1,987
Scanners			
Before useful life review	180,706,473	(180,674,778)	31,695
After useful life review	180,706,473	(180,674,778)	31,695
Difference due to change in estimate	-	-	-
Total 2022	-	(6,493,878)	6,493,878

The change in estimate is due, in the main, to the adjusted increase in the useful lives of the individual assets against the initial estimate upon recognition.

Assessment of useful life performed on an annual basis and the impact on future periods will be determined by such assessment.

	Cost R	Accumulated depreciation R	Net book value R
Useful life review – intangibles			
Software			
Before useful life review	269,166,703	(169,831,937)	99,334,766
After useful life review	269,166,703	(159,074,594)	110,092,109
Difference due to change in estimate	-	(10,757,343)	10,757,343

The useful lives of software were adjusted to reflect the extended use of the assets over their initial estimate. The adjusted change is, in the main, due to the increase in the useful life of the Electoral Commission's enterprise resource planning system (SAP).

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

UNAUDITED DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

APPENDIX A

Figures in rand	2022	2021
INCOME	2,362,325,750	2,165,025,576
Parliamentary allocation	2,250,255,000	2,100,534,000
Lease revenue	6,293,884	214,078
Political party registration fees	53,500	35,700
Interest received	50,088,680	46,595,195
Sponsorship income	67,151	-
Foreign and local aid assistance	-	17,412,117
Elections related revenue	55,095,532	-
Other	472,003	234,486
EXPENDITURE	2,610,987,263	1,221,021,993
Personnel expenditure	962,041,899	755,091,107
Salaries	731,278,523	554,982,617
- Permanent staff	567,689,474	534,255,749
- Temporary staff	156,493,146	18,550,861
- Voter education fieldworkers	28,962,133	309,749
- Election support	52,644,362	65,238
- By-elections	250,065	188,432
- Registration	6,550,285	361,936
- Expansion staff	68,086,301	17,625,506
- MEO agents	7,095,902	2,176,007
Medical aid contributions	49,654,585	47,052,496
Housing benefits and allowances	16,794,093	15,980,922
Remunerative allowances – permanent staff	26,874,721	10,642,530
Leave pay provision	16,038,807	11,914,642
Lump sums – retirement	36,832,193	45,848,616
Employer's contributions	70,933,987	61,280,689
Deployment costs	10,508	2,201
Long-service awards	13,087,707	6,379,897
Relocation cost	536,775	1,006,497
Administrative expenditure	1,537,812,923	404,156,112
Electoral staff subsistence	381,679,100	5,855,064
Travel expenditure	45,782,277	12,989,639
Air transport	2,635,886	4,225,443
Hotel expenditure	27,128,221	4,527,653
Vehicle rental	4,677,321	43,718
Fuel	8,930,230	3,139,564
Other	2,410,620	1,053,262

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

UNAUDITED DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

APPENDIX A

Figures in rand	2022	2021
Subsistence and travel	37,164,270	2,546,235
Communications and connectivity	91,412,304	53,604,163
Storage and distribution costs	31,269,044	6,324,573
Study expenditure	3,051,674	2,578,633
Subscriptions and membership fees	1,671,896	1,720,233
Advertising	113,642,668	2,582,325
Catering/entertainment expenses	1,776,504	315,270
- Democracy development and voter education	65,195	2,433
- Other – Corporate Services	265,584	88,565
- Logistics and Electoral Matters	1,445,725	224,272
- Party Funding	-	-
Insurance	2,359,428	1,666,611
Conferences and workshops	88,481,994	2,021,866
- Democracy development and voter education	3,519,634	60,670
- Other – Corporate Services	40,891,675	940,556
- Logistics and Electoral Matters	44,070,685	1,004,694
- Party Funding	-	15,946
Consumables	79,019,592	13,063,621
Inventory	63,968,531	570,495
Printing and stationery	87,355,983	5,385,850
Software licenses	45,293,630	33,090,489
Rented equipment	25,602,034	589,890
Rental – land and buildings	165,667,992	124,175,599
Building rentals	105,280,948	102,413,000
Rates and taxes	24,340,181	20,711,506
Voting station rentals	36,046,862	1,051,093
Professional and other services	269,915,451	134,443,413
Bank charges	2,698,005	626,680
Sundry expenditure	546	5,463
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	84,649,952	48,041,098
Audit costs	10,159,351	6,282,236
Finance cost	2,767	3,258
Debt impairment	218,049	329,577
Maintenance and repairs	16,102,322	7,118,605
Total expenditure	2,610,987,263	1,221,021,993
(Deficit) / surplus on disposal/scrapping of assets	2,831,780	(2,119,309)
(Deficit) / surplus for the year	(251,493,293)	946,122,892

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

Relevant strategic objective	Total expenditure	Personnel expenditure	Administrative expenditure
Internal Audit	4,753,009	4,870,928	115,010
Chief Electoral Officer	7,800,986	6,901,025	718,193
Commission Services	19,337,472	15,274,376	2,154,180
Financial Services	30,136,863	24,704,480	218,325
Financial Management	10,418,857	-	70,001
Budget and Compliance Verification	4,869,764	4,792,621	21,853
Procurement and Asset Management	14,332,815	13,343,839	122,082
Total Chief Electoral Office	91,649,766	69,887,269	3,419,643
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer	3,452,506	3,425,552	14,847
Risk and Legal Compliance Officer	-	-	-
Legal Services	24,888,451	5,642,154	1,388,579
Human Resources	553,097,585	140,331,260	409,149,808
Human Resources, Skills Development and Training	2,358,634	2,353,693	4,941
Skills Development and Training	75,822,054	8,561,841	48,120,156
Support Services	89,416,407	11,612,023	10,929,204
Business Enterprise Systems	86,460,559	8,442,709	30,753
Information Communication Technology	87,177,369	4,647,147	20,071
IT Operations Services	145,411,940	3,811,217	4,256,550
Total for Corporate Services	1,068,085,505	188,827,596	473,914,909
Total for National Office: Administration	1,159,735,271	258,714,865	477,334,552

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

APPENDIX B

Consumables	Equipment	Land and building rentals	Professional and other services
9,834	-	-	(242,762)
86,365	-	-	95,402
393,474	-	220,915	1,294,528
239,352	2,179,661	-	2,795,045
1,010	-	-	10,347,846
55,290	-	-	-
157,197	-	-	709,698
942,522	2,179,661	220,915	14,999,756
12,107	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
614,444	-	-	17,243,274
222,069	-	-	3,394,448
-	-	-	-
15,145,103	-	-	3,994,953
1,505,221	6,656,688	33,634,134	25,079,137
251,910	-	-	77,735,187
-	76,840,450	-	5,669,702
173,400	4,517,875	-	132,652,897
17,924,256	88,015,013	33,634,134	265,769,598
18,866,777	90,194,674	33,855,048	280,769,354

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

Relevant strategic objective	Total expenditure	Personnel expenditure	Administrative expenditure
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Operations	3,397,340	3,306,300	83,941
Delimitation, Voting, Counting, Results and By-elections	77,285,859	5,287,607	52,819,885
Electoral Matters	2,966,319	2,830,669	129,219
Candidate Nomination, Party Liaison, Voters' Roll and Registration	18,939,433	14,163,939	1,902,457
Infrastructure, Courier Services	151,995,326	11,101,346	40,090,194
Logistics and Infrastructure	139	-	139
Logistics	291,162,235	19,522,149	26,800,395
Total for Electoral Operations	545,746,651	56,212,010	121,826,229
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer: Outreach	1,493,514	1,296,621	182,209
Civic Education, Research and Knowledge Management	72,274,499	39,593,554	12,719,570
Research, Library, Knowledge Management	17,512,560	4,908,898	488,592
Communication	165,458,216	5,562,265	105,027,290
Total for Outreach	256,738,790	51,361,338	118,417,661
Party Funding	10,713,958	7,093,890	3,554,979
Total Chief Executive Officer: Party Funding	10,713,958	7,093,890	3,554,979
Total for National Office: Operations	813,199,398	114,667,238	243,798,869

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

APPENDIX B

Consumables	Equipment	Land and building rentals	Professional and other services
7,099	-	-	-
1,738,176	-	500,105	16,940,086
6,432	-	-	-
829,529	191,382	-	1,852,127
5,966,671	5,041,953	80,510,079	9,285,083
-	-	-	-
173,688,765	39,832,836	26,657,293	4,660,798
182,236,671	45,066,170	107,667,477	32,738,094
14,684	-	-	-
476,842	-	-	19,484,533
532,529	-	-	11,582,541
26,735,033	-	-	28,133,628
27,759,089	-	-	59,200,702
65,090	-	-	-
65,090	-	-	-
210,060,849	45,066,170	107,667,477	91,938,796

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

Relevant strategic objective	Total expenditure	Personnel expenditure	Administrative expenditure
Total for National Office	1,972,934,669	373,382,102	721,133,421
Eastern Cape	112,799,097	105,264,862	3,778,058
Free State	49,428,017	44,606,989	1,944,070
Gauteng	69,159,541	64,480,440	1,384,487
KwaZulu-Natal	114,325,214	107,885,918	3,978,353
Mpumalanga	52,412,271	45,660,183	1,791,518
Northern Cape	51,030,206	44,811,638	3,140,121
Limpopo	75,487,147	69,617,069	2,564,765
North West	51,951,102	48,286,022	1,294,962
Western Cape	64,291,780	58,046,677	1,967,121
Total for regional offices	640,884,374	588,659,797	21,843,456
Departmental expenditure	2,613,819,043	962,041,899	742,976,876

Total income	2,362,325,750
Deficit for the year	(251,493,293)
Unutilised surplus at 31 March 2021 including prior-period error	1,632,089,948
Unutilised surplus at 31 March 2022	1,380,596,655

ELECTORAL COMMISSION

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

APPENDIX B

Consumables	Equipment	Land and building rentals	Professional and other services
228,927,627	135,260,844	141,522,525	372,708,150
327,171	-	2,769,273	659,733
203,384	13,409	2,411,377	248,787
255,915	-	2,830,172	208,527
110,060	-	1,475,525	875,358
222,904	95,124	4,331,822	310,721
203,549	23,221	2,522,966	328,712
227,096	-	2,729,133	349,083
276,474	38,656	1,864,294	190,695
242,046	-	3,608,556	427,380
2,068,598	170,409	24,543,118	3,598,997
230,996,225	135,431,254	166,065,643	376,307,147

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AGSA	Auditor-General South Africa
AIC	African Independent Congress
API	Application Programming Interface
APN	Access Point Network
ARC	Audit and Risk Committee
AUC	African Union Commission
ASB	Accounting Standards Board
AWEB	Association of World Election Bodies
B-BBEE	Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment
BOM	Bill of Materials
CAE	Chief Audit Executive
CCMA	Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration
CDE	Civic and Democracy Education
CDN	Content Delivery Network
CEO	Chief Electoral Officer
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
COSO	Committee of Sponsoring Organisations
Covid-19	Novel Coronavirus 2019
CSD	Central Supplier Database
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DCEO	Deputy Chief Electoral Officer
DDoS	Distributed Denial of Service
Deaf SA	Deaf Federation of South Africa
DNS	Domain Name Server
DRP	Disaster Recovery Plan
ECF	Electoral Commission's Forum
EE	Employment Equity
EISA	Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa
EEM	Electoral Event Management
ESS	Election Satisfaction Survey
Electoral Commission	The Electoral Commission established in section 3(1) of the Electoral Commission Act, Act No 51 of 1996, i.e. the organisation
EXCO	Executive Committee
FISD	Forum of Institutions Supporting Democracy
GEPF	Government Employees Pension Fund
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GRAP	Generally Recognised Accounting Practice
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
IAF	Internal Audit Function
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IESBA	International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants
International IDEA	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
ISA	International Standards on Auditing
ISP	Internet Service Provider
IT	Information Technology
LAN	Local Area Network
LGE	Local Government Election

LIS	Logistics Information System
MDB	Municipal Demarcation Board
MDM	Mobile Device Management
MEO	Municipal Electoral Office/er
MMA	Media Monitoring Africa
MOC	Municipal Outreach Coordinator
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPDF	Multi-Party Democracy Fund
MRP	Materials Requirement Plan
MTEF	Medium-term Expenditure Framework
NAD	National Address Database
NPE	National and Provincial Elections
NPLC	National Political Liaison Committee
PAA	Public Audit Act
PBSU	Programmable Barcode Scanning Unit
PEO	Provincial Electoral Office/er
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
PLC	Party Liaison Committee
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPPFA	Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act
PPP	Public-private Partnership
PR	Proportional Representation
PSRMF	Public Sector Risk Management Framework
RFQ	Request for Quotation
ROC	Results Operations Centre
RPPF	Represented Political Parties Fund
SABC	South African Broadcasting Corporation
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SANCB	South African National Council for the Blind
SANEF	South African National Editors Forum
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SCM	Supply Chain Management
SDP	Schools Democracy Programme
SIEM	Systems Information and Events Management
SMME	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
TAMS	TV Audience Measurement Survey
ToR	Terms of Reference
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPS	Uninterrupted Power Supply
VAT	Value-added Tax
VD	Voting District
VMD	Voter Management Device
VPS	Voter Participation Survey
VRS	Voter Registration System
WAN	Wide Area Network



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