



SHIRE OF
DOWERIN
TIN DOG TERRITORY

Hon. Hannah Beazley MLA
Minister for Local Government
Minister.Beazley@dpc.wa.gov.au

Cc: Lanie Chopping, Director General
Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
online@lgirs.wa.gov.au; goodgovernance@lgirs.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister,

RE: Request for consideration to defer extraordinary election to fill councillor vacancy.

We write to seek your consideration regarding the current councillor vacancy at the Shire of Dowerin.

The Shire recently conducted an Extraordinary Election through the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) to fill the vacancy. No nominations were received.

Following this outcome, the Shire has obtained a further tentative quotation from WAEC to conduct another Extraordinary Election in September 2026, at an estimated cost of approximately \$11,000.

Council is concerned that proceeding with a further Extraordinary Election would result in significant additional cost to the community, particularly given the proximity of the next Ordinary Election in October 2027, which will also incur election expenditure shortly thereafter.

We acknowledge that the Shire may not fall within the standard exemption period under the relevant provisions; however, we respectfully seek your consideration of this matter as an exceptional circumstance and request approval for the vacant position to remain unfilled until the forthcoming 2027 Ordinary Election.

In the interim, Council will continue to ensure compliance with all legislative quorum, majority and voting requirements to maintain effective governance and decision-making.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and would welcome the opportunity to provide any further information if required.

Yours sincerely,

Manisha Barthakur
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Cr Darrel Hudson
SHIRE PRESIDENT

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