

FORCE MAJEURE DIRECTION – 23 AUGUST 2021

Under s 3.3 of the Election Regulations, the Returning Officer is able to issue directions waiving the requirements of provisions in the regulations where there is a Force Majeure.

Given the prevailing lockdown in the ACT which falls clearly within the scope of a force majeure event under s 3.3.3, this notice amounts to a waiver by the Returning Officer of the below provisions:

- Any provisions which provide for in person voting, either in the case of the Referendum or Annual Elections;
- Any provisions which suggest being able to ‘witness’ or ‘scrutineer’ in-person;
- Any provisions concerning the production of hard-copy ballots;
- Any provisions relating to the display of information on the Association front door or on noticeboards;
- Any provisions referring to the opening of the in-person ballot box; and
- Any provision referring to in-person campaigning and exclusion zones

The above provisions will remain subject to the waiver under s 3.3 so long as ACT Health and local ANU restrictions preventing access to campus remain in place.

The following alternative mechanisms will be imposed which seek to effect the intention of the provisions subject to this direction:

- Continuing to provide for accessible online voting;
- Allowing for witnessing and scrutineering of all relevant events via Zoom; and
- Displaying all relevant information on the website, Facebook and via email newsletter.

Please contact the Returning Officer, Roxanne Missingham, at roxanne.missingham@anu.edu.au if you have any questions about the content of this notice.