

Out of scope information

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:57:11 PM
To: Spence, Rohan [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Scanning assurance paper [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

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Hi Ro,

Attached in a draft MoU including a schedule of deliverables and a cost of \$10,760. I have included the mark-up within our template for your information – we would remove this from the final agreement. Happy to discuss of course the deliverables, timeframes etc.

The deliverables include a spreadsheet based tool which I have already put together. Perhaps we can meet again after you have had a chance to consider this MoU and we can discuss any alterations you would like, and I can also show you the tool and use it to illustrate some scenarios. I think a skip selection method may work the best operationally but we can discuss this – I think a skip of 1 in 20, or a sample of 4,600 from a population of 92,000 is the sort of size we could be considering. The assurance plan paper suggests selecting 5 papers from each selected batch – if batches are 100 papers as stated in this paper then to get a 1 in 20 sample we would select every batch then 5 papers from each batch. We can discuss if this is workable or whether it may be better to select fewer batches and more papers from within a batch.

If you would like to meet this week I am available any time except Thursday afternoon, and also available on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and the morning of Thursday next week.

[REDACTED]
Principal Advisor, Survey Methodology

Statistical Methodology Branch | Methodology and Data Science Division

Australian Bureau of Statistics

[REDACTED] - (W) www.abs.gov.au

From: Spence, Rohan [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 11:19 AM
To: [REDACTED] Sekhon, Jiv [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Scanning assurance paper [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

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[REDACTED]
Attached is the draft plan for ballot paper assurance. While it probably still needs some refining, as well as ensuring what we are planning to do is achievable within the ICT system we maintain, it is probably useful to you at this stage to get an understanding of our intended workflow.

Appreciate your assistance.

Ro Spence | Deputy Electoral Commissioner
ACT Electoral Commission

[REDACTED] | www.elections.act.gov.au | [facebook](#) | [twitter](#) | [youtube](#)
Level 1, Nara Centre, 3 Constitution Avenue, Civic ACT 2601

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 16 August 2023 3:29 PM
To: Sekhon, Jiv [REDACTED]
Cc: Spence, Rohan [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Scanning assurance paper [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

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Thanks Jiv.

I don't foresee any problems designing a scheme that is consistent with the advice and recommendations in this paper. For operational reasons we would most likely recommend a sampling fraction or sampling skip be used (eg auditing 1 in every 20 ballots) but using this we get an expected sample size based on expected number of scanned votes cast.

Are the ballot stored in batches after scanning / counting? It is likely a sensible scheme would be to select say 1 in 20 batches and re-scan each of these batches. I am assuming it is only marginal extra effort to re-scan a full batch than to pull the batch and then pull a random paper from the batch and scan this. Or is the QA done through manual inspection? If papers are bundled could you give me an indication of number of papers in a bundle? And an idea of how many votes are scanned in total ... maybe for the last few elections as I assume the proportion of all votes that are scanned is trending down.

[Redacted]
Principal Advisor, Survey Methodology

Statistical Methodology Branch | Methodology and Data Science Division

Australian Bureau of Statistics

[Redacted] - (W) www.abs.gov.au

From: Sekhon, Jiv [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 1:14 PM

To: [Redacted] >

Cc: Spence, Rohan [Redacted]

Subject: Scanning assurance paper

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[Redacted]
Please find attached ballot paper scanning assurance paper that was discussed this morning.

Regards,

Jiv Sekhon | Elections Operations Manager
ACT Electoral Commission

[Redacted]

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