1. Section 20 of the *Electoral Act 1992* (the Act) provides that there is to be an Electoral Commissioner.
2. The role of the Electoral Commissioner is to administer the electoral laws of Queensland, conduct free and democratic parliamentary and industrial elections and review local government boundaries.
3. The Electoral Commissioner is also responsible for the management of the Electoral Commission of Queensland.
4. On 5 October 2017, Governor in Council appointed Mr Dermot Tiernan under section 26 of the Act to act as Electoral Commissioner during a vacancy in the Electoral Commission of Queensland; or during any period when the Electoral Commissioner was absent from duty on and from 19 December 2017 to and including 18 December 2018.
5. On 12 February 2018, the Attorney-General served a show cause notice on the former Electoral Commissioner Mr Walter van der Merwe, as to why his employment should not be terminated under section 25 of the Act.
6. On 14 February 2018, Mr van der Merwe elected to resign as Electoral Commissioner by signed notice given to the Governor as per section 24 of the Act.
7. On 17 May 2018, the Governor in Council revoked the appointment of the acting Electoral Commissioner and approved the appointment of Mr Patrick Vidgen to act as Electoral Commissioner when the Electoral Commissioner was absent from duty, or could not for another reason on and from 18 May 2018 until a new Electoral Commissioner was appointed and the appointee to that position took up duty.
8. Cabinet approved that Mr Patrick Vidgen be recommended to the Governor in Council for appointment as Electoral Commissioner for a term of three years commencing from the day following Governor in Council approval.
9. Cabinet noted consultation would occur with the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee prior to seeking Governor in Council approval, as required by section 22(2)(b) of the *Electoral Act 1992*.
10. *Attachments*
* Nil.