



SOUTH AFRICA

PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2019 NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

**Electoral Commission
August 2018**

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PROVISIONAL TIMELINES

DURATION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURES

- Current five year term of the National Assembly and all 9 provincial legislatures ends on **6 May 2019**
- Sections 49 and 108 of Constitution provide that when these terms expire the President and Premiers must by proclamation call and set dates for an election which must be held within 90 days
- In line with this national and provincial elections must be held between **7 May and 5 August 2019**

PROVISIONAL TIMELINES

KEY PROVISIONAL MILESTONES FOR 2019

- **10 – 11 March 2018:** 1st voter registration weekend and address capture
- **Late 2018:** Delivery of new voter registration devices
- **January 2019:** Deadline for registration of political parties wishing to contest NPE 2019
- **February 2019:** Final voter registration weekend
- **February - March 2019:** Proclamation of election date by President and Premiers and publication of election timetable
- **March - April 2019:** Candidate nominations
- **May – August 2019:** Election

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

A DRAFT ELECTORAL LAWS AMENDMENT BILL CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION BY CABINET AND EXPECTED TO BE TABLED IN PARLIAMENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2018.

1. Electronic registration and submission

- To provide for the electronic registration of political parties and electronic submission of party candidate lists

2. Internal party disputes

- To provide jurisdiction to the Electoral Court to hear and determine any matter relating to interpretation of the constitution concerning disputes about the legitimate leadership of the party

3. Voters' roll clarification

- To provide clarity on the voting status and process to be followed where registered voters may not have an address on record

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

CONT.

4. Voter registration enhancements

- To allow for electronic (online) registration by voters
- To amend the legislation to ensure registration of voters in the correct ward (rather than voting district)
- To expand the potential venues for overseas voting

5. Voters' roll certification

- To limit objections to the voters' roll to a clearly defined window period in the election timetable

6. Overseas voting

- To provide for expanded opportunities and access for registration and voting abroad

1st REGISTRATION WEEKEND

10 – 11 MARCH 2018 TOTAL ACTIVITY BY TYPE AND PROVINCE:

Province	New Registrations	% of Total Provincial Activity	Re-Registrations (Different VD)	% of Total Provincial Activity	Re-Registrations (Same VD)	% of Total Provincial Activity	TOTAL Provincial Activity	% of TOTAL Activity
Eastern Cape	71,437	15.52%	126,056	27.39%	262,675	57.08%	460,168	16.63%
Free State	20,278	8.54%	45,436	19.13%	171,852	72.34%	237,566	8.59%
Gauteng	122,624	23.69%	250,762	48.44%	144,317	27.88%	517,703	18.71%
KwaZulu-Natal	104,910	18.78%	156,270	27.97%	297,548	53.25%	558,728	20.19%
Limpopo	55,892	17.03%	85,673	26.11%	186,584	56.86%	328,149	11.86%
Mpumalanga	40,171	14.05%	66,117	23.12%	179,653	62.83%	285,941	10.33%
North West	22,585	13.81%	48,512	29.66%	92,469	56.53%	163,566	5.91%
Northern Cape	10,388	21.31%	16,208	33.25%	22,149	45.44%	48,745	1.76%
Western Cape	42,235	25.36%	90,724	54.47%	33,614	20.18%	166,573	6.02%
TOTAL	490,520	17.73%	885,758	32.01%	1,390,861	50.26%	2,767,139	100.00%

1st REGISTRATION WEEKEND

10 – 11 MARCH 2018 TOTAL ACTIVITY BY AGE AND GENDER:

Age Group	Female	% of Total New Registrations in Age Group	Male	% of Total New Registrations in Age Group	TOTAL New Registrations in Age Group	% of TOTAL New Registrations
>=16 <=17	21,282	55.19%	17,278	44.81%	38,560	7.86%
>=18 <=19	74,624	55.29%	60,356	44.71%	134,980	27.52%
>=20 <=29	125,907	55.11%	102,543	44.89%	228,450	46.57%
>=30 <=40	22,985	46.70%	26,237	53.30%	49,222	10.03%
>=40 <=50	6,035	40.23%	8,966	59.77%	15,001	3.06%
>=50 <=60	5,234	45.62%	6,239	54.38%	11,473	2.34%
>=60	7,133	55.58%	5,701	44.42%	12,834	2.62%
TOTAL	263,200	53.66%	227,320	46.34%	490,520	100.00%

1st REGISTRATION WEEKEND

TOTAL ACTIVITY COMPARISONS WITH 1ST REGISTRATION WEEKENDS FOR LGE 2011, NPE 2014 AND LGE 2016

Election year	New registrations	Re-Registrations (Different VD)	Re-Registrations (Same VD)	Total Activity for Registration 1
2011	534,016	729,732	142,954	1,406,702
2014	1,088,015	1,171,106	253,098	2,512,219
2016	692,730	1,086,958	1,317,506	3,097,194
2018	490,520	885,758	139,0861	2,767,139

CURRENT VOTERS' ROLL

VOTERS' ROLL AS AT 13 MARCH 2018 (POST REG 1) PER PROVINCE AS A PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED VOTING AGE POPULATION

Province	VAP Feb 2018 SA citizens ¹	Before registration weekend (9 Mar 2018)	% Registered to VAP	After registration weekend (13 Mar 2018)	% Registered to VAP
Eastern Cape	3,814,705	3,247,061	85.1%	3,322,927	87.1%
Free State	1,765,867	1,435,712	81.3%	1,450,759	82.2%
Gauteng	9,254,109	6,113,023	66.1%	6,224,523	67.3%
KwaZulu-Natal	6,763,557	5,312,490	78.5%	5,401,462	79.9%
Limpopo	3,247,088	2,519,949	77.6%	2,572,272	79.2%
Mpumalanga	2,692,449	1,879,234	69.8%	1,915,742	71.2%
North West	2,358,989	1,678,268	71.1%	1,695,681	71.9%
Northern Cape	778,945	604,897	77.7%	615,266	79.0%
Western Cape	4,292,412	3,009,227	70.1%	3,052,307	71.1%
	34,968,120	25,799,861	73.8%	26,250,939	75.1%

CURRENT VOTERS' ROLL

VOTERS' ROLL AS AT 13 MARCH 2018 (POST REG 1) PER AGE GROUP AS A PERCENTAGE OF ESTIMATED VOTING AGE POPULATION

National	VAP Feb 2018 SA citizens ¹	Current registration (9 March 2018)	% Registered to VAP	Current registration (9 March 2018)	% Registered to VAP
18-19	1,729,923	134,924	7.8%	270,356	15.6%
20-29	9,517,307	5,167,344	54.3%	5,393,782	56.7%
30-39	8,965,473	6,496,952	72.5%	6,546,254	73.0%
40-49	6,001,416	5,394,455	89.9%	5,409,267	90.1%
50-59	4,271,152	4,104,650	96.1%	4,116,317	96.4%
60-69	2,744,676	2,607,769	95.0%	2,617,075	95.4%
70-79	1,275,550	1,272,619	99.8%	1,276,072	100.0%
80+	462,623	621,148	134.3%	621,816	134.4%
Total	34,968,120	25,799,861	73.8%	26,250,939	75.1%

ADDRESSES OF VOTERS

- On 14 June 2016 in *Electoral Commission v Mhlope & Others*, the Constitutional Court directed that:
 - The Electoral Commission must by 30 June 2018 have obtained & recorded on the national common voters' roll all addresses of voters that were reasonably available as at 17 December 2003
 - The Electoral Commission must obtain & record all available addresses on the voters' roll for the relevant ward segments of the voters' roll for purposes of municipal by-elections
- At six monthly intervals from June 2016, the Electoral Commission must file a report with the Court setting out progress
- Reports so far submitted in December 2016, June 2017, December 2017 and 30 June 2018

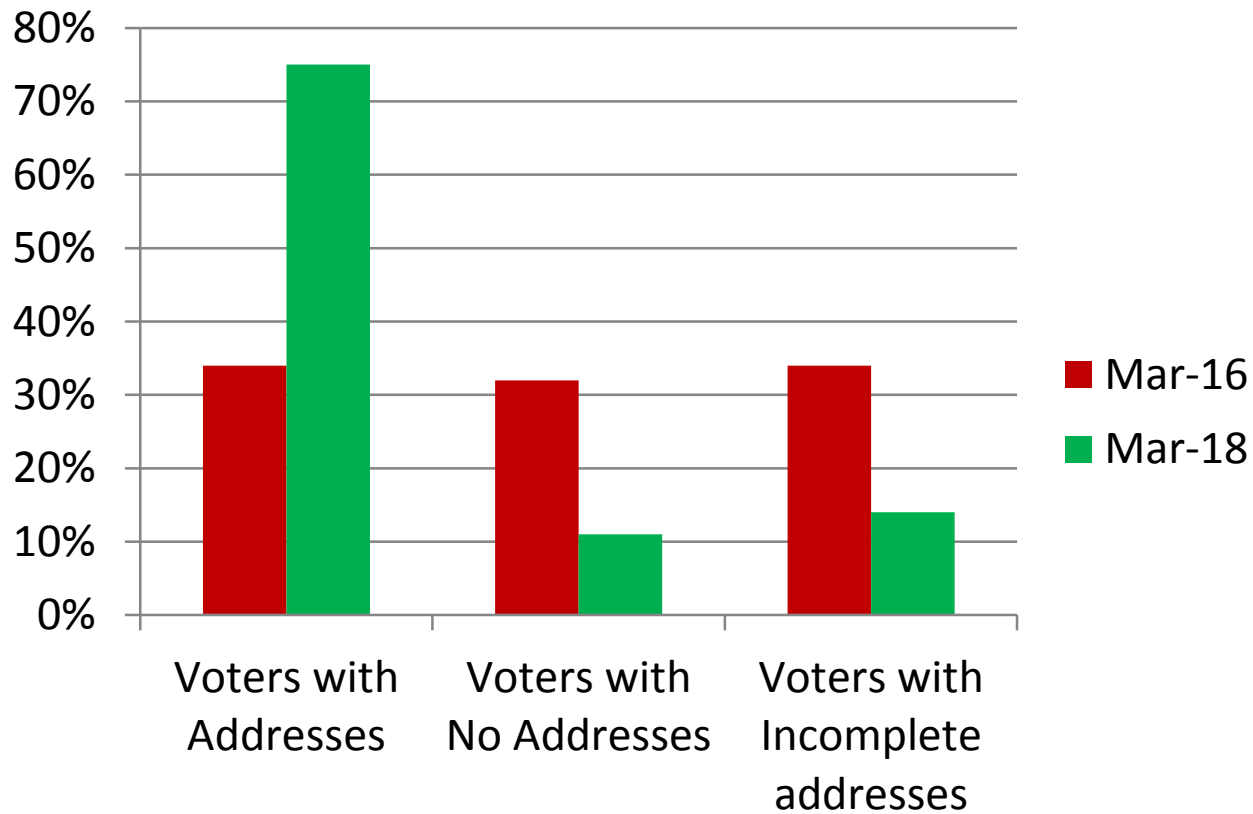
CURRENT STATUS OF ADDRESSES

Voters' roll address category	Registered voters: AUGUST 2018
Complete address (including projected current activity)	20 688 673 (79%)
"REC AS" address	84 329 (0.3%)
Potentially incomplete	3 377 731 (13%)
No recorded address – total	2 015 524 (7.7%)
Pre-December 2003, no recorded address	903 304
Post-December 2003, no recorded address	1 112 220
Total registered voters	26 166 257 (100%)

APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION

- In May 2018 the Electoral Commission filed an urgent application with the Constitutional Court requesting it to extend its suspension of order of invalidity until November 2019
- This would provide the opportunity to implement a number of additional initiatives including:
 - working through a variety of address databases provided by various government and public sector institutions to geo-code and verify such addresses before assigning them to voters;
 - taking advantage of the voter registration activities and election day itself in the upcoming national and provincial elections scheduled for 2019 to obtain missing addresses for voters;
 - the introduction of a new voter registration device later this year which will allow for more accurate capture of address information at the point of voter registration; and
 - allowing time for Parliament to consider and enact amendments to the Electoral Act which seek to regulate the position of any voters who remain on the voters' roll without addresses after the expiring of the reprieve.
- On June 29 2018 the Constitutional Court granted a temporary extension of five months (to 29 November 2018) to consider the matter of a longer extension.
- The hearing has been scheduled for 29 August 2018.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL PROGRESS TO DATE



SUMMARY OF PROVINCIAL PROGRESS

- Provinces with highest proportion of registered voters with **complete addresses** on voters' roll include Western Cape (90%), Northern Cape (83%), Gauteng (82%), Free State (81%) & North West (81%) – all of which are comfortably above national average of 73% (end-May 2017)
- Predominantly rural provinces of the Limpopo (56%), Eastern Cape (61%) & KwaZulu Natal (64%) display the lowest proportion of **complete addresses** of registered voters – as well as the greatest proportion of **incomplete or generic** addresses (Limpopo at 34%, Eastern Cape at 30%, & KZN at 25%)
- Provinces with the highest percentage of **no recorded addresses** of registered voters include Gauteng (15%), Free State (15%) & Mpumalanga (13%)

KEY MEASURES TO OBTAIN ADDRESSES SINCE MARCH 2016

1. Internal clean-up

- Review of records, files and archives to check and capture all addresses

2. Address capture during 2016 Municipal Elections and by-elections

- Address capture focus during second registration weekend (April 2016)
- Address capture project on election day (3 August 2016)

3. Online facility

- In October 2017 we launched an on-line facility for registered voters with internet access to review and/or provide their address
- Accompanied by national advertising initiative

KEY MEASURES CONT.

4. Opening of voting stations

- Over 22 600 voting stations were opened on 10-11 March 2018 to allow registered voters to check voters' roll and provide or update address
- Approximately 300 000 unknown addresses were collected during the weekend

5. Third party address sourcing

- Partnership with public institutions with interest in addresses, including Stats SA, SAPO, Telkom, Eskom, SASSA, Surveyor-General, DHA
- Approaching all municipalities – debtors book, address data
- Public/commercial databases

ON-GOING MEASURES TO MEET CONSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATIONS

1. Online facility

- The online facility remains available to voters 24/7 to update their address

2. By-elections

- Voter registration and address update campaigns conducted ahead of all by-elections
- Voters without addresses required to provide an address before voting in by-elections

3. Targeted campaigns

- On-going communication campaigns (via SMS and fieldwork) to reach voters for whom an address is still not available
- This includes making out-bound calls to voters for whom an address is not known

ON-GOING MEASURES CONT.

4. Address sourcing from external sources

- On-going interaction with a variety of public and private sector stakeholders (including municipalities, government departments, agencies and traditional authorities) to source addresses for voters

5. Legislative amendments

- The current Draft Electoral Laws Amendment Bill includes enhancements to allow for online registration and provides for a change from requiring addresses in correct VD to correct ward
- It also proposed legislative clarity on the status of voters for whom addresses may not be available – and the process to be followed in voting

6. NPE 2019

- All voter registration activities for NPE 2019 will include focus on addresses
- Voters without addresses will be asked to provide an address when voting in NPE 2019

DEMARCATIION/DELIMITATION

- A review of voting districts and voting station networks for NPE 2019 is close to completion, with 22 930 voting districts, compared with 22 617 VDs in LGE 2016.
- The focus of this project is primarily on establishing Voting Centres rather than creating new VDs so as not to destabilise the voters' roll. There will be some 4 050 voting centres in NPE 2019 compared with 2 500 voting centres in LGE 2016.
- MPLC members have been involved in reviewing the VD & voting station network and signed-off on maps.
- The Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB) is re-determining certain municipal boundaries and is expected to provide final municipal boundaries for NPE 2019 in August 2018.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

THE FOLLOWING ICT PROJECTS ARE UNDERWAY IN PREPARATION FOR NPE 2019:

Platform review and upgrade

- **Hardware**

- Servers: These are due to be replaced during 2018
- PCs/printers/laptops: These are scheduled for replacement in late 2018 and early 2019 (in a phased approach)

- **Software**

- Operating system: Upgrading from Windows 7 to Windows 10 is planned for 2018/19 – impacting on all application systems
- Web browser: Upgrading from Internet Explorer 9 to Internet Explorer 11/Edge
- Database Management System from SQL 2012 to SQL 2016

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS:

- Development of applications (voter registration, participation and staff attendance) for the new voter registration devices which will also incorporate location based solutions.
- Enhancements to the voter registration system to process the new information.
- Development of a ballot paper tracking system to voting station level (including a scanning application on the new device)
- Enhancements of the electronic candidate submission system
- Enhancements of the online out-of-country and special vote application systems
- Enhancements to the Procurement Plan system
- Minor enhancements to the NPE Results System, such as workflow for results slips re-printing, section 65 objections enhancements
- Enhancements to IEC mobile application to include NPE results
- Strengthen the use of mobile and online technologies

TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

ELECTION PREPARATION:

- Prepare servers and data transmission for use at the results operation centers
- Update the leaderboard application for the results operation centres, website and mobile application

• **NOTE:**

- All political parties will be invited to examine and test the NPE Results system as has been the historic practice
- The system will also be subjected to an external audit to ensure integrity

VOTER REGISTRATION DEVICE

- The current generation of hand-held registration devices (“zip-zips”) was procured in 2007 and have reached the end of their 10 year lifespan
- A tender for the development and provision of 38 000 new generation voter registration devices ahead of NPE 2019 was embarked on in 2017
- This new Voter Registration Device (VRD) will provide for capturing full details for the voter – including their contact and address details
- The device should be able to link to mapping platforms and systems to allow for the verification that a voter is registering in the voting district in which their home is.
- The new devices will be able to be used online and offline and should serve the needs of the Electoral Commission for an enhanced voters’ roll for the next 5 - 10 years
- Delivery of the new devices is scheduled the last quarter of 2018 which will allow for implementation and training in time for 2nd Registration Weekend in early 2019

CONTESTING THE ELECTIONS

- **Party registrations:**

- There are currently **573** registered political parties
- The process to register a party takes approximately 60 days (including to publish notifications and allow for objections)
- This means any political party which is not currently registered and which intends contesting either the national or provincial elections in 2019 should apply for registration by **no later than January 2019**

- **Deposits:**

- The Electoral Commission is currently reviewing the regulations for deposits by political parties

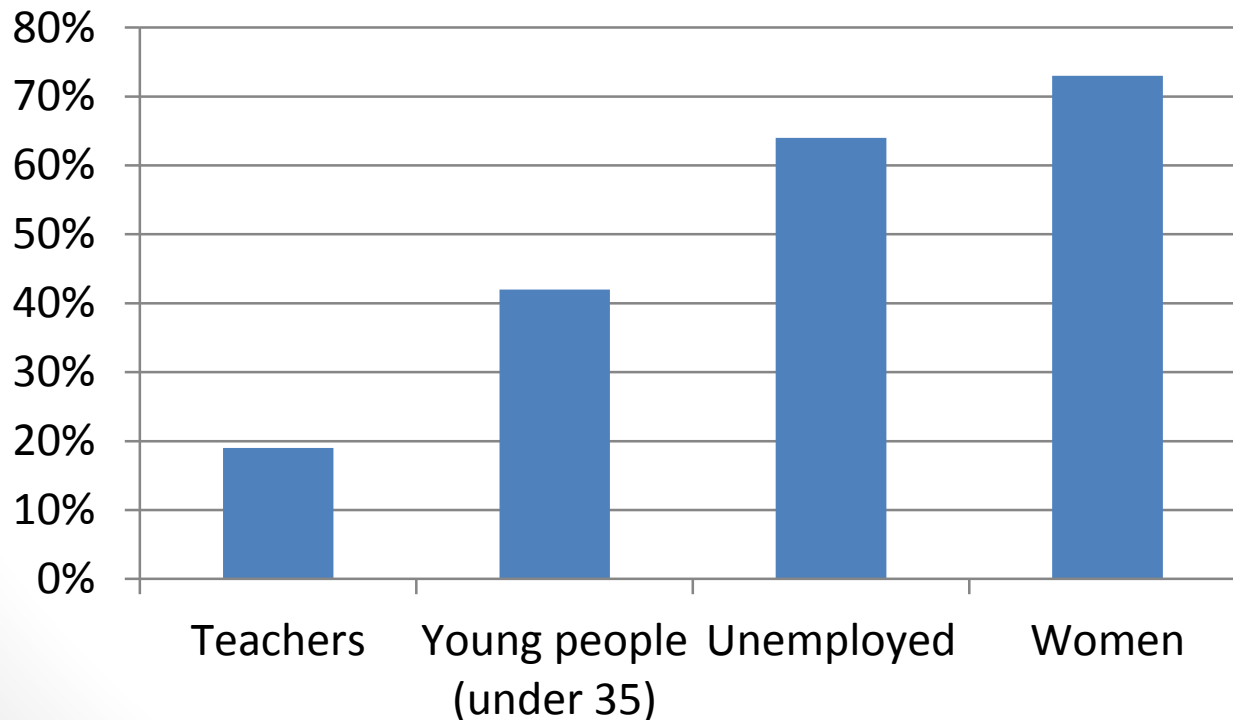
- **Ballot paper order:**

- The Electoral Commission is currently reviewing the process by which the order of political parties appear on ballot papers is determined

RECRUITMENT FOR MARCH 2018 REGISTRATION WEEKEND

- Total staff recruited: 74,816
 - 67,851 voting station staff
 - 4,615 area managers
 - 406 APCs
 - 282 MOCs
 - 1,662 DEFs

Recruitment



RECRUITMENT

- Recruitment for 2019 Registration Weekend and Election will be done at local level from within the ward and municipality
- Recruitment process scheduled to take place from September 2018 to allow for training from October 2018 to January 2019
- The recruitment criteria developed for standardisation will be submitted to the National Party Liaison Committee for consideration
- A focus of recruitment will be on:
 - Ensuring officials meet the recruitment criteria
 - Where possible unemployed young persons will be preferred
- Anticipate recruiting:
 - +/- 70 00 registration officials for registration weekend
 - ± 190,000 for NPE2019
- Lists of candidates for PO and DPO positions will be provided to the PLC for consideration and any objections

TRAINING

Area of focus	Burning platform	Action status
Registration Material		Development of Registration Material underway – targeted completion by end of October 2018 pending information on VRD operation guidelines.
Election Material		Development of Election Material – to commence August 2018
National Training sessions		Registration – November 2018
		Election –January 2019
Registration Training	Need for additional training day for VRD	December2018 - February 2019
Election Training		February - May 2019
eLearning		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategy developed and supported - System developed

LEGAL SERVICES

DIRECTORATE FOR ELECTORAL OFFENCES AND SECTION 55 OBJECTIONS

- The current Legal Panel will soon be amplified to deal with complaints in relation to the Electoral Code of Conduct
- In relation to the Section 55 Objections, the administrative system will be enhanced and the necessary administrative capacity acquired.
- Legal Services will process all objections received, with the Commission, and all objections must be finalised by the Commission, before the results of the election are announced.

LOGISTICS

TENDER/PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY DATES FOR BILL OF MATERIALS

- Registration weekend Bill of Materials – Delivery to municipal level in January 2019
- NPE 2019 Election Bill of Material – November 2018 to March 2019
- Ballot Papers - September 2018 to April 2019
- Security Items - July 2018 to March 2019

FACILITIES

VOTING STATION NETWORK

- Securing of voting stations for registration weekend and elections will be concluded with a single contract (start date 1 July with an end date 15 Dec 2018)
- The voting station network is expected to grow to +/- 23 000 voting stations (from 22 612 in 2016)
- Emphasis is placed on a further reduction of temporary voting from the current level of 1 182 (targeting a 4% to 5% reduction noting that there were 1 495 temporary voting stations in NPE 2014).
- Current levels of temporary stations are viewed as being very close to the saturation point and further significant decreases are unlikely given the available permanent facilities in various communities countrywide, especially in undeveloped/informal/rural areas

CIVIC AND DEMOCRACY EDUCATION

- In a departure from previous practice where all provinces used MOCs but not all provinces used DEFs, and to improve efficiency, impact and reach for 2019, all provinces will employ both MOCs and DEFs for CDE events:
 - One (1) MOC will be employed per local municipality and 4 per metropolitan municipality
 - One (1) DEF will be assigned three wards
 - A dedicated team of DEFs drawn from the Disability Sector will be introduced; these individuals will focus on PWDs in the province. The intention is to employ persons from the sector who are able to communicate with the sector they are employed to service. That is they should be able to read braille, to understand or use sign language, and be specialists in the field with strong disability sectoral experience.
- The duration of face to face Community Outreach & Mobilisation will be shorter than usual due to budget constraints:
 - MOCs will commence duty from 1 November 2018 until 31 May 2019 or in the month of elections. This will be determined by whichever comes first depending on Election Day.
 - DEFs will commence duty from 01 January 2019 until 30 April 2019

PROPOSED OUTREACH DEPLOYMENT

Province	Number of Municipalities	Number of wards	MOCs	DEFs	Dedicated DEFs from the Disability Sector	Totals
Eastern Cape	39	705	46	235	9	244
Free State	23	309	26	103	6	109
Gauteng	11	529	20	206	6	212
KwaZulu Natal	54	870	57	300	12	312
Limpopo	27	566	27	187	6	193
Mpumalanga	20	400	20	134	4	138
North West	22	407	22	181	5	186
Northern Cape	31	204	31	128	6	134
Western Cape	30	402	33	134	7	141
Totals			282	1 608	61	1669

COMMUNICATIONS

- Launch of Elections 2019 communications campaign planned for early **January 2019**
- This will include promoting the final registration weekend – it is hoped to add a further 1 million voters before the voters' roll closes ahead of the elections
- Campaign will focus especially on encouraging participation by young and **first-time voters**
- The campaign will also include additional focus on the **Electoral Code of Conduct** to help promote tolerance and fair campaigning
- Traditional forms of media including street posters, radio, television, billboards and print media will be used
- Social and digital media will continue to form a growing component of the campaign – along with community media (radio and print)
- An in-bound and out-bound Contact Centre will be activated to assist voters in registration, addresses and voting information

PARTY FUNDING LEGISLATION

- The Political Party Funding Bill was approved by the National Assembly in **March 2018**
- The Bill was then referred to the NCOP Ad Hoc committee which approved the Bill without amendments in **July 2018**
- The Bill is awaiting final approval and then promulgation by the President
- In terms of the draft legislation the legislation will be managed by the Electoral Commission and will be involve four key elements:
 - A Represented Political Party Fund funded by the fiscus
 - A Multiparty Democracy Fund funded by donations
 - Annual reporting and disclosure by political parties of all donations and resources
 - Enforcement of compliance with the legislation and regulations governing party funding
- Funding for the establishment of this is only scheduled to be made available by National Treasury from **1 April 2019**

KEY RISKS AHEAD

- **Resources**

- The current fiscal constraints present challenges in available resources – especially for additional areas of responsibility (including address sourcing and implementation of party funding legislation)
- The increasing use of litigation to resolve electoral disputes is placing an additional burden on resources
- Fragile coalitions in a number of municipal councils has led to an increase in the number of by-elections and dissolved councils which further divert resources from the general elections

KEY RISKS AHEAD OF NPE 2019

- **Voters' roll (addresses)**
 - While the direct risk posed by a lack of addresses for voters is minimal for a national and provincial election, the continued presence of voters on the voters' roll without addresses or with incomplete addresses poses a general risk to the credibility of the voters' roll
 - Clarity from the Constitutional Court with regards to the rights of voters without addresses and the process to be followed will significantly reduce this risk to the integrity of the voters' roll
 - The proposed legislative amendment to allow for a specific window for objections against the voters' roll as part of the election timetable should further reduce this risk

KEY RISKS continued

- **Cyber threats**

- Cyber-attacks on elections have increased significantly in recent years. This includes:
 - direct attacks on electoral systems to attempt to manipulate the process or to simply undermine trust in the process; and
 - the use of social media platforms (especially fake news) in an attempt to influence the outcome of elections

- **Technology implementation**

- The implementation of any new technology system poses risks to all organisations. The implementation of a new Voter Registration Device which includes new hardware, software and a new operating processes shortly prior to the registration and elections presents risks in terms of training, change management and reliability

KEY RISKS AHEAD OF NPE 2019

- **Demarcation**

- Delays in finalisation of provincial/municipal boundaries
- Lack of community support for municipal/provincial boundary changes resulting in protests

- **Protest actions**

- On-going service delivery, political and community protests throughout the country pose a significant risk to the conducting of smooth and safe registration and election activities
- Current protests are increasingly violent and intended to cause maximum disruption
- The high-profile nature of the elections may be used to draw attention to the grievances of citizens and communities

KEY RISKS continued

- **Political tension/conflict**

- A rise in intra- and inter-party conflict and violence was experienced ahead of 2016 LGE which was frequently linked to party candidate list process. This could continue into NPE 2019
- This includes on-going political violence in isolated areas including KZN

- **Increase in litigation**

- Highly litigious environment in which parties are increasingly turning to the courts to solve disputes rather than mediation or dialogue
- The narrowing of margin of victory between majority and opposition parties over recent years has further exacerbated the tendency of losing contestants to object/appeal.
- The increase in litigation gives rise to a reduction in certainty and faith in the outcome of elections as well as increasing costs

THANK YOU