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| <p>Monash Student Association (Clayton) Incorporated</p> <p>REPORT ON 2024 MSA REFERENDUM ON CARER DEFINITION</p> |
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1. Introduction

In 2024, MSA engaged OGL Group to act as Returning Officer in their Referendum, a Referendum which covered one question as determined and passed previously by the Monash Student Council.

Glenn Donahoo was the Returning Officer for this ballot is the author of this report.

This report sets out the process by which voting on the referendum was undertaken, specifically highlighting any areas that required attention by the Returning Officer and stakeholders and lists the result.

2. Process

The Notice of Referendum (**Appendix 1**) was disseminated by the Returning Officer to students online via the MSA election webpage and via email to all Monash Clayton students. The Notice of Referendum included information regarding access to the voting platform during the polling period as well as the exact content of the proposed change to the MSA Constitution as specified by the resolution passed by the Student Council (see below).

Referendum Question as set down by resolution of Monash Student Council at meeting 8/24 on the 26th July 2024

'The Carer Recognition Act 2010 describes a carer as an individual who provides personal care, support and assistance to another individual who needs it because that other individual:

- a. has a disability; or*
- b. has a medical condition (including a terminal or chronic illness); or*
- c. has a mental illness; or*
- d. is frail and aged.*

It states that an individual is not a carer in respect of care, support and assistance he or she provides:

- a. under a contract of service or a contract for the provision of services; or*
- b. in the course of doing voluntary work for a charitable, welfare or community organisation; or*
- c. as part of the requirements of a course of education or training.*

It also states an individual is not a carer merely because he or she:

- a. is the spouse, de facto partner, parent, child or other relative of an individual, or is the guardian of an individual; or*
- b. lives with an individual who requires care.*

Do you agree that the MSA Constitution should be amended to state that a "carer" has the same meaning as in the Carer Recognition Act 2010?'

Polling

Polling on the referendum was conducted online through the BigPulse voting platform with all Monash University Clayton students sent an email at the beginning of the polling period on the morning of Monday 14 October with a secure unique voting link.

Reminder emails were sent to students yet to cast their vote at 12:00pm Midday on Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 October. These reminder emails were identical to the initial email sent at the commencement of the voting period and again contained the student's secure unique voting link.

3. Results

Voting in the Referendum concluded at 5pm AEDT on Thursday 17 October. 1434 students cast their vote in this referendum, representing 3.04% of eligible voters. As the referendum failed to meet the threshold required by section 17(6) of the MSA Constitution of at least 5% participation from eligible students to bind the MSA, the referendum failed to achieve a binding outcome. Details of the results as provided in the Notice of Referendum (**Appendix 2**) are listed below.

| Vote | Result | Result (%) |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Yes | 1,244 | 86.75 in favour |
| No | 190 | 13.25 against |
| Total Votes | 1434 | 3.04% |

4. Conclusion

The voting process for this ballot ran smoothly. Thanks go to all the staff involved in running this referendum ballot, especially Lowan Sist who handled every aspect of preparing and providing information required for this ballot aspect adroitly and efficiently.

Glenn Donahoo

Returning Officer

msa.returningofficer@gmail.com

2 December 2024



Monash Student Association (Clayton) Incorporated
2024 REFERENDUM

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM

Following the resolution passed at the Monash Student Council, the following constitutional referendum question will be put forward for a referendum poll from Monday 14 October – Thursday 17 October 2024.

'The Carer Recognition Act 2010 describes a carer as an individual who provides personal care, support and assistance to another individual who needs it because that other individual:

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It also states an individual is not a carer merely because he or she:

- a. is the spouse, de facto partner, parent, child or other relative of an individual, or is the guardian of an individual; or*
- b. lives with an individual who requires care.*

Do you agree that the MSA Constitution should be amended to state that a "carer" has the same meaning as in the Carer Recognition Act 2010?'

Voting

Polling for the referendum will be from 9am Monday 14 October until 5pm Thursday 17 October. You will be able to vote online through a voting link sent to your email.

Glenn Donahoo
Returning Officer
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Jessica Fox & Linda Andonopoulos
Deputy Returning Officers



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2024 REFERENDUM

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM RESULTS

I report the below results upon the conclusion of voting at 5:00pm AEDT on Thursday 17 October 2024 for polling in the 2024 MSA Referendum vote regarding the amendment of the definition of a carer in the MSA Constitution.

| Option | Result | Result (%) |
|--------------|--------|------------|
| Yes | 1,244 | 86.75 |
| No | 190 | 13.25 |
| Total | 1434 | 3.04% |

As the referendum failed to meet the threshold of at least 5% participation from eligible students, I declare the referendum failed.

Glenn Donahoo
MSA Returning Officer
17 October 2024
msa.returningofficer@gmail.com