

Legislative Council Group Voting Tickets (GVTs)

GVTs - <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/become-a-state-election-candidate/groups-and-voting-tickets>

What Members Should Know

Group voting tickets (GVTs) are used by political parties to determine how your preferences are directed when you vote above the line for the five (5) representatives in your region for the Legislative Council (Upper House).

The use of GVTs is completely legal but has come into question recently for removing the voter's right to have a say in how their preferences should be allocated rather than this being determined by the parties.

There is however an easy option for members to control what happens to their ballot paper and influence who gets elected, but you'll need to do a little research and be well-informed and prepared.

Voting '**below the line**' using **optional preferential voting** is the way for you to determine your preferences, but it's important that you fill in all or nearly all of the boxes under the line without repeating a number to avoid your vote becoming exhausted and prematurely ending.

If you intend voting for a party other than a major party, then using the 'below the line' method is the perfect way for you to bypass the preference deals.

These preference deals might include people or parties that are not supporters of the public sector or its workforce (you)

These preference deals could exclude others that are PS supporters or place them further down their ticket .

Voting 'below the line' will then become extremely important for electing the 5th representative in your legislative council region - so do your homework.

ABC's Voting Analyst Antony Green has published the Group Voting Tickets for each party in each Legislative Council Region.

<https://antonygreen.com.au/group-voting-tickets-published-for-the-victorian-legislative-council-election/>

How to vote for the Legislative Council

The Legislative Council (Upper House) ballot paper features a thick horizontal line (as shown below). You can vote above or below the line.

- If you choose to vote above the line, you must only place a **1** in the box above the party you want to support. Your ballot paper will be counted according to the preferences on the group's registered group voting ticket.
- If you choose to vote below the line, place a **1** in the box against your most preferred candidate and continue numbering 2,3,4,5 and so on in order of your choice.. You are only required to number a total of five preferences (i.e. 2, 3, 4 and 5), but can number more. This is called optional preferential voting.

Ballot Paper **Region Name**
Election of 5 members of the Legislative Council

For preference to count, you must vote in either one of the two ways described below.

EITHER
Mark the number 1 in all boxes of the party to which you wish to vote.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	PARTY NAME	PARTY NAME	PARTY NAME	PARTY NAME	PARTY NAME	PARTY NAME	PARTY NAME

OR
Mark the number 1 in all boxes of the candidate to which you wish to vote.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	DISQUALIFIED
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE

An example of a State Legislative Council (Upper House) ballot paper