

Media Release

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Australia Votes: ABC NewsBot

ABC News has launched an **ABC NewsBot** for the Federal Election in an effort to answer some of the many questions Australian voters may have in the lead-up to polling day.

The launch continues the experimental Twitter bot that assisted in delivering live poll results on election night 2013.

ABC NewsBot will once again be delivering live results as they come in on Election night on Saturday 2 July. You can get up-to-the-minute results on election night simply by messaging the bot with your electorate name.

Over the past three years, **ABC NewsBot** has become a little bit smarter and more sophisticated and is now available to help with a wider variety of questions. You might want to ask: Who is running for Parliament in my electorate? How are the parties going in the polls? When was the last double dissolution election? The bot also provides the latest election news updates on request.

Gaven Morris, ABC Director of News, said: "Media organisations across the world are experimenting with bots as a way to add to the personalised news experience.

"We are constantly looking at new ways to share news and information with our audiences on all media platforms, including social. ABC NewsBot is another example of our efforts to take stories to the places where our audiences are."

To ask the **ABC NewsBot** a question you need to be on Twitter or Facebook.

If you're on Twitter, tweet your question to <u>@ABCNewsBot</u>.

On **Facebook**, search for "ABC News" in the Messenger app.

For all your election news go to abc.net.au/australiavotes

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