

The beans have spoken

- **John Chan**
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The seventh Miss Maud's coffee bean poll has predicted a Liberal victory in tomorrow's state election.

The results were announced at a ceremony at the Miss Maud's flagship restaurant in the city today in the pomp and splendour of a mock election.

The votes were cast by more than 30,000 Miss Maud patrons across Perth, who voted by putting coffee beans into containers labelled with the names of the political parties.

Although the coffee bean poll is not an official poll of the public's voting intentions, it has been accurate five out of six times in predicting the public's actions during state and federal elections.

The final results predicted the Liberal Party would win over the ALP by 34.3 per cent to 32.9 per cent. The Greens polled a strong third with 15.5 per cent of the vote.

The poll also measured the issues that were important to the bean voters in the lead up to the election, those being health, education and law and order.

The issue of nuclear power and the economy polled fifth and sixth respectively.

"This is our seventh poll. Our customers are saying that there is something lacking," Miss Maud founder Maud Edminston said.

"It has continued to surprise me how accurate the coffee bean poll has been."

Ms Edminston said WA was like Swiss cheese in that it had holes in it, and tomorrow Western Australian will vote to fill the holes.



A woman casts her vote in the Miss Maud's coffee bean poll, which indicated a Liberal victory.