

Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe
2025 Local Government Elections

2025 Local Elections

Candidate Briefing Presentation

15 July 2025

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Pōti Tīma | Electoral Team

- electionz.com Ltd contracted by Wellington City Council
- **Warwick Lampp** - WCC Electoral Officer | *Āpiha Pōti Matua*
- **Jennifer Parker** – WCC Deputy Electoral Officer | *Āpiha Pōtitanga Tuarua*
- **Amelia Dalley** – WCC Electoral Official | *Kaiāwhina Āpiha Pōti*

Ko wai a electionz.com? | Who is electionz.com?

- Warwick Lampp, Deputy Electoral Officer, lives in Tauranga
- Election services company based in Ōtautahi Christchurch
- 10 full time staff
- Average 200 elections in NZ each year (other than councils)
- Electoral Officer (EO) for 44 councils, 8 regional councils
- Carrying out vote processing for 47 councils, approx 825,000 returned voting papers in Christchurch
- Electoral Officer for:
 - Christchurch, Wellington, Tauranga, Western Bay, Matamata-Piako, Rotorua Lakes, Taupō, Waipā, Ōtorohanga, Waitomo, South Waikato, Ruapehu, Rangitikei, Manawatū, Whanganui, Horowhenua, Napier, Hastings, Central Hawkes Bay, Tararua, Carterton, Masterton, South Wairarapa, Upper Hutt, Porirua, Nelson, Buller, Westland, Grey, Kaikōura, Hurunui, Waimakariri, Selwyn, Ashburton, Timaru, Mackenzie, Waimate, Waitaki, Dunedin, Gore, Queenstown, Central Otago, Southland, Invercargill
 - Greater Wellington, Southland, Canterbury, Otago, Hawke's Bay, Horizons, Bay of Plenty, West Coast

Kāwanatanga | Other Organisations

- What part does the Electoral Commission play?
 - EC provides the electoral roll for council elections, nothing else
 - EC does **not** have jurisdiction or oversight of council elections
- Does the Ombudsman have any say?
 - No, the Electoral Officer and the Local Electoral Act are specifically exempt from the Ombudsman
- Does LGOIMA apply to the Electoral Officer and the LEA
 - No, the Electoral Officer is exempt from LGOIMA
- Who does the Electoral Officer answer to?
 - A district court Judge (not mayor, not council CE, not Ombudsman)

Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe 2025 Local Government Elections PART 1

What is local government all about?



Ngā whakamahuki ā Ngā Pou Kaunihera

What is Local Government all about?

It's a complex business!

Underpinned by more than 125 pieces of legislation, Council is responsible for:

- Formulating the city's strategic direction in conjunction with the community through the Long Term Plan (LTP) and reporting on progress
- Determining the services and activities to be undertaken by the Council
- Managing regulations and upholding the law, including the formulation and enforcement of bylaws
- Advocating on behalf of the local community with central government, other local authorities and other agencies
- Environmental management through the District Plan
- Ensuring local communities are encouraged to be part of the decision-making processes of local government

He aha te take o ngā tāngata kaunihera? What is being an elected member all about?

IT IS A BIG DEAL!

- Standing for Council takes a strong commitment, **it is not a “5-minute job”**
- Not to be taken lightly, it is an important responsibility
- Represent and lead the district – eyes and ears
- Advocacy and governance
- Skill set in candidate handbook – pages 8-10
- Good Governance Guide LGNZ - Part 2 You got elected – now what?

Tikanga Haumaru | Candidate Safety

- Being an Elected Member can be positive and rewarding
- But its not always a “bed of roses”!
- More and more abuse of elected members, particularly online
- Take proactive steps to keep yourself safe
 - Use campaign-specific social media accounts
 - Set up a dedicated campaign email address and phone number
 - Be aware of surroundings – know the exits, check environment
 - Consider your responses in difficult situations – de-escalate, remain calm, signal for help
 - Go to the Police if public safety is threatened
 - Candidate contact details on website won’t include physical address

Pārongo tūranga mahi | Job description

- Represent interests of Council and the Community
- Formulate strategic direction and priorities
- Determine expenditure and funding
- Monitor performance
- Develop and oversee policy
- Ensure prudent use of council resources
- Employ and monitor the Chief Executive (CE) only

Whanonga pono me ngā tikanga | Core competencies

- Genuine interest for issues faced by local communities
- Relate to wide range of people – strong people skills
- Competent listening and public speaking skills
- Express ideas clearly and be results focussed
- Understand, analyse and resolve complex issues
- Understand governance versus management
- Councillors think “city-wide” on issues
- Commit to elected members’ Code of Conduct

Ngā hui Kaunihera | Council meetings

- Council meetings held on a Thursday on a six-weekly basis, councillors also attend other committee meetings on a weekly basis.
- Currently 6 committees and 1 subcommittee, plus other roles, including joint-committees
- Total of 70 meetings for 2024/25
- Mayor and councillor roles are full-time jobs
- Community Board member - part time, though the level of commitment will depend on activities or involvement in committees
- Untold reading of reports and agendas (often hundreds of pages)
- Flexible working hours – evening and weekend work required

Utu ā-tau | Remuneration

- Mayor \$197,011 pa
- Deputy Mayor \$136,327 pa
- Chair of Committee of the Whole (3) \$125,251 pa
- Councillor with no responsibilities (10) \$113,327 pa
- Councillor (minimum) \$96,726 pa
- Tawa CB Chair \$21,672 pa
- Tawa CB member \$10,836 pa
- Mākara-Ōhāriu CB Chair \$10,863 pa
- Mākara-Ōhāriu CB members \$5,432 pa
- Paid fortnightly
- Elected members are classified as Self Employed
- Allowances Policy includes:
 - supplied Windows laptop and Android phone (or can choose own and receive an allowance)
 - childcare allowance
 - Will include new home security allowance

N.B. These are **current** figures as set by the Remuneration Authority and **will change after the election**

Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe
2025 Local Government Elections
PART 2

2025 Election details



Ngā Tūranga me ngā Kawenga Āpiha Pōti Matua

Electoral Officer Role and Responsibilities

- The Electoral Officer (EO) is solely responsible for the conduct of the election
- The EO is not subject to the directions of any local authority, elected members, or the CE
- Provides a level playing field for all candidates
- **NB** Not responsible for monitoring campaigning by candidates. Only deals with alleged breaches of the Act by passing them to the Police.

Wātaka Pōti | Election Timetable

4 July (Friday)

11 July (Friday)

15 July (Tuesday)

1 August (Friday)

29 August (Friday)

9 – 22 September (Tuesday to Tuesday)

9 September to 11 October

10 October (Friday)

11 October (Saturday)

11 October (Saturday)

12 October (Sunday)

16 October (Thursday)

Late October

probably **11 December** (Thursday)

Nominations open

Pre-election Period starts

Candidate Briefing, Wellington

Nominations, closes at 12 noon

Election signs on public land can go up at 6pm

Delivery of voting papers

Voting period

Removal of signs by midnight

Close of voting at 12 noon

Progress results available by 5pm

Preliminary results announced

Final results announced, Official declaration

Inaugural Meeting of Council

Candidate expenses deadline

Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe
2025 Local Government Elections
PART 3

The nomination process



Ngā Take Pōti | Nominations will be called for:

Koromatua | Mayor

164,499 electors

Kaikaunihera | Councillors - 15 councillors from 6 wards

▪ Motukairangi/Eastern General Ward	3 councillors	29,059 electors
▪ Pukehīnau/Lambton General Ward	3 councillors	32,940 electors
▪ Takapū/Northern General Ward	3 councillors	35,845 electors
▪ Wharangi/Onslow-Western General Ward	3 councillors	34,220 electors
▪ Paekawakawa/Southern General Ward	2 councillors	25,778 electors
▪ Te Whanganui-a-Tara Māori Ward	1 councillor	6,657 electors

Mema Poari Hapori | Community Board members

▪ Makara/Ōhāriu Community Board	6 members	750 electors
▪ Tawa Community Board	6 members	11,035 electors

Greater Wellington Regional Council

▪ Pōneke/Wellington Constituency	5 members	147,378 electors
▪ Porirua-Tawa Constituency	2 members	10,464 electors
▪ Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Māori Constituency	1 member	6,657 electors

All elections have **random** order of candidate names

Rohe Pōti Māori | Māori Ward Polls

- Any council or regional council that established a Māori Ward or Constituency after 2020 is required by legislation to hold a Māori Ward Poll in 2025
- 37 polls in NZ, shown on the voting paper after each council's elections
- Poll is for all electors to vote to **keep** or **remove** Māori Wards or Constituencies
- Binding on council for 2028 and 2031 elections (6 years), **but not for the period 2025 to 2028**
- Information page about the poll will be in the voting guide booklets with the voting papers
- Poll questions are:

I vote to KEEP the Māori Ward (Māori Constituency)

I vote to REMOVE the Māori Ward (Māori Constituency)

- Polls in 2025 for Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council

Whakaaringa | Nomination Process

Nomination Period – 4 weeks

- Nominations open Friday 4 July
- Nominations close at precisely 12 noon Friday 1 August

All nomination documents **must** be submitted together

- Nomination paper, profile statement, photo, evidence of \$200 deposit
- Must provide **evidence of NZ Citizenship** (passport, birth certificate)
- EITHER bring to the Electoral Office, WCC, Level 16, 113 The Terrace
- OR scan/email to the DEO – election@wcc.govt.nz
- Will accept online banking of deposits – evidence required
- Nomination paper includes warning for candidates to be aware that contact details will be public info
- Can use commonly used name on voting papers – but no titles
- Party affiliations – cannot be offensive, confusing, or too long

Whakaaringa | Nomination Process (continued)

Candidate **must** state if standing in any other elections

- Mayor, Ward, other TAs
- **Is shown at top of profile statement**
- Is not included in the 150 words
- Applies to standing anywhere in Aotearoa New Zealand
- Must update earlier nomination form if not included
- **Nomination paper is a public document, open for inspection**

Candidate **must** state if reside in area of election or not

- My principal place of residence **is WITHIN / is NOT WITHIN** the area
- **Is shown at the top of the profile statement**
- Is not included in the 150 words

Other elections

- GWRC nominations to GWRC office, 100 Cuba Street, Wellington

**KOROMATUA | MAYOR
PUKA TONO | NOMINATION FORM**
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL | 2025 ELECTIONS

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



Important Notes:

1. The front page of completed nomination forms are required to be available for public inspection at the Wellington City Council Head Office Reception, Level 16, 113 The Terrace, Wellington.
2. Candidate name, email address and/or phone number details as provided in Section B will be made available from the council's website.
3. Nominator names may also be made available from the council's website.
4. In this form LEA = Local Electoral Act 2001 and LER = Local Electoral Regulations 2001

A TE ROHE PŌTI | ELECTION AREA

I wish to stand for election as **Mayor** of the **Wellington City**.

My principal place of residence
(tick ONE circle):

☐

is **WITHIN** the Wellington City
Council area

☐

is **NOT WITHIN** the Wellington City
Council area

B MĀ TE KAITONO | CANDIDATE TO FILL OUT (after reading important information on reverse)

I (candidate's full name),

accept the nomination and confirm that I have read and understand the **Eligibility and Candidacy Notes** on the reverse of this form and certify that I am qualified to be a candidate under Section 25 of the LEA and the LER and that I am not disqualified under Section 58 of the LEA. In particular, I am a New Zealand citizen and a New Zealand parliamentary elector.

Contact details (will be made available for public inspection):

Phone No.:

Email Address:

I am also standing for the following elections:

I wish my name to be shown on the voting document as:

I wish to use the following affiliation (to be left blank if the candidate does not wish to use any party / group affiliation. A candidate with no affiliation may request that 'independent' be shown. Maximum length is 38 characters (including any spaces between words)):

Signature:

Date:

C MĀ TE KAITAUTOKO | NOMINATORS TO FILL OUT

We, the undersigned electors of the Wellington City Council hereby nominate the candidate listed in **Section B** above with their consent, as a candidate for the office of **Mayor**, the election for which is to be held on 11 October 2025.

Full name of First Nominator:

Residential Address:

Phone No.:

Signature of First Nominator:

Full name of Second Nominator:

Residential Address:

Phone No.:

Signature of Second Nominator:

Nominations must be in the hands of the Electoral Officer before 12 noon on Friday 1 August 2025

All nomination documents must be submitted at the same time. For assistance, phone the helpline: 0800 666 048

D CANDIDATE CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE ELECTORAL OFFICER/OFFICIAL

These contact details will not be made public and will be used for election communication by the Electoral Officer/Official:

Residential Address:

(For the following 2 fields only complete if different from details listed in Section B of this form):

Phone No.:

Email Address:

ELIGIBILITY & CANDIDACY NOTES

- 1 Candidates for this position do not need to live within the Wellington City Council election area, but must be a New Zealand citizen and enrolled as a New Zealand parliamentary elector.
- 2 Both nominators must be enrolled as electors of Wellington City Council.
- 3 No person can be elected to a local authority if they are concerned or interested in contracts over \$25,000 with that local authority. This restriction is waived if prior approval from the office of the Controller and Auditor-General is obtained (Section 3(1) Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968).
- 4 A candidate may stand for either the regional council or city/district council/community board in the regional council's district, but not both.
- 5 A candidate cannot nominate themselves for office.
- 6 A candidate may under Section 56 of the LEA be nominated under a name which the candidate is commonly known as provided that the name will not: cause offence to a reasonable person; be unreasonably long; include or resemble an official rank or title; cause confusion or mislead electors (Section 56 of the LEA).
- 7 Where no affiliation is claimed, or an affiliation is disallowed by the Electoral Officer under Section 57 of the LEA, nothing will be shown in the public notice or the voting paper alongside the candidate's name. A candidate with no affiliation may request that 'independent' be shown.
- 8 Under Section 121 of the LEA, any person is liable to a fine of up to \$2,000 who:
(a) Knowing themselves to be ineligible for election, consents to being nominated for election; or
(b) Nominates any person as a candidate whom they know to be ineligible for election; or
(c) Not being the candidate signs any nomination paper knowing that they are not qualified to vote at the election.
- 9 Each nomination must be accompanied by the required deposit of \$200.00 (GST inclusive) or proof of an electronic deposit.
- 10 Evidence of NZ citizenship is required at the time of candidate nomination. Acceptable evidence includes a copy of a NZ passport, NZ birth certificate or NZ citizenship documentation.
- 11 Nominations of candidates must be in the hands of the Electoral Officer, Wellington City Council, before 12 noon on Friday 1 August 2025.
- 12 An employee of a local authority may stand for election as mayor or councillor of that local authority, but if elected, must resign as an employee of the local authority before taking office. This provision does not apply to an employee of a local authority elected to a community or local board.

RETURN, PAYMENT AND REFUND DETAILS

I submit with this nomination
(please tick appropriate circles):

☐

Evidence of
NZ citizenship

☐

Evidence of
deposit

☐

Photo

☐

Profile
statement

I understand that if I do not provide a profile or photo, the words "Profile/Photo not supplied" will appear below my name in the profile booklet that will be sent out with the voting paper.

Deliver to (do not post): Wellington City Council Head Office Reception, Level 16, 113 The Terrace, Wellington

Or, scan and email to: election@wcc.govt.nz

Payments can be made by cash directly at the Wellington City Council Head Office Reception, Level 16, 113 The Terrace, Wellington, if you are returning this form by hand or by online banking using the details provided below:

Account name:	Wellington City Council	Bank:	ANZ
Account number:	06 0582 0106111 000	Particulars/reference:	2025 Elections
Code:	(Your initials and surname)		

Refunds of Nomination Deposits

Where eligible, refunds of nomination deposits will be made by online deposit into your nominated bank account. Please provide either a bank deposit slip or verification of your bank account for the processing of your refund. Verification can be a screen shot from online banking or from the top of a bank statement, and must include the bank logo, the account name and the bank a/c number.

ELECTORAL OFFICIAL TO FILL OUT

Received at the hour of:		on the		day of		20	
Candidate roll #:							
First nominator roll #:				Second nominator roll #:			
Nomination documents approved:	<input type="radio"/> Nomination paper	<input type="radio"/> Deposit/proof of deposit	<input type="radio"/> Place of residence				
	<input type="radio"/> Photo	<input type="radio"/> Profile statement	<input type="radio"/> Proof of NZ citizenship				
	<input type="radio"/> Standing for other elections	<input type="radio"/> Deposit refund verification					
Signature of Electoral Official:						Date:	

RETURN, PAYMENT AND REFUND DETAILS

I submit with this nomination
(please tick appropriate circles):



Evidence of
NZ citizenship



Evidence of
deposit



Photo



Profile
statement

I understand that if I do not provide a profile or photo, the words *"Profile/Photo not supplied"* will appear below my name in the profile booklet that will be sent out with the voting paper.

Deliver to (do not post): Wellington City Council Head Office Reception, Level 16, 113 The Terrace, Wellington

Or, scan and email to: election@wcc.govt.nz

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Account name:	Wellington City Council	Bank:	ANZ
Account number:	06 0582 0106111 000	Particulars/reference:	2025 Elections
Code:	(Your initials and surname)		

Refunds of Nomination Deposits

Where eligible, refunds of nomination deposits will be made by online deposit into your nominated bank account. Please provide either a bank deposit slip or verification of your bank account for the processing of your refund. Verification can be a screen shot from online banking or from the top of a bank statement, and must include the bank logo, the account name and the bank a/c number.

Te Paearu Kaitono | Candidate Qualifications

MUST BE:

- A New Zealand citizen (required to provide evidence)
- Enrolled on the parliamentary electoral roll (in NZ)
- Nominator and seconder on the roll in the area

CANNOT:

- Be serving a prison sentence of three or more years
- Have interest in a contract over \$25K per year with Council, unless cleared by the Auditor General
- Stand for more than one ward
- Withdraw after the close of nominations

CAN STAND:

- For both mayor and councillor or community board, or another council
- For the Māori ward, if non-Māori, or on the general roll, and vice versa
- If a Council employee, but must resign if elected as mayor or councillor
- If you live outside area, but must state that on nomination paper

Ngā Maunu Kaitono | Candidate Withdrawals

- A candidate cannot strategically or politically withdraw after nominations have closed
- Same as for parliamentary elections, i.e. death or incapacity only
- Medical certificate required – deposit refunded
- Withdrawal application can be made by candidate or their agent

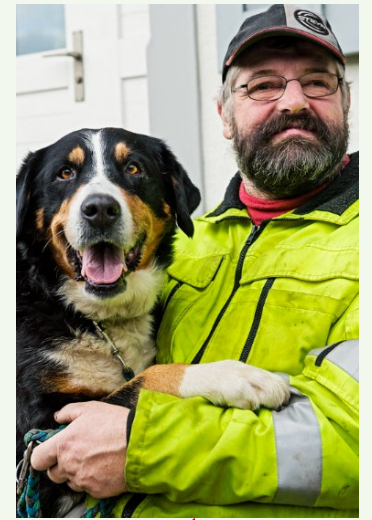
Ngā kōrero whaitake | Candidate Profile Statements

Profiles

- **May** be provided (not mandatory) – see page 17 of Candidate Handbook
- Must be provided electronically with the other nomination documents as a MS Word doc, **not a pdf**, not hand-written
- Up to **150** words about the candidate, their policies and intentions
- Cannot comment on policies etc of any other candidate
- Can be emailed to the DEO but hard copies must be attached to nom paper, **i.e. all docs submitted together**
- EO not required to verify or investigate any information included in profile
- Profiles on Council website as soon as ready after close of nominations
- Candidate contact details on council website after close of nominations

Ngā whakaahua a te Kaitono | Candidate Photos

- In colour, within last 12 months, head and shoulders shot only (no hats, sunglasses, children, pets or friends).
- Must be provided as jpgs, scanned at 300 dpi.
- You can smile in your photo! (This isn't a passport photo!)



Hei tauira mō te whakaritenga

Example Profile Statement

Invercargill City Council

Electing the Mayor



Warwick LAMPP

Proven. Dedicated. Real.

My principal place of residence is in the Invercargill City Council area. I am also standing for Councillor - At Large.

I want you to be involved and excited about Invercargill.

My vision is a thriving city that exceeds your expectations.

A city where you are listened to, where your contribution is valued.

A city where stuff gets done through great leadership. I get stuff done.

That's why I want to be the Mayor

Auto-populated text

Hard-coded text

Ngā Ataata a ngā Kaitono Pōti | Candidate Videos

- Council staff will contact candidates to invite them to film a short video answering three election-related questions, provided in advance
- Videos filmed and edited by council staff
- Videos taken on council premises
- Final videos between 90 seconds and 2 minutes long
- Questions to be confirmed at time of invitation
- Videos will be made available on the Council election page with candidate profile statements when ready

Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe
2025 Local Government Elections
PART 4

Campaigning



Whakahaeretia | Campaigning

- Can commence any time
- Generally no rules around campaigning or conduct, but:
 - Can't use council resources for campaigning (logo, branding, colours, council FB or X feed, photos, council buildings)
 - Voting papers should not be collected from electors by candidates or their assistants
 - **No campaigning or electioneering in council chambers or on council premises or in the same premises as an orange voting bin**
- Election expenses for campaigning must be recorded and declared in a return after the election
- **Any campaign material** (signs, posters, billboards, flyers, ads, cars, social media) **must have an authorisation** from the candidate or their agent, stating their name and contact details
 - Can be address, mobile, email, PO Box
 - Must be on the front of the sign or promotional material (not the back)
- Any content of signs is subject to ASA guidelines and complaints process – must be factual
- Usual rules of defamation apply but don't complain to the EO if you don't like what someone says about you!

Pae Pāpāho Pāpori | Social Media

Beware of Social Media! During the three-month election period:

- Council's social media channels will unlike / unfollow all candidate social media channels
- Candidates must not link their own social media channels (if they are used for campaigning purposes) to the Council's social media channels, and must ensure that they have the appropriate authorisation
- **Council social media channels cannot be used for electioneering by candidates or members of the public – will be constantly monitored and strictly enforced**
- Any post - positive or negative - made by any individual specifically relating to their own or someone else's nomination, intention to run for Council or election campaign, will be removed
- Council's social media channels will remain neutral. Council will promote elections and the importance of voting but will not associate these posts with any candidates

Pae Pāpāho Pāpori | Social Media continued

This means, when with the intention of campaigning / electioneering:

- No posting on Council pages / accounts
 - No comments / replies on Council pages
 - No mentions with a tag (e.g. @WellingtonCityCouncil)
 - No picture tagging
 - No rating or reviewing Council pages or posts
- e.g. you cannot electioneer on Council's channels, or piggyback on their audiences – see page 26
- **It is illegal to post a photo of a completed voting paper**

Ngā Tohu Pōti | Election signs

- See pages 28-29 of Candidate Handbook
- Temporary signs on private property allowed from 12 August
- Election signs on public land require approval, can go up from **6pm Friday 29 August** (6 weeks prior to election day)
- Must comply with council bylaws, policies & guidelines re size and placement
- No. of signs per site – check page 28 of the candidate handbook
- Waka Kotahi rules apply for State Highways, see page 29
- Vehicle signwriting is ok – cost of running a vehicle if it is own personal transport is not an election expense
- **The cost of framing for a sign is not an election expense**
- Complaints about size and placement made to council's Enforcement Officers – not the EO or DEO
- Complaints about authorisations to the EO

Ngā Pūtea Koha | Electoral Donations

See pages 21-22 of the handbook

Definition – An electoral donation is a donation of money or goods or services that is made for use in a candidate's election (section 103A LEA)

- No time limit on when donations are received and no set maximum of how much can be received
- Donations with a reasonable market value of **\$300 or less do not** have to be declared
- Donations of **\$1,500 or more must** be declared
- Rules around “anonymous” donations - **can't be anonymous if you know who it has come from**
- An anonymous donation cannot be over \$1,500
- It is an offence to circumvent \$1,500 limit, i.e., by deliberately splitting up a donation into smaller contributions
 1. Donations over \$1,500 made up of contributions (e.g via a trust or fundraising) are treated as one donation and all contributors need to be disclosed
 2. Crowd funding services do not meet the legislation for recording who donations are from
- The following are not candidate donations:
 - volunteer labour
 - goods or services provided free of charge to a candidate, or to any person on the candidate's behalf that have a reasonable market value of \$300 or less
 - money provided by the candidate for his or her own campaign

Ngā Pōti Utu Aukatinga | Election Expenditure Limits

Total electoral expenses, including GST, must not exceed:

- Wellington Mayoralty \$60,000
- Pukehīnau/Lambton, Takapū/Northern and Wharangi/Onslow-Western Wards \$30,000
- Motukairangi/Eastern and Paekawakawa/Southern Wards \$20,000
- Te Whanganui-a-Tara Māori Ward \$14,000
- Makara-Ōhāriu Community Board \$3,500
- Tawa Community Board \$14,000

If standing for more than one position, the higher limit applies, not both.

Ngā Utu Whakahaere | Election Expenses

- The applicable period for which campaign expenditure limits apply is 3 months before election day - **11 July**
- Candidates required to provide details of electoral expenses incurred before or after the applicable period to Electoral Officer – pro-rata expenses for activity outside the 3 months
- Electoral expenses and electoral donation returns required within 55 days after the official result declaration – **approx 11 December**
- Deposit not refunded until the return is completed (provided candidate gets more than 25% of the votes of the lowest successful candidate)
- Electoral expenses and electoral donations returns are public documents
- EO must make expenses documents available on Council website for **7 years**
- See pages 22-24 of the Handbook

Ngā Hēanga Pōtitanga | Election Offences

- See page 51 – Appendix 6
- Imitation Voting Paper – examples next slide
- Bribery
- Treating
 - Can't provide food, alcohol, drinks, entertainment as an inducement to vote (light refreshments after a meeting is ok)
 - **Can't give away a pen, note pad, fridge magnet or item of value**
- Undue Influence – can't stand over someone telling them how to vote, or post or deliver someone else's voting paper
- Unauthorised advertisements
- Illegal nomination – e.g. candidate with a court order
- Any formal complaint passed straight to the Police

Ngā Tohu Pōti | Example of Signs



VOTE

1 FRED DAGG

**FOR THE
TOWN WARD**

**"OPEN GOVERNMENT
ALL HOURS"**

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS AUTHORISED BY JOHN SMITH OF
12 THIRD STREET WELLINGTON



VOTE

1 FRED DAGG
BLUE PARTY

2 TED SNOW
RED PARTY

3 SUE DOE
YELLOW PARTY

4 BILLY BOB
PURPLE PARTY

**FRED DAGG
FOR THE
TOWN WARD**

**"OPEN GOVERNMENT
ALL HOURS"**

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS AUTHORISED BY JOHN SMITH OF
12 THIRD STREET WELLINGTON

MAYOR Michael again!
FEYEN TELLS IT... LIKE IT IS!





I'LL DO MY BEST
BUT I CAN'T
PROMISE
ANYTHING


VOTE

MARK SHEAFF
For Local Council



Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe
2025 Local Government Elections
PART 5

Election process and results



Rārangi Pukapuka Pōti | Electoral Rolls

Preliminary Electoral Roll

- available for public inspection from 4 July to 5pm Friday 1 August
- at libraries and council office
- includes the ratepayer roll
- **Cannot** be provided electronically to candidates

Final Electoral Roll

- produced following the EC update
- is the roll used for issuing voting papers
- can purchase hard copy for \$200 (plus GST) for full roll or \$50 per ward

Pōti Motuhake | Special Voting

- Available for anyone who spoils, loses, or does not receive their voting paper or enrolls after 1 August
- Available for electors on the unpublished roll
- Available from 9 September to 12 noon on election day, 11 October
- Available at Te Awe Library, 29 Brandon Street, or can be posted out
- At Te Awe Library and special voting hubs on Saturday 11 October
- Applicants can come in or contact EO by phone or email
- Candidates cannot collect special voting documents on behalf of electors

Otinga Pōtitanga | Election Results

Preliminary count occurs from 12 noon, Saturday 11 October

Progress results: expected about 3pm – approx 90% of votes received (not special votes and votes in transit to processing centre).

Progress results (available about 5pm):

- Will be available from Council's website
- Email to all candidates with email address
- Candidates personally rung by Council staff

Preliminary results: expected late on Sunday 12 October, after all ordinary votes have been processed

Final results: expected by Thursday 16 October, after special votes have been processed

Nau mai ki tō tūnga | Coming into Office

- All members come into office on the day following the day on which the candidates are declared to be elected
- This is the day after the result declaration is posted on Council's website - expected to be Friday 17 October
- Successful candidates contacted by CE/staff
- Council's inaugural meeting and the "swearing in" of elected members (elected candidates cannot act until this has occurred) – scheduled for late October 2025.
- Orientation sessions will take place from 14 October to mid November 2025.
- Councillors-elect are expected to be in the office for each orientation session (Tuesdays-Thursdays) following the election. Community Board members-elect are able to attend orientation sessions at their discretion and will have a community board specific session, timing to be confirmed.

Rauemi | Resources

Candidate Handbook and nomination papers

Council's Pre-election report – available from 8 July

- To inform the community and candidates on key aspects of Council business
- To set out major projects and expenditure for next 3 years
- To promote discussion on issues and inform any elections debate

Long-Term Plan

Legislation (LEA, LER)

Council's website (for election information)

Kupu Whakamutunga | Last word

- No Online Voting
- Lots of Orange Voting Bins
- Get your nominations in early
- Campaigning – stick to your own promotions
- Keep yourself safe
- Election results – on websites/email – progress/prelim/final
- Election day – **Saturday 11 October 2025**
- Good luck!!