2019 Elections for Wellington City Council

Warwick Lampp
Chief Electoral Officer - electionz.com
WCC Electoral Officer
Electoral Team

- *electionz.com Ltd* contracted by Wellington City Council
- **Warwick Lampp** - WCC Electoral Officer
- **Dominic Tay** - WCC Deputy Electoral Officer
- **Jack Phillips** - WCC Electoral Official
- **Émilie Joyal** – WCC Electoral Official
Who are electionz.com?

- Warwick Lampp, electionz.com, lives in Tauranga
- Election services company based in Christchurch
- 10 full time staff
- Average about 200 elections in NZ each year
- EO for 33 councils, 4 RCs and 10 DHBs
- Carrying out vote processing for 42 councils, 650K voting papers
- Vote Processing centre in Christchurch

EO for:

- BOPRC, GWRC, ECAN, ORC plus ten DHBs including CCDHB
2019 Local Government Elections

PART ONE

What is local government all about?
What is Local Government all about?

It’s a complex business! Under 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 various 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 Wellington City Plan
• Ensuring local communities are encouraged to be part of the decision-making processes of local government
• Ensuring effective succession of Elected Members
What is being an elected member all about?

• Standing for Council is a big deal!
• Not to be taken lightly, it is an important responsibility
• There to represent and lead the city – eyes and ears
• Representation, advocacy, governance
• Skill set in candidate handbook – page 9
Job description

• Represent interests of council
• 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 only
Core competencies

• Genuine interest for issues faced by Wellington citizens
• 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
• Think “city-wide” on issues
• Commit to elected members’ Code of Conduct
Council meetings

• In 2016-19 triennium:
• Council meetings held every month, other major committees all other weeks
• Currently approx 19 various committees, subcommittees, working parties, advisory groups, etc.
• Total 94 meetings for 2018/19
• Generally mayor is full time job, councillor is approx 3-5 days per week
• Untold reading of reports and agendas
• Flexible working hours – evening and weekend work required
Remuneration

Remuneration Authority allocates a “governance pool” and sets minimum councillor remuneration. New Council needs to decide how it wants to allocate the additional “governance pool” funding (e.g., to reflect higher duties for Deputy Mayor, chairpersons, etc.)

Minimum remuneration (2019/20) is as follows:

- Mayor $180,500 pa
- Councillor $86,874 pa
- $368,916 remaining to be allocated
PART TWO

2019 Election Details
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: The EO is not responsible for monitoring campaigning by candidates. Only deals with alleged breaches of the Act by passing them to the Police.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Election Period starts</td>
<td>12 July (Friday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominations open</td>
<td>19 July (Friday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominations close</td>
<td>12 noon, 16 August (Friday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral signs can go up</td>
<td>31 August (Saturday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery of voting papers</td>
<td>20 – 25 September (Friday-Wednesday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special voting period</td>
<td>20 September - 12 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal of election signs</td>
<td>midnight 11 October (Friday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close of voting</td>
<td>12 noon, 12 October (Saturday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress results available</td>
<td>12 October, approx 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official declaration</td>
<td>likely to be 17 October (Thursday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candidate expenses deadline</td>
<td>probably 12 December (Thursday)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STV (Single Transferable Vote)

WCC’s election is STV in 2019

- STV is all about ranking candidates you wish to vote for in your order of preference, ie:
  - Write a “1” beside the name you most prefer
  - Write a “2” beside the name of your second most preferred candidate, and so on....

- You can rank as many or as few candidates as you wish
- If there is someone you don’t want elected at all, don’t give them a ranking
- You must only write one number 1, one number 2 etc
- You must not give the same ranking to more than one candidate
- Do not vote with a X or a tick
- If a sequence is broken or doubled up, rankings up to that point are counted
PART THREE

The Nomination Process
Nominations will be called for:

**Mayor**

**Councillors – election of 14 councillors from FIVE wards**
- Motukairangi/Eastern Ward  
- Pukehīnau/Lambton Ward  
- Takapū/Northern Ward  
- Wharangi/Onslow-Western Ward  
- Paekawakawa/Southern Ward  

**Community Board members**
- Makara/Ohariu Community Board  
- Tawa Community Board  

**Greater Wellington Regional Council**
- Wellington Constituency  
- Porirua-Tawa Constituency

**Capital and Coast District Health Board**  

**Hutt Mana Charitable Trust**

All elections are STV and have random order of candidate names
Nomination Process

Nomination Period – 4 weeks
• Nominations open Friday 19 July
• Nominations close at midday Friday 16 August

All nomination documents must be submitted together
• Nom paper, profile statement, photo, evidence of $200 deposit
• Must provide evidence of NZ Citizenship (passport, birth cert)
• EITHER bring to Arapaki Manners Library and Service Centre, 12 Manners Street
• OR scan/email to the DEO – dominic.tay@wcc.govt.nz
• Cannot put nom paper in first week, leave profile till last week
• Will accept online banking of deposits – evidence required
• Cheques will not be accepted
• 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
Nomination Process (continued)

Candidate **must** state if standing in any other elections in NZ
- **Mayor, Ward, Community Board, Licensing Trusts, DHB, other TAs?**
- **Is shown at top of profile statement**
- **Is not included in the 150 words**
- **Applies to standing anywhere in NZ**
- **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 Level 2, 15 Walter Street, Te Aro**
- **CCDHB nominations to WCC, 12 Manners Street**
LOCAL ELECTIONS 2016

The Electoral Officer
Tauranga City Council
Private Bag 770114
Orchard Road
Christchurch 8154

Tauranga City Council
ELECTING THE MAYOR

PPP - This is a First Past the Post Election

Tick ✓ the circle next to one (1) candidate you want to vote for.
The candidate names are listed randomly for this election.

You can vote in up to 5 elections using this voting document
Tauranga City Council
- Mayor
- At Large
- Mount Maunganui-Papamoa Ward
Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Tauranga General Constituency)
Bay of Plenty District Health Board

How to vote
Please read the instructions carefully.
There are two types of electoral system used for these elections
✓ the First Past the Post system where you tick candidate names
the Single Transferable Voting system where you rank the candidates using numbers

If you make a mistake that you can't correct clearly, contact the electoral office and ask for a new voting document.
The candidate's names may not be in alphabetical order for all elections.
Warning - it is an offence under the Local Electoral Act to interfere in any way with any person who is about to vote with the intention...
COUNCILLOR - AT LARGE
TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL 2019 NOMINATION PAPER

Nominations must be in the hands of the Electoral Office Official before 12 noon, Friday 16 August 2019

A: CANDIDATE to fill out after reading important information on reverse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(CANDIDATE’S FULL NAME)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accept the nomination and confirm that I have read and understood the Eligibility and Candidacy Notes on the reverse of this form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I understand that, as a candidate, I am bound by the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Being a NZ citizen and a NZ Parliament elector, and I am not:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Convicted or imprisoned for a term of over 3 years, with the Council or have been dropped from the rolls of the Council and Auditor-General, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I am not subject to a property order made under section 39 of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• I am not disqualified under section 38 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Address (as listed on the electoral roll): 
Email (if preferred point of contact): 

Mobile phone: 
Home phone: 

I understand that the details provided on this nomination paper will be publicly available for election purposes.

Please contact the Electoral Office at the time of filing your nomination if you are certain about details that you would not like to be published.

RETURN, PAYMENT AND REFUND DETAILS

Return by post to: The Electoral Office, Tauranga City Council, Private Bag 12022, Tauranga 3143

or, deliver to: Tauranga City Council’s Customer Service Centre at 91 Wharf St, Tauranga

or, email to: tauranga@elecnoz.com

Payment can be made by cash or eftpos directly at the Tauranga City Council offices at 32 The Square, Parnell Road, or you are returning this form by mail or by online banking using the details provided below.

Account name: Tauranga City Council
Bank: National Bank
Account number: 06-0303 021747 09
Particulars/Reference: ELECTION

Date: (Yeast and surname)

Nominations must be in the hands of the Electoral Office Official before 12 noon, Friday 16 August 2019.

Any amendment or correction to this nomination form must be submitted at the same time. For assistance please call the helpline: 0800 380 149

ELECTORAL OFFICIAL to fill out

Resident address: 
Postcode: 
Date of birth: 

Candidate #: 20

First Nominee #: 20

[Signature of Electoral Officer]
A: 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 declare I am qualified to be a candidate by:

- being a NZ citizen and a NZ parliamentary election and I am not;
- concerned or interested in contracts over $25,000 with the Council or I have obtained prior approval from the office of The Controller and Auditor-General; and;
- I am not subject to a property order made under section 31 of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988 and
- I am not disqualified under section 58 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

Address (as listed on the parliamentary roll):

Email (EO’s preferred first point of contact):

Mobile phone:    Home phone:

I understand that the details provided on this nomination paper will be publicly available for election purposes.

Please advise the Electoral Officer at the time of lodging your nomination if there are certain details that you would not like to be published.

Note: Section 55(5) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that this nomination form be available for public inspection at Tauranga City Council’s Customer Service Centre at 91 Willow St, Tauranga. Please note that candidate and nominator details provided on this form may also be available from the Tauranga City Council’s website.

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

- Evidence of NZ citizenship
- Evidence of deposit ($2000)
- Photo
- Profile statement

I understand that, in not providing 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. All nomination documents must be submitted at the same time.

My principal place of residence (tick ONE circle):

- Is WITHIN the Tauranga City area
- Is NOT WITHIN the Tauranga City area

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).

Signature:    Date:
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
• Stand for GWRC and WCC
• Stand for more than one ward
• Have interest in a contract over $25K per year with council

CAN STAND:
• For DHB and the council (can also stand for mayor)
• For mayor and councillor and CB
• If a council employee but must resign if elected if elected mayor or councillor (but not CB)
• If you live outside area, but must state that on nomination paper
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
Candidate Profile Statements

• May be provided (not mandatory) – see page 17
• If provided, must be provided electronically with the other nomination documents, as an email attachment (MS Word) or on a pen drive
• Up to 150 words about the candidate, their policies and intentions
• Cannot comment on policies etc of any other candidate
• Hand written profiles will not be accepted
• Profiles and photos should 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
• Photos in colour, within last 12 months, head and shoulders shot only (no hats, sunglasses, children, pets or friends)
• Photos should be supplied electronically as jpps, scanned at 600 dpi
• Profiles on WCC website as soon as ready after close of nominations
• Candidate contact details on WCC website after close of nominations
Example Profile Statement

Wellington City Council

ELECTING THE MAYOR

Celia WADE-BROWN
a good choice for Wellington

My principal place of residence is not in the Wellington City Council area.

I am also standing for the Northern Ward and the Capital and Coast DHB.

Celia Wade-Brown is an approachable, fair and inclusive leader. Her positive Council contribution, community work and business background offer a good combination of skills. She has protected heritage and open space, led significant energy and water...
Campaigning

• Can commence any time

• Generally no rules around campaigning or conduct, but:
  – Can’t use council resources for campaigning (logo, branding, colours, WCC FB or twitter feed, photos, council buildings)
  – Voting papers cannot be collected from electors by candidates or their assistants

• 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 physical address
  – Not a PO Box, Private Bag, rural number, website address, council’s street address
  – 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!
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
• WCC 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
• During the lead up to elections, the current Mayor and Councillors may be used in social media posts where it is appropriate and is considered ‘business as usual’ to use them.
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
- No sharing / reposting of WCC posts with electioneering comments

You cannot electioneer on Council’s channels, or piggyback on their audiences

WCC social media channels are all channels managed by WCC staff or CCOs, including Wellington City Council, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Neighbourly, Instagram and YouTube
Election signs

• See page 19 of candidate handbook
• Election signs can go up from Saturday 31 August (6 weeks prior to election day)
• Must comply with WCC hoardings policy re size and placement – see Public Places Bylaw
• Can be on private land, but only for six weeks
• One sign per candidate per site
• NZTA rules apply for State Highways
• 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 made to WCC’s Enforcement Officers – not the EO or DEO
Electoral Donations

• No time limit on when donations are received, every donation to be recorded
• You don’t have to accept a donation – be careful of reason for donation
• Must be included in candidate expenditure return
• No such thing as an “anonymous” donation if you know who it has come from:
  – someone can’t give a donation and ask for it to be treated anonymously
  – anonymous means you don’t know who it came from, can’t reasonably work it out
  – a third party who passes on a donation must disclose who the donor is
• An anonymous donation cannot be over $1,500:
  – if it is, candidate can’t keep balance over $1,500, it must be given to EO to pass onto council
  – a donation made up of contributions (e.g. to a trust) is treated as one donation, and can’t be over $1,500
  – it is an offence to circumvent $1,500 limit, i.e. by deliberately splitting up a donation into smaller contributions.
Election Expenditure Limits

- Wellington Mayorality $60,000
- Motukairangi/Eastern and Paekawakawa/Southern Wards $20,000
- Pukehīnau/Lambton, Takapū/Northern and Wharangi/Onslow-Western Wards $30,000
- Makara-Ohariu Community Board $3,500
- Tawa Community Board $14,000
Election Expenses

• If standing for more than one position the higher limit applies
• The applicable period for which campaign expenditure limits apply is 3 months before election day - **12 July 2019**
• 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 – about 12 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 page 22 of the Handbook
Election Offences

• See page 47
• 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
Example of Signs

VOTE
1 FRED DAGG
FOR THE TOWN WARD
“OPEN GOVERNMENT AT ALL HOURS”
THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS AUTHORISED BY JOHN SMITH OF 12 THIRD STREET WELLINGTON

VOTE
1 FRED DAGG
BLUE PARTY
2 JOHN SNOW
RED PARTY
3 JANE DOE
WHITE PARTY
4 BILL BLOB
PURPLE PARTY
“OPEN GOVERNMENT AT ALL HOURS”
THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS AUTHORISED BY JOHN SMITH OF 12 THIRD STREET WELLINGTON
PART FIVE

Election Process and Results
Electoral Rolls

Preliminary Electoral Roll
• available for public inspection from 19 July to 5pm Friday 16 August 2019
• at Arapaki Manners Library and Service Centre and suburban branch libraries
• includes the ratepayer roll
• Cannot be provided electronically to candidates

Final Electoral Roll
• produced following the Electoral Commission’s update campaign
• is the roll used for issuing voting papers
• can purchase hard copy for $80 (plus GST) for full roll or $20 per ward
Special Voting

- Available for anyone who spoils, loses, or does not receive their voting paper or enrols after 16 August
- Available for electors on the unpublished roll
- Available from 20 September to 12 noon on election day, 12 October 2019
- Available at the Council office, or can be posted out
- Applicants can come in or contact DEO by phone or email
- Candidates cannot collect special voting documents on behalf of electors
Election Results

• Preliminary count occurs from 12 noon, Saturday 12 October 2019

• **Progress results** expected about 5pm – approx 98% of votes received (not special votes and votes in transit to processing centre).

• Progress results:
  – Will be available from council’s website
  – email to all candidates with email address

• **Preliminary results** expected late on Sunday 13 October, after all ordinary votes have been processed

• **Final results** expected by Thursday 17 October, after special votes have been processed
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 public notice has been published - expected to be Friday 18 or Saturday 19 October
• Successful candidates contacted by mayor/staff
• Council’s inaugural meeting and the “swearing in” of elected members (elected candidates cannot act until this has occurred)
Resources

WCC candidate handbook and nomination papers.

LGNZ 'Making a Stand' booklet.

WCC’s Pre-election report – available from 7 August 2019:
• 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

Legislation (LEA, LER)

Council's website (for election information):
• GWRC candidate handbook
• MOH/DHB “Information for Candidates” booklet and CCDHB candidate handbook
Last word

• No Online Voting

• Campaigning – anything goes...

• Election results – on websites/email – progress/prelim/final

• Election day – Saturday 12 October 2019

• Good luck!!