



Making a stand **made easy**

A candidate's guide to local government

**Local Government
New Zealand**

te pūtahi matakōkiri



Kia ora



Welcome to local government.

It's great that you are interested in standing for public office. This can involve being a mayor, councillor, local board or community board member, or district health board member*, all of whom have a special role in shaping our community.

*For more information on standing as a district health board member see www.moh.govt.nz.



Lawrence Yule

President, *Local Government New Zealand*

Local government exists to provide for the well-being of communities and must lead, nurture and respond to community views. It is important that councils represent their communities and operate effectively and efficiently. The key principle for local democracy is that the power of decision-making should rest as close as possible to the communities affected by those decisions.

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) believes that local democracy is about:

- having the right mix of people, elected locally, to best represent each community
- ensuring services are provided to the community in the best way possible
- taking a collective approach to meeting community needs
- creating a sense of local identity and place.

Democracy only works where citizens are prepared to stand and contribute to the public good and, to be effective, elected

members need to reflect the diversity of our communities.

All you need to be an elected member, apart from being a New Zealand citizen and enrolled on the parliamentary electoral roll, is a willingness to participate and a commitment to serve your local community. Elected members take an oath to faithfully, impartially and according to their best skill and judgement, execute and perform their duties in the interests of the community, city, district or region.

The role of an elected member can be very demanding at times, but it is also very rewarding. I am pleased that you are considering standing for election and hope this publication gives you valuable information to help you on your way. If you would like more information please check out our website at www.lgnz.co.nz or speak to the electoral officer of the local council in the area you want to stand in.

Good luck.

What is local government?

Regional and territorial authorities and their functions

Local government provides communities with a wide range of services and facilities which contribute significantly to quality of life. We often associate councils with the three “Rs” – roads, rates and rubbish – but councils do much more. They play a vital role in enabling local communities to grow and develop.

Councils plan for the future of their communities, they determine what developments and activities are permissible and regulate activities such as subdivisions, housing developments, business activities, and animal and environmental protection.

Councils’ primary source of funding comes from property taxes or rates as they are more commonly known. Rates fund around 60 per cent of all council activities.

In New Zealand, regional and territorial authorities have different functions and responsibilities. Some parts of New Zealand are covered by regions. There are 11 regional councils which manage the natural resources of an area. This includes:

- biosecurity control (including pest control and noxious plants)
- resource management (quality of water, soil, coastal planning, etc)
- flood and river management
- civil defence (natural disasters, marine oil spill)
- regional transport planning and passenger transport services.

As from 1 November 2010 New Zealand will have 67 territorial authorities including 11 city councils and 51 district councils and 5 unitary councils. The functions of territorial authorities (district and city councils) include:

- community well-being and development
- environmental health and safety (including building control, civil defence, and environmental health matters)
- infrastructure (roading and transport, sewerage, water/stormwater)
- recreation and culture
- resource management, including land use planning and development control.

Five territorial authorities are known as ‘unitary authorities’, as they have the responsibilities of both territorial authorities and regional councils. The unitary councils are Auckland Council, Nelson City Council, Tasman District Council, Marlborough District Council and Gisborne District Council.

Councils have the ability, following consultation, to transfer functions between regional and territorial authorities, so who does what may vary from place to place.

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Note: there have been significant changes to the structure of local government in the Auckland region following the enactment of the Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009 and the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009. The Auckland Council is a new model of local government for New Zealand. From 1 November 2010, Auckland Council will have two non-hierarchical complementary decision-making parts: the Mayor and 20 councillors (known as the governing body) and local boards.

Under this new model of governance there will no longer be community boards in the Auckland region. The governing body and local boards have different but complementary responsibilities. In this document, in the Auckland context, references to council cover responsibilities of both the governing body and local boards.

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Council responsibilities

Councils are required to contribute to the good governance of their communities and make decisions promoting the community's social, cultural, environmental, and economic well-being.

A council must:

- provide directly or on behalf of central government, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community
- ensure that the services provided are managed efficiently and effectively
- exercise community leadership
- exercise its functions in a manner that is consistent with and actively promotes the principle of cultural diversity
- manage, protect, develop, restore, enhance and conserve the environment
- account for and manage assets for which it is responsible
- facilitate involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and coordination of local government
- raise funds for local purposes by way of rates, charges and fees and investments, loans and grants
- keep the local community informed about its activities
- ensure that in the exercise of its regulatory functions it acts without bias
- act as a responsible employer.

What is governance?

Governance, in a council sense, involves providing leadership for the good of the community. It is about balancing views, resources and needs and making decisions that are best for the community. It is not about implementing decisions - that is the responsibility of council management and staff.

Councils have two major governance roles:

- being the governing body for the council organisation
- a bylaw-making and regulatory role.

The key governance responsibilities of councils are to:

- connect with the community
- set policies
- monitor and review the performance of the organisation.

Council structures

Local authorities, other than the new Auckland Council, are governed by the council, also known as the 'committee of the whole'.

The Auckland Transition Agency describes the Auckland Council as a new model of local government for New Zealand. Auckland Council will have two non-hierarchical complementary decision-making parts: the Mayor and 20 councillors (known as the governing body) and local boards. Under this new model of governance, there will no longer

be community boards. The governing body and local boards have different but complementary responsibilities.

The governing body of the Auckland Council will be responsible for region-wide strategic decisions, regional issues, activities and facilities. Local boards will make decisions on local issues, activities and facilities.

A council has the discretion to appoint any standing committee, special committee or subcommittee it considers appropriate. Standing committees (or permanent committees) are responsible for much of the work the council does. They are responsible for a council's regulatory services, planning, recreation and safety, as well as promoting economic development, although some councils now operate without committees.

Many councils have community boards. Community boards exist to make sure that a community's interests are being adequately represented and to bring decision-making closer to the citizens themselves (depending on the functions and responsibilities delegated to them by the council).

Who makes decisions?

Elected members are responsible for making decisions on matters such as the services the council will provide, the standard they are provided to, how they will be paid for and what bylaws need to be made. Councils have a chief executive and other staff to provide advice and implement these decisions. Most decisions are made in formally constituted meetings or made under delegation by staff.

Is the public entitled to attend council meetings?

Absolutely. The public is entitled to attend all meetings of council and council committees, local boards and community boards. Public access to meetings ensures transparency and accountability as well as providing a mechanism for the community to give direct feedback to the council.

Councils, local boards and community boards do have the right to discuss some matters in private such as matters of individual privacy or commercial sensitivity. They may also elect to hold workshops to debate and find out more about an issue and these are usually held in private.



Council roles

There are a number of clearly defined roles within council:

- mayors and regional council chairs
- deputy mayors and deputy chairs
- committee and subcommittee members
- committee chairs
- councillors
- local board chairs
- local board members
- community board chairs
- community board members.

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What roles do elected members fulfil?

Mayor

The role of mayor is important as the ceremonial head of the council providing leadership to other elected members and the organisation. The job is varied, involves long hours, and a wide range of duties such as chairing meetings, taking a public stand on local issues and always being available to the constituents. The size of the job differs depending on the size of the town/city and the size of the council itself. The mayor is elected at large and has the same responsibilities as other members of council in addition to his/her responsibility to chair council meetings. A mayor might also have a casting vote.

The mayor of Auckland Council has enhanced responsibilities, in comparison to other mayors. These responsibilities include promoting a vision for Auckland, providing leadership to achieve the vision, leading the development of council plans, policies and budgets, appointing the deputy mayor and committee chairs, establishing committees of the governing body and ensuring effective engagement between Auckland Council and the people of Auckland.

One of the most challenging aspects of being mayor is ensuring the orderly conduct of business during council meetings. By keeping order and providing sound leadership you help ensure the council decision-making process works at its best. The mayor is often the spokesperson for the council as well.

In addition to these roles, the mayor also fulfils the responsibilities of a Justice of the Peace (while holding office).

Chairperson of regional council

The chairperson is elected by councillors at the regional council's first meeting following the local elections. The chairperson shares the same responsibilities as other members of the council but must also chair council meetings and may have a casting vote. In addition to this the chairperson has a number of other roles, including, the ceremonial head of the council, the presiding member at council meetings and responsibility for ensuring meetings are conducted in an orderly manner.

The chairperson advocates on behalf of the regional community by promoting and representing its interests and providing leadership and feedback to fellow elected members. In addition to these roles the chairperson also fulfils the responsibilities of a Justice of the Peace (while holding office).

Councillor

The role of councillor can, at times, be very demanding. You will have to balance a number of competing interests and wear a number of hats, as councillors can be required to act simultaneously as community leaders, representatives and community board members. NB: members of the Auckland Council's governing body may not be members of the local boards.

For the three year term councillors need to juggle work, the community's demands, your own priorities, the policies of your political team (if you have one) and the challenges facing your council.

Being a councillor is a very public role. Whenever councillors appear in public, even though it may not be in an official capacity, they are usually regarded as a 'councillor' and judged accordingly. This role is not a 9am-5pm job.

The role and responsibilities of a councillor fall into two main categories:

- being a member of the governing body of the council
- being an elected representative of the community.

Local board members

Under the new governance arrangements for the Auckland region, local boards will have a significant and wide-ranging role. They will make decisions on a wide range of local government matters at the local level, provide local leadership and build strong local communities. Local boards will provide important local input into region-wide strategies and plans.

Local boards will also have an important role in the Auckland Council's planning process. Every three years local boards must prepare a local board plan that will inform the Auckland Council's Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP). Based on its local board plan each board negotiates, annually, an agreement with

the governing body on the delivery and funding of services in the local area.

Community board members

Most, but not all, councils have community boards, which are elected in tandem with the election of the mayor and councillors. The role of community board members will vary depending on the level of responsibility delegated to them by their parent council. At the least community boards make recommendations to councils on policies, bylaws, and strategies reflecting the views of the communities they represent.

The primary role of a community board member is to represent and advocate for the interests of their communities, liaise with community organisations and government departments and maintain an overview of the local services provided by the council. Community boards can also make written and oral submissions to council on various issues.

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What are the responsibilities of an elected member?

Governance

As a member of the governing body you are required to participate in the decision-making processes that guide and govern the affairs of the council. This includes:

- establishing a policy framework
- deciding on the financial resources to be raised to deliver your programme
- ensuring council is fulfilling its regulatory functions in an appropriate manner
- adopting a long term plan to fulfil statutory responsibilities and community expectations
- regularly reviewing the council's performance.

As a member of an Auckland local board you are required to participate in decision-making processes that guide and govern the affairs of the council at the local level. This includes:

- preparing, every three years, a local board plan that will inform the Auckland Council's LTCCP
- negotiating, annually, an agreement with the governing body on the delivery and funding of services in the local area
- taking oversight of local services and activities
- providing local input into region-wide strategies and plans
- making decisions on local non-regulatory activities

- developing and proposing local bylaws
- exercising responsibilities, including regulatory responsibilities, under delegation from the governing body.

Representing the community

As an elected representative you are required to:

- represent the interests of the residents and ratepayers
- provide leadership and guidance to the community
- facilitate communication between the council and the community
- promote the overall interests of the council to external stakeholders.

An elected member may be concerned with a wide range of issues, such as the right level of investment in community infrastructure, the provision of community services, initiatives to enhance community safety and decisions to protect important aspects of the environment.

You will often be expected to speak on behalf of individuals and organisations in your community and this may include people who didn't vote for you. You won't be able to please all the people all of the time. This is because you will often be making decisions that take into account the wider context, such as the needs of future generations (and this may not please everyone in your community).

What is important is that you, as an elected member, take steps to identify and understand the needs and aspirations of people in the community and explain to them the reasons for decisions made by the council.

Political accountability

Local government is independent of central government and not accountable to the Minister of Local Government. Instead elected members are accountable to their communities for the decisions they make and the way in which they make them.

Communities hold elected members to account by voting every three years and by participating in consultation opportunities as required by the law. Parliamentary officers, such as the Ombudsman and the Auditor-General, ensure that councils operate in an open and transparent manner.

Leadership

Elected members are expected to show leadership in order for their communities to be successful and thrive. Local government's legislation requires councils to focus on outcomes and councils are encouraged to exercise leadership and work with other agencies in order to achieve each community's outcomes.

Being an effective leader requires effective communication skills and an ability to work in a team. This means sharing your vision with your fellow elected members

in order to gain their support. Remember, successful governing requires a team and your effectiveness depends on your ability to take others with you.

An important leadership task is the preparation and adoption of the council's Long Term Council Community Plan every three years. This plan sets out the council's vision and the steps it plans to take over the next 10 years to achieve it. In preparing the plan elected members face making trade-offs between meeting today's needs and those of future generations.

Finding a balance

Generally elected members hold particular views on certain issues and often campaign on them. It is these views that are endorsed by the community at election time. However, after the election, elected members are required to recognise and consider the views of all residents and ratepayers in their council, local board or community board area when they make decisions. In making decisions they must have an open mind with no bias.

Successful elected members balance the mandate provided by their electors with the need to make decisions on behalf of the whole community and future generations.

Day-to-day life

Life as an elected member is largely dictated by the frequency of, and preparation for, meetings. At times the sheer volume of business papers can seem daunting.

Although the time required attending meetings may only occupy a few hours you will spend much more time preparing for those meetings. In addition, there are always informal duties such as interviewing constituents, talking to the media, attending functions and speaking engagements, as well as managing the rest of your life.

It is essential that people in the community have an opportunity to contribute their views and ideas to council discussions. Elected members are expected to be accessible and will spend a lot of time meeting with community representatives. Even more time will be spent reading and responding to correspondence from local citizens and groups. Some of the work may impact on an elected member's personal or family life, such as phone calls at odd hours and meetings after hours.

How much does an elected member get paid?

Elected members are paid in two ways. Depending on the council, payment will be by a salary or a part salary plus meeting allowances. Salaries and allowances vary depending on the size of each council. The Remuneration Authority determines remuneration levels for each council and approves each council's approach to reimbursing elected members. Some expenses, such as mileage, are also paid.

The remuneration system for local board members in Auckland is yet to be settled.

Community board members receive a salary rather than meeting allowances. However, they may receive mileage reimbursement and other expenses as determined by the council with approval from the Remuneration Authority.

Elected members are expected to be accessible to all members of their communities.

How much time is involved in being an elected member?

The time commitments vary markedly depending on the position you are elected to. Many mayors find that the commitment is a fulltime one. Most councils have monthly meeting cycles, but elected members are usually placed on council committees. The amount of time per week that an elected member spends on council duties will depend on the number of responsibilities they have in their role and the size of the council.

The amount of time per week that a local board member, in Auckland, spends on local board duties will also depend on the responsibilities they have in their role. Local board chairs may have to officiate at civic functions, such as citizenship ceremonies as well as other local board duties. Local boards will have regular meetings and may choose to set up local board committees.

The work of community board members will also vary according to the size and population of their community and the range of delegated functions they are responsible for. Community board chairs can expect to work up to 20 hours a week while community board members might work up to 10 hours a week.

Elected members are expected to be accessible to all members of their communities and should expect to spend a lot of time meeting with local organisations, such as neighbourhood associations and business organisations.



What skills and qualities will I need?

Skills

The following are some of the skills you need to be an effective elected member.

Time management

The most important resource you have is your time. Being an elected member is a busy enough job in itself, let alone if you are also involved in other projects and trying to find time for family and friends.

Do not let paperwork and emails spiral out of control. Learn to prioritise. You should use your time to reflect your priorities. If you can manage your time effectively you may have more time to catch up on reading and policy issues.

Listening

Listening is hard work and the least valued of all skills, yet it's the most important.

Listen to what people say and watch the way they say it, people will give out all sorts of information by what they do and don't say.

Relationship building

Building productive relationships with others is a critical skill. Be pragmatic and strategic about networking. Think in advance about the kinds of people you want to work with.

They may have skills you don't have or they may have access to people or information that will be useful. Everyone can benefit from networking.

Good networking means building working relationships with all types of people. Try and understand other peoples' points of view. Listen with respect, be polite and courteous.

Influencing and negotiating

Being successful in local government depends on effective negotiating and influencing. To get things done you need to win hearts and minds and winning over people relies on selling your ideas. Being an effective elected member means being an effective team player.

Media skills

Being an elected member is a public role and it is likely you will need to work with the media at some stage. Working with the media will require good preparation and it can be quite time-consuming. However, think of the media as an opportunity to put your point of view across.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT

As part of its KnowHow professional development programme *Local Government New Zealand* provides a training module on the subject of managing the media. Visit www.lgnz.co.nz for more information.

Qualities

In January 2001, the Local Government Commissioner for Rodney District prepared a Code of Governance based on established best practice. This is a useful set of values for all elected members to consider.

Faithful

Elected members must act in the interests of the community within their powers. Councillors should always promote the integrity of the council's decision-making process and where a councillor takes part in an activity that conflicts with their governance duties, they must declare a conflict of interest and not participate in the council's decision-making on this activity.

Impartial

Elected members must listen carefully to advice and weigh up the pros and cons before making recommendations or decisions. Councillors need to take into account the interests of the whole community rather than one small group.

Just

Elected members must make sure that everyone and all groups get a 'fair go'.

Prudent

Available resources often don't meet the expectations of the community. Existing resources must be managed prudently and elected members should consider sustainability when making decisions.

Responsible

Elected members should work hard to promote issues or actions that they believe are right for the public good.

Efficient

Elected members have an obligation to perform duties to the best of their ability.

Open

Elected members should be proactive in giving out information about council decisions and activities.

Representative

Elected members need to establish a balance between acting on the wishes of individuals and groups and their own view of what is best for the whole community.

Temperate

In debate, elected members should argue the issue under discussion rather than attack the competence or ethics of the opposition.

Sincere

An elected member's words and actions should be a sincere representation of their purpose so as to maintain the public trust in the integrity of the democratic process.

Elected members should work hard to promote issues or actions that they believe are right for the public good.

How do I put my nomination in?

If you are interested in standing for election you need to meet the following requirements and complete the nomination process.

What are the requirements?

To be eligible to stand for election you do not need any special qualifications. You must be a New Zealand citizen and enrolled on the parliamentary electoral roll (anywhere in New Zealand) and have lived at your current address for at least one month. You do not need to live in the area in which you wish to stand.

You can stand for any of the following:

- your local council (mayor, councillor, local board or community board member if established)
- your regional council
- your local district health board
- district licensing trust (if established).

Combinations allowed

You can stand for your local council (including a local board or community board) and for a district health board at the same time. Or you can stand for regional council and a district health board at the same time.

The law prevents you from standing for both a regional council and a local council or community board position in the same region. However, you can stand for election for both a local council and a local board or community board at the same time, but if you are elected to both you must

vacate your position on the local board or community board. You can also stand for a district health board and a regional council or a local council (including a local board or community board).

And, if you wish, you can stand for mayor and for council. If you are elected to both, the position of councillor is filled by the next highest polling candidate.

You cannot stand for election in more than one ward, if the council elects its members under the ward system. If the council elects some of its members under the ward system and some under the at-large system you cannot stand as both a ward candidate and an at-large candidate. You cannot stand for more than one constituency.

You may stand for election if you are an employee of a council. However, if you are elected as a councillor or local board member in the local authority for which you work, you must resign your position as an employee of that local authority before taking up your position as an elected member. This does not apply to council employees elected to community boards. Serving police officers may not be elected members.

If you are employed you may need to talk to your employer about your intentions to stand for election including the implications of being successful. In some instances you may need to take leave from work while you campaign.

What is the nomination process?

You will need two people to nominate you (on the official nomination form) and send your completed form to the electoral officer for your local council. You must consent to your nomination going forward (by signing the nomination form) and you cannot nominate yourself. Those who nominate you must be over 18 years old and enrolled to vote in the area you wish to stand in. When you send in the nomination form you will need to pay a \$200 (incl GST) deposit.

The deposit may be refunded depending on how many votes you receive in the election and the particular type of election. The deposit is refunded if the number of votes you receive is greater than 25 per cent of the lowest successful candidate for that particular election (for First Past the Post elections) or greater than 25 per cent of the final quota as determined in the last iteration (for Single Transferable Voting elections).

When you submit your nomination forms you can also provide the electoral officer with a recent photograph of yourself and a 150 word profile statement. These will be published in a booklet and sent out with the voting documents.

Local Government Online (LGOL) runs a FREE elections portal at www.elections2010.co.nz – available mid-June. The website provides voters with information on the roles they are eligible to vote for and information on each candidate, in addition to being a central portal for election results across the country.

Each candidate has the ability to load:

- set length video, candidate statement and other information
- links to websites, blogs, twitter accounts
- ability to respond, along with other candidates for that role, to questions asked by voters; and
- the ability to load an acceptance speech that will be made publicly available once the successful candidate has been announced.

For more information about www.elections2010.co.nz contact gm@localgovt.co.nz. To be added to the LGOL Candidates listserv, email techdirector@localgovt.co.nz.

Nominations open on Friday 23 July 2010 and close at 12 noon on 20 August 2010. Nomination forms will be available from your local council's electoral office.

Will a criminal conviction affect my being an elected member?

A criminal conviction will not usually affect your nomination. The only exception to this is that people currently serving a prison term of three years or more cannot stand.

If you are elected and subsequently convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment for two years or more, you automatically lose office. However, if you are planning to stand for a district health board position, there are additional restrictions (see clause 17, schedule 2, New Zealand Public Health & Disability Act 2000). To be eligible to stand for election you do not need any special qualifications.

How does the election process work?

The local government elections will be conducted under the provisions of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Local Electoral Regulations 2001, the Local Government Act 2002, the New Zealand Public Health & Disability Act 2000 and their amendments. Most local government elections are conducted using the 'First Past the Post' system (FPP) so the candidate with the highest number of votes wins. This year six councils, in addition to all 21 district health boards, will use the Single Transferable Voting system (STV).

Elections for all local authorities throughout New Zealand are held every three years and are all conducted by postal vote. This year, election day will be Saturday 9 October 2010 and all votes have to be received by 12 noon on that date.

Your council will have an electoral officer to run the election. This person is often a council employee, although some councils employ contractors to conduct their elections. Sitting elected members and anyone standing for election cannot be an electoral officer.

People who are enrolled to vote by Friday 20 August 2010 will be sent their voting papers in the mail. An enrolment campaign will run from Monday 5 July 2010 to Friday 20 August 2010 to encourage people to enrol, check or update their enrolment details. Enrolment forms are available from the elections website www.elections.org.nz, by the electoral free texting their name and address to 3676, from PostShops or by calling 0800 ENROL NOW (0800 36 76 56).

People can also check their details and enrol online at the website.

Voting documents will be sent to all eligible voters by post from Friday 17 September 2010. Voters will have three weeks to complete and return their voting documents. Completed voting documents must be returned to the electoral officer by 12 noon on Saturday 9 October 2010.

A polling place for the issuing of special voting documents and for the receiving of completed voting documents will be available from Friday 17 September 2010 to 12 noon Saturday 9 October 2010. Contact your local council for information on local polling places.

Preliminary results will be announced by the electoral officer as soon as practicable after voting closes, to be followed by the official results within a few days. The electoral officer will also write to all candidates once the final election result is known. The term of office is for three years.

Successful elected members take up office on the day after the official declaration is publicly notified. However, before they can make any decisions, elected members must swear an oath of office (see the declaration). The oath for mayor and councillors is made at the first meeting of the new council and the oath for board members at the first meeting of the community or local board. This meeting is usually held within two weeks of the official declaration of election results.

The declaration

“I declare that I will faithfully and impartially, and according to the best of my skill and judgement, execute and perform, in the best interests of (region, district, community) the powers, authorities and duties vested in or imposed upon, me as (mayor, chairperson or member) of the (local authority, local board, community board) by virtue of the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 or any other Act.”

Key dates

Date	Activity
23 July	Candidate nominations open
23 July – 20 August	Receipt of candidate nominations
20 August	Candidate nominations close and roll closes
25 August	Public notice of candidates' names
17 – 22 September	Voting documents delivered
17 September – 9 October	Special voting period
18 September – 9 October	Scrutiny and early processing
9 October	Election Day – voting closes 12 noon
9 October	Preliminary results
11 – 20 October	Declaration of results
November	Cr swearing-in ceremonies

How can I find out more?

If you would like further information about your council, consider looking at its current Annual Plan or its Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP). These documents show what the council is doing and will generally include other useful information such as names and contact details of elected members and senior staff. The latest Annual Report will contain information on the finances of the council and how it performed. Your local library should have copies of these documents, or you can get copies from your council. If you would like more information on the STV or FPP electoral systems please contact the Department of Internal Affairs or visit their website www.dia.govt.nz.

To access the elections portal visit www.elections2010.co.nz from mid-June.

For sector-wide information and to find out what LGNZ is doing visit www.lgnz.co.nz.

For more detailed information on material in this booklet please contact your local council.

Ashburton District Council

www.ashburtondc.govt.nz

Auckland Council

www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

(website effective from 1 July 2010).

Prior to this date information will be located on the websites of current councils within the Auckland region.

Auckland City Council

www.aucklandcity.govt.nz

Auckland Regional Council

www.arc.govt.nz

Franklin District Council

www.franklindistrict.co.nz

North Shore City Council

www.northshorecity.govt.nz

Papakura District Council

www.papakura.govt.nz

Rodney District Council

www.rodney.govt.nz

Waitakere City Council

www.waitakere.govt.nz

Buller District Council

www.bullerdc.govt.nz

Carterton District Council

www.cartertondc.co.nz

Central Hawkes Bay District Council

www.chbdc.govt.nz



Central Otago District Council
www.codc.govt.nz

Chatham Islands District Council
www.cic.govt.nz

Christchurch City Council
www.ccc.govt.nz

Clutha District Council
www.cluthadc.govt.nz

Dunedin City Council
www.dunedin.govt.nz

Environment Bay of Plenty
www.ebop.govt.nz

Environment Southland
www.envirosouth.govt.nz

Environment Waikato
www.ew.govt.nz

Far North District Council
www.fndc.govt.nz

Gisborne District Council
www.gdc.govt.nz

Gore District Council
www.goredc.govt.nz

Greater Wellington Regional Council
www.gw.govt.nz

Grey District Council
www.greydc.govt.nz

Hamilton City Council
www.hamilton.co.nz

Hastings District Council
www.hastingsdc.govt.nz

Hauraki District Council
www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Hawkes Bay Regional Council
www.hbrc.govt.nz

Horizons Regional Council
www.horizons.govt.nz

Horowhenua District Council
www.horowhenua.govt.nz

Hurunui District Council
www.hurunui.govt.nz

Hutt City Council
www.huttcity.govt.nz

Invercargill City Council
www.icc.govt.nz

Kaikoura District Council
www.kaikoura.govt.nz

Kaipara District Council
www.kaipara.govt.nz

Kapiti Coast District Council
www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

Kawerau District Council
www.kaweraudc.govt.nz

Mackenzie District Council
www.mackenzie.govt.nz

Manawatu District Council
www.manawatu.govt.nz

Marlborough District Council
www.marlborough.govt.nz

Masterton District Council
www.mstn.govt.nz

Matamata-Piako District Council
www.mpdc.govt.nz

Napier City Council
www.napier.govt.nz

Nelson City Council
www.ncc.govt.nz

New Plymouth District Council
www.newplymouthnz.com

Northland Regional Council
www.nrc.govt.nz

Opotiki District Council
www.odc.govt.nz

Otago Regional Council
www.orc.govt.nz

Otorohanga District Council
www.otodc.govt.nz

Palmerston North City Council
www.pncc.govt.nz

Porirua City Council
www.pcc.govt.nz

Queenstown Lakes District Council

www.qldc.govt.nz

Rangitikei District Council

www.rangitikei.com

Rotorua District Council

www.rdc.govt.nz

Ruapehu District Council

www.ruapehudc.govt.nz

Selwyn District Council

www.selwyn.govt.nz

South Taranaki District Council

www.stdc.co.nz

South Waikato District Council

www.swktodc.govt.nz

South Wairarapa District Council

www.swdc.govt.nz

Southland District Council

www.southlanddc.govt.nz

Stratford District Council

www.stratford.govt.nz

Taranaki Regional Council

www.trc.govt.nz

Tararua District Council

www.tararuadc.govt.nz

Tasman District Council

www.tdc.govt.nz

Taupo District Council

www.taupodc.govt.nz

Tauranga City Council

www.tauranga.govt.nz

Thames-Coromandel District Council

www.tcdc.govt.nz

Timaru District Council

www.timaru.govt.nz

Upper Hutt City Council

www.uhcc.govt.nz

Waikato District Council

www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz

Waimakariri District Council

www.wmk.govt.nz

Waimate District Council

www.waimatedc.govt.nz

Waipa District Council

www.waipadc.govt.nz

Wairoa District Council

www.wairoadc.govt.nz

Waitaki District Council

www.waitaki.govt.nz

Waitomo District Council

www.waitomo.govt.nz

Wanganui District Council

www.wanganui.govt.nz

Wellington City Council

www.wellington.govt.nz

West Coast Regional Council

www.wcrc.govt.nz

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

www.westernbay.govt.nz

Westland District Council

www.westland.govt.nz

Whakatane District Council

www.whakatane-dc.govt.nz

Whangarei District Council

www.wdc.govt.nz



So what are you waiting for,
run out today and make a stand.



Once elected look out for your Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Survival Kit which is your one-stop-shop to all the support that LGNZ can offer you as an elected member. Also, keep an eye out for information on the LGNZ Conference and biennial community boards' conference, which provide excellent sources of information and training.

Local Elections 2010
YOUR VOTE
YOUR COMMUNITY

Local Government
New Zealand
te pūhaki matakokiri

