



2019 LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS

ELECTORAL COMMISSION ENROLMENT UPDATE MEDIA KIT



Introduction

The local elections will be held in October 2019 for city and district councils, regional councils and district health boards. In some parts of New Zealand, elections will also be held for local and community boards, licensing trusts and some other organisations.

The Electoral Commission's role in the local elections is to run an enrolment update campaign to make sure as many New Zealanders as possible are correctly enrolled and ready to vote. The enrolment update campaign will run from 29 June to 16 August and include nationwide advertising and a direct mailout to all those registered on the electoral roll.

This media kit provides key dates and background information on the enrolment update campaign, as well as media contacts for the Electoral Commission.

Local councils are responsible for running the local elections. The elections are conducted by electoral officers appointed by each council.

Electoral Commission media contacts

Clare Pasley is the first point of contact for media enquiries relating to the Electoral Commission's enrolment update campaign for the 2019 local elections.

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Media enquiries about the local elections should be directed to the relevant local body. There is a list of council electoral officers on the Local Government New Zealand website:

www.lgnz.co.nz/vote2019/

Social media

Facebook: www.facebook.com/lvoteNZ/

Twitter: @ElectoralCommNZ

Key dates

Date	Activity
29 June	Enrolment update campaign starts including advertising and mailout of enrolment packs to 3.3 voters to check their details are up to date.
8 July	People who do not get an enrolment pack in the mail by 8 July need to enrol or update their details.
16 August	People must enrol by 16 August to receive voting papers from councils in the mail. Those who enrol after this date will need to request special voting papers from their local council electoral officer.
20 September	Voting packs sent by councils to all enrolled voters – start of voting period.
11 October	Last day to enrol to vote in the local elections.
Midday Saturday 12 October 2019	Voting papers must arrive with councils by midday 12 October to be valid.

Media resources

Translated information about the enrolment update campaign

Core information about getting enrolled and ready for the local elections is available in 27 languages at: vote.nz/elections-and-more/all-events/2019/2019-local-elections/

Local enrolment statistics

You can find out how many people are enrolled to vote in each council area here: elections.nz/stats-and-research/enrolment-statistics/enrolment-by-local-council

The number of people enrolled to vote for other local authorities including District Health Boards are available here: elections.nz/stats-and-research/enrolment-statistics/enrolment-by-local-council-voting-area

The figures are updated monthly.

Reading the local council enrolment tables

Use the drop down menu to select a council district.

The table divides that council district's population by age range. For each age range, the table shows:

- the estimated number of people who are eligible to enrol, using census data

- how many people are on the general roll
- how many people are on the Māori roll
- the total number of people who have enrolled
- the difference between the estimated eligible population and the total enrolled
- the percentage of the estimated eligible population who have enrolled. This is the enrolment rate.

Other useful websites

More information about the 2019 local elections is available on the following websites.

Local Government New Zealand, including a list of council electoral officers:

www.lgnz.co.nz/vote2019/

SOLGM (represents local government managers): www.solgm.org.nz/

Department of Internal Affairs: www.localcouncils.govt.nz/lqip.nsf/wpg_URL/About-Local-Government-Participate-in-Local-Government-About-your-2019-local-elections

Ministry of Health: www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/key-health-sector-organisations-and-people/district-health-boards/dhb-elections

Frequently asked questions

THE 2019 LOCAL ELECTIONS

When are the local elections?

Local elections are held every three years. Postal voting for the 2019 local elections runs from Friday 20 September to Saturday 12 October 2019.

What are the local elections for?

The local elections are for city and district councils, regional councils and District Health Boards. In some parts of New Zealand, elections will also be held for local and community boards, licensing trusts and some other organisations.

Who runs the local elections?

Local elections are run by local councils. The Electoral Commission's role in local elections is to ensure that the electoral roll is up to date and provided to each council.

ENROLMENT

How can I check if I'm enrolled?

You can check if you're enrolled and if your details are up to date at vote.nz

Will I receive an enrolment pack in the mail?

Look out for an enrolment pack in your letterbox in the first week of July. Everyone on the electoral roll will be sent a pack. Check your details are right. If they're correct, you don't need to do anything. Your local council will send you voting papers in the mail.

If you need to update your details, make the changes on the form, sign it and send it back in the Freepost envelope provided.

What if I don't get an enrolment pack?

If you don't get a pack in the first week of July, it means you're not enrolled or need to update your details. You'll need to fill in a new enrolment form. Go to vote.nz or call 0800 36 76 56 to ask for a form to be sent to you.

How do I return my form?

If you're posting a form back, we recommend you get it in the mail by midday Monday 12 August to make sure it gets to us by 16 August. You can also scan or photograph your completed form and upload a copy to vote.nz/enrolme or email a copy to enrolme@elections.org.nz.

When is the enrolment deadline for the local elections?

Enrol or update your details by 16 August and your voting papers will be sent to you in the mail. You can enrol after 16 August, but you'll need to contact your local electoral officer to arrange a special vote. The last day for enrolment in the local elections is 11 October.

How do I contact my local council electoral officer?

A list of local council electoral officers is available at www.lgnz.co.nz/vote2019/

VOTING

How do I vote in the local elections?

Voting is by postal vote. Everyone enrolled to vote by Friday 16 August will be sent voting papers in the mail in late September. Voters need to return their voting papers by midday, Saturday 12 October.

Contact your local council for more information about voting in the local elections.

What do I do if I don't receive a voting pack?

If you don't receive voting papers between 20 – 25 September, you'll need to contact the electoral officer at your local council to request special voting papers. For a list of electoral officers, go to www.lgnz.co.nz/vote2019/

You'll also need to check your enrolment details are up to date. Go to vote.nz or call 0800 36 76 56.

Where can I get more information about voting or candidates?

Local elections are run by local councils. You'll need to contact your local council for more information about candidates and voting.

RATEPAYER ROLL

What is the non-residential ratepayer roll?

Anyone on the electoral roll can vote in the local elections where they live. Voters who own property in another council area can also apply to go on the non-residential ratepayer roll in that area. They will then be able to vote in the area where they pay rates, and the area where they live.

The electoral roll is maintained by the Electoral Commission. Ratepayer rolls are managed by each local council and questions about ratepayer rolls should be directed to the local electoral officer. A list of electoral officers is available at www.lgnz.co.nz/vote2019/