

26 August 2024

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By mail to:

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Kia ora ██████████

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2024/54

On 31 July 2024 the Electoral Commission received your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

- 1. What are the timelines and procedures for an Independent electorate candidate to be nominated?*
- 2. What are the minimum requirements for someone to be nominated as an Independent electorate candidate?*
- 3. What restrictions exist to prevent a person or class of person from being nominated as an Independent electorate candidate?*
- 4. Can I please have a breakdown of the 2023 election statistics for the 36 Independent candidates in that election?*
- 5. When is the next parliamentary election due?*
I understand the following questions may be transferred to another agency.
- 6. What is the schedule for Parliament (sitting days, and hours of business)?*
- 6A. In answer to 6. above I would accept a copy of the sitting days and hours of business in 2022.*
- 7. What are the rules for members of the public being admitted to the public gallery in Parliament?*
- 8. What rules must people abide by when sitting in the public gallery in Parliament?*
- 9. To what extent would a prospective electorate candidate (or a candidate during a campaign) be permitted to engage in networking and other discussions in and around the Parliament complex?*

Please find answers to your questions below.

Note that the Candidate Handbook attached to this response is the candidate handbook for the 2023 General Election, published in January 2023, and that information may change before the next general election. Any changes will be reflected in current editions of the Handbook.

- 1. What are the timelines and procedures for an Independent electorate candidate to be nominated?*

Electoral Commission
Level 4, 34-42 Manners Street, PO Box 3220, Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Telephone +64 4 495 0030
www.vote.nz | www.elections.nz

Please refer to Part 1 of the attached Candidate Handbook for information on timelines and procedures for the nomination process for independent candidates. Note that key dates can be found on pages 8 and 9 of the Handbook, but specific dates are published on www.vote.nz after the date of an election is announced.

2. *What are the minimum requirements for someone to be nominated as an Independent electorate candidate?*

Please refer to the Candidate Handbook.

3. *What restrictions exist to prevent a person or class of person from being nominated as an Independent electorate candidate?*

Please refer to the Candidate Handbook.

4. *Can I please have a breakdown of the 2023 election statistics for the 36 Independent candidates in that election?*

By *election statistics* we are assuming you mean election results.

Results by independent electorate candidate have been arranged in the table below.

Electorate	Independent Candidate	Total Valid Candidate Votes	Percentage of Electorate Vote
Auckland Central	LIU, Andi Shen	110	0.32%
Banks Peninsula	WAKEMAN, Peter Keith	184	0.38%
Bay of Plenty	WAHED, Md Zakaria	204	0.46%
Christchurch East	PARK, Seung-Choon	234	0.61%
Dunedin	O'MALLEY, James Paul	1,272	3.05%
Dunedin	TAYLOR, Pamela	60	0.14%
East Coast	CARACAS, Monaco Quemara Tezinho	68	0.17%
East Coast	DICKSON, Gordon John	66	0.17%
East Coast	RICHARDS, Donald	104	0.26%
Kaikōura	HOWARD, Thomas Edward (Ted)	109	0.26%
Kaikōura	McCASKEY, John	139	0.33%
Māngere	STANLEY, Brooke Fiafia	502	1.78%
Maungakiekie	BRIDGE, Phillip Stewart William	249	0.71%
Mt Albert	NAUFAHU, Douglas Tupou Toutai	155	0.40%

	Sandhurst Viliami Tesimoni		
Napier	SMITH, John Clive	215	0.54%
Papakura	KERR, Karin	427	1.04%
Rongotai	McDONALD, Donald S	130	0.31%
Rotorua	NAERA, Johnathan Tokitahi Croft	354	0.99%
Taieri	DONG, Changrong	142	0.34%
Taieri	GARDNER, Robert James McKinlay	286	0.69%
Taieri	WEBBER, David	120	0.29%
Taranaki-King Country	BURR, William Bruce	3,388	8.58%
Tauranga	BALDOCK, Larry	1,039	2.54%
Te Atatū	PHILLIPS, Melanie Ann	482	1.34%
Tukituki	PETROWSKI, Melanie Lorraine	181	0.45%
Tukituki	PONK, Michael	45	0.11%
Wairarapa	GARDNER, Jared Warren	247	0.56%
Waitaki	SHAND, Daniel	584	1.33%
Wellington Central	BAINS, Bherminder Singh	36	0.08%
Wellington Central	GEIRINGER, Karl Thomas	43	0.10%
West Coast-Tasman	PHELPS, Patrick	5,903	14.19%
Whangārei	GREEN, Fiona Elizabeth Mary	140	0.33%
Wigram	McTAGUE, Geoffrey William	110	0.30%
Wigram	THOMSON, Wiremu Li-An James	125	0.34%
Te Tai Tokerau	TOAUTU, Paturiri	443	1.65%
Te Tai Tonga	FUIMAONO KARENA, Geoffrey Wayne Puhi	816	3.08%

5. *When is the next parliamentary election due?*

The next General Election is due to take place in 2026. The date of the election is set by the Prime Minister, usually early in election year.

The following questions have been transferred to the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Please find enclosed four resources from the Office of the Clerk regarding this part of your Official Information request. We note that the Office of the Clerk is not subject to the Official Information Act 1982, therefore the transfer of the following questions has not been made under the Act. Instead, the Office of the Clerk has treated them as an enquiry.

6. *What is the schedule for Parliament (sitting days, and hours of business)?*
6A. *In answer to 6. above I would accept a copy of the sitting days and hours of business in 2022.*
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In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 months. We will publish this response with your personal details redacted.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Kristina Temel
Manager, Legal and Policy