# Media Kit

## Te Tai Tokerau by-election 2011







#### **Electoral Commission**

#### 12 May 2010

#### **Te Tai Tokerau By-Election Media Information**

A Parliamentary by-election will be held in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate on Saturday 25 June 2011.

Polling places will be open from 9.00am to 7.00pm on the day. Preliminary results are expected to be available from <a href="www.electionresults.govt.nz">www.electionresults.govt.nz</a> from 7.00pm on election day.

Enclosed is background information on the by-election:

- Timeline for the Te Tai Tokerau By-election
- Enrolment Information
- Candidate and Party Vote statistics for the Te Tai Tokerau electorate from the 2008 General Election
- Campaigning Rules Information
- Questions and Answers

#### **Media Contact Details**

#### Votina

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#### **Enrolment**

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#### www.elections.org.nz

#### www.electionresults.govt.nz

The elections Freephone number for the public is 0800 36 76 56.

## 12 May 2011 Te Tai Tokerau By-election Timetable

Date	Activity
12 May 2011	By-election date announced
15 May 2011	Lists of people enrolled in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate as at 12 May produced and available for public inspection Enrolment drive for Te Tai Tokerau by-election underway
Wednesday 25 May	Writ Day Governor General issues direction to the Electoral Commission to conduct a by-election in Te Tai Tokerau Last day for enrolment before Electoral Rolls close for printing Voters enrolled after this date cast a special declaration vote
Thursday 26 May	<b>Nominations open</b> for candidates in the Te Tai Tokerau by- election
Tuesday 31 May Noon Deadline	<b>Nominations close</b> for candidates in the Te Tai Tokerau by- election
Tuesday 31 May 4.00pm Target	Te Tai Tokerau by-election candidates announced by Electoral Commission. Information on where to vote available from www.elections.org.nz
Wednesday 8 June	Advance Voting starts in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate and at Registrars of Electors Offices around the country Overseas Voting starts
Saturday 26 February	<b>EasyVote information packs</b> available for those enrolled in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate
Friday 24 June	Enrolments close All political advertising ceases and election signs taken down by midnight
Saturday 25 June	<b>Te Tai Tokerau By-election</b> held Polling places open from 9.00am to 7.00pm. Polling places will be located in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate
	Preliminary Results progressively available from 7.00pm on www.electionresults.govt.nz. Targets for release are: - by 7.30pm all advance vote results - by 9.00pm results from 50% of polling places - by 10.00pm results from 100% of polling places. These are targets not guarantees.
Wednesday 6 July Noon Target	Official Results declared (including special declaration and overseas votes)
Monday 11 July	Deadline for applications for judicial recount
Thursday 14 July	Last day for Return of Writ. The Electoral Commission expects to return the writ naming the successful candidate on Thursday 14 July (presuming no recount).
Friday 30 September	Deadline for Returns of Candidate Election Expenses and Donations to Electoral Commission

#### **Enrolment**

Only people eligible to vote and enrolled in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate can vote in the by-election.

Everyone enrolled by Wednesday 25 May will get an EasyVote pack which includes an EasyVote card in the mail. People who enrol after this but before the final deadline on Friday 24 June will need to cast a Special Declaration Vote.

People are eligible to enrol in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate if they:

- ✓ are 18 years or over;
- ✓ are of New Zealand Māori descent:
- ✓ are a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident who has lived in New Zealand continuously for 12 months; and
- ✓ have been living in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate for one month or more.

Enrolling is easy. Enrolment forms are available

- ✓ from the elections website <u>www.elections.org.nz</u>
- ✓ by free texting your name and address to 3676
- ✓ from any PostShop or by calling 0800 ENROL NOW (0800 36 76 56)

People can also check their details and enrol online at <a href="www.elections.org.nz">www.elections.org.nz</a>.

As at 30 April 2011 31,999 people were enrolled for the Maori electorate of Te Tai Tokerau.

A breakdown of enrolment statistics nationally and by electorate is available from http://www.elections.org.nz/ages/

## **Te Tai Tokerau Electorate Statistics 2008**

Enrolments	33,060
Total votes cast	20,912
Turnout	63%
Number of special votes cast	3,039
Number of advance ordinary votes	1,632
Number of overseas votes	102
Winning candidate majority	6,308

## Te Tai Tokerau Electorate Results 2008 General Election

Electorate Votes			Party Votes		
Candidate	Valid Votes	% Share of Valid Votes	Party	Valid Votes	% Share of Valid Votes
DANIELS, Judy Merle ALCP	788	4.06%	Aotearoa Legalise Cannabis Party	218	1.08%
DAVIS, Kelvin Glen LABOUR	5,711	29.44%	Labour Party	9,200	45.63%
HARAWIRA, Hone Pani Tamati Waka Nene MĀORI	12,019	61.95%	Māori Party	6,204	30.77%
RANKIN, David Malcolm HAPU	202	1.04%			
TASHKOFF, Peter Boris ACT	680	3.51%	ACT New Zealand	112	0.56%
			Alliance	5	0.02%
			Democrats for Social Credit	1	0.00%
			Family Party	108	0.54%
			Green Party	709	3.52%
			Jim Anderton's Progressive	74	0.37%
			Kiwi Party	32	0.16%
			Libertarianz	5	0.02%
			National Party	1,883	9.34%
			New Zealand First Party	1,495	7.41%
			New Zealand Pacific Party	6	0.03%
			RAM – Residents Action Movement	10	0.05%
			The Bill and Ben Party	74	0.37%
			The Republic of New Zealand Party	0	0.00%
			United Future	24	0.12%
			Workers Party	3	0.01%
Candidate Informals	530		Party Informals	292	
<b>Total Candidate Votes Cast</b>	19,930		Total Party Votes Cast	20,455	

## **Quick Guide to Candidate Rules**

Topic	Candidates can	Candidates can't	
Radio and television election advertising	Promote their own election in the period from writ day to the day before polling day.	Broadcast outside the period from writ day to the day before polling day.  Broadcast on polling day.	
	Identify the party they represent and its policies in order to promote their own election.	Attack other candidates or parties.	
		Broadcast without including the name and street address of the person authorising the advertisement.	
Election advertising (other than television and radio)	Promote their own election.	Publish without including the name and street address.	
radio	Attack the policies of other candidates or parties.	Publish on polling day.  Display in view of a public place on polling day.	
	Display on polling day fixed signs that do not refer to the election on party or campaign headquarters.	Display on vehicles (including bumper stickers) in view of a public place on polling day.	
	Operate a website on polling day.	Display on polling day signs that refer to the election on party or campaign headquarters.	
		Put new material on a website on polling day.	
		Advertise a website on polling day.	
		Use systems on polling day that make website advertising available to persons who haven't voluntarily accessed the website.	

Topic	Candidates can	Candidates can't
Election expenses (promoting the candidate)	Spend without limit on printed advertising to promote their election prior to the regulated period before polling day.  Spend up to \$50,000 (incl GST) on election advertising in the regulated period.	Spend more than \$50,000 (incl GST) on election expenses published in the regulated period.  File their return of election expenses and donations later than 70 working days after polling day.
Party lapel badges (a badge or rosette designed to be worn on the lapel) on polling day	Feature the party name, emblem, slogan or logo on a party lapel badge.  Wear the lapel badge themselves.  Have scrutineers, party officials, or supporters wear them.	Display party lapel badges on vehicles or in other places.  Feature their name on a badge.  Permit clothing to be worn on polling day promoting the candidate or party.
Streamers, rosettes, ribbons and similar items on polling day	Display these in party colours.  Have candidates, scrutineers, party officials or supporters wear them.  Display them on vehicles.	Feature the party name, emblem, slogan or logo on the streamers etc.  Display them on anything other than people or vehicles.

#### Te Tai Tokerau By-Election - Questions and Answers

#### **Enrolment**

#### 1. Who can enrol to vote in the Te Tai Tokerau by-election?

To enrol to vote in the Te Tai Tokerau by-election people must:

- ✓ be 18 years or over;
- ✓ be of new Zealand Māori descent;
- ✓ be a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident who has lived in New Zealand continuously for 12 months; and
- ✓ have been living in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate for one month or more.

#### 2. What are the enrolment deadlines?

Everyone enrolled by Wednesday 25 May 2011 will get an EasyVote pack which includes an EasyVote card in the mail.

People who enrol after this but before the final deadline of Friday 24 June 2011 will need to cast a Special Declaration Vote.

3. Can people enrolled on the general electoral roll living in Te Tai Tokerau vote? No. The by-election is to select the Member of Parliament for the Māori Electorate of Te Tai Tokerau. Only those people on the Te Tai Tokerau electoral roll are eligible to vote.

## 4. Are people enrolled to vote in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate but living overseas eligible to vote?

Those aged 18 or older and of Māori descent who are either: a New Zealand citizen who has been in New Zealand in the past three years, or a New Zealand permanent resident who has been in New Zealand in the past 12 months, and the Te Tai Tokerau electorate is where they last lived for a month or more in New Zealand are eligible to enrol and to vote in the by-election.

#### 5. How do people enrol?

Enrolment forms are available

- ✓ from the elections website www.elections.org.nz
- ✓ by free texting your name and address to 3676.
- ✓ from any PostShop or by calling 0800 ENROL NOW (0800 36 76 56)

People can also check their details and enrol online at <a href="www.elections.org.nz">www.elections.org.nz</a>.

#### Voting

#### 1. Who can vote in the Te Tai Tokerau by-election?

Only people eligible, and enrolled in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate can vote in the byelection. They must be enrolled to vote by Friday 24 June, the day before election day.

#### 2. Where can people vote?

On election day people can vote at one of the polling places within the Te Tai Tokerau electorate boundaries.

## There will be no polling places outside the Te Tai Tokerau electorate on election day.

People who can't vote in the electorate on election day can vote in advance at an advance voting place in the electorate or at any Registrar of Electors office around the country or at the Electoral Commission in Wellington.

#### 3. When can people vote?

Polling places in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate are open from 9.00am to 7.00pm on election day – Saturday 25 June 2011.

People who need to vote in advance, those going overseas or those overseas already can vote from Wednesday 8 June 2011.

#### 4. Where will the polling places be?

The location of polling places in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate are being finalised now. The Electoral Commission expects to provide around 130 polling places across the Te Tai Tokerau electorate, which extends from the North Shore of Auckland to Cape Reinga.

#### 5. Will there be an EasyVote pack?

Yes. Voter information packs will be sent during the week before election day to everyone who was enrolled by 25 May. These packs will include

- the candidates for the Te Tai Tokerau by-election
- advance voting places and
- the polling places for the Te Tai Tokerau electorate.

The packs will also include a personalised EasyVote card. This will have

- the person's name,
- their address, and
- the page and line number where they appear on the Te Tai Tokerau electoral roll.

#### 6. What if a person doesn't get an EasyVote card, can they still vote?

Yes, but they must be enrolled for their vote to count. The EasyVote card has been designed to make the voting process easier, but people can vote without it.

#### 7. Will there be a party vote and an electorate vote?

The by-election is to elect a new Member of Parliament for the Te Tai Tokerau electorate.

There is only one vote in the by-election, the vote for the electorate candidate.

There is no party vote.

8. Where do voters find out information about where, when and how to vote? Information on where, when and how to vote is contained in the EasyVote pack. Information is also available from <a href="www.elections.org.nz">www.elections.org.nz</a> or 0800 36 76 56. Copies of brochures are also available by calling the 0800 number or emailing vote@elections.org.nz.

#### **VOTING BEFORE SATURDAY 25 JUNE 2011**

## 9. What do people do if they are not in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate on Saturday 25 June 2011?

People can vote in advance from Wednesday 8 June either in the electorate, or at any Registrar of Electors office around the country or at the Electoral Commission in Wellington.

#### 10. Will people be able to vote outside their electorate on election day?

No. Voting facilities will only be available **in** the electorate on election day. If someone is going to be outside their electorate on Saturday 25 June they will have to vote in advance.

#### 11. What do people do if they are overseas on Saturday 25 June?

There are four ways people going overseas can vote:

- 1. make an advance vote before leaving New Zealand from Wednesday 8 June
- 2. download voting papers from the internet www.elections.org.nz
- 3. apply for postal voting papers
- 4. vote in person at an overseas post accepting votes for the by-election.

Voting papers need to be posted or faxed back, NOT e-mailed.

### 12. What if a person can't get to a polling place on 25 June?

Options include:

- voting in advance
- applying for a postal vote
- arranging for another person to collect the voting papers from a polling place or advance voting place.

#### 13. What options are available for a person in a rest home or hospital?

If a person is in a rest home or hospital in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate, the Te Tai Tokerau Returning Officer may send someone to take their vote. Consult the manager of the rest home or hospital, or ask family/whanau to contact the Returning Officer.

If a person can't get to a polling place because they are sick, infirm or have a disability, help may be available by contacting the Te Tai Tokerau Returning Officer.

#### 15. What are the boundaries of the Te Tai Tokerau electorate?

The Te Tai Tokerau electorate extends from the North Shore of Auckland to Cape Reinga. There were no changes to the existing boundaries in 2007.

Maps of the electorate can be viewed on <a href="http://www.elections.org.nz/mapping/">http://www.elections.org.nz/mapping/</a>

#### **Candidates**

#### 1. Who can be a candidate in the Te Tai Tokerau by-election?

To be a candidate, you must be enrolled in any electorate, be a New Zealand citizen and not be disqualified from enrolling.

#### 2. What is the nomination process?

Two people enrolled in the Te Tai Tokerau electorate must nominate the candidate by lodging an individual nomination paper with the Te Tai Tokerau Returning Officer by noon on nomination day Tuesday 31 May 2011.

#### 3. What are the election expense rules?

Detailed information is contained in the Electoral Commission's "Information for Parliamentary Candidates - By-elections" guide and the Electoral Act 1993.

Election expenses are primarily advertising and other publicity costs within the regulated period (which for a by-election runs from the day after the notice of the vacancy is published in the Gazette until the close of the day before polling day) that may reasonably be regarded as encouraging or persuading voters to vote, or not to vote, for a constituency candidate (whether or not the name of the candidate is stated).

#### Rules include:

- The amount candidates can incur in election expenses in the regulated period before the by-election day is limited to \$50,000 (inc GST).
- Candidates must give written authorisation before any advertisement promoting their election can be published.
- The advertisement must state the name and business or residential address of the person directing it to be published.
- Campaigning is forbidden on the day of the by-election.

#### 4. What are the rules relating to donations?

Candidate donations and contributions to donations of more than \$1,500 must be declared. Candidates are not allowed to keep anonymous or overseas donations of more than \$1,500.

#### 5. Are there limits on how much can be spent on campaigning?

Yes. A maximum of \$50,000 (including GST).

#### 6. Are there broadcasting allocations?

There are no broadcasting allocations. These only apply to party campaigning.

#### 7. Are candidates required to appoint a financial agent?

No. This is no longer a requirement.

#### **Media Activity**

#### Media Activity on Election Day

All election advertising and other statements, by anybody including the media, which could influence voters cannot be published or broadcast on Election Day until after the close of the poll at 7pm. For this purpose newspapers published after 6pm on the day before Election Day are treated as being published on Election Day.

No opinion polling of voters can be carried out on Election Day.

News stories posted on websites before Election Day can remain, as long as the website is not advertised on Election Day.

#### Photo/filming opportunities on Election Day

Candidates may only be in a polling place for the purpose of voting.

Media organisations can take photos or film at a polling place as long as:

- The prior approval of the Returning Officer has been obtained. **Media must** contact the Electoral Commission before Election Day to arrange this.
- No photographs or footage are taken of voters actually completing their ballot papers or showing how a person voted. Media cannot go behind the voting screens.
- Photographers or camera crews do not disrupt voters from voting, or officials from their duties.
- No undue delays are caused to voters.
- No interviews are conducted in or near the polling place.