



FAQs

Triennial elections

12 OCTOBER 2019

AUCKLAND COUNCIL



Contents

Section A:

- Auckland Council

General Information	2
Candidates.....	3
Enrolment.....	4
Voting.....	6
Election Results.....	10
Members.....	11
Election Signs	12
Election Sign Complaints.....	13

Section B:

- Auckland District Health Board

- Counties Manukau District Health Board

- Waitemata District Health Board

General Information	14
Candidates.....	15
Voting.....	17
Members.....	17
Results	18

Section C:

- Birkenhead Licensing Trust

- Mt Wellington Licensing Trust

- Portage Licensing Trust

- Waitakere Licensing Trust

- Wiri Licensing Trust

General Information	19
Voting.....	20
Members.....	21

Frequently Asked Questions: Section A

Auckland Council elections

General Information

Q1. When is the next Auckland Council election?

- A Election day is Saturday 12 October 2019 with voting closing at 12 noon. The voting period starts on Friday 20 September 2019.

Q2. Who runs the election?

- A The electoral officer has full responsibility for running the election.

Q3. Who are the council's electoral officer and deputy electoral officer?

- A The electoral officer is:
Dale Ofsoske, Independent Election Services Ltd
Electoral Office: Level 2, 198 Federal Street,
Auckland
Phone: 0800 922 822
Email: dale.ofsoske@electionservices.co.nz

The deputy electoral officer is:
Warwick McNaughton, Democracy Services,
Auckland Council
Level 25, 125 Albert Street, Auckland
Phone: 09 890 4846
Email:
warwick.mcnaughton@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Q4. What type of electoral system is used?

- A The FPP (first past the post) electoral system will be used for the Auckland Council and the five licensing trust elections and the STV (single transferable voting) electoral system will be used for the three district health board elections.

For a more detailed explanation of these electoral systems, refer Q48 and Q49.

Q5. What elections are being held?

Electors will be able to vote for the mayor, ward councillors, local board members, district health board members (one of three boards) and some electors will also be able to vote for licensing trust members (one of five trusts).

In 2018, Auckland Council undertook a review of its representation and electoral boundaries. Due to population changes, some ward boundaries and subdivision boundaries of local boards have changed. There have been no changes to the boundaries of local boards themselves.

Q6. What is the role of the mayor, councillors and local board members?

- A The mayor:
- promotes a vision for Auckland;
 - provides leadership to achieve the vision;
 - leads the development of council plans, policies and budgets;
 - ensures effective engagement between Auckland Council and the people of Auckland;
 - appoints the deputy mayor, establishes committees and appoints the chairperson of each of these committees.
- A The governing body (council) consists of elected councillors and the mayor. The following provides an outline of the councillor role:
- provide regional strategic leadership and direction;
 - make decisions on regional matters;
 - work collaboratively and build relationships;
 - engage with communities;
 - monitor performance;
 - identify and manage risk.
- A Local board members:
- provide civic leadership locally;
 - set local direction and deliver priorities;
 - make decisions on local matters;
 - input into regional decisions, policies, plans and strategies;

- work collaboratively and build relationships;
- promote strong, resilient and engaged communities;
- represent members of the local community;
- monitor the organisations progress and report to the public;
- identify and manage risk.

Your nomination deposit can be paid by electronic bank transfer, EFTPOS, credit card or cash. Cheques will be accepted but not preferred (should they be dishonoured and the nomination invalidated).

If you poll greater than 25% of the lowest polling successful candidate (for FPP elections) or more than 25% of the final quota as determined by the last iteration (for STV elections) you will receive your nomination deposit back.

Candidates

Q7. I want to be a candidate in these elections. What do I need to do?

- A You must be a New Zealand citizen and your name must be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll (anywhere in New Zealand).

When lodging your nomination, proof of citizenship will be required (copy of passport, birth certificate, citizenship certificate).

You will need to have two electors enrolled on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll in the area you are standing for to nominate you – e.g. if you stand for the Manurewa-Papakura Ward, the nominators will need to be two electors enrolled on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for that ward. (Note the candidate does not need to reside in the area in which they are standing but will need to disclose that fact in their candidate profile statement).

Nominations open on Friday 19 July 2019. If you would like a nomination paper and candidate information handbook sent out, please contact the electoral office closer to this date. Nomination papers will also be available on council's website (voteauckland.co.nz) from 19 July 2019.

A candidate information handbook will be available in May 2019.

Q8. How much will it cost me to stand?

- A You will need to pay a nomination deposit of \$200 GST inclusive. This deposit applies to each election you stand for.

Q9. What knowledge and skills do I need?

- A Nothing formal. Elected members come from all walks of life and generally have a will/desire to serve the community.

All (or some) of the following capabilities will be useful in the elected member role:

- quality decision-making;
- political acumen;
- leadership;
- cultural awareness;
- strategic thinking;
- knowledge and understanding of Auckland Council and local government;
- communication and engagement;
- relationship building and collaboration.

Q10. Does a criminal record affect a person standing as a council candidate?

- A No, not for the Auckland Council elections. For the district health board elections, a criminal record may affect your candidacy. Refer to Q19 of Section B.

Q11. How long is the term of the elected member?

- A Three years.

Q12. Do I need to be resident in the area I am standing for?

No, but you must be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll (anywhere in New Zealand) and be a New Zealand citizen (by birth or citizenship

ceremony). You will however need to disclose whether or not you reside in the area you are standing for in the candidate profile statement.

The two people who nominate you must be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll within the area you are standing for.

Q13. How many positions can I stand for?

- A You can stand for mayor, a ward councillor and a local board member but if you are elected to more than one position, you take the highest ranked position.

You can stand for more than one local board but can only be elected to one local board. If standing for more than one local board, you will be required to rank your order of priority if elected to more than one.

You can also stand for a district health board and, if applicable, a licensing trust.

However, you cannot stand for more than one district health board or more than one licensing trust.

Q14. How much can I spend on my campaign?

- A There is a limit on what you can spend on your campaign and it relates to the population of the area you are standing for.

The maximum amount that can be spent by a candidate (the amounts include GST) cannot exceed the limits set out as follows:

Local government area population	Expenditure limit
Up to 4,999	\$3,500
5,000 – 9,999	\$7,000
10,000 – 19,999	\$14,000
20,000 – 39,999	\$20,000
40,000 – 59,999	\$30,000
60,000 – 79,999	\$40,000
80,000 – 99,999	\$50,000
100,000 – 149,999	\$55,000
150,000 – 249,999	\$60,000
250,000 – 1,000,000	\$70,000
1,000,000 or more	\$100,000*

**plus 50 cents for each elector*

For example, a candidate for the Whau Ward (which has a population in the range of 80,000 – 99,999) can spend up to \$50,000 inclusive of GST.

If you stand for more than one position, the amount you can spend is the highest amount for one position. You cannot add positions together to allow you to spend more than the limit.

All candidates are required to lodge an electoral donations and expenses return within 55 days after the day on which the successful candidates are declared to be elected (by 13 December 2019).

If a candidate is outside New Zealand when successful candidates are declared elected, the return must be filed within 76 days after the results of the election have been declared.

If a return is not submitted within the required time period, the non-return will be advised to the New Zealand Police for enforcement.

The return needs to be received before a candidate nomination deposit is refunded if appropriate.

Q15. When do nominations close?

- A Nominations close at 12 noon Friday 16 August 2019.

It is strongly recommended that candidates do not leave lodging their nomination until the last day, as to do so may mean having to queue and should there be an error with the nomination, little time to have it corrected.

Enrolment

Q16. Where can I view the electoral roll that will be used for this election?

- A The preliminary electoral roll will be available for public inspection for a one-month period from Friday 19 July 2019 to Friday 16 August 2019.

The preliminary electoral roll will be available for inspection at all Auckland Council libraries and service centres.

If you own a property in this district and it is not your main residence you may be able to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector. (Refer to ratepayer enrolment advice in Q23).

Q17. How do I enrol to vote in these elections?

A Is this your main place of residence?

- Yes

Have you lived at your current address for more than one month?

- Yes

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at this current address in the Auckland Council area?

- Yes

You will automatically appear on the electoral roll that is used for these elections.

Or

A Is this your main place of residence?

- Yes

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at an address in the Auckland Council area?

- No or Don't Know

You need to complete an enrolment form for this. You can either:

- enrol online at www.elections.org.nz
- ring 0800 36 76 56
- send your name and address to Freetext 3676
- download a form at www.elections.org.nz
- pick a form up at your local New Zealand Post agency

A Is this your main place of residence?

- No

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at an address in another district?

- Yes

If you have recently changed address, you will need to update your address details on www.elections.org.nz.

Q18. I am a student and spend my time in different places. Where should I enrol?

A You should enrol where you spend the greater part of your time.

Q19. I am a New Zealand Māori, do I need to enrol on the Māori roll?

A Not necessarily. If you are enrolling for the first time you can decide whether you want to go on the Parliamentary Māori Electoral Roll or the Parliamentary General Electoral Roll by signing the appropriate panel on the parliamentary elector enrolment form.

However, if you have already made that choice you will have to wait until the next Māori Option period to change, which occurs following the next census, likely in 2024. The last Māori Option period was 3 April to 2 August 2018.

Q20. How do I know whether I am enrolled?

A The Electoral Commission will be undertaking a roll update campaign at the beginning of July 2019 for the Parliamentary Electoral Roll which forms the basis of the electoral roll for the Auckland Council elections.

If you do not receive a letter in the post during early July 2019 the chances are you are not enrolled, or your details are incorrect. You will then need to complete a Parliamentary Electoral Roll enrolment form.

You can check to see if you are enrolled at www.elections.org.nz or by phoning 0800 36 76 56.

Q21. I turn 18 on election day. Can I vote?

A Yes, but you need to make sure you have enrolled which you can do provisionally from the

age of 17 and it automatically changes when you turn 18.

You will also need to apply for a special vote during the voting period (Friday 20 September 2019 to 12 noon, Saturday 12 October 2019).

For special vote availability, see Q38.

If it is easier you can call at a special voting venue during the voting period (Friday 20 September 2019 to 12 noon Saturday 12 October 2019) and complete the ratepayer enrolment form and have your special vote at the same time.

For special vote availability, see Q38.

In no case does this allow you to have two votes at an election.

Q22. We own a business in the Auckland Council area and pay rates, but we don't live in the Auckland Council area – do we get a say in the Auckland Council elections?

A Yes, subject to being eligible as a non-resident ratepayer elector and becoming enrolled.

A non-resident ratepayer enrolment form is available:

- online www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz;
- or by phoning 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822.

The non-resident ratepayer enrolment form should be returned to the electoral office by 16 August 2019 and absolutely no later than 11 October 2019 in order to vote.

If it is after Friday 16 August 2019, a special voting document will need to be requested and will be issued on 20 September 2019, the start of the voting period.

A Is your name on the rates notice?
➤ No

You may not be eligible to be on the ratepayer electoral roll. Contact the electoral office on 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822.

Voting

Q24. Is it a postal vote and will I be sent my voting documents in the mail?

A All local authority elections will be conducted by postal vote. Voting documents will be delivered by NZ Post between Friday 20 September 2019 and Wednesday 25 September 2019.

There will be no online voting option available.

Q23. I own a property in the Auckland Council area, but it is not my fulltime residence. How do I get on the ratepayer electoral roll?

A Is your name on the rates notice?
➤ Yes

You may be eligible to be on the ratepayer electoral roll. Contact the electoral office on 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822 and request a ratepayer enrolment form. This should be returned to the electoral officer or an electoral official by 16 August 2019 and absolutely no later than 11 October 2019 in order to vote. If it is after Friday 16 August 2019, a special voting document will need to be requested and will be issued on 20 September 2019, the start of the voting period.

Q25. I got my voting document, but my partner didn't receive theirs.

A Is it before Wednesday 25 September 2019 and I believe I am correctly registered on electoral roll?
➤ Yes

Please wait until the mail has been delivered on Wednesday 25 September 2019. If your voting document is not received, then please call the electoral office on 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822.

A Is it after Wednesday 25 September 2019 and I believe I am correctly registered on electoral roll?
➤ Yes

You will need to apply for a special vote. Please call the electoral office on 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822. For special vote availability, see Q38.

A Is it after Wednesday 25 September 2019 and I believe I am not correctly registered on electoral roll?

➤ No

You will need to complete a Parliamentary Electoral Roll enrolment form. These are available at any New Zealand Post agency, or you can enrol online at www.elections.org.nz or ring 0800 36 76 56 or send your name and address to Freetext 3676.

You will also need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q38.

Q26. I didn't get my voting document, so I called and got a special vote. Now I have two voting documents. Which one should I use?

A Use the original one and destroy the special vote.

Q27. I received a voting document for a member of my family (e.g. child, parent) and have Power of Attorney for that person. Can I vote for that person?

A No – a Power of Attorney does not apply to voting for that person.

Q28. I received a voting document for a member of my family (e.g. child, parent) who does not live here. What should I do with the voting document?

A If they are overseas, you could post it to the person or destroy it if that is not practicable.

If they are for an elderly parent who is incapable of voting, please destroy it by ripping/cutting it up. You cannot vote on their behalf unless instructed by them.

Q29. I received a voting document that does not belong to me and I don't know this person or where this person has gone.

A Write GNA (Gone No Address) on the envelope and put it back in the mail.

Q30. What is that barcode that I can see through the return envelope or on the front of the voting document?

A It is a legal requirement to scan the barcode to mark the electoral roll that you have returned your vote so we can ensure that we do not receive two votes from the same person.

Q31. How do you ensure the secrecy of my vote?

A Returned envelopes containing a voting document cannot be opened until there is a JP present. The JP is required to sign off that the processes used by the electoral officer meet the legal requirements.

Note that the voter's name is not shown on the voting document.

When the envelope is opened the only thing, the electoral office is looking for is that the vote for each election is valid.

This means that for FPP elections we are making sure that the voter's intention is clear, and the voter has not ticked or marked more than the number of candidates than there are vacancies.

For STV elections we make sure that no preference numbers are used more than once or omitted (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5) and that there is always a number 1 marked against a candidate's name. It should be like this: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 etc., in numerical order up to as many preferences as the voter wishes to vote for.

Q32. Do I have to vote? I don't know any of these candidates.

A No, you don't have to vote, but we do encourage you to vote and exercise your democratic right.

You don't have to vote for all candidates or for all elections. But your vote is important because the people elected will be responsible for making decisions about what happens in your community for the next three years.

To help you get to know about the candidates:

- there may be candidate meetings being held in your community if you wish to go and hear what policies the different candidates are advocating for;
- there is a candidate profile booklet that comes with the voting document in which there is a photo and a statement from each candidate. This information will also be available on the Council’s website (voteauckland.co.nz) after nominations close (expected 23 August 2019);
- candidates may have their own website, social media page(s), advertise in local newspapers or send out information to letterboxes in your area;
- local media are likely to cover information about the election.

Q33. Do I have to post my voting document back?

A You can post it but make sure you have it in the mail by Tuesday 8 October 2019 to make sure it gets back to us in time (by 12 noon Saturday 12 October 2019).

However, you can also hand deliver your voting document to a ballot box in one of Auckland Council’s libraries or service centres during the voting period (Friday 20 September 2019 to 12 noon Saturday 12 October 2019). For ballot box locations see Q38.

Q34. I have lost my return envelope.

A You can use an envelope of your own and put the return address and Freepost number on it. (You will not need to put a stamp on the envelope if you write the Freepost number on the envelope and post it in New Zealand).

Freepost number 4710
The Electoral Office
Auckland Council
PO Box 5135
Wellesley Street
Auckland 1141

Q35. I am on the Unpublished Parliamentary Roll and I want a special vote.

A You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q38.

Q36. I didn’t receive my voting document; how do I obtain a special vote?

A Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for the address you want to vote for?
➤ Yes

You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q38.

A Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for the address you want to vote for?
➤ No/Don’t Know

If you are not enrolled or not enrolled correctly on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll, you will need to complete an enrolment form for this. You can pick one up at any New Zealand Post agency, or you can enrol online at www.elections.org.nz or ring 0800 36 76 56 or send your name and address to Freetext 3676. This form needs to be with the Registrar of Electors before close of business Friday 11 October 2019.

You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q38.

Q37. I spoiled my voting document/I have made a mistake on my document. What can I do?

A If you can amend it so that your voting intention is clear, then do so.

If necessary, we can issue you with a special voting document (for special vote availability, see Q38), but this will take time and require you to complete a declaration.

Q38. Where can I have a special vote?

A Special votes can be obtained during the voting period (20 September 2019 to 12 noon, Saturday 12 October 2019) from:

- the electoral office (Election Services – Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland)
- Great Barrier Service Centre (Hector Sanderson Road, Claris, Great Barrier Island)
- Henderson Service Centre (6 Henderson Valley Road, Henderson)
- Manukau Service Centre (31-33 Wiri Station Road, Manukau)
- Orewa Service Centre (Centreway Road, Orewa)
- Papakura Service Centre (35 Coles Crescent, Papakura)
- Pukekohe Service Centre (82 Manukau Road, Pukekohe)
- Takapuna Service Centre (1 The Strand, Takapuna)
- Waiheke Service Centre (10 Belgium Street, Ostend, Waiheke Island)
- Birkenhead Library (Nell Fisher Reserve, Hinemoa Street, Birkenhead)
- Glen Eden Library (32 Glendale Road Glen Eden)
- Howick Library (25 Uxbridge Road, Howick)
- Kumeu Library (296 Main Road, Huapai)
- phoning 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822.

You can decide not to vote for one or more of the different elections on your voting document. This does not invalidate votes for other elections on your voting document.

Q39. I am going away and will not be here when the voting documents are posted out.

A You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q38.

Q40. Do I have to vote for all the candidates for any election? If I don't vote for all the candidates or all the elections on my voting document, will all my votes be informal?

A Under FPP you can vote for as many candidates as you want to but not more than the number of positions available on the voting document. So, if you are electing two ward councillors, then you can vote for up to two candidates. Remember, for FPP you tick the candidates you want to elect.

Under STV you can vote for all or as many candidates as you wish but these must be in order of your preference and no number can be repeated. Remember for STV, you rank the candidates you want to elect from number 1 onwards.

Q41. Why can't I vote for a certain candidate who is standing for a different ward, local board or other election?

A You can only vote for the elections relevant to the area in which you live. You cannot vote for a candidate who is standing for example in another ward because you are not an elector of that other ward.

Q42. My partner's document and mine are different and there are more/less things to vote for. Why is the list of candidates different?

A Candidates for all elections are listed in alphabetical order, except for the Auckland District Health Board election. For this district health board election, candidate names are shown on the voting document in random order – this means that every voting document has a different order of candidate names for that particular issue.

Q43. I have received two voting documents.

A You will need to call the electoral office on 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822.

Q44. Do all the staff working on the election know who I voted for?

A No, your vote remains secret under the required separate roll scrutiny and vote counting procedures.

Q45. Can I help someone fill out their voting document?

A Under the Local Electoral Act 2001, you cannot interfere or influence any person as to how they can vote.

If authorised by a voter who is physically impaired, visually impaired or for whom English is a second language, a person can assist them to vote as directed by the voter.

Q46. What happens to all the voting documents after the elections?

- A They are delivered to the Auckland District Court and kept for 21 days so that the court can access them should there be any application for a recount or petition for inquiry.

After 21 days, the court is responsible for destroying them.

Q47. Do I get a vote for the district health board election?

- A Yes, if you are a resident elector. Non-resident ratepayer electors cannot vote for the district health board election.

Q48. What is FPP and how do I vote in an FPP election?

- A The FPP (first past the post) electoral system is used for the Auckland Council elections and all licensing trust elections in the Auckland Council area (where applicable). The candidate or candidates that gets the most votes wins.

You should mark those you want to vote for with a tick in the circle. Do not vote for more than the number of candidates shown in the instructions.

Q49. What is STV and how do I vote in an STV election?

- A The STV (single transferable voting) electoral system is used for the Auckland District Health Board, Counties Manukau District Health Board and Waitemata District Health Board elections.

STV is a preferential system of voting where you can rank as few or as many candidates as you like. It is a single vote which can be transferred between candidates to ensure the vote

contributes to the election of at least one candidate and is not wasted. If a popular candidate does not need all the votes he or she receives, a proportion is transferred to the voter's next preference. On the other hand, if a candidate is not popular and receives few votes, those votes are transferred to a voter's next preference.

For more information about STV, go to www.stv.govt.nz

To exercise an STV vote, start by writing the number 1 in the box next to the candidate you most want to be elected. Write the number 2 next to your second most preferred candidate and so on 3, 4, 5 etc.

You can write as many preferences or as few as you like up to however many candidates are standing for that election.

You must write the number 1 for your vote to be counted.

Do not write the same number more than once, e.g. 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5 and do not miss a number from your preferences e.g. 1, 2, 4, 5.

Election Results

Q50. When will we know the results of the election?

- A Progress results will be announced as soon as possible after 12 noon on Saturday 12 October 2019 (around 2pm).

Preliminary results will be announced on the morning of Sunday 13 October 2019 once all votes received at service centres and libraries (up until 12 noon on Saturday 12 October 2019) have been delivered to the electoral office and processed.

The official results will be announced when all special votes have been checked and included in the final results, expected to be Thursday 17 October 2019.

Q51. How will I find out the results?

Candidates:

- A Progress and preliminary results will be advised by email as soon as practicable after the results are known.

Voters:

- A Progress and preliminary results will be released to the media and placed on council's website (voteauckland.co.nz) as soon as practicable once known.

Q52. What do I need to do if I want to challenge the results of the election?

- A Under legislation a candidate can challenge the declaration of results through either a judicial recount or a judicial inquiry. A candidate will have to provide reasons for the challenge and a deposit of \$750 with the application to the Auckland District Court.

A candidate may first wish to call the electoral officer on 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822 to discuss this.

Members

Q53. When do elected members take up their roles?

- A Elected members take up office the day after the official result has been declared by public notice (expected by Tuesday 22 October 2019). However, members cannot act until they have sworn the oath of office which is usually at the first meeting of Auckland Council and each of its local boards. These first meetings are usually held as soon as practicable after the final election results are announced.

District health board members take up office 58 days after election day (Monday 9 December 2019).

Q54. Who are elected members responsible to?

- A Ultimately the elected members final responsibility is to the local community. The Minister of Local Government and the Auditor-General do have a role in ensuring that Council follows the law.

All district health board members are accountable to the Minister of Health.

Q55. Do elected members get paid and if so, how much?

- A A remuneration pool is set by the Remuneration Authority. The newly elected council will decide how to apply the pool of funding. Some expenses are also reimbursed.

The Remuneration Authority reviewed in 2018 the basis of remuneration which has moved from a 'partial pool' basis to a 'full pool' basis.

For further information refer www.remauthority.govt.nz

District health board members are paid on the basis of the Cabinet Fees framework.

Q56. Would being an elected member take up much time?

- A Being an elected member is a busy job that often involves meetings, events and speaking with community members outside of normal business hours. Flexibility and the ability to prioritise and manage time effectively are essential. This includes balancing a high volume of reading, paperwork and emails with a schedule of meetings and public commitments.

Consequently, the governing body positions (mayor and councillors) are considered fulltime jobs and local board positions are generally part-time jobs (20-25 hours per week). The chair of each local board can work at least 40 hours per week.

Q57. How many elected members are there?

- A Elections are being held for:
- Auckland Council’s governing body, consisting of:
 - the mayor (elected ‘at large’)
 - governing body members – 20 (elected from 13 wards)
 - Auckland Council’s local board members – 149 (elected from 21 local boards)
 - district health board members (Auckland, Counties Manukau or Waitemata) – 7 members each
 - licensing trust members – for some electors only (Birkenhead, 6 members; Mt Wellington, 6 members; Portage, 10 members; Waitakere, 7 members; Wiri, 6 members).

Auckland Transport has set rules for election signs that are visible from roads managed by Auckland Transport. Its key concern is to ensure road safety. The rules are contained in Auckland Transport’s Election Signs Bylaw and all election signs must comply with this bylaw.

The rules set out where and when you can put up election signs, as well as how the signs may be displayed.

The bylaw applies to election signs on:

- park sites which have been approved by Auckland Council local boards;
- road sites which have been approved by Auckland Transport;
- private sites;
- vehicles.

Note that commercial billboards are not covered by the election signs bylaw.

Time period for erecting election signs

The time period for when signs may be erected depends on the site.

Signs in parks:

- signs are not usually allowed in parks. However local boards have approved some sites to be used for election signs;
- election signs on these approved sites may be put up **nine weeks** before the election (in the Ōrākei Local Board this period is only **four weeks**).

Removal of election signs

All election signs must be removed before midnight on Friday 11 October 2019.

Signs on roadsides, private sites and vehicles

- Auckland Transport approves some sites on roadsides for election signs;
- election signs on these approved sites may be put up at any time;
- election signs on private sites may be put up at any time;
- election signs may be placed on vehicles at any time.

You can find a list of approved sites on parks and road reserves, and maps that show the sites, on the Auckland Transport website at.govt.nz/about-us/bylaws/election-signs-bylaw/

Election Signs

Q58. What are the requirements for election signs?

- A Election signs are referenced in the Local Electoral Act 2001 and council’s election signs policy – both of which must be complied with.

Local Electoral Act 2001

All election material, including signs and hoardings, must show an authorisation statement (name and physical address of the candidate or the candidate’s agent). Not to do so is an electoral offence.

Refer section 113 Local Electoral Act 2001.
Council’s election signs policy.

Election campaign time period and rules for election signs

The ‘pre-election period’

The pre-election period is three months prior to election day and in 2019 is from 12 July to 12 October. This is the period when election campaigning mostly takes place.

Rules for erecting election signs in Auckland

There are some rules that apply to election signs (sometimes called “hoardings”).

Although there is no time restriction on signs on residential property or approved roadside sites, the council recommends that candidates do not put up their election signs earlier than **nine weeks** prior to the election period to manage the impact of signs and provide some consistency for all candidates.

(Nine weeks is consistent with legislation passed by Parliament which recognises a nine-week period prior to Parliamentary elections for special legislation covering election hoardings).

Election Sign Complaints

Q59. The signs don't have the required authorisation on them.

A You will need to call the electoral office on 09 973 5212 or 0800 922 822.

Q60. The signs are bigger than they should be or have been pulled over or damaged.

A It is the responsibility of each candidate to maintain their election signs.

However, if a sign is a public safety matter, you will need to call one of council's bylaws compliance officers on 09 301 0101:

- Central: Mark Parkinson
 - North/West: Warwick Robertson
 - South: Dirk Timp.
-

Frequently Asked Questions: Section B

Auckland/Counties Manukau/Waitemata District Health Board elections

General Information

Q1. What is a district health board?

- A District health boards (DHBs) are Crown entities responsible for providing, or funding the provision of, publicly funded health and disability support services for the population of a specific geographic area.

Q2. How many DHB's are there in New Zealand?

- A 20 nationwide.

Q3. How long have we had DHB's?

- A Since 1 January 2001.

Q4. What do DHB's do?

- A DHBs' statutory objectives include:
- (a) improving, promoting and protecting the health of people and communities
 - (b) promoting the integration of health services, especially primary and secondary care services
 - (c) seeking the optimum arrangement for the most effective and efficient delivery of health services in order to meet local, regional and national needs
 - (d) promoting effective care or support for those in need of personal health services or disability support services
 - (e) promoting the inclusion and participation in society and independence of people with disabilities
 - (f) reducing health disparities by improving and aim to eliminate health outcomes for Māori and other population groups
 - (g) exhibiting social responsibility
 - (h) fostering community participation in health improvement, and in planning for the

provision of health services and for significant changes to the provision of services

- (i) upholding ethical and quality standards
- (j) exhibiting a sense of environmental responsibility by having regard to the environmental implications of their operations
- (k) being a good employer.

Q5. How many members are there on a DHB?

- A Up to 11 members sit on each board – 7 of these are elected while up to 4 are appointed.

Q6. Who appoints the appointed members?

- A The Minister of Health.

In making appointments, the minister looks at each board's elected membership and any gaps in skills, expertise, experience and representation that may exist. The minister then seeks to appoint people to fill these gaps.

Q7. How are the chairperson and deputy chairperson decided?

- A The Minister of Health appoints members to these positions and they may be elected or appointed members.

Q8. When do current elected board members relinquish their positions?

- A When the new elected members assume their roles. The new board members take up their role 58 days after election day (Monday 9 December 2019).

Q9. How soon after the election are people appointed by the minister?

A Usually at the same time as elected members, or as soon after this as possible.

Q10. How long is the term of an elected DHB Board member?

A Three years. Elections are held every three years at the same time as the Auckland Council elections.

Q11. How long is the term of an appointed DHB Board member?

A Up to three years but they may be appointed for a shorter time. The minister can appoint them for further terms but they can only serve a maximum of three consecutive terms (i.e. nine years).

Q12. What do board members do?

A They are responsible for the governance of the DHB. They must work in a financially responsible way, and in the best interests of the health of the whole population of the DHB.

Governance is the strategic oversight of the DHB, to ensure that the DHB's management implements the strategic vision developed by the board.

Board members do not manage the DHB. That is the responsibility of the chief executive officer (CEO), who is appointed by the board, and staff who report to the CEO.

Q13. Who runs the DHB elections?

A Each DHB is required to appoint an electoral officer (the DHBEO) to run their election. The DHBEO must be the electoral officer for one of the territorial authorities in the DHB district. For the Auckland, Counties Manukau and Waitemata DHBs, the electoral officer is the electoral officer for Auckland Council.

Q14. Who pays for the DHB elections?

A Each DHB pays for its share of the election costs. Because the DHB elections are run together with the Auckland Council elections, many of the costs are shared between the parties on an agreed basis.

Q15. When are the elections this year?

A They are the same day as the Auckland Council elections - Saturday 12 October 2019. Voting documents will be posted out from 20 September 2019 and they must be returned by 12 noon on election day.

Q16. Can the public attend DHB meetings?

A Generally yes but, as with Auckland Council meetings, there may be some publicly excluded matters discussed from time to time. The grounds for excluding the public are the same as for withholding information under the Official Information Act 1982.

Q17. Does the DHB board appoint staff members?

A No. The board appoints the chief executive officer who has full responsibility for staff appointments.

Candidates

Q18. How much are DHB members paid?

A This varies according to size and an assessed complexity of the DHB.

Board members are paid an annual fee for their service on the board, and fee levels vary from DHB to DHB (depending on the size and assessed complexity of the DHB). Fees currently range from around \$25,000 per annum. The board chair and deputy chair receive a higher fee.

Board members are paid an additional fee of up to \$2,500 per annum for each statutory advisory committee of which they are a member.

Members serving on certain other committees (e.g. audit, risk and finance committees) also receive an additional annual fee.

Members are covered for reasonable expenses associated with board and committee business, such as travel costs.

Q19. Who is eligible to stand for the DHB?

- A Most people qualify as candidates at an election of a DHB if they are registered as a New Zealand parliamentary elector and are a New Zealand citizen.

It is not necessary to live within the DHB district to stand as a candidate for election to that DHB.

Some people, such as those who are undischarged bankrupts and people convicted of offences punishable by imprisonment of two years or more, or have been sentenced to a prison sentence, and not yet served the sentence or otherwise suffered the relevant penalty, are not eligible to sit on DHB boards (more details can be found in clause 17 of Schedule 2 to the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000).

Q20. Do you have to be resident in the DHB area to stand for that board?

- A No, you don't, but the people who nominate you must be.

Q21. How many boards can I stand for?

- A Only one.

Q22. I work for a DHB. Can I stand?

- A Yes, the legislation allows staff members to stand for their DHB (clause 7 of Schedule 2 to the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000).

Q23. When do nominations open?

- A They open on Friday 19 July 2019 and close at 12 noon on Friday 16 August 2019.

Q24. How much can I spend on my campaign?

- A There is a campaign expenditure limit based on how many people live in the DHB's district. These limits include GST.

DHB	Expenditure Limit
Auckland	\$70,000
Counties Manukau	\$70,000
Waitemata	\$70,000

Q25. How are candidates' possible conflicts of interest handled?

- A Many people in the community who have an interest in health services are already engaged in some way in health services or organisations which may do business with DHBs.

Every person who stands as a candidate for election to a DHB is required to make a declaration as to conflicts of interest.

The conflict of interest statements are included in the material sent to electors.

All conflicts of interest declared by successful candidates will be included in the DHB's interests' register (to which all members, elected and appointed, contribute) and members are obligated to keep this up to date.

Members cannot be involved in any DHB decisions where they have a conflict of interest.

A member who has failed to declare an interest may be removed from office.

Voting

Q26. Is there any information available to electors about the people who are standing?

A Candidates are entitled to complete a 150-word (maximum) profile statement about themselves. This and the conflict of interest statement will be published in a booklet with information about all candidates and sent out with voting documents. It will also be available on the DHB's website.

Q27. Who is eligible to be an elector?

A All parliamentary electors may vote for members of the DHB in the district in which they live.

Q28. I have more than one property in different board districts. Can I vote for a member in each of those DHB's?

A No, you can only vote for the DHB where you are resident and on the parliamentary electoral roll.

Q29. What method of voting is used?

A All DHB elections use the single transferable voting (STV) electoral system. Under STV, voters mark their preferences with numbers instead of ticks.

Members

Q30. How much time would I need to spend on DHB work if I was elected?

A It does vary depending on the DHB, but members should expect a commitment of around 30 days per year, which includes preparation for board and committee meetings, and community liaison. The rule of thumb is for every hour of board/committee meeting allow at least the same amount of time for preparation.

Q31. Do I need any special skills to be a board member?

A No, not necessarily. All boards need a mix of skills, backgrounds and experience. This includes people with governance and financial experience, but also community-oriented people who are passionate about health and disability services in their area.

Q32. What are DHB advisory committees?

A There are three required under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000. They are:

- Community and Public Health Advisory Committee
- Disability Support Advisory Committee
- Hospital Advisory Committee

The DHB may establish others in addition to these three committees (e.g. Audit, Risk and Finance committees).

Q33. How are the members of these committees decided?

A The DHB appoints members to these advisory committees. In addition to board members, other members may be co-opted to these committees from outside the board.

Q34. Are there any provisions to ensure that the DHB board membership is representative of various ethnic groups in New Zealand?

A The New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 requires the minister to ..."endeavour to ensure that:

Māori membership of the board is proportional to the number of Māori in the DHB's resident population (as estimated by Statistics New Zealand); and

In any event, there are at least two Māori members on the board.

The Crown Entities Act 2004 requires the minister to "take into account the desirability of promoting diversity in the membership of Crown entities" when making appointments.

People from all backgrounds are encouraged to stand with the STV form of voting considered to give better representation for minority groups.

Q35. What about women board members?

There are no specific provisions around gender balance in the legislation, but women are encouraged to stand – around 45% of current DHB board members are women.

Results

Q36. When will the results be known?

- A As soon as possible after voting closes the DHBE0 will collate the results and then provide a preliminary result, expected on Sunday morning, 13 October 2019.

Final results will not be known until in the week after the election when special votes have been counted following confirmation of a voters' eligibility to vote (expected Thursday 17 October 2019).

Frequently Asked Questions: Section C

Licensing Trust elections

General Information

Q1. How long have we had licensing trusts?

- A The first licensing trust was established in 1944 (Invercargill).
-

Q2. What do licensing trusts do?

- A Under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, the functions of a licensing trust are:
- (a) to sell and supply alcohol
 - (b) establish and operate premises for:
 - the sale and supply of alcohol; and
 - the provision of accommodation for travellers; and
 - the sale and supply of food and refreshments;
 - (c) carry on any other business that, in the trust's opinion, can be conveniently carried on in conjunction with the functions set out in paragraphs (a) and (b).
-

Q3. How many members are there on a licensing trust?

- A Birkenhead Licensing Trust – 6 members
Mt Wellington Licensing Trust – 6 members
Portage Licensing Trust – 10 members
Waitakere Licensing Trust – 7 members
Wiri Licensing Trust – 6 members.
-

Q4. Are any members appointed?

- A The Governor-General may appoint as many members of a licensing trust as are required if at any election no members are elected or fewer members are elected as required. However, where an extraordinary vacancy is created, this must be filled via an election (unless 12 months or less before the triennial election day).
-

Q5. How is the president of a trust decided?

- A The president of a trust is elected at the first meeting of a trust after the election. The president must be elected from the members of the trust.
-

Q6. When do current elected board members relinquish their positions?

- A Elected members take up office the day after the official result has been declared by public notice.
-

Q7. How long is the term of an elected licensing trust member?

- A Three years. Elections are held every three years at the same time as the Auckland Council elections.
-

Q8. How long is the term of an appointed licensing trust member?

- A Up to three years but they may be appointed for a shorter time.
-

Q9. What do licensing trust members do?

- A They are responsible for the governance of the licensing trust.
-

Q10. Who runs these elections?

- A Each licensing trust is required to appoint an electoral officer (the LTEO) to run the licensing trust election. The LTEO must be the electoral officer for one of the councils in the licensing trust district. For the Birkenhead, Mt Wellington, Portage, Waitakere and Wiri Licensing Trusts, the electoral officer is the electoral officer for Auckland Council.

Q11. Who pays for the licensing trust elections?

A Each licensing trust pays for its share of the election costs. Because each licensing trust election is run together with the Auckland Council elections, many of the costs are shared between the parties on an agreed basis.

Q12. When are the elections this year?

A They are the same day as the Auckland Council elections. Voting documents will be posted out from 20 September 2019 and they must be back with the electoral officer by 12 noon on 12 October 2019 when the election closes.

Q13. How much are licensing trust members paid?

A This varies according to size and complexity of each licensing trust and is generally based on a set meeting fee.

Q14. Who is eligible to stand for a licensing trust?

A Only **residential** electors within a trust district (or within a ward of a trust district if there are wards) qualify as candidates at an election of a trust if they are registered as a parliamentary elector and are a New Zealand citizen.

A person cannot stand if he or she has (directly or by virtue of his or her relationship with another person) such an involvement or appearance of involvement with the alcohol industry that he or she could not perform the duties of a member of a licensing trust without actual bias or the appearance of bias.

Q15. Do you have to be resident in the licensing trust area (or ward if applicable) to stand for that Trust?

A Yes, you do as well as the people who nominate you.

Q16. How many licensing trusts can I stand for?

A Only one.

Q17. When do nominations open?

A They open on Friday 19 July 2019 and close at 12 noon on 16 August 2019.

Q18. How much can I spend on my campaign?

A There is a campaign expenditure limit based on how many people live in the trust's district.

The maximum amount that can be spent by a candidate (the amounts include GST) cannot exceed the limits set out as follows:

Local government area population	Expenditure limit
Up to 4,999	\$3,500
5,000 – 9,999	\$7,000
10,000 – 19,999	\$14,000
20,000 – 39,999	\$20,000
40,000 – 59,999	\$30,000
60,000 – 79,999	\$40,000
80,000 – 99,999	\$50,000
100,000 – 149,999	\$55,000
150,000 – 249,999	\$60,000
250,000 – 1,000,000	\$70,000
1,000,000 or more	\$100,000*

** plus 50 cents for each elector*

For example, a candidate for the Wiri Licensing Trust (which has a population in the range of 60,000 – 79,999) can spend up to \$40,000 inclusive of GST.

Voting

Q19. Is there any information available to electors about the people who are standing?

A Candidates are entitled to complete a 150-word (maximum) profile statement about themselves. This statement will be published in a booklet with information about all candidates and sent out with voting documents. It should also be

available on the Auckland Council website
(voteauckland.co.nz) from 23 August 2019.

Q20. Who is eligible to be an elector?

- A All parliamentary electors resident in the licensing trust area in which they live may vote for members of the licensing trust.
-

Q21. I have more than one property in different licensing trust areas. Can I vote for a member in each of those licensing trusts?

- A No, you can only vote for the licensing trust where you are resident and on the parliamentary electoral roll.
-

Q22. What method of voting is used?

- A All the licensing trust elections use the first past the post (FPP) electoral system.
-

Members

Q23. How much time would I need to spend on licensing trust work if I was elected?

- A This varies depending on the size and complexity of the licensing trust.
-

Q24. Do I need any special skills to be a licensing trust member?

- A All licensing trusts need a mix of skills, backgrounds and experience. This includes people with governance and financial experience, but also community-oriented people who are passionate about this area.
-