



Information about being a candidate in the Auckland Council election



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What this document is about



This document is from Auckland Council.



Council means the people who make choices about how to run a town / city.



There is going to be a **local election** in 2025.



A **local election** is when people can vote for who is on the council.

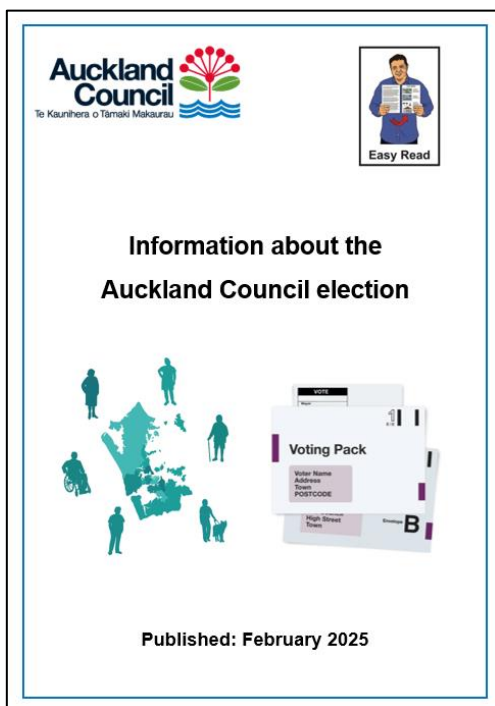


This Easy Read document has information about being a **candidate** in the local election.



Being a **candidate** means:

- saying you want to be part of Auckland Council
- asking people to vote for you in the election.



There is more information about the election in the Easy Read document **Information about the Auckland Council election**.

You can find this document on the Auckland Council **website** at:

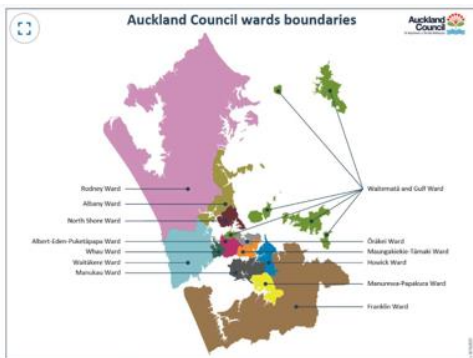
<https://tinyurl.com/4ky8wnzh>

Who is on Auckland Council



Auckland Council is made up of:

- the Governing Body
- local boards.



The Governing Body makes choices for the whole of Auckland.

It is made up of:

- the **mayor**
- **20 councillors.**



The **mayor** is the leader of the council.



Councillors are the people on the council.

Councillors speak for their **ward**.



A **ward** is a part of a town / city.



Local boards make choices about how to run things in their part of a town / city.



There are 21 local boards in Auckland Council.



You can choose to be a candidate for:

- the mayor
- a councillor for a ward
- a member of a local board.

What does an elected member do?



An **elected member** is anyone who has been voted on to Auckland Council.



Elected members make choices about how Auckland Council should spend its money.



Elected members need to think about:



- what people in Auckland need
- how to support businesses to do well
- what Auckland could be like in the future.





Some of the things elected members do are:

- read information to get ready for meetings
- have meetings with:
 - the Governing Body / local board
 - **committees.**



A **committee** is a group of people who work on something together.

Elected members also talk to all sorts of people about their:

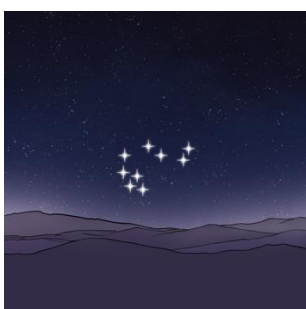
- needs
- ideas
- worries.





Elected members also have to go to:

- openings for things like new parks
- events like:
 - **Matariki**
 - Chinese New Year
 - Pasifika Festival
- community activities like working bees.



Matariki is the Māori new year.

We celebrate Matariki in June or July.

Who can be a candidate



To be a candidate you must be:

- a New Zealand **citizen**
- at least 18 years old
- enrolled on the **electoral roll**.



A **New Zealand citizen** is someone who can get a New Zealand passport.

Many New Zealand citizens are born in New Zealand.

Some people who come to live in New Zealand from overseas also become New Zealand citizens.



The **electoral roll** is a list of all the people who can vote in Aotearoa New Zealand.



All sorts of people can be candidates.



It is good to have people on the council with different:

- skills
- experience.



Being an elected member can take a lot of time.

You cannot just work **office hours**.

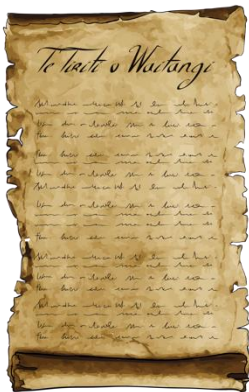


Office hours means:

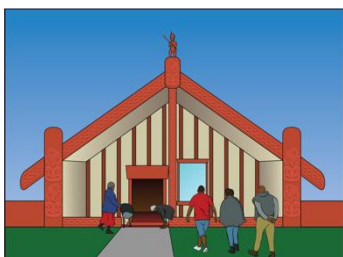
- 9 am to 5 pm
- Monday to Friday.



Your hours will not be the same every day.



Elected members need to have a **commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.**



A commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi means you:

- understand about **Te Tiriti o Waitangi**
- will work to support **Māori rights.**



Te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi is a legal document that was signed in 1840.

Te Tiriti / the Treaty is important to New Zealand.



It is about Māori and the New Zealand Government:



- making decisions together
- protecting things that are important to Māori.



Māori rights are things like:

- being in charge of their land
- having a say in government
- being able to do things in a Māori way.





It is also good if elected members know about:

- iwi / groups of Māori in the Auckland area
- te ao Māori which is the Māori world
- tikanga which means the right way to do things.



Elected members need to be **confident** speaking at:

- meetings
- events.



Confident means being sure of yourself.



You will need to be able to say what you think clearly.



Elected members need to be able to use:

- email
- a smart phone
- a computer
- computer apps like MS Teams.



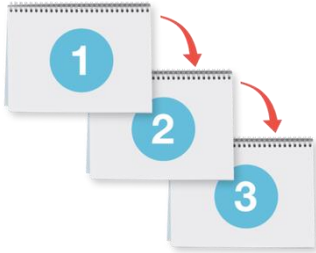
Elected members need to be able to understand different:



- ideas
- opinions.



Elected members need to understand the **consequences** of their choices.



Consequences are things that happen because of something else.

For example if you spend a lot of money on one thing there might not be enough left over for other things.



Elected members need to:

- get along with lots of different people.
- work with people they do not agree with.



How much money are elected members paid?



Local board members work from 12 to 24 hours a week.



Local board members are paid from around 31 thousand dollars to just over 50 thousand dollars a year.



Boards with bigger local areas pay more money.



Each local board chooses someone to be the:

- **chair**
- **deputy chair.**



Chair means the person who leads the meetings.

Deputy chair means the person who leads the meetings if the chair is away.



These people work from 20 to 40 hours a week.



They are paid from around 37 thousand dollars to a bit over 1 hundred thousand dollars a year.



Councillors work:

- full time
- at least 40 hours a week.

NEW	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	NEW	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
AM	WORK	WORK	WORK	WORK			AM	WORK	WORK	WORK	WORK		
PM	WORK	WORK	WORK	WORK			PM	WORK	WORK	WORK	WORK		
EVE							EVE						



Councillors are paid a bit more than 1 hundred thousand dollars a year.

The mayor works:

- full time
- more than 40 hours a week
- on weekends / evenings.

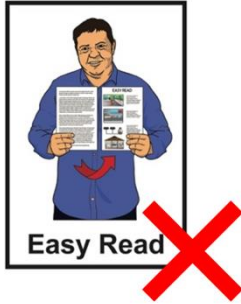


The mayor is paid a bit more than 3 hundred thousand dollars a year.



There is more information about how much elected members are paid on the Vote Auckland **website** at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2x8w9fse>



The website is not in Easy Read.

Important dates



You can start thinking about if you want to be a candidate now.

Nominations for candidates:



- open on Friday 4 July 2025
- close on Friday 1 August 2025.



Nominations are when people say they want to be a candidate in an election.



There will be more information about nominations when it is closer to nominations opening.



We will find out who all the candidates are on Friday 8 August 2025.

Voting:



- starts on Tuesday 9 September 2025



- ends on Saturday 11 October 2025.



We will find out the **preliminary election results** on Saturday 11 October 2025.



Preliminary election results are the first results.

They may change after someone has checked them.



Candidates will know for sure if they are on the council sometime between:

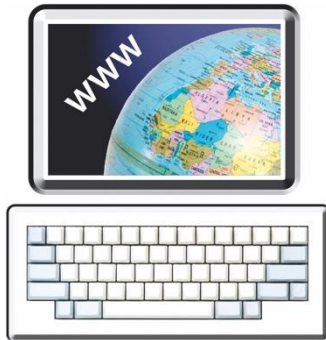
- Monday 13 October 2025

and

- Friday 17 October 2025.



More information



There is more information about Auckland Council local elections on the Vote Auckland **website** at:

www.voteauckland.co.nz



The Vote Auckland website is not in Easy Read.



If you have questions about the Auckland Council local election you can **phone**:

09 973 5212



You can also **email**:

info@electionservices.co.nz



If you need support with your nomination you can book an appointment by **phoning**:

0800 922 822



or

09 973 5212



You can find more information about voting in Aotearoa New Zealand on this **website**:

<https://www.vote.nz>



The website is not in Easy Read.



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