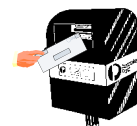


LOCAL GOVERNMENT POSTAL ELECTIONS



INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Your Council has decided that the forthcoming local government elections will be conducted by post.

The Electoral Commissioner has appointed a Returning Officer for the election period. The Returning Officer for your local council will supply you with a Candidate's Pack, giving you the information you need to nominate and write your candidate profile.

Postal Elections

Candidates must nominate by 4.00 pm on the date set for close of nominations.

Candidates must disclose gifts and donations received in the period which commences 6 months before the relevant election day and concludes:

- (a) for unsuccessful candidates, 3 days after the election day; or
- (b) for successful candidates, on the start day for financial interest returns,

The Chief Executive Officer has full details of disclosure requirements.

Candidate profiles are sent to all electors.

Electoral material placed in newspapers **must** contain the name and address (not a PO box number) of the person authorising the material. Other electoral material **must** show both the name and address of the person authorising the material and the name and business address of the printer at the end of the advertisement.

All residents who are on the State electoral roll for the district are automatically on the Council electoral roll.

Non-resident owners and occupiers must apply to be on the Council electoral roll. Application forms are available from the Council.

Non-resident owners remain on the roll until the property is sold.

Non-resident occupiers are removed from the roll following the second ordinary election after acceptance of their original application.

Every elector on the roll is sent a voting package that contains an information brochure on the postal voting procedure; a set of profiles of all candidates; a ballot paper; a ballot paper envelope and a reply paid envelope for returning the ballot paper.

Election packages will usually be mailed three weeks before the close of the poll. Electors may mail or hand-deliver their packages. Candidates, or a person authorised to act on behalf of a candidate, **must not** assist electors in completing their ballot papers or delivering packages.

In order that the count can commence at the close of poll, voting packages are checked and opened beforehand. The elector certificates are detached, then the ballot paper envelopes are opened and the ballot papers are removed, without inspection. The ballot papers are then placed in a sealed ballot box to be opened at the close of polling. Candidates or their appointed scrutineers may witness these procedures.

A polling place is open on election day for receiving hand-delivered packages, issuing replacement packages and taking provisional votes. Very few voters attend as most have already posted their votes.

Polls close at 6.00 pm and all the ballot papers are counted. Scrutineers may observe the count.

Results are declared by the Returning Officer then published on the local government's public noticeboards and the Western Australian Electoral Commission's web site at www.waec.wa.gov.au.



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