

NOTICE OF DAY OF ELECTION AND POLL FOR THE WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Nominations received

Notice is given under section 65 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 that the following persons have been duly nominated as candidates for:

Mayor (*one vacancy*)

Name	Affiliation
ILES, Andrew	
INMAN, Mark	
JACOBS, Philip	
JAMES, Wilson	
LUCA, Victor	
TANCZOS, Nándor	

Council

Kāpū-te-rangi Māori Ward (*one vacancy*)

Name	Affiliation
BOYNTON, Toni	
WALLACE, Hiria	

Rangitāiki Māori Ward (*one vacancy*)

Name	Affiliation
O'BRIEN, Tu	
VERCOE, Rihi	

Toi ki Uta Māori Ward (*one vacancy*)

Name	Affiliation
MCGAHAN, Glenn	Independent
MORGAN-RANUI, Jesse Wayne	

Whakatāne-Ōhope General Ward *(four vacancies)*

Name	Affiliation
BARNARD, Chris	Independent
HAMILL, Carolyn Louise	
HORAN, Brendan	Independent
IMMINK, Lesley Nerida	
JUKES, Julie Claire	
STEWART, Dave	
WHITAKER, Malcolm	

Community Boards

Rangitāiki Community Board *(six vacancies)*

Name	Affiliation
BONNER, Stephanie	
BROWN, Heemi	
CLARK, Bill	
EVANS, Bruce	
FLOWERDAY, Peter	Independent
HALE, Storm	
MCHARDY, Stu	

Whakatāne-Ōhope Community Board *(six vacancies)*

Name	Affiliation
BONNE, Linda	
CESSFORD, Sasha Victoria	
HOWARD, Christopher	
KINGI, Quin	
MCLEAN, Douglas	
PROOT, Tim	Independent
SLOMAN, Rosemary Jan	
WHALE, Sue	

As there are (for each office) more candidates than there are vacancies to be filled, an election will be held between the listed candidates on Saturday, 11 October 2025, under the First Past the Post electoral system by postal vote.

Elected unopposed

Rangitāiki General Ward (*two vacancies*)

Name	Affiliation
DENNIS, Gavin	
JAMES, Wilson	

As the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, Gavin DENNIS and Wilson JAMES are duly declared elected members of the Whakatāne District Council.

Te Urewera General Ward (*one vacancy*)

Name	Affiliation
ILES, Andrew	

As the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, Andrew ILES is duly declared an elected member of the Whakatāne District Council.

Murupara Community Board

Galatea-Waiōhau Subdivision (*two vacancies*)

Name	Affiliation
MORGAN-RANUI, Jesse Wayne	
SILCOCK, Alison	

As the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, Jesse Wayne MORGAN-RANUI and Alison SILCOCK are duly declared elected members of the Murupara Community Board (Galatea-Waiōhau Subdivision).

Murupara Subdivision (*three vacancies*)

Name	Affiliation
KEREOPA, Weku	
PAUL, Karito	
PRENTICE, Irma Mazzaine	

As the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, Weku KEREOPA, Karito PAUL and Irma Mazzaine PRENTICE are duly declared elected members of the Murupara Community Board (Murupara Subdivision).

Te Urewera Subdivision (*one vacancy*)

Name	Affiliation
HONEYCOMBE, Mere Kuia	

As the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, Mere Kuia HONEYCOMBE is duly declared an elected member of the Murupara Community Board (Te Urewera Subdivision).

Elected unopposed

Tāneatua Community Board (*six vacancies*)

Name	Affiliation
BRYANT, Talei	Independent
PAGE, Shane	
XAVIOUR, Vinoop	

As the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies, Talei BRYANT, Shane PAGE and Vinoop XAVIOUR are duly declared elected members of the Tāneatua Community Board.

A by-election will be held for the remaining vacancies on 3 March 2026.

Order of candidate names

The Whakatāne District Council has resolved under regulation 31 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 to adopt the random order of candidate names to appear on the voting documents.

Māori Wards Poll

Notice is also given under section 65 of the Local Electoral Act 2001, that the Whakatāne District Council is required to hold a poll on its Māori wards in conjunction with its 2025 elections. The poll will be held on Saturday, 11 October 2025 under the First Past the Post electoral system by postal vote.

The outcome of the poll will be binding and apply for the 2028 and 2031 triennial elections.

The poll is a vote to KEEP or REMOVE the Whakatāne District Council's Māori wards.

Issuing of voting documents

Voting documents will be posted to electors from Tuesday, 9 September 2025.

Return of voting documents

Voting documents must be returned not later than noon, Saturday, 11 October 2025 to the electoral officer.

Voting documents can be returned by post or hand delivered to a vote box at the following locations between Tuesday, 9 September 2025 and Friday, 10 October 2025 during normal business hours (unless stated):

- Whakatāne District Council, 14 Commerce Street, Whakatāne
- Murupara Library & Service Centre, Civic Square, Pine Drive, Murupara - by 4.30pm on Friday, 10 October 2025
- Te Kōputu a te whanga a Toi - Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre - 9 Kakahoroa Drive, Whakatāne
 - » Opening hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm and Saturday, 10am – 2pm
 - » Drop off by 3 pm on Friday, 10 October 2025
- Edgumbe Library - 38 College Road, Edgumbe
 - » Opening hours: Monday and Friday between 2pm – 4pm and Wednesday between 10am – 12pm
 - » Drop off by 4pm on Friday, 10 October

Return of voting documents

- Ōhope Library - 4 Harbour Road, Ōhope
 - » Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 10am – 12pm and Tuesday and Thursday 2pm – 4pm
 - » Drop off by 12pm (noon) Friday, 10 October.

In addition, voting documents can be hand-delivered to a vote box between 9.00am and noon (unless stated) on Saturday, 11 October 2025 at the following locations:

- Whakatāne District Council, 14 Commerce Street, Whakatāne
- For further locations visit whakatane.govt.nz/standforsomething

Special voting

Special voting in terms of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 may be exercised at:

- Whakatāne District Council, 14 Commerce Street, Whakatāne, between Tuesday, 9 September 2025 and Friday, 10 October 2025 during normal business hours, and Saturday, 11 October 2025 between 9am – 12pm noon.
- Murupara Library & Service Centre, Civic Square, Pine Drive, Murupara between Tuesday, 9 September 2025 and by 4.30pm Friday, 10 October 2025
- or by phoning the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

On election day, Saturday, 11 October 2025, ordinary voting documents can be returned, and special votes may be exercised between 9am and noon. For information on additional voting locations, visit whakatane.govt.nz.

A person can apply to enrol as either a residential or ratepayer elector right up to and including Friday, 10 October 2025 – the day before the close of voting.

Dale Ofoske
Electoral Officer
Independent Election Services Ltd
August 2025
LEA = Local Electoral Act 2001