

BY-ELECTIONS FACT SHEET

Whakatāne District Council

17 FEBRUARY 2023

Background

As a result of there being insufficient candidates at the 2022 triennial elections, a by-election is now required to be held on Friday 17 February 2023, for:

- one vacancy for the **Murupara Community Board (Galatea-Waiohau Subdivision)**.
- two vacancies for the **Tāneatua Community Board**.

The by-elections will be conducted by postal vote under the provisions of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 and will be undertaken by Election Services, under contract to Whakatāne District Council.

The first past the post (FPP) electoral system will be used for the by-elections.

Key dates for the by-elections

Nominations open	Thursday 24 November 2022
Nominations close	Noon, Thursday 22 December 2022
Delivery of voting packs	from Thursday 26 January 2023
Close of voting	Noon, Friday 17 February 2023
Official results announced	Friday 17 February 2023

How can I be nominated?

Nominations for these positions will open on **Thursday 24 November 2022** and close at noon on **Thursday 22 December 2022**.

Nomination papers will be available during this period from:

- Temporary Customer Service Centre, Whakatāne District Council, 4 Commerce Street, Whakatāne;
- Murupara Service Centre & Library, Civic Square, Pine Drive, Murupara;
- by accessing www.whakatane.govt.nz;
- by telephoning the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

To be eligible to stand for election, a candidate **must** be:

- a New Zealand citizen (by birth or naturalisation ceremony); **and**
- enrolled as a Parliamentary elector (anywhere in New Zealand); **and**
- nominated by two electors whose names appear on the electoral roll within the respective area that a candidate is standing for.

Who can vote?

Those eligible to vote are all resident electors and non-resident ratepayer electors whose names appear on the electoral roll when it closes on Thursday 22 December 2022. The Preliminary Electoral Roll will be available for public inspection from **Thursday 24 November 2022** to **Thursday 22 December 2022** at the above locations.

Resident Roll: All parliamentary electors, including those on the Māori Electoral Roll, are automatically enrolled on the Resident Roll, at the address where they live.

Any alterations to the Resident Roll (e.g. change of address details, including new postal addresses) should be made by:

- completing the appropriate form at any postal agency;
- phoning 0800 ENROLNOW (0800 36 76 56)
- accessing the Electoral Commission website on www.vote.nz

Ratepayer Roll: If a person is on the parliamentary roll in one area and pays rates on a property in another area, this person may be eligible to be enrolled on the non-resident ratepayer roll. A firm, company, corporation or society paying rates on a property may nominate one of its members or officers as a ratepayer elector (provided the nominated person resides outside the area). Ratepayer Roll enrolment forms are available at www.whakatane.govt.nz, or by phoning 0800 922 822.

How to vote?

Should the number of candidates exceed the number of vacancies, voting packs will be sent out in the mail to all those who have enrolled from **Thursday 26 January 2023**.

The voting period is three weeks (**Thursday 26 January 2023 to noon Friday 17 February 2023**). Electors may post their completed voting documents back to the electoral officer using the orange pre-paid envelope sent with their voting document.

Polling places for the issuing of special voting documents and for the receiving of completed voting documents will be available from Thursday 26 January 2023 at the following locations:

- Temporary Customer Service Centre, Whakatāne District Council, 4 Commerce Street, Whakatāne;
- Murupara Service Centre & Library, Civic Square, Pine Drive, Murupara.

To be counted, all completed voting documents must be in the hands of the electoral officer or an electoral official by **noon Friday 17 February 2023**.

Results will be announced as soon as these are available after the close of voting on by-election day and will be accessible on Council's website: www.whakatane.govt.nz.

Whakatāne District Council Community Boards Map

