



FACT SHEET

2010 TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS

GENERAL

Triennial elections for elected members of all local authorities throughout New Zealand are to be conducted, by postal vote, on **Saturday 9 October 2010**.

The elections will be conducted under the provisions of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 and the Local Government Act 2002 and will be undertaken, by contract, by Independent Election Services Ltd.

POSITIONS

Elections will be required for the following positions:

- *Mayor* (elected 'at large')
- *Councillors* (6)
 - Coast Ward (1)
 - Opotiki Ward (3)
 - Waioeka-Waiotahi Ward (2)
- *Community Board Members* (4 - Coast Community only)
- *Environment Bay of Plenty Members* (2 General Members Eastern Bay of Plenty Constituency or 1 Maori Member from the Kohi Maori Constituency)
- *Bay of Plenty District Health Board Members* (7 Members elected 'at-large')

NOMINATIONS

Nominations for all positions open on **Friday 23 July 2010** and will close at **12 noon on Friday 20 August 2010**.

Nomination forms will be available during this period from the Opotiki District Council Office (108 St John Street, Opotiki) or by telephoning 0800 922 822 where one will be posted out.

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

- enrolled as a Parliamentary elector anywhere in New Zealand; and
- a New Zealand citizen.

Detailed candidate information booklets will be available from the electoral office (phone 0800 922 822) from June 2010.

ELECTORAL ROLLS

Those eligible to vote at the elections are all resident electors and non-resident ratepayer electors whose names appear on the electoral roll when it closes. The preliminary electoral roll will be available for public inspection from **Friday 23 July 2010** to **Friday 20 August 2010** at the following locations:

- Council's Office (108 St John Street, Opotiki)
- Council's Library (100 Church Street, Opotiki)
- Whakatohea Maori Trust Board (122 St John Street, Opotiki)

- Ngaitai Iwi Authority (State Highway 35, Opotiki)
- post shops within the district.

Resident Roll. All parliamentary electors are automatically enrolled on the local authority resident electoral roll, at the address where they live. A confirmation card will be issued to all parliamentary electors in early July 2010.

Any alterations to the resident roll (eg change of addresses details, including new postal addresses) should be made by:

- completing the appropriate form at any post shop;
- telephoning 0800 ENROLNOW (0800 367 656)
- accessing the Electoral Enrolment Centre website on www.elections.org.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 (providing the nominated person resides outside of the area). Ratepayer Roll Enrolment Forms are available at Council's Office and Library or by phoning 0800 922 822.

Any alterations to the ratepayer roll should be made at the Council's electoral office.

ELECTORAL SYSTEM

The first past the post electoral system will be used for all elections except for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board election which will use the single transferable voting electoral system.

VOTING PERIOD

Voting documents will be sent to all eligible electors, by post, from **Friday 17 September 2010**.

The voting period is 3 weeks (**Friday 17 September 2010 to 12 noon Saturday 9 October 2010**). Electors may post their completed voting documents back to the electoral officer using a pre-paid envelope sent with the voting document. A polling place for the issuing of special voting documents and for the receiving of completed voting documents will be available from Friday 17 September 2010 to 12 noon Saturday 9 October from the Council's Office (108 St John Street, Opotiki).

To be counted, all completed voting documents must be in the hands of the electoral officer or an electoral official by **12 noon Saturday 9 October 2010**.

Progress results will be known about 1pm, and preliminary results will be known about 7pm on **Saturday 9 October 2010**. These will be accessible on Council's website (www.odc.govt.nz).

CONTACT DETAILS

For further information regarding these elections, please contact the electoral office:

Telephone: 0800 922 822 Email: dale.ofsoske@electionservices.org.nz

Write to: The Electoral Officer
Opotiki District Council
C/- Independent Election Services Ltd
P O Box 5135
Wellesley Street
Auckland, 1141