

# Making a stand **made easy**

A candidate's guide to local government



**Local Government  
New Zealand**  
*te pūtahi matakōkiri*





# Welcome



**Lawrence Yule**

President, Local Government New Zealand

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I am pleased that you are considering standing for election. Local government provides for the well-being of communities and leads, nurtures and responds to community views. A key principle underpinning local democracy is that decision-making power should rest as close as possible to the communities affected by the decisions made.

It's also important councils represent their communities and operate effectively and efficiently.

Local Government New Zealand believes that local democracy is about:

- having the right mix of people, elected locally, to best represent each community;
- ensuring services are provided to the community in the best way possible;
- taking a collective approach to meeting community needs; and
- creating a sense of local identity and place.

Democracy only works when citizens are prepared to stand up and contribute to the public good and, to be effective, elected members need to reflect the diversity of our communities.

To stand for office you simply need to be a New Zealand citizen and enrolled on the Parliamentary electoral roll, willing to participate and committed to serving your local community. Elected members take an oath to faithfully, impartially and according to their best skill and judgement, execute and perform their duties in the interests of the community, city, district or region.

The role of an elected member can be demanding at times, but it is also highly rewarding. I hope this publication gives you valuable information to help you on your way. If you would like more information please check out our website at [www.lgnz.co.nz](http://www.lgnz.co.nz) or speak to the electoral officer of the council in the area you want to stand in.

Good luck.

# What is local government?

## Territorial authorities, regional councils and their functions

Local government provides communities with a wide range of services and facilities which contribute significantly to quality of life. We often associate councils with the roads, rates and rubbish – but councils do much more. They play a vital role in enabling local communities to grow and develop.

Councils plan for the future of their communities, they determine what developments and activities are permissible and regulate activities such as subdivisions, housing developments, business activities, and animal and environmental protection. Territorial authorities and regional councils have different functions and responsibilities.

Councils' primary source of funding comes from rates. Rates fund around 60 per cent of all council activities.

There are 78 councils in New Zealand, 67 of which are territorial authorities. The territorial authorities include 12 city councils, and 55 district councils (six of which are unitary authorities).

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The territorial authorities' functions include:

- community well-being and development;
- environmental health and safety (including building control, civil defence, and environmental health matters);
- infrastructure (roading and transport, sewerage, water/stormwater);
- recreation and culture; and
- resource management, including land use planning and development control.

There are 11 regional councils which manage the natural resources of an area.

This includes:

- biosecurity control (including pest control and noxious plants);
- resource management (quality of water, soil, coastal planning);
- flood and river management;
- civil defence (natural disasters, marine oil spill); and
- regional transport planning and passenger transport services.

Six territorial authorities are known as "unitary authorities", as they have the responsibilities of both territorial authorities and regional councils. The unitary councils are Auckland Council, Nelson City Council, Tasman District Council, Marlborough District Council, Gisborne District Council and the Chatham Islands Council.

Councils have the ability, following consultation, to transfer functions between regional councils and territorial authorities, so which council does what may vary from place to place.

## Council responsibilities

Councils are required to give effect to their purpose, which is to:

- enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- meet the current and future needs of communities for good quality local infrastructure; local public services; and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.

When performing its role a council must have regard to the contribution the following core services make to its communities:

- network infrastructure;
- public transport services;
- solid waste collection and disposal;
- the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards; and
- libraries, museums, reserves, recreational facilities; and other community infrastructure.

A council also must:

- ensure that the services provided are managed efficiently and effectively;
- exercise community leadership;
- manage, protect, develop, restore, enhance and conserve the environment;
- account for and manage assets for which it is responsible;
- facilitate involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and co-ordination of local government;
- raise funds for local purposes by way of rates, charges and fees and investments, loans and grants;
- keep the local community informed about its activities;
- ensure that in the exercise of its regulatory functions it acts without bias; and
- act as a responsible employer.

## What is governance?

Governance, in a council sense, involves providing leadership for the good of the community. It is about balancing views, resources and needs and making decisions that are best for the community. It is not about implementing decisions – that is the responsibility of council management and staff.

Councils have two major governance roles:

- being the governing body for the council organisation; and
- a bylaw-making and regulatory role.

The key governance responsibilities of councils are to:

- connect with the community;
- set policies; and
- monitor and review the performance of the organisation.

## Council structures

Local authorities, other than the new Auckland Council, are governed by the council, also known as “the committee of the whole.”

A council has the discretion to appoint any standing committee, special committee or subcommittee it considers appropriate. Standing committees (or permanent committees) are responsible for much of the work the council does. They are responsible for a council’s regulatory services, planning, recreation and safety, as well as promoting economic development, although some councils now operate without committees.

Many territorial authorities have community boards. Community boards exist to make sure that a community’s interests are being adequately represented and to bring decision-making closer to the citizens themselves (depending on the functions and responsibilities delegated to them by the council). Auckland Council has 21 local boards that provide a similar function but with greater decision-making powers than community boards – including not having to have their decisions endorsed by the Council.

## Who makes decisions?

Elected members are responsible for making decisions on matters such as the services the council will provide, the standard they are provided to, how they will be paid for and what bylaws need to be made. Councils have a chief executive and other staff to provide advice and implement these decisions. Most decisions are made in formally constituted meetings or made under delegation by staff.

## Is the public entitled to attend council meetings?

Absolutely. The public is entitled to attend meetings of councils and council committees, local boards and community boards. Public access to meetings ensures transparency and accountability as well as providing a mechanism for the community to give direct feedback to the council.

Councils, local boards and community boards do have the right to discuss some matters in private such as matters of individual privacy or commercial sensitivity. They may also elect to hold workshops to debate and find out more about an issue and these are usually held in private.

**The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) makes official information pertaining to local government available, unless there is a valid reason for withholding it.**

## Council roles

There are a number of clearly defined roles within council:

- mayors and regional council chairpersons;
- deputy mayors and deputy chairpersons;
- committee and subcommittee members;
- committee chairpersons;
- councillors;
- local board chairpersons;
- local board members;
- Community board chairpersons; and
- Community board members.

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# What roles do elected members fulfil?

## Mayor

The role of mayor is important as the ceremonial head of the council providing leadership to other elected members and the organisation. The job is varied, involves long hours, and a wide range of duties such as chairing meetings, taking a public stand on local issues and being available to constituents. The size of the job differs depending on the size of the district, city or region and the size of the council itself. The mayor is elected at large and has the same responsibilities as other members of council in addition to his/her responsibility to chair council meetings. A mayor might also have a casting vote.

One of the most challenging aspects of being mayor is ensuring the orderly conduct of business during council meetings. By keeping order and providing sound leadership elected members help ensure the council decision-making process works at its best. The mayor is often the spokesperson for the council as well.

In addition to these roles, the mayor also fulfils the responsibilities of a Justice of the Peace (while holding office).

## Chairperson of regional council

The chairperson is elected by councillors at the regional council's first meeting following the local elections. The chairperson shares the same responsibilities as other members of the council but must also chair council meetings and may have a casting vote. In addition to this the chairperson has a number of other roles, including, the ceremonial head of the council, the

presiding member at council meetings and responsibility for ensuring meetings are conducted in an orderly manner.

The chairperson advocates on behalf of the regional community by promoting and representing its interests and providing leadership and feedback to fellow elected members. In addition to these roles the chairperson also fulfils the responsibilities of a Justice of the Peace (while holding office).

## Councillor

The role of councillor can, at times, be very demanding. You will have to balance a number of competing interests and wear a number of hats, as councillors can be required to act simultaneously as community leaders, representatives and community board members.

For the three year term councillors need to juggle work, the community's demands, their own priorities, the policies of their political team (if they have one) and the challenges facing their council.

Being a councillor is a very public role. Whenever councillors appear in public, even though it may not be in an official capacity, they are usually regarded as a "councillor" and judged accordingly. This is not a 9 to 5 job.

The role and responsibilities of a councillor fall into two main categories:

- being a member of the governing body of the council; and
- being an elected representative of the community.



## Local board members

Established under the governance arrangements for Auckland, local boards have a significant and wide-ranging role. They make decisions on a range of local government matters at the local level, provide local leadership and build strong local communities. Local Boards will provide important local input into region-wide strategies and plans.

Local boards also have an important role in the Auckland Council's planning process. Every three years local boards prepare a plan that informs the Auckland Council's Long Term Plan. Based on its local board plan each board negotiates, annually, an agreement with the governing body on the delivery and funding of services in the local area.

## Community board members

Many councils have community boards, which are elected in tandem with the election of the mayor and councillors. The role of community board members will vary depending on the level of responsibility delegated to them by their parent council. At the least community boards make recommendations to councils on policies, bylaws, and strategies reflecting the views of the communities they represent.

The primary role of a community board member is to represent and advocate for the interests of their communities, liaise with community organisations and government departments and maintain an overview of the local services provided by the council. Community boards can also make written and oral submissions to council on various issues.

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## What are the responsibilities of an elected member?

### Governance

As a member of the governing body you are required to participate in the decision-making processes that guide and govern the affairs of the council. This includes:

- establishing a policy framework;
- deciding on the financial resources to be raised to deliver your programme;
- ensuring council is fulfilling its regulatory functions in an appropriate manner;
- adopting a Long Term Plan to fulfil statutory responsibilities and aimed at fulfilling community expectations; and
- regularly reviewing the council's performance.

As a member of an Auckland local board you are required to participate in decision-making processes that guide and govern the affairs of the council at the local level. This includes:

- preparing, every three years, a local board plan that will inform Auckland Council's Long Term Plan;
- negotiating, annually, an agreement with the governing body on the delivery and funding of services in the local area, which forms part of the Annual Plan;
- taking oversight of local services and activities;
- providing local input into region-wide strategies and plans;
- making decisions on local non-regulatory activities;
- developing and proposing local bylaws; and
- exercising responsibilities, including regulatory responsibilities, under delegation from the governing body.

### Representing the community

As an elected representative you are required to:

- represent the interests of the residents and ratepayers;
- provide leadership and guidance to the community;
- facilitate communication between the council and the community; and
- promote the overall interests of the council to external stakeholders.

An elected member may be concerned with a wide range of issues, such as the right level of investment in community infrastructure, the provision of community services, initiatives to enhance community safety and decisions to protect important aspects of the environment.

You will often be expected to speak on behalf of individuals and organisations in your community and this may include people who didn't vote for you. You won't be able to please all the people all of the time. This is because you will often be making decisions that take into account the wider context, such as the needs of future generations (and this may not please everyone in your community).

What is important is that you, as an elected member, take steps to identify and understand the needs and aspirations of people in the community and explain to them the reasons for decisions made by the council.

### **Political accountability**

Local government is independent of central government and not accountable to the Minister of Local Government, although the Minister has recently been given a number of new intervention powers. Instead elected members are accountable to their communities for the decisions they make and the way in which they make them.

Communities hold elected members to account by voting every three years and by participating in consultation opportunities as required by the law. Parliamentary officers, such as the Ombudsman and the Auditor-General, work to ensure that councils operate in an open and transparent manner.

### **Leadership**

Elected members are expected to show leadership in order for their communities to be successful and thrive. Local government legislation encourages councils to focus on outcomes and councils are encouraged to exercise leadership and work with other agencies in order to achieve their outcomes.

Being an effective leader requires effective communication skills and an ability to work in a team. This means sharing your vision with your fellow elected members in order to gain their support. Remember, successful governing requires a team and your effectiveness depends on your ability to take others with you.

An important leadership task is the preparation and adoption of the council's Long Term Plan every three years. This

plan sets out the council's vision and the steps it plans to take over the next 10 years to achieve it. In preparing the plan elected members face making trade-offs between meeting today's needs and those of future generations.

### **Finding a balance**

Generally elected members hold particular views on certain issues and often campaign on them. It is these views that are endorsed by the community at election time. However, after the election, elected members are required to recognise and consider the views of all residents and ratepayers in their council, Local Board or Community Board area when they make decisions. In making decisions they must have an open mind with no bias.

Successful elected members balance the mandate provided by their electors with the need to make decisions on behalf of the whole community and future generations.

## Day-to-day life

Life as an elected member is largely dictated by the frequency of, and preparation for, meetings. At times the sheer volume of business papers may seem daunting.

Although the time required attending meetings may only occupy a few hours elected members spend much more time preparing for those meetings. In addition, there are always informal duties such as interviewing constituents, talking to the media, attending functions and speaking engagements, as well as managing the rest of their lives.

It is essential that people in the community have an opportunity to contribute their views and ideas to council discussions. Elected members are expected to be accessible and will spend a lot of time meeting with community representatives. Even more time will be spent reading and responding to correspondence from local citizens and groups. Some of the work may impact on an elected member's personal or family life, such as phone calls at odd hours and meetings after hours.

## How much does an elected member get paid?

Elected members receive salaries that vary depending on the size of each council. The Remuneration Authority determines remuneration levels for each elected member. Some expenses, such as mileage, are also paid.

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## How much time is involved in being an elected member?

The time commitments vary markedly depending on the position you are elected to. Many mayors find that the commitment is a fulltime one. Most councils have monthly meeting cycles, but elected members are usually placed on council committees. The amount of time per week that an elected member spends on council duties will depend on the number of responsibilities they have in their role and the size of the council.

The amount of time per week that a local board member, in Auckland, spends on local board duties will also depend on the responsibilities they have in their role. Local board chairs may have to officiate at civic functions, such as citizenship ceremonies as well as other local board duties. Local boards have regular meetings and may choose to set up local board committees.

The work of community board members will also vary according to the size and population of their community and the range of delegated functions they are responsible for. Community board chairpersons can expect to work up to 20 hours a week while community board members might work up to 10 hours a week.

Elected members are expected to be accessible to all members of their communities and should expect to spend a lot of time meeting with local organisations, such as neighbourhood associations and business organisations.

# The skills and qualities of effective elected members

Local Government New Zealand provides opportunities for elected members' professional development through its KnowHow programme of workshops.

Over the years, KnowHow's workshop trainers have worked with hundreds of elected members dealing with situations that cover the full gambit of issues, personality types and decision-making processes. From experience, they have identified the skills and qualities most needed to make a positive impact as an elected member. Here is a distilled version.

## Skills

**Time Management:** Time is your single most important resource and elected members are continually up against it. For your role as an elected member to sit well with your personal life and leave any time for family, friends and recreation, you'll need to be good at prioritising. Basically, your time allocations should reflect your priorities. You may need to make some hard calls about what you devote your time and attention to. Start with the big picture. Make lists, delegate the small stuff and ensure you set aside regular time for reading around policy issues. Planning ahead is essential.

**Listening:** Listening is a much-undervalued skill. Try listening more carefully, giving speakers space, and watching their faces and body language. People generally find being heard empowering. It's also worth remembering that sometimes the truth lies in what is not said, and questions that are side-stepped, as much as it does in what is conveyed openly and obviously. Try rephrasing the same question another way if the answer is unclear or unconvincing.

**Relationship building:** Productive relationships are so-called because they produce results. Be pragmatic and strategic about networking to achieve outcomes. Consider in advance the kinds of people you want or need to work with, the information or power they hold, the values they represent, the skills they have and who else they could give you access to. Everyone can benefit from smarter networking. It may mean building relationships with people outside your usual set and spending more time with people who may have points of view quite different from your own. Make a genuine attempt at greater understanding. Put immediate arguments aside, listen with respect, ask questions and protect other people's confidence. Be prepared to share some of your own knowledge and perspective in exchange for information or advice given.

**Influencing and negotiating:** Most people vote with their hearts as well as their heads – we support things that feel right on an instinctive, emotional "gut level" as much as a rational one. To win hearts and minds and get things done, you need to promote trust – a commodity that has to be demonstrated before it is earned. Establishing a track record by honouring promises and commitments is obviously vital. Another simple way to establish trust is showing willingness to be a team player. It's easier to sell your idea to people who feel you have their interests at heart as well as your own.

**Relations with the media:** In a public role it's highly likely you will need to work with the media at some stage. Preparing well to meet the media can be daunting and time consuming, however you'll go

unprepared at your peril! Think of the media as an opportunity to put your point of view across. Remember, their role is to get a story – often the more contentious the better – so be prepared to handle provocation without getting rattled.



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

As part of KnowHow's professional development programme Local Government New Zealand provides a training module focussed on media relations. Visit [www.lgnz.co.nz](http://www.lgnz.co.nz) for more information.

### Qualities

Councils must adopt a Code of Governance based on established best practice. This provides a useful set of values for all elected members to consider.

**Faithful:** You were voted into local government on the understanding that as an elected member you would use the powers of office to act in the best interests of your community. Sometimes that understanding is challenged by a conflict of interest. Councillors should always promote the integrity of the council's decision-making process and where a councillor takes part in an activity that conflicts with their governance duties, they need to promptly declare a conflict of interest and not participate in the council's decision-making on this activity.

**Impartial and Just:** Elected members need to find a balance between acting on the wishes of individuals and groups and their own view of what is best for the whole

community. Your mandate is to take the interests of the "whole" community into account, to reflect the wishes of most, rather than a sole group or special interest faction. Councillors should always listen carefully to all advice and weigh up all pros and cons before making recommendations or decisions, in order to make sure everyone gets a hearing and "fair go".

**Temperate:** The saying "play the ball, not the person" applies in debate. Elected members should always attempt to argue the issue and facts under discussion rather than attack the competence, personality or ethics of the opposition.

**Prudent and Responsible:** Elected members should work to promote issues or actions they believe are in the public good across a range of considerations – ethical and financial.

Available resources often don't meet the expectations of the community, and existing resources need to be managed prudently. Sustainability considerations are now part and parcel of any prudent decision-making. Elected members should be prepared to defend their decisions on a sustainability basis as well as a purely financial one.

**Open and Sincere:** To maintain public trust in the integrity of the democratic process, elected members should be proactive in giving out information about council decisions and activities. An elected member's words and actions need to be a sincere representation of their purpose to promote issues or actions that they believe are right for the public good.

# How do I put my nomination in?

If you are interested in standing for election you need to meet the following requirements and complete the nomination process.

## What are the requirements?

To be eligible to stand for election you do not need any special qualifications. You must be a New Zealand citizen and enrolled on the parliamentary electoral roll (anywhere in New Zealand) and have lived at your current address for at least one month. You do not need to live in the area in which you wish to stand.

You can stand for any of the following:

- your local council (mayor, councillor);
- local board (if established);
- community board (if established);
- your regional council;
- your district health board; and
- district licensing trust (if established).

## Combinations allowed

You can stand for your local council (including a local board or community board) and for a district health board at the same time. Or you can stand for regional council and a district health board at the same time.

The law prevents you from standing for both a regional council and a local council or community board position in the same region. However, you can stand for election for both a local council and a local board or community board at the same time, but if you are elected to both you must vacate your position on the local board or community board. You can also stand

for a district health board, and a regional council or a local council (including a local board or community board).

And, if you wish, you can stand for mayor and for council. If you are elected to both, the position of councillor is filled by the next highest polling candidate.

You cannot stand for election in more than one ward, if the council elects its members under the ward system. If the council elects some of its members under the ward system and some under the at-large system you cannot stand as both a ward candidate and an at-large candidate. You can stand and be elected to more than one local board. You cannot stand for more than one constituency.

You may stand for election if you are an employee of a council. However, if you are elected as a councillor or local board member in the local authority for which you work, you must resign your position as an employee of that local authority before taking up your position as an elected member. This does not apply to council employees elected to Community Boards.

If you are employed you may need to talk to your employer about your intentions to stand for election including the implications of being successful. In some instances you may need to take leave from work while you campaign.



## What is the nomination process?

You will need two people to nominate you (on the official nomination form) and send your completed form to the electoral officer for your local council. You must consent to your nomination going forward (by signing the nomination form) and you cannot nominate yourself. Those who nominate you must be over 18 years old and enrolled to vote in the area you wish to stand in. When you send in the nomination form you will need to pay a \$200 (incl GST) deposit.

The deposit may be refunded depending on how many votes you receive in the election and the particular type of election. The deposit is refunded if the number of votes you receive is greater than 25 per cent of the lowest successful candidate for that particular election (for First Past the Post elections) or greater than 25 per cent of the final quota as determined in the last iteration (for Single Transferable Voting elections).

When you submit your nomination forms you can also provide the electoral officer with a recent photograph of yourself and a 150 word profile statement. These will be published in a booklet and sent out with the voting documents.

Nominations open on Friday 19 July 2013. Nomination forms will be available from your local council's electoral office.

## Will a criminal conviction affect my being an elected member?

A criminal conviction will not usually affect your nomination. The only exception to this is that people currently serving a prison term of three years or more cannot stand.

If you are elected and subsequently convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment for two years or more, you automatically lose office. However, if you are planning to stand for a district health board position, there are additional restrictions (see clause 17, schedule 2, New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000). To be eligible to stand for election you do not need any special qualifications.

# How does the election process work?

The local government elections will be conducted under the provisions of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Local Electoral Regulations 2001, the Local Government Act 2002, the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and their amendments. Most local government elections are conducted using the "First Past the Post" system (FPP) so the candidate with the highest number of votes wins. This year six councils, in addition to all 20 district health boards, will use the Single Transferable Voting system (STV).

Elections for all local authorities throughout New Zealand are held every three years and are all conducted by postal vote. This year, election day will be Saturday 12 October 2013 and all votes have to be received by 12 noon on that date.

Your council will have an electoral officer to run the election. This person is often a council employee, although many councils employ contractors to conduct their elections. Sitting elected members and anyone standing for election cannot be an electoral officer.

People who are enrolled to vote by Friday 16 August 2013 will be sent their voting papers in the mail. An enrolment campaign will run from 1 July to 20 August to encourage people to enrol, check or update their enrolment details. Enrolment forms are available from the elections website [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz), by the elector free texting their name and address to 3676, from PostShops or by calling 0800 ENROL NOW (0800 36 76 56).

People can also check their details and enrol online at the website.

Voting documents will be sent to all eligible voters by post from Friday 20 September 2013. Voters will have three weeks to complete and return their voting documents. Completed voting documents must be returned to the electoral officer by 12 noon on Saturday 12 October 2013.

A polling place for the issuing of special voting documents and for the receiving of completed voting documents will be available from Friday 20 September 2013 to 12 noon Saturday 12 October 2013. Contact your local council for information on local polling places.

Preliminary results will be announced by the electoral officer as soon as practicable after voting closes, to be followed by the official results within a few days. The electoral officer will also write to all candidates once the final election result is known. The term of office is for three years.

Successful elected members take up office on the day after the official declaration is publicly notified. However, before they can make any decisions, elected members must swear an oath of office (see the declaration). The oath for mayor and councillors is made at the first meeting of the new council and the oath for board members at the first meeting of the community or local board. This meeting is usually held within two weeks of the official declaration of election results.

# The declaration

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“I declare that I will faithfully and impartially, and according to the best of my skill and judgement, execute and perform, in the best interests of (region, district, community) the powers, authorities and duties vested in or imposed upon, me as (mayor, chairperson or member) of the (local authority, local board, community board) by virtue of the Local Government Act 2002, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 or any other Act.”

## Key dates

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Date	Activity
19 July	Candidate nominations open and roll opens for public inspection
19 July to 16 August at midday.	Receipt of candidate nominations
16 August at midday	Candidate nominations close and roll closes
21 August	Public notice of candidates' names
20 to 25 September	Voting documents delivered
17 September – 9 October	Special voting period
20 September to 12 October	Progressive roll scrutiny, special voting, early processing
12 October midday	Election Day – voting closes midday
12 October from midday	Preliminary results
17 to 23 October	Declaration of results
October/November	Elected members' swearing-in ceremonies

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# How can I find out more?

If you would like further information about your council, consider looking at its current Annual Plan or its Long Term Plan. These documents show what the council is doing and will generally include other useful information such as names and contact details of elected members and senior staff. The latest Annual Report will contain information on the finances of the council and how it performed. Your local library should have copies of these documents, or you can get copies from your council. If you would like more information on the STV or FPP electoral systems please contact the Department of Internal Affairs or visit their website [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz).

For sector-wide information and to find out what LGNZ is doing visit [www.lgnz.co.nz](http://www.lgnz.co.nz).

**For more detailed information on material in this booklet please contact your local council.**

**Ashburton District Council**  
[www.ashburtondc.govt.nz](http://www.ashburtondc.govt.nz)

**Auckland Council**  
[www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

**Bay of Plenty Regional Council**  
[www.boprc.govt.nz](http://www.boprc.govt.nz)

**Buller District Council**  
[www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz)

**Carterton District Council**  
[www.cartertondc.co.nz](http://www.cartertondc.co.nz)

**Central Hawke's Bay District Council**  
[www.chbdc.govt.nz](http://www.chbdc.govt.nz)

**Central Otago District Council**  
[www.codc.govt.nz](http://www.codc.govt.nz)

**Chatham Islands Council**  
[www.cic.govt.nz](http://www.cic.govt.nz)

**Christchurch City Council**  
[www.ccc.govt.nz](http://www.ccc.govt.nz)

**Clutha District Council**  
[www.cluthadc.govt.nz](http://www.cluthadc.govt.nz)

**Dunedin City Council**  
[www.dunedin.govt.nz](http://www.dunedin.govt.nz)

**Environment Southland**  
[www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz)

**Far North District Council**  
[www.fndc.govt.nz](http://www.fndc.govt.nz)

**Gisborne District Council**  
[www.gdc.govt.nz](http://www.gdc.govt.nz)

**Gore District Council**

[www.goredc.govt.nz](http://www.goredc.govt.nz)

**Greater Wellington Regional Council**

[www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz)

**Grey District Council**

[www.greydc.govt.nz](http://www.greydc.govt.nz)

**Hamilton City Council**

[www.hamilton.co.nz](http://www.hamilton.co.nz)

**Hastings District Council**

[www.hastingsdc.govt.nz](http://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz)

**Hauraki District Council**

[www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz)

**Hawke's Bay Regional Council**

[www.hbrc.govt.nz](http://www.hbrc.govt.nz)

**Horizons Regional Council**

[www.horizons.govt.nz](http://www.horizons.govt.nz)

**Horowhenua District Council**

[www.horowhenua.govt.nz](http://www.horowhenua.govt.nz)

**Hurunui District Council**

[www.hurunui.govt.nz](http://www.hurunui.govt.nz)

**Hutt City Council**

[www.huttcity.govt.nz](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz)

**Invercargill City Council**

[www.icc.govt.nz](http://www.icc.govt.nz)

**Kaikoura District Council**

[www.kaikoura.govt.nz](http://www.kaikoura.govt.nz)

**Kaipara District Council**

[www.kaipara.govt.nz](http://www.kaipara.govt.nz)

**Kapiti Coast District Council**

[www.kapiticoast.govt.nz](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz)

**Kawerau District Council**

[www.kaweraudc.govt.nz](http://www.kaweraudc.govt.nz)

**Mackenzie District Council**

[www.mackenzie.govt.nz](http://www.mackenzie.govt.nz)

**Manawatu District Council**

[www.manawatu.govt.nz](http://www.manawatu.govt.nz)

**Marlborough District Council**

[www.mdc.govt.nz](http://www.mdc.govt.nz)

**Masterton District Council**

[www.mstn.govt.nz](http://www.mstn.govt.nz)

**Matamata-Piako District Council**

[www.mppdc.govt.nz](http://www.mppdc.govt.nz)

**Napier City Council**

[www.napier.govt.nz](http://www.napier.govt.nz)

**Nelson City Council**

[www.ncc.govt.nz](http://www.ncc.govt.nz)

**New Plymouth District Council**

[www.newplymouthnz.com](http://www.newplymouthnz.com)

**Northland Regional Council**

[www.nrc.govt.nz](http://www.nrc.govt.nz)

**Opotiki District Council**

[www.odc.govt.nz](http://www.odc.govt.nz)

**Otago Regional Council**

[www.orc.govt.nz](http://www.orc.govt.nz)

**Otorohanga District Council**

[www.otodc.govt.nz](http://www.otodc.govt.nz)

**Palmerston North City Council**

[www.pncc.govt.nz](http://www.pncc.govt.nz)

**Porirua City Council**

[www.pcc.govt.nz](http://www.pcc.govt.nz)

**Queenstown Lakes District Council**

[www.qldc.govt.nz](http://www.qldc.govt.nz)

**Rangitikei District Council**

[www.rangitikei.govt.nz](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz)

**Rotorua District Council**

[www.rdc.govt.nz](http://www.rdc.govt.nz)

**Ruapehu District Council**

[www.ruapehudc.govt.nz](http://www.ruapehudc.govt.nz)

**Selwyn District Council**

[www.selwyn.govt.nz](http://www.selwyn.govt.nz)

**South Taranaki District Council**

[www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com)

**South Waikato District Council**

[www.swktodc.govt.nz](http://www.swktodc.govt.nz)

**South Wairarapa District Council**

[www.southwaikato.govt.nz](http://www.southwaikato.govt.nz)

**Southland District Council**

[www.southlanddc.govt.nz](http://www.southlanddc.govt.nz)

**Stratford District Council**  
[www.stratford.govt.nz](http://www.stratford.govt.nz)

**Taranaki Regional Council**  
[www.trc.govt.nz](http://www.trc.govt.nz)

**Tararua District Council**  
[www.tararuadc.govt.nz](http://www.tararuadc.govt.nz)

**Tasman District Council**  
[www.tasman.govt.nz](http://www.tasman.govt.nz)

**Taupo District Council**  
[www.taupo.govt.nz](http://www.taupo.govt.nz)

**Tauranga City Council**  
[www.tauranga.govt.nz](http://www.tauranga.govt.nz)

**Thames-Coromandel District Council**  
[www.tcdc.govt.nz](http://www.tcdc.govt.nz)

**Timaru District Council**  
[www.timaru.govt.nz](http://www.timaru.govt.nz)

**Upper Hutt City Council**  
[www.upperhuttcity.com](http://www.upperhuttcity.com)

**Waikato District Council**  
[www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz)

**Waikato Region Council**  
[www.waikatoregion.govt.nz](http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz)

**Waimakariri District Council**  
[www.waimakariri.govt.nz](http://www.waimakariri.govt.nz)

**Waimate District Council**  
[www.waimatedc.govt.nz](http://www.waimatedc.govt.nz)

**Waipa District Council**  
[www.waipadc.govt.nz](http://www.waipadc.govt.nz)

**Wairoa District Council**  
[www.wairoadc.govt.nz](http://www.wairoadc.govt.nz)

**Waitaki District Council**  
[www.waitaki.govt.nz](http://www.waitaki.govt.nz)

**Waitomo District Council**  
[www.waitomo.govt.nz](http://www.waitomo.govt.nz)

**Wanganui District Council**  
[www.wanganui.govt.nz](http://www.wanganui.govt.nz)

**Wellington City Council**  
[www.wellington.govt.nz](http://www.wellington.govt.nz)

**West Coast Regional Council**  
[www.wcrc.govt.nz](http://www.wcrc.govt.nz)

**Western Bay of Plenty District Council**  
[www.westernbay.govt.nz](http://www.westernbay.govt.nz)

**Westland District Council**  
[www.westland.govt.nz](http://www.westland.govt.nz)

**Whakatane District Council**  
[www.whakatane.govt.nz](http://www.whakatane.govt.nz)

**Whangarei District Council**  
[www.wdc.govt.nz](http://www.wdc.govt.nz)

*So what are you  
waiting for?  
Make a stand.*

