



# FAQs

## Triennial elections

### 12 OCTOBER 2019

# SOUTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL (ENVIRONMENT SOUTHLAND)



environment  
**SOUTHLAND**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Te Taiao Tonga

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### Southland Regional Council (Environment Southland) elections

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#### General Information

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**Q1. What is a regional council?**

A A regional council is one type of local authority and generally looks after region-wide issues rather than local issues.

It is different from a territorial authority (which is either a city or district council), but there are no differences in the way that they generally operate.

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**Q2. What do regional councils do?**

A Regional councils' are responsible for managing the use of the region's natural resources including:

- managing the effects of using freshwater, land, air and coastal waters;
- developing regional policy statements and issuing of consent;
- managing rivers, mitigating soil erosion and flood control;
- regional emergency management and civil defence preparedness;
- regional land transport planning;
- harbour navigation and safety, oil spills and other marine pollution.

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**Q3. How many regional councils are there?**

A 11

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**Q4. When is the next Environment Southland election?**

A Election day is Saturday, 12 October 2019 with voting closing at midday. The voting period starts on Friday, 20 September 2019.

**Q5. Who is running the election?**

A Environment Southland's electoral officer has overall responsibility for the election, but the conduct of the election is undertaken by each constituent territorial authority's electoral officer.

The constituent territorial authorities are:

- Gore District Council
- Invercargill City Council
- Southland District Council

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**Q6. What are the names of the council's electoral officer, the council's electoral liaison person, and the names of the constituent territorial authority electoral officers?**

Environment Southland's electoral officer is:  
Dale Ofsoske

Independent Election Services Ltd  
Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland  
Phone: 0800 922 822  
Email: [dale.ofsoske@electionservices.co.nz](mailto:dale.ofsoske@electionservices.co.nz)

Environment Southland's electoral liaison person is:

Jan Brown, Executive Assistant  
Environment Southland  
corner Price Street and North Road, Invercargill  
Phone: 03 211 5288  
Email: [jan.brown@es.govt.nz](mailto:jan.brown@es.govt.nz)

Gore District Council's electoral officer is  
Anthony Morton (phone 03 377 3530)

Invercargill City Council's electoral officer is  
Anthony Morton (phone 03 377 3530)

Southland District Council's electoral officer is  
Dale Ofsoske (phone 0800 922 822).

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**Q7. What type of electoral system is used?**

A The FPP (first past the post) electoral system is used for Environment Southland, its three constituent territorial authorities and the licensing and health trusts within the region. The STV (single transferable voting) electoral

system is used for the Southern District Health Board.

For a more detailed explanation of these electoral systems, refer Q51 and Q52.

**Q8. What elections can we vote for?**

A Electors will be able to vote for the councillors representing the constituency in which they live.

There are 12 councillors being elected from the following 6 constituencies:

Constituency	Councillors
Eastern-Dome	2
Fiordland	1
Hokonui	1
Invercargill-Rakiura	6
Southern	1
Western	1

In addition, most electors will be voting for the respective territorial authority elections (mayor, councillors etc.), the Southern District Health Board election and, where applicable, a licensing trust and/or health trust election.

**Q9. What is the role of the chairperson and councillors?**

A The chairperson is a councillor and is elected by the councillors following the election.

The role of chairperson is:

- presides at council meetings;
- attends and participates at meetings of committees and working parties;
- reads agenda and other materials before meetings;
- leads the council and co-ordinates council political activity;
- speaks on behalf of the council;
- represents the council on related organisations, where appointed;
- attends and participates at conferences and seminars;
- attends to complaints and enquiries from members of the public;
- presides at civic ceremonies;
- hosts visiting groups, including overseas delegations;

- attends and speaks at local functions, sometimes opening them;
- declares a state of civil defence emergency in the region if the need arises.

The role of councillors is:

- participate in strategic and long-term planning for the whole region;
- develop policy across a wide range of activities and services;
- represent the region at functions as required;
- review and develop bylaws for the region;
- advocate on a wide range of issues;
- coordinate and form partnerships with other spheres of government and other agencies;
- participate in the appointment and performance review of the chief executive;
- act on all these matters within a legislative and regulatory framework;
- set a budget and rates;
- monitor the performance of the council organisation.

## Candidates

**Q10. I want to be a candidate in these elections. What do I need to do?**

A You must be a New Zealand citizen and your name must be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll (anywhere in New Zealand).

When lodging your nomination, proof of citizenship will be required (copy of passport, birth certificate, citizenship certificate).

You will need to have two electors enrolled on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll in the area you are standing for to nominate you – e.g. if you stand for the Hokonui Constituency, the nominators will need to be two electors enrolled on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for that constituency. (Note the candidate does not need to reside in the area in which they are standing but will need to disclose that fact in their candidate profile statement).

Nominations open on Friday, 19 July 2019. If you would like a nomination paper and candidate information handbook sent out, please contact the electoral office closer to this date.

Nomination papers will be available from:

- Environment Southland, corner North Road and Price Street, Invercargill

- Gore District Council, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore
- Invercargill City Council, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill
- Southland District Council, 15 Forth Street, Invercargill
- by accessing [www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz)
- by telephoning the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

A candidate information handbook will be available in May 2019.

Candidate campaigning may commence any time prior to the election (no time restriction), but any expenditure made, within or outside the three-month applicable period before election day, must be accounted for.

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**Q11. How much will it cost me to stand?**

- A You will need to pay a nomination deposit of \$200 GST inclusive. This deposit applies to each election you stand for.

Your nomination deposit can be paid by electronic bank transfer, EFTPOS, credit card or cash. Cheques will be accepted but not preferred (should they be dishonoured and the nomination invalidated).

If you poll greater than 25% of the lowest polling successful candidate (for FPP elections) or more than 25% of the final quota as determined by the last iteration (for STV elections) you will receive your nomination deposit back.

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**Q12. What qualifications and experience do I need?**

- A Nothing formal. Elected members come from all walks of life and generally have a will/desire to serve the community.

All (or some) of the following capabilities will be useful in the elected member role:

- quality decision-making;
- political acumen;
- leadership;
- cultural awareness;
- strategic thinking;
- knowledge and understanding of Environment Southland and local government;
- communication and engagement;
- relationship building and collaboration.

**Q13. Does a criminal record affect a person standing as a Council candidate?**

- A No, not for Environment Southland elections. For the Southern District Health Board election, a criminal record may affect your candidacy.

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**Q14. How long is the term of the elected member?**

- A Three years.

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**Q15. Do I need to be resident in the area I am standing for?**

- A No, but you must be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll (anywhere in New Zealand) and be a New Zealand citizen (by birth or citizenship ceremony). You will however need to disclose whether or not you reside in the area you are standing for in the candidate profile statement.

The two people who nominate you must be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll within the area you are standing for.

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**Q16. How many positions can I stand for?**

- A You can stand in only one constituency of Environment Southland.

You can also stand for the Southern District Health Board but you cannot stand for more than one district health board in New Zealand.

You cannot stand for both Environment Southland and a constituent territorial authority.

If there is a licensing trust or health trust, you may also stand for these, but you may need to be a resident within the relevant trust area.

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**Q17. How much can I spend on my campaign?**

- A There is a limit on what you can spend on your campaign and it relates to the population of the area you are standing for.

The maximum amount that can be spent by a candidate cannot exceed the following limits (inclusive of GST):

Local government area population	Expenditure limit
UP TO 4,999	\$3,500
5,000 – 9,999	\$7,000
10,000 – 19,999	\$14,000
20,000 – 39,999	\$20,000
40,000 – 59,999	\$30,000
60,000 – 79,999	\$40,000
80,000 – 99,999	\$50,000
100,000 – 149,999	\$55,000
150,000 – 249,999	\$60,000
250,000 – 999,999	\$70,000
1,000,000 OR MORE	\$100,000*

\*plus 50 cents for each elector

The population for each constituency (as at 30 June 2018) and respective expenditure limits are:

Constituency	Population	Limit
Eastern-Dome	16,850	\$14,000
Fiordland	3,730	\$3,500
Hokonui	7,980	\$7,000
Invercargill-Rakiura	55,600	\$30,000
Southern	6,760	\$7,000
Western	8,180	\$7,000

If you stand for more than one position (e.g. regional council and district health board), the amount you can spend is the highest amount for one position. You cannot add positions together to allow you to spend more than the limit.

All candidates are required to lodge an electoral donations and expenses return within 55 days after the day on which the successful candidates are declared to be elected (by Friday, 13 December 2019).

If a candidate is outside New Zealand on this day, the return must be filed within 76 days after election result day.

If a return is not submitted within the required time period, the non-return will be advised to the New Zealand Police for enforcement.

The return needs to be received before a candidate nomination deposit is refunded if appropriate.

#### Q18. When do nominations close?

- A Nominations close at 12 noon Friday, 16 August 2019.  
It is strongly recommended that candidates do not leave lodging their nomination until the last day, as to do so may mean having to queue and should there be an error with the nomination, little time to have it corrected.

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## Enrolment

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#### Q19. Where can I view the electoral roll that will be used for this election?

- A The preliminary electoral roll is compiled by each constituent territorial authority and will be available for public inspection for a one-month period from Friday, 19 July 2019 to Friday, 16 August 2019.

The preliminary electoral roll for each constituent territorial authority will be available for inspection at:

- Environment Southland, corner North Road and Price Street, Invercargill
- each constituent territorial authority office and library.

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#### Q20. How do I enrol to vote in these elections?

- A Is this your main place of residence?

➤ Yes

Have you lived at your current address for more than one month?

➤ Yes

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at your current address in the Environment Southland area?

➤ Yes

You will automatically appear on the electoral roll that is used for these elections

Or

Is this your main place of residence?

➤ Yes

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at an address in the Environment Southland area?

➤ No or Don't Know

You need to complete an enrolment form for this. You can either:

- enrol online at [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz)
- ring 0800 36 76 56
- send your name and address to Freetext 3676
- download a form at [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz)
- pick-up a form at your local New Zealand Post agency

Is this your main place of residence?

- No

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at an address in another district?

- Yes

If you own a property in this region and it is not your main residence you may be able to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector on the relevant constituent territorial authority's electoral roll. (Refer to ratepayer enrolment advice in Q26 below).

your details are incorrect. You will then need to complete a Parliamentary Electoral Roll enrolment form.

You can check to see if you are enrolled at [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz) or by phoning 0800 36 76 56.

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**Q21.** I am a student and spend my time in different places. Where should I enrol?

- A You should enrol where you spend the greater part of your time.

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**Q22.** I am a New Zealand Māori; do I need to enrol on the Māori roll?

- A Not necessarily. If you are enrolling for the first time you can decide whether you want to go on the Parliamentary Māori Electoral Roll or the Parliamentary General Electoral Roll by signing the appropriate panel on the parliamentary elector enrolment form.

However, if you have already made that choice you will have to wait until the next Māori Option period to change, which occurs following the next census, likely in 2024. The last Māori Option period was 3 April to 2 August 2018.

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**Q23.** How do I know whether I am enrolled?

- A The Electoral Commission will be undertaking a roll update campaign at the beginning of July 2019 for the Parliamentary Electoral Roll which forms the basis of the electoral roll for Environment Southland elections. If you do not receive a letter in the post during early July 2019 the chances are you are not enrolled, or

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**Q24.** I turn 18 on election day. Can I vote?

- A Yes, but you need to make sure you have enrolled which you can do provisionally from the age of 17 and it automatically changes when you turn 18.

You will also need to apply for a special vote during the voting period (Friday, 20 September 2019 to 12 noon Saturday, 12 October 2019).

For special vote availability, see Q41.

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**Q25.** We own a business in the Environment Southland area and pay rates, but we don't live in the Environment Southland area – do we get a say in Environment Southland elections?

- A Yes, subject to being eligible as a non-resident ratepayer elector and becoming enrolled on the relevant constituent territorial authority's electoral roll.

A non-resident ratepayer enrolment form is available from the relevant constituent territorial authority electoral officer.

The non-resident ratepayer enrolment form should be returned to the relevant constituent territorial authority electoral officer by 16 August 2019 and absolutely no later than 12 October 2019 in order to vote.

For special vote availability, see Q41.

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**Q26.** I own a property in the Environment Southland area, but it is not my fulltime residence. How do I get on the ratepayer electoral roll?

- A Is your name on the rates notice?  
➤ Yes

You may be eligible to be on the ratepayer electoral roll. Contact the relevant constituent territorial authority electoral officer and request a ratepayer enrolment form. This should be returned to the relevant constituent territorial authority electoral officer by

16 August 2019 and absolutely no later than 11 October 2019 in order to vote. If it is after Friday, 16 August 2019, a special voting document will need to be requested and will be issued on 20 September 2019, the start of the voting period.

If it is easier you can call at a special voting venue during the voting period (Friday, 20 September 2019 to 12 noon Saturday, 12 October 2019) and complete the ratepayer enrolment form and have your special vote at the same time.

For special vote availability, see Q41.

In no case does this allow you to have two votes at an election.

Is your name on the rates notice?

➤ No

You may not be eligible to be on the ratepayer electoral roll. Contact the relevant constituent territorial authority electoral officer.

➤ Yes

You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q41.

Is it after Wednesday, 25 September 2019 and I believe I am not correctly registered on electoral roll?

➤ No

You will need to complete a Parliamentary Electoral Roll enrolment form. These are available at any New Zealand Post agency, or you can enrol online at [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz) or ring 0800 36 76 56 or send your name and address to Freetext 3676.

You will also need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q41.

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## Voting

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**Q27.** Is it a postal vote and will I be sent my voting documents in the mail?

A All local authority elections will be conducted by postal vote. Voting documents will be delivered by NZ Post between Friday, 20 September 2019 and Wednesday, 25 September 2019.

There will be no online voting option available.

**Q28.** I got my voting document but my partner didn't receive theirs.

A Is it before Wednesday, 25 September 2019 and I believe I am correctly registered on electoral roll?  
➤ Yes

Please wait until the mail has been delivered on Wednesday, 25 September 2019. If your voting document is not received, then please call the relevant constituent territorial authority electoral officer.

Is it after Wednesday, 25 September 2019 and I believe I am correctly registered on electoral roll?

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**Q29.** I didn't get my voting document, so I called and got a special vote. Now I have two voting documents. Which one should I use?

A Use the original one and destroy the special vote.

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**Q30.** I received a voting document for a member of my family (e.g. child, parent) and have Power of Attorney for that person. Can I vote for that person?

A No – a Power of Attorney does not apply to voting for that person.

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**Q31.** I received a voting document for a member of my family (e.g. child, parent) who does not live here. What should I do with the voting document?

A If they are overseas, you could post it to the person or destroy it if that is not practicable.

If they are for an elderly parent who is incapable of voting, please destroy it by ripping/cutting it up. You cannot vote on their behalf unless instructed by them.

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**Q32.** I received a voting document that does not belong to me and I don't know this person or where this person has gone.

A Write GNA (Gone No Address) on the envelope and put it back in the mail.



**Q33. What is that barcode that I can see through the return envelope or on the front of the voting document?**

A It is a legal requirement to scan the barcode to mark the electoral roll that you have returned your vote so we can ensure that we do not receive two votes from the same person.

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**Q34. How do you ensure the secrecy of my vote?**

A Returned envelopes containing a voting document cannot be opened until there is a JP present. The JP is required to sign off that the processes used by the electoral officer meet the legal requirements.

Note that the voter's name is not shown on the voting document.

When the envelope is opened the only thing the electoral office is looking for is that the vote for each election is valid.

This means that for FPP elections we are making sure that the voter's intention is clear and the voter has not ticked or marked more than the number of candidates than there are vacancies.

For STV elections we make sure that no preference numbers are used more than once or omitted (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5) and that there is always a number 1 marked against a candidate's name. It should be like this: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 etc. in numerical order up to as many preferences as the voter wishes to vote for.

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**Q35. Do I have to vote? I don't know any of these candidates.**

A No, you don't have to vote, but we do strongly encourage you to vote and exercise your democratic right.

You don't have to vote for all candidates or for all elections. But your vote is important because the people elected will be responsible for making decisions about what happens in your community for the next three years.

To help you get to know about the candidates:

- there may be candidate meetings being held in your community if you wish to go and hear what policies the different candidates are advocating for;

- there is a candidate profile booklet that comes with the voting document in which there is a photo and a statement from each candidate. This information will also be available on the council's website ([www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz)) after nominations close (expected 23 August 2019);

- candidates may have their own website, social media page(s), advertise in local newspapers or send out information to letterboxes in your area;

- local media are likely to cover information about the election.

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**Q36. Do I have to post my voting document back?**

A You can post it but make sure you have it in the mail by Tuesday, 8 October 2019 to make sure it gets back to us in time (by 12 noon Saturday, 12 October 2019).

However, you can also hand deliver your voting document to a ballot box during the voting period (Friday, 20 September 2019 to 12 noon Saturday, 12 October 2019). For ballot box locations see Q41.

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**Q37. I have lost my return envelope.**

A You can use an envelope of your own and put the return address and Freepost number on it. (You will not need to put a stamp on the envelope if you write the Freepost number on the envelope and post it in New Zealand).

Freepost number 4710  
The Electoral Office  
Environment Southland  
PO Box 5135  
Wellesley Street  
Auckland 1141

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**Q38. I am on the Unpublished Parliamentary Roll and I want a special vote.**

A You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q41.

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**Q39. I didn't receive my voting document; how do I obtain a special vote?**

A Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for the address you want to vote for?

- Yes

You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q41.

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for the address you want to vote for?

- No/Don't Know

If you are not enrolled or not enrolled correctly on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll, you will need to complete an enrolment form for this. You can pick-up one at any New Zealand Post agency, or you can enrol online at [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz) or ring 0800 36 76 56 or send your name and address to Freetext 3676. This form needs to be with the Registrar of Electors before close of business Friday, 11 October 2019.

You will also need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q41.

**Q40.** I spoiled my voting document/I have made a mistake on my document. What can I do?

- A If you can amend it so that your voting intention is clear, then do so.

If necessary, we can issue you with a special voting document (for special vote availability, see Q41), but this will take time and require you to complete a declaration.

**Q41.** Where can I have a special vote?

- A Special votes can be obtained from one of the respective constituent territorial authorities:
  - Gore District Council, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore
  - Invercargill City Council, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill
  - Southland District Council, 15 Forth Street, Invercargill.

**Q42.** I am going away and will not be here when the voting documents are posted out.

- A You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q41.

**Q43.** Do I have to vote for all the candidates for any election? If I don't vote for all the candidates or all the elections on my voting document, will all my votes be informal?

Under FPP you can vote for as many candidates as you want to but not more than the number of positions available on the voting document. So, if you are electing two councillors then you can vote for up to two candidates. Remember, for FPP you tick the candidates you want to elect.

With STV you can vote for all or as many candidates as you wish but these must be in order of your preference and no number can be repeated. Remember for STV, you rank the candidates you want to elect from number 1 onwards.

You can decide not to vote for one or more of the different elections on your voting document. This does not invalidate votes for other elections on your voting document.

**Q44.** Why can't I vote for a certain candidate who is standing for a different constituency or other election?

- A You can only vote for the elections relevant to the area in which you live. You cannot vote for a candidate who is standing for example in another constituency because you are not an elector of that other constituency.

**Q45.** My partner's document and mine are different and there are more/less things to vote for. Why is the list of candidates different?

- A Some elections (e.g. Southland District Council and Southern District Health Board) have the order of candidate names listed in random order, which means that every voting document has a different order of candidate names for each election.

Other elections (e.g. Environment Southland) have the order of candidates listed alphabetically, which means that each voting document for an election has the same order of candidate names.

For any other differences, you will need to call the respective constituent territorial authority electoral officer.

**Q46. I have received two voting documents.**

A You will need to call the respective constituent territorial authority electoral officer.

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You should mark those you want to vote for with a tick in the circle. Do not vote for more than the number of candidates shown in the instructions.

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**Q47. Do all the staff working on the election know who I voted for?**

A No, your vote remains secret under the required separate roll scrutiny and vote counting procedures.

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**Q52. What is STV and how do I vote in an STV election?**

A STV stands for single transferable voting and is used for the Southern District Health Board election.

**Q48. Can I help someone fill out their voting document?**

A Under the Local Electoral Act 2001, you cannot interfere or influence any person as to how they can vote.

If authorised by a voter who is physically impaired, visually impaired or for whom English is a second language, a person can assist them to vote as directed by the voter.

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STV is a preferential system of voting where you can rank as few or as many candidates as you like. It is a single vote which can be transferred between candidates to ensure the vote contributes to the election of at least one candidate and is not wasted. If a popular candidate does not need all the votes he or she receives, a proportion is transferred to the voter's next preference. On the other hand, if a candidate is not popular and receives few votes, those votes are transferred to a voter's next preference.

For more information about STV, go to [www.stv.govt.nz](http://www.stv.govt.nz)

**Q49. What happens to all the voting documents after the elections?**

A Each constituent territorial authority lodge their returned voting documents to the Invercargill District Court. These are kept for 21 days so that the court can access them should there be any application for a recount or petition for inquiry.

After 21 days, the court is responsible for destroying them.

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To exercise a STV vote, start by writing the number 1 in the box next to the candidate you most want to be elected. Write the number 2 next to your second most preferred candidate and so on 3, 4, 5 etc.

You can write as many preferences or as few as you like up to however many candidates are standing for that election.

You must write the number 1 for your vote to be counted.

**Q50. Do I get a vote for the district health board?**

A Yes, if you are a resident elector. Non-resident ratepayer electors cannot vote for the district health board election.

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Do not write the same number more than once e.g. 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5 and do not miss a number from your preferences e.g. 1, 2, 4, 5.

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## Election Results

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**Q51. What is FPP and how do I vote in an FPP election?**

A FPP stands for first past the post voting system and is used for Environment Southland, all the constituent territorial authorities and licensing trust and health trust elections.

The candidate or candidates that gets the most votes wins.

**Q53. When will we know the results of the election?**

A Progress results will be announced as soon as practicable after 12 noon Saturday, 12 October 2019 (expected around 2pm).

Preliminary results will be announced on the morning of Sunday, 13 October 2019, once all

votes received at constituent territorial authority offices (up until 12 noon on election day) have been processed.

The official results will be announced when special votes have been checked and included in the final results, expected to be Thursday, 17 October 2019.

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**Q54. How will I find out?**

Candidates:

- A Progress and preliminary results will be advised as soon as practicable after they are known.

Voters:

- A Progress and preliminary results will be released to the media and placed on council's website ([www.es.govt.nz](http://www.es.govt.nz)) as soon as practicable once known.

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**Q55. What do I need to do if I want to challenge the results of the election?**

- A Under legislation a candidate can challenge the declaration of results through either a judicial recount or a judicial inquiry. A candidate will have to provide reasons for the challenge and a deposit of \$750 with the application to the Invercargill District Court.

A candidate may first wish to call the electoral office on 0800 922 822 to discuss this.

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## Members

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**Q56. When do elected members take up their roles?**

- A Elected members take up office the day after the official result has been declared by public notice. However, members cannot act until they have sworn the oath of office which is usually at the first meeting of the council. This first meeting is usually held as soon as practicable after the final election results are known.

District health board members take up office 58 days after election day (Monday, 9 December 2019).

**Q57. Who are elected members responsible to?**

- A Ultimately the elected members final responsibility is to the local community. The Minister of Local Government and the Auditor-General do have a role in ensuring that Council follows the law.

All district health board members are accountable to the Minister of Health.

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**Q58. Do elected members get paid and if so, how much?**

- A A remuneration pool is set by the Remuneration Authority. The newly elected council will decide how to apply the pool of funding. Some expenses are also reimbursed.

The Remuneration Authority reviewed in 2018 the basis of remuneration which has moved from a 'partial pool' basis to a 'full pool' basis.

For further information refer [www.remauthority.govt.nz](http://www.remauthority.govt.nz)

District health board members are paid on the basis of the Cabinet Fees framework.

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**Q59. Would being an elected member take up much time?**

- A Being an elected member is a busy job that often involves meetings, events and speaking with community members outside of normal business hours. Flexibility and the ability to prioritise and manage time effectively are essential. This includes balancing a high volume of reading, paperwork and emails with a schedule of meetings and public commitments.

As a consequence, the chair is considered a fulltime job and councillors are generally part time jobs.

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**Q60. How many elected members are there?**

- A There are 12 councillors, elected from 6 constituencies.

## Election Signs

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### Q61. What are the requirements for election signs?

- A Election signs are referenced in the Local Electoral Act 2001 and constituent territorial authority election signs policies or bylaws – both of which must be complied with.

Local Electoral Act 2001

All election material, including signs and hoardings, must show an authorisation statement (name and physical address of the candidate or the candidate's agent). Not to do so is an electoral offence.

Refer section 113 Local Electoral Act 2001.

For constituent territorial authority's election signs policies or bylaws, refer to the relevant constituent territorial authority website:

Gore District Council:

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

Invercargill District Council:

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

Southland District Council:

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

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## Election Sign Complaints

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### Q62. I have a complaint about the electoral signage.

The signs don't have the required authorisation on them or are bigger than they should be or have been pulled over or damaged:

- A You will need to call the relevant constituent territorial authority:

Gore District Council on 03 209 0330

Invercargill City Council on 0800 422 435

Southland District Council on 0800 732 732

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