2019 Elections for Rotorua Lakes Council



Chief Electoral Officer - electionz.com **RLC Electoral Officer**









Electoral Team

 electionz.com Ltd contracted by Rotorua Lakes Council

Warwick Lampp - RLC Electoral Officer

Rick Dunn - RLC Deputy Electoral Officer





Who are *electionz.com*?

- Warwick Lampp, electionz.com, lives in Tauranga
- Election services company based in Christchurch
- 10 full time staff
- Average about 200 elections in NZ each year
- EO for 33 councils, 4 RCs and 10 DHBs
- Carrying out vote processing for 42 councils, 650K voting papers
- Vote Processing centre in Christchurch

EO for:

- BOPRC, GWRC, ECAN, ORC plus ten DHBs (incl Lakes DHB)
- Tauranga, Rotorua, Taupo, Waipa, Otorohanga, Waitomo, South Waikato, Ruapehu, Rangitikei, Manawatu, Palmerston North, Horowhenua, Napier, Central Hawkes Bay, Carterton, Wellington, Masterton, South Wairarapa, Upper Hutt, Nelson, Westland, Kaikoura, Hurunui, Waimakariri, Selwyn, Ashburton, Mackenzie, Waimate, Waitaki, Dunedin, Central Otago, Gore, Invercargill

2019 Local Government Elections

PART ONE

What is local government all about?





















What is Local Government all about?

It's a complex business!

Approximately 125 pieces of legislation, Council is responsible for:

- Formulating the District's strategic direction in conjunction with the community through the Long Term Plan (LTP) and reporting on progress
- Determining the services and activities to be undertaken by the Council
- Managing various regulations and upholding the law, including the formulation and enforcement of bylaws
- Advocating on behalf of the local community with central government, other local authorities and other agencies
- Environmental management through the Rotorua Lakes Plan
- Ensuring local communities are encouraged to be part of the decision-making processes of local government
- Ensuring effective succession of Elected Members





What is being an elected member all about?

- Standing for Council and Community Board is a big deal!
- Not to be taken lightly, it is an important responsibility
- There to represent and lead the district
 eyes and ears
- Representation, advocacy, governance
- Skill set in candidate handbook pages
 7 8





Job description

- Represent interests of Council and the Community
- Formulate strategic direction and priorities
- Determine expenditure and funding
- Monitor performance
- Develop and oversee policy
- Ensure prudent use of council resources
- Employ and monitor the CE only





Core competencies

- Genuine interest for issues faced by Rotorua Lakes communities
- Relate to wide range of people strong people skills
- Competent listening and public speaking skills
- Express ideas clearly and be results focussed
- Understand, analyse and resolve complex issues
- Understand governance versus management
- Think "district-wide" on issues
- Commit to elected members' Code of Conduct





Council meetings

- Council meetings generally held on Thursdays every fourth week
- Generally they start at 9:30am and go for 4-5 hours
- Total 36 meetings for 2018/19
- Generally mayor is full time job, councillor is approx 3- 5 days per week, CB member can be one day a fortnight
- Lots of reading of reports and agendas
- Flexible working hours evening and weekend work required

Remuneration:

• 7	Ma	yor		\$138,825 pa
	_		 - 1	4

Base Councillor Salary \$52,027 pa

RLCB member \$8,399pa

• Rural CB member \$9,387 pa

Paid fortnightly







PART TWO

2019 Election Details

Electoral Officer Role and Responsibilities

- The Electoral Officer (EO) is solely responsible for the conduct of the election
- The EO is not subject to the directions of any local authority, elected members, or the CE
- Provides a level playing field for all candidates
- NB Not responsible for monitoring campaigning by candidates. Only deals with alleged breaches of the Act by passing them to the Police.





Key Dates

Election Period starts

Nominations open

Electoral signs can go up

Nominations close

Delivery of voting papers

Special voting period

Close of voting

Progress results available

Removal of election signs

Official declaration

Candidate expenses deadline

12 July (Friday)

19 July (Friday)

10 August (Saturday – 9 weeks prior)

12 noon, 16 August (Friday)

20 – 25 September (Friday-Wednesday)

20 September - 12 October

12 noon, 12 October (Saturday)

12 October, approx 5pm

11 October (midnight Friday)

likely to be **17 October** (Thursday)

probably 12 December (Thursday)





PART THREE

The Nomination Process



Nominations will be called for:

Mayor

Councillors At Large

10 councillors

Community Board members

Rotorua Lakes Community Board

4 members

Rural Community Board

4 members

Waikato Regional Council

Taupo-Rotorua Constituency

1 member

Nga Tai ki Uta Constituency

1 member

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Rotorua Constituency

2 members

Okurei Constituency

1 member

Lakes District Health Board

7 members at large (STV)

The order of candidate names on the voting papers for all elections is random



Nomination Process

Nomination Period – 4 weeks

- Nominations open Friday 19 July
- Nominations close at midday Friday 16 August

All nomination documents must be submitted together

- Nom paper, profile statement, photo, evidence of \$200 deposit
- Must provide evidence of NZ Citizenship (passport, birth cert)
- Must come to RLC office if in person, can be scanned and emailed to the DEO
- Cannot put nom paper in first week, leave profile till last week
- Will accept online banking of deposits evidence required
- Cheques will not be accepted
- Nomination paper includes warning for candidates to be aware that contact details will be public info
- Can use commonly used name on voting papers but no titles
- Party affiliations cannot be offensive, confusing, or too long





Nomination Process (continued)

Candidate must state if standing in any other elections in NZ

- Mayor, Ward/At Large Council, Comm Bd, LTs, DHB, other TAs?
- Is shown at top of profile statement
- Is not included in the 150 words
- Applies to standing anywhere in NZ
- Must update earlier nomination form if not included
- Nomination paper is a public document, open for inspection

Candidate must state if reside in area of election or not

- My principal place of residence is WITHIN / is NOT WITHIN the area
- Is shown at the top of the profile statement
- Is not included in the 150 words

Other elections

- WRC noms to WRC office, Grey St, Hamilton
- BOPRC noms to BOPRC office in Tauranga or Whakatane
- Lakes DHB noms to RLC





2016 Voting Paper

LOCAL ELECTIONS 2016

The Electoral Officer Tauranga City Council Private Bag 770114 Orchard Road Christchurch 8154

You can vote in up to 5 elections using this voting document

Tauranga City Council

- Mayor
- At Large
- Mount Maunganui-Papamoa Ward

Bay of Plenty Regional Council (Tauranga General Constituency)

Bay of Plenty District Health Board

How to vote

Please read the instructions carefully

There are two types of electoral system used for these elections

the FIRST PAST THE POST system where you tick candidate names

the SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTING system where you rank the candidates using numbers

If you make a mistake that you can't correct clearly, contact the electoral officer and ask for a new voting document.

The candidates surnames may not be in alphabetical order for all elections.

Warning - it is an offence under the Local Electoral Act to interfere

Tauranga City Council ELECTING THE MAYOR



FPP - THIS IS A FIRST PAST THE POST ELECTION

Tick ✓ the circle next to one (1) candidate you want to vote for.

The candidate names are listed randomly for this election.





COUNCILLOR - AT LARGE

ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL 2019 NOMINATION PAPER

Nominations must be in the hands of the Electoral Officer/Official before 12 noon. Friday 16 August 2019

A: CANDIDATE to till out after reading important information on reverse I (candidate's full name). accept the nomination and confirm that I have read and understand the Eligibility and Candidacy notes on the reverse of this form and certify that I am qualified to be a candidate under section 25 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and regulations and that I am not disqualified under section 58 of The Local Electoral Act 2001. In particular, I am a New Zealand citizen and a parliamentary elector and I am not a candidate for election to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council or Walkato Regional Council (known as Environment Walkato). Address (as listed on the purkamentary roll): Email (EO's preferred first point of contact): Mobilie phone: Home phone: I understand that the details provided on this nomination paper will be publicly available for election purposes. Please advise the Electoral Officer at the time of lodging your nomination if there are contact details that you would not like to be published. Note: Section 55(5) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that this nomination form be available for public inspection at Roterus Lakes Council's offices located at the Civits Centre, 1051 Haupaga SI, Rotonia. Please note that candidate and nominator defaits provided on this form may also be made available from the Rotorua Lakes Council website I submit with this nomination Evidence of NZ Evidence of Profile statement (please tick appropriate circles): citizenship deposit (\$200) Lunderstand that, in not providing a profile or photo, the words "Profile:Photo not supplied" will appear below my name in the profile booklet that will be sent out with the voting paper. All nomination documents must be submitted at the same time. My principal place of residence is WITHIN the Rotorus Lakes area. is NOT WITHIN the Rotonia Lakes area. (tick DNE circle); I am also standing for the following elections: I wish my name to be shown on the voting document as: I wish to use the following affiliation (To be left blank if the candidate does not wish to use any participroup affiliation. A candidate with no affiliation may request that 'independent' be shown) Signature: Date: B: NOMINATORS to fill out We, the undersigned electors of Rotorua Lakes Council hereby nominate (candidate's full name): with his/her consent, as a candidate for the office of Councillor of the Rotorus Lakes Council, the election for which is to be held on Sahurday 12 October 2019. Full rume of First Nominator: Address: Mobile phobs Home phone Date Signature of First Nominator Full name of Second Nominator. Address: Mobile phone: Home phone Signature of Second Nominator Date

ELIGIBILITY & CANDIDACY NOTES

- 1 Candidates for the position of Councillor do not need to live within Rotonus Lakes area, but must be enrolled as a NZ partiamentary elector.
- 2 Both nominators must be enrolled as electors of the Rotorua Lakes Council.
- 3 No person can be elected to a local authority if harshe is concerned or interested in contracts over \$25,000 with that local authority. This restriction is waived if prior approval from the office of the Controller and Auditor-General is obtained (section 3/1) Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1988).
- A candidate may stand for either the regional council or a city or district council (including community or local bearts;) within the regional council's area but not both (section 58 LEA).
- 5 A candidate cannot numinate themselves for office.
- 6 A candidate may under section 56 of the Local Electroil Act 2001 (LEA) be nominated under a name which the candidate is commonly known provided that the name will not cause offence to a reasonable person be unreasonably long; include or resemble an official namk or bitle; cause confusion or mislead electrons location 56 LEA.
- 7 Where no affiliation is claimed, or an affiliation is disallowed by the Electoral Officer under section 57 of the LEA, nothing will be shown in the public notice or the poline paper assists the cantilater's name. A cardidate with no affiliation may request that "independent" be shown.
- 8 Under section 121 of the LEA, any person is liable to a fine of up to \$2,000 who:
 - (s). Knowing themselves to be ineligible for election, consents to being nominated for election; or
 - (b) Nominates any person as a candidate whom he/she knows to be ineligible for election; or
 - (c) Not being the cardidate signs any nomination pager knowing that they are not qualified to vote at the election.
- Each nomination must be accomparised by the required deposit of \$200.00 (inclusive of GST) or proof of an electronic deposit.
- Evidence of NZ obsensing is required at the time of candidate nomination. Acceptable evidence includes NZ passport, NZ birth certificate or NZ obsensing documentation.
- 11 Nominations of candidates must be in the hands of the Electral Officer, Rotonia Lakes Council, Civic Centre, 1061 Hougapa St, Rotonia, before 12 soon on the 16 August 2018.
- 12 An employee of a local authority may stated for election as mayor or councillor of that local authority, but if elected, must resign as an employee of the local authority before taking office. This provision does not apply to employees of a local authority elected to a community or local board.
- 13 Previous restrictions on Police employees wanting to stand for election to a local authority have now been removed and there are now no restrictions applying to Police employees wishing to stand in local authority elections.

RETURN, PAYMENT AND REFUND DETAILS

Return by: post to:	The Deputy Electoral Officer, Rotorua Lakes Council, Private Bag 3829, Rotorua Mail Centre, Rotorua 3046						
or, deliver to:	Rotorua Lakes Council, Civic Centre, 1061 Haupapa St., Rotorua						
or, scan and email to:	nck.dunn@retonualc.nz						
	cash or effgos directly at the Retenue La d or by entine banking using the details o		e, 1061 Haupapa St, Rotonia, if you are				
Account name:	Rotorua Lakes Council	Bankc	BNZ				
Account number:	02 0412 0234516 00	Particulars/Reference	AT LARGE				
Code	(Your initials and surname)						
Refunds of nomination de your refund.	posits (where aligible) will be made by on	line deposit into a bank account. Pleas	e list below the bank account to use for				
Account name:							
Account number:							

Nominations must be in the hands of the Electoral Officer before 12 noon, Friday 16 August 2019.

All nomination documents must be infamilied at the same time. For assistance phone the billine helpfing: 0800 300 137.

ELECTORAL OFFICIAL to fill out								
Received at the hour of:	on the	day of	25					
Candidate Roll #:								
First Nominator Roll #:		Second Numerator Reli #						
Nomination documents approved:	Nomination paper Photo Proof of NZ citizenship	Degosit/proof of deposit Profile statement	Place of residence Standing for other elections					
Signature of Electoral Official		Date:						

Dapyigtt SDS to elections com Lineral

A: CANDIDATE to fill out after reading important information on reverse I (candidate's full name). accept the nomination and confirm that I have read and understand the Eligibility and Candidacy notes on the reverse of this form and certify that I am qualified to be a candidate under section 25 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and regulations and that I am not disqualified under section 58 of the Local Electoral Act 2001. In particular, I am a New Zealand citizen and a parliamentary elector and I am not a candidate for election to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council or Waikato Regional Council (known as Environment Waikato). Address (as listed on the parliamentary roll): Email (EO's preferred first point of contact): Mobile phone: Home phone: I understand that the details provided on this nomination paper will be publicly available for election purposes. Please advise the Electoral Officer at the time of lodging your nomination if there are contact details that you would not like to be published. Note: Section 55(5) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 requires that this nomination form be available for public inspection at Rotorua Lakes Council's offices located at the Civic Centre, 1061 Haupapa St, Rotorua. Please note that candidate and nominator details provided on this form may also be made available from the Rotorua Lakes Council website. I submit with this nomination Evidence of NZ Evidence of Profile Photo (please tick appropriate circles): citizenship deposit (\$200) statement I understand that, in not providing a profile or photo, the words "Profile/Photo not supplied" will appear below my name in the profile booklet that will be sent out with the voting paper. All nomination documents must be submitted at the same time. My principal place of residence is WITHIN the Rotorua Lakes area is NOT WITHIN the Rotorua Lakes area (tick ONE circle): I am also standing for the following elections: I wish my name to be shown on the voting document as: I wish to use the following affiliation (To be left blank if the candidate does not wish to use any party/group affiliation. A candidate with no affiliation may request that 'independent' be shown): Signature: Date:

Candidate Qualifications

MUST BE:

- A New Zealand citizen (required to provide evidence)
- Enrolled on the parliamentary electoral roll (in NZ)
- Nominator and seconder on the roll in the area

CANNOT:

- Be serving a prison sentence of three or more years
- Stand for WRC or BOPRC and RLC
- Have interest in a contract over \$25K per year with council

CAN STAND:

- For Lakes DHB and the council (mayor, ward, CB)
- For both mayor and councillor and CB, or any other council
- If a council employee but must resign if elected as mayor or councillor (not CB)
- If you live outside area, but must state that on nom paper





Candidate Withdrawals

- A candidate cannot strategically or politically withdraw after nominations have closed
- Same as for parliamentary elections, ie death or incapacity only
- Medical certificate required deposit refunded
- Withdrawal application can be made by candidate or their agent





Candidate Profile Statements

- May be provided (not mandatory) see page 15
- If provided, must be provided electronically with the other nomination documents, as an email attachment (MS Word) or on a pen drive
- Up to 150 words about the candidate, their policies and intentions
- Cannot comment on policies etc of any other candidate
- Hand written profiles will not be accepted
- Profiles and photos should be emailed to the DEO but hard copies must be attached to nom paper, i.e. all docs submitted together
- EO not required to verify or investigate any information included in profile
- Photos in colour, within last 12 months, head and shoulders shot only (no hats, sunglasses, children, pets or friends)
- Photos should be supplied electronically as jpgs, scanned at 600 dpi
- Profiles on RLC website as soon as ready after close of nominations
- Candidate contact details on RLC website after close of nominations





Example Profile Statement

Wellington City Council

Electing the Mayor



Celia WADE-BROWN a good choice for Wellington

My principal place of residence is not in the Wellington City Council area.

Auto-populated text

I am also standing for the Northern Ward and the Capital and Coast DHB.

Celia Wade-Brown is an approachable, fair and inclusive leader. Her positive Council contribution, community

work and business background offer a good combination of skills. She

has protested baritage and appropriate lad significant approximation

Hard-coded text

PART FOUR

Campaigning



Campaigning

- Can start any time
- Generally no rules around campaigning or conduct, but:
 - Can't use council resources for campaigning (logo, branding, colours, RLC FB or twitter feed, photos, council buildings)
 - Voting papers should not be collected from electors by candidates or their assistants
- Election expenses for campaigning must be recorded and declared in a return after the election
- Any campaign material (signs, posters, billboards, flyers, ads, cars, social media) must have an authorisation from the candidate or their agent, stating their name, and physical address
 - Not a PO Box, Private Bag, rural number, website address, council's street address
 - Must be on the front of the sign or promotional material (not the back)
- Any content of signs is subject to ASA guidelines and complaints process – must be factual
- Usual rules of defamation apply but don't complain to the EO if you don't like what someone says about you!





Social Media

Beware of Social Media! During the three month election period:

- Council's social media channels will unlike / unfollow all candidate social media channels
- Candidates must not link their own social media channels (if they are used for campaigning purposes) to the Council's social media channels, and must ensure that they have the appropriate authorisation
- RLC social media channels cannot be used for electioneering by candidates or members of the public – will be constantly monitored and strictly enforced
- Any post positive or negative made by any individual specifically relating to their own or someone else's nomination, intention to run for Council or election campaign, will be removed and the writer blocked until after the election
- Council's social media channels will remain neutral Council will promote elections and the importance of voting but will not associate these posts with any candidates
- During the lead up to elections, the current Mayor and Councillors may be used in social media posts where it is appropriate and is considered 'business as usual' to use them





Social Media continued

This means, when with the intention of campaigning / electioneering:

- No posting on Council pages / accounts
- No comments / replies on Council pages
- No mentions with a tag
- No picture tagging
- No rating or reviewing Council pages or posts
- No sharing / reposting of RLC posts with electioneering comments
- e.g. you cannot electioneer on Council's channels, or piggyback on their audiences see page 20





Election signs

- See page 21 of candidate handbook
- Election signs can go up from Saturday 10 August (9 weeks prior to election day)
- Must comply with RLC hoardings policy re size and placement, not to exceed 3m²
- Cannot be on council land or road reserve
- Can be on private land, but only for 2 months
- Only one sign per candidate per site
- NZTA rules apply for State Highways, see page 22
- Vehicle signwriting is ok cost of running a vehicle if it is own personal transport is not an election expense
- The cost of framing for a sign is not an election expense
- Complaints made to RLC's Enforcement Officers not the EO or DEO





Electoral Donations

- No time limit on when donations are received, every donation to be recorded
- You don't have to accept a donation be careful of reason for donation
- Must be included in candidate expenditure return
- No such thing as an "anonymous" donation if you know who it has come from:
 - someone can't give a donation and ask for it to be treated anonymously
 - anonymous means you don't know who it came from, can't reasonably work it out
 - A third party who passes on a donation must disclose who the donor is
- An anonymous donation cannot be over \$1,500:
 - if it is, candidate can't keep balance over \$1,500, it must be given to EO to pass onto council
 - a donation made up of contributions (e.g. to a trust) is treated as one donation, and can't be over \$1,500 if anonymous
 - it is an offence to circumvent \$1,500 limit, i.e. by deliberately splitting up a donation into smaller contributions





Election Expenditure Limits

Rotorua Mayoralty and Councillor \$40,000

Rotorua Lakes Community Board \$3,500

Rural Community Board \$7,000

Lakes DHB \$55,000





Election Expenses

- If standing for more than one position the higher limit applies
- The applicable period for which campaign expenditure limits apply is 3 months before election day - 12 July 2019
- Candidates required to provide details of electoral expenses incurred before or after the applicable period to Electoral Officer – pro-rata expenses for activity outside the 3 months
- Electoral expenses and electoral donation returns required within 55 days after the official result declaration – about 12 December
- Deposit not refunded until the return is completed (provided candidate gets more than 25% of the votes of the lowest successful candidate)
- Electoral expenses and electoral donations returns are public documents
- EO must make expenses documents available on council website for 7 years
- See page 17 of the Handbook





Election Offences

- See page 35
- Imitation Voting Paper examples next slide
- Bribery
- Treating
 - Can't provide food, alcohol, drinks, entertainment as an inducement to vote (light refreshments after a meeting is ok)
 - Can't give away a pen, note pad, fridge magnet or item of value
- Undue Influence cant stand over someone telling them how to vote, or post or deliver someone else's voting paper
- Unauthorised advertisements
- ✓ Illegal nomination e.g. candidate with a court order
- Any formal complaint passed straight to the Police





Example of Signs







PART FIVE

Election Process and Results



Electoral Rolls

Preliminary Electoral Roll

- Available for public inspection from 19 July to 5pm Friday 16 August 2019
- At all libraries and the council offices
- Includes the ratepayer roll
- Cannot be provided electronically to candidates

Final Electoral Roll

- Produced following the EC update campaign
- Is the roll used for issuing voting papers
- Can purchase hard copy for \$100 (plus GST) for full roll or \$50 per ward





Special Voting

- Available for anyone who spoils, loses, or does not receive their voting paper or enrols after 16 August
- Available for electors on the unpublished roll
- Available from 20 September to 12 noon on election day, 12 October 2019
- Available at Rotorua Council office, or can be posted out
- Applicants can come in or contact DEO by phone or email
- Candidates cannot collect special voting documents on behalf of electors





Election Results

Preliminary count occurs from 12 noon, Saturday 12 October 2019

Progress results expected about 2pm – approx 98% of votes received (not special votes and votes in transit to processing centre).

Progress results:

- Will be available from council's website
- Email to all candidates with email address
- Candidates personally rung by council staff

Preliminary results expected late on Sunday 13 October, after all ordinary votes have been processed

Final results expected by Thursday 17 October, after special votes have been processed





Coming into Office

- All members come into office on the day following the day on which the candidates are declared to be elected
- This is the day after the public notice has been published - expected to be Friday 18 or Saturday 19 October
- Successful candidates contacted by mayor/staff
- Council's inaugural meeting and the "swearing in" of elected members including CBs (elected candidates cannot act until this has occurred)





Resources

RLC candidate handbook and nomination papers
LGNZ 'Making a Stand' booklet
RLC's Pre-election report – available from 7 August 2019:

- To inform the community and candidates on key aspects of Council business
- To set out major projects and expenditure for next
 3 years
- To promote discussion on issues and inform any elections debate

Legislation (LEA, LER)

Council's website (for election information):

- WRC candidate handbook
- BOPRC candidate handbook
- Lakes DHB candidate handbook





Waikato Regional Council

- Regional and territorial councils do not have a hierarchical relationship where one tier of government reports to the other.
- The two arms of local government have different but complementary functions.
- Regional council functions include those best delivered at a regional scale such as natural resource management, regional transport and civil defence and emergency management.

Waikato Regional Council

Representation arrangements

- Waikato Regional Council comprises 14 members
 - 12 elected from 6 general constituencies
 - 2 elected from 2 Māori constituencies

Positions to be contested

- Taupō/Rotorua General Constituency (x1)
- Ngā Tai ki Uta Māori Constituency (x1)

Time commitment

- Chair mostly fulltime
- Councillor varies depending on the number of responsibilities

Remuneration for Waikato Regional Council elected members

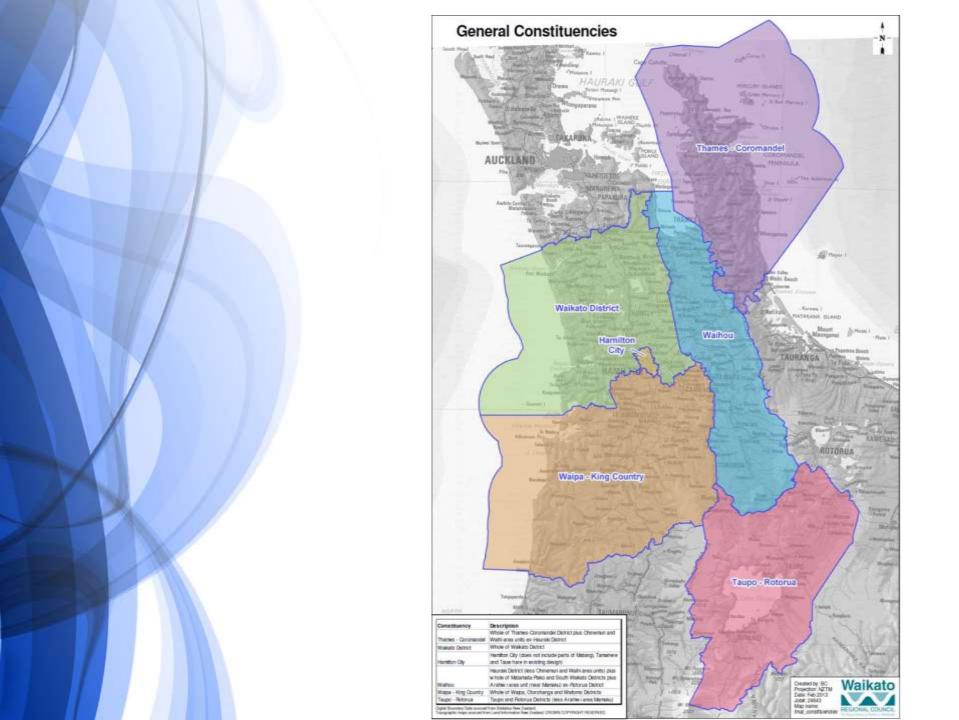
• Chair \$154,836 (minus \$3,496 salary sacrifice for private use of vehicle)

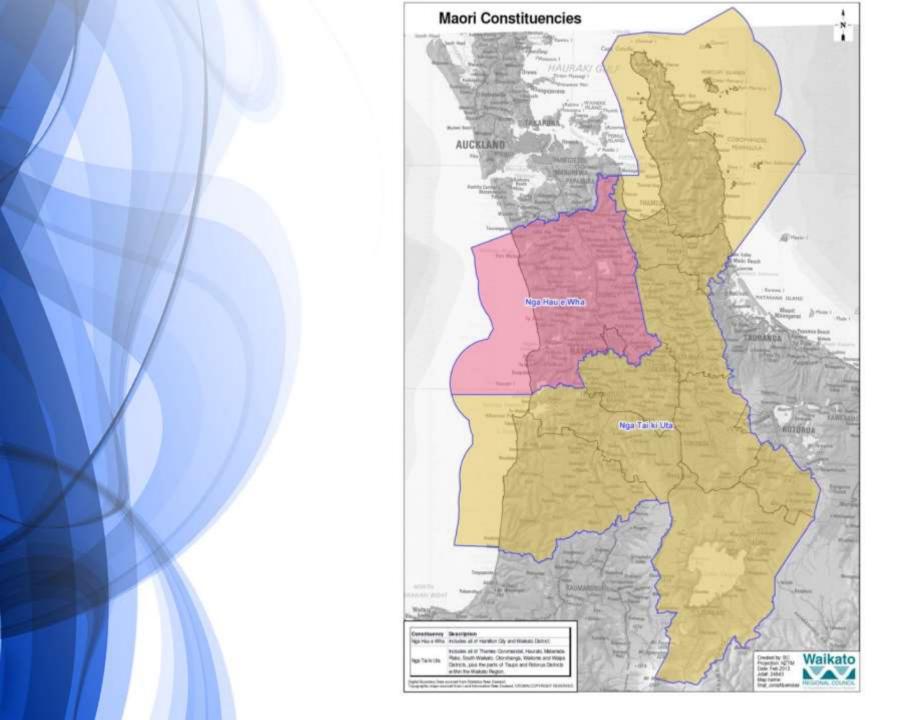
Deputy Chair \$78,234

Councillor \$60,180 (base salary)

Hearing Committee member \$66,198

Committee Chair \$69,207





For more information

 Ask for a copy of the Waikato Regional Council Candidate Information Handbook

 Contact the Waikato Regional Council's Electoral Officer or Deputy Electoral Officer on 0800 800 401

Visit <u>www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/elections</u>









Last word

No Online Voting

Campaigning

Election results – on websites/email – progress/prelim/final

Election day – Saturday 12 October 2019

Good luck!!