

MAUAO MĀORI CONSTITUENCY BY-ELECTION



Candidate Information Sheet

Nominations must be in the hands of the Electoral Officer before 12 noon, Monday, 13 February 2017

Introduction

This by-election covers the extraordinary vacancy for one Mauao Māori Constituency member. The extraordinary vacancy has arisen from the death of an elected member.

A full candidate handbook was produced for the recently concluded 2016 local body elections. This handbook describes the role and responsibilities of a member and provides general information for candidates, including candidate eligibility, campaigning requirements, and election offences. A copy of the handbook is available from council offices at First Avenue, Tauranga or Quay Street, Whakatane or by requesting a copy from the Council on 0800 884 880. It can also be viewed at www.boprc.govt.nz/byelection.

Note: please refer to this information sheet for the timetable for this by-election.

Electoral Officer details

The Electoral Officer for this by-election is Robyn Garrett. Robyn is based in Tauranga and works for the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. The Electoral Officer can be contacted on 0800 884 881 x 8376 or by emailing robyn.garrett@boprc.govt.nz.

The Deputy Electoral Officer for this by-election is Nora Moore. Nora is based in Tauranga and works for the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Nora can be contacted on 0800 884 881 ext. 9249 or by emailing nora.moore@boprc.govt.nz.

Candidate eligibility

Full eligibility criteria for this by-election are detailed on the reverse of the nomination form. In summary, candidates do not need to reside within the Mauao Māori Constituency, but must be a New Zealand citizen and enrolled as a parliamentary elector somewhere in

New Zealand; and be nominated by two electors within the Mauao Māori Constituency.

Summarised by election timetable

Monday, 16 January 2017	Public notice of by-election. Nominations open. Preliminary roll open for inspection.
Monday, 13 February 2017	Nominations close (12 noon).
ASAP after Monday, 13 February 2017	Public notice of day of by-election.
IF ELECTION REQUIRED	
Monday, 20 March 2017	Delivery of voting documents commences. Progressive roll scrutiny. Early processing period starts. Special voting period starts.
Monday, 10 April 2017	Last day to appoint scrutineers.
Tuesday, 11 April 2017	ELECTION DAY Voting closes at 12 noon – counting commences. Preliminary results available as soon as practicable.
By Sunday, 16 April 2017	Official declaration.
By Saturday, 10 June 2017	Return of electoral expense forms.

Candidate profile statements

The Local Electoral Act allows for candidate profile statements to be provided by each candidate with their nomination paper. If an election is required these are then collated by the Electoral Officer and forwarded to electors in a sheet or booklet with the voting papers.

Refer also to *Part 7: Nominations* section of the Candidate Handbook.

Candidate profile statements may be in English or Māori or both, with a maximum of 150 words in either language. Statements should be provided electronically as a MS Word document that has been word counted and spell checked.

Candidate profile statements are governed by Sections 61 and 62 of the Act.

Profiles must be provided at the same time as the nomination document, and should also be emailed to the Electoral Officer, Robyn Garrett, at robyn.garrett@boprc.govt.nz.

Candidate photos

Candidates may also submit a photograph for inclusion with the candidate profile statement in the sheet to accompany the voting papers. Photos must be recent (taken within the last six months), be a head and shoulders shot, and be submitted electronically in JPEG format. Photos must be provided at the same time as the nomination document and profile statement, and should also be emailed to the Electoral Officer, Robyn Garrett, at robyn.garrett@boprc.govt.nz.

Campaigning

Full details on the limitations associated with campaigning for this by-election are listed in the handbook in Part 8. All candidates should refer to the handbook to familiarise themselves with those restrictions. The following is a summary of the main criteria to be aware of:

- 1 Campaigning can commence anytime but must cease by the close of voting day, i.e. 12 noon on Tuesday 11 April 2017.
- 2 No election material can contain any untrue statement defamatory of any candidate and calculated to influence the vote of any elector or include an imitation voting paper which has the names of the candidates with any direction or indication as to the candidate a person should vote for, or in any way contains such direction or indication likely to influence the voter.

Election advertising

Election advertising, using any media, must identify the person under whose authority they have been produced, as per Sections 113-115 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

This means that for such things as hoardings, posters and adverts, each candidate must have a sentence at the bottom saying that it is authorised by the candidate (or their agent), i.e. "Authorised by Jill Citizen, 20 Beach Street, Sampletown." Please note that the address listed must be a physical address i.e. it cannot be a PO Box or rural delivery number.

Election hoardings

Further details on the election signage requirements are listed in the 2016 Candidate Handbook in Part 10. Any candidate intending to use election hoardings as part of their campaign strategy is encouraged to contact the appropriate territorial authority to check requirements.

Campaigning expenditure limits

At the end of the election period, all candidates are required to submit to the Electoral Officer a summary of donations received for and expenditure made on campaigning for the by-election. For this by-election the total election expenses must not exceed \$14,000 (inclusive of GST).

Lodgement of nomination forms

Completed nomination forms for this by-election must be lodged with the Electoral Officer, Robyn Garrett or Deputy Electoral Officer, Nora Moore at the Bay of Plenty Regional Council office, 87 First Avenue, Tauranga, on or before midday on Monday, 13 February 2017. Along with the nomination form, each candidate must also:

- Pay the \$200 (inclusive of GST) election deposit,
- Submit the candidate profile statement of up to 150 words, (in either English or Māori or both) to be used for this by-election,
- Submit the photo to be used for this by-election.