

ENROL STAND VOTE

RĒHITA | E TŪ | PŌTI



Horowhenua District Council
Local Government Election 2025

Horowhenua 
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Photo by Teri Kitson

The 2025 Local Election is fast approaching!

**E TATA MAI ANA TE PŌTITANGA
Ā-ROHE 2025!**

**You can vote from 9 September
to 11 October 2025.**

If you're enrolled, you will be able to vote for the mayor and councillors who best represent you. Every day, Council makes decisions that affect your life – from the services you rely on (safe drinking water, footpaths and roads), to how Horowhenua will grow and what our district will look like in the future. It's important that everyone who can vote has the chance to do so. This simple guide will help you empower your community to enrol, stand and vote.



How can I support my community?

KA PĒHEA TAKU TAUTOKO I TAKU HAPORI?

Engaging with your community about the election makes a big difference

Research shows that for each voting-related interaction a person has, their likelihood of voting increases by 11%. You can be a local election champion and help your community by encouraging them to enrol, stand, and understand the voting process.

HERE ARE SOME FUN IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:

- Talk to your community about issues they are passionate about and the power of their vote.
- Include enrolment and voting reminders in your newsletters and communications.
- Post on social media (share stories about why you or other community members are voting).
- Consider how to support people in your community who have additional accessibility needs with their enrolment to vote.
- Remind people their vote has power and could be the decider between a candidate that represents them and one that does not.
- Run fun and friendly events e.g. Pizza Enrolment parties where everyone who shows up to enrol gets to share in kai and kōrero about the upcoming elections.
- Take a buddy with you when posting your ballot and treat yourself to something from a local business to celebrate on the way home.
- Pop posters up on notice boards (attached).

GET TO KNOW THE CANDIDATES:

- Encourage passionate members of your community to stand as candidates.
- Info for candidates will be available from June. Info about candidates will be available from August.
- Host a 'meet the candidate' session or debate.

Key Election Dates

NGĀ RANGI PŌTI MATUA

Important dates throughout
the 2025 Local Election period



ENROL

Friday 1 August 2025

Last day to enrol to receive voting papers by mail. Otherwise, you'll need to cast a special vote.

VOTE

**Tuesday
9 September 2025**

Voting documents posted. **Saturday 11 October 2025** voting closes at midday.

RESULTS

**Saturday
11 October 2025**

Preliminary results released. **Friday 17 October 2025** final results released.

How do I enrol to vote?

KA PĒHEA TAKU RĒHITA KI TE PŌTI?

Voting is one of the best ways to have your say about what goes on in Horowhenua.


There are loads of ways to enrol and you can always ask for support if you need it.

TO ENROL

 **Visit:** vote.nz

 **Email:** enrol@vote.nz

 **Call:** 0800 36 76 56

 **Freetext:** Your name and address to 3676 to enrol to vote or to update your enrolment details.

Enrolment information is available in 27 languages.

You can find it here: vote.nz/enrolment-information-in-multiple-languages

You can enrol if you:

- ✓ Are 18 years or older
- ✓ An NZ citizen OR you have lived in Aotearoa for more than one year and have a visa which allows you to stay in New Zealand indefinitely. If you're enrolled to vote for the parliamentary elections and your address is up to date, then you're automatically enrolled for local elections too.

If you're enrolled, you will receive an enrolment update pack in the mail by early July. If you don't receive an enrolment update pack, you're either not enrolled or you need to update your enrolment details.

When you enrol to vote, you'll need to provide a postal address where electoral mail can be sent. This is ideally where you live, or it could be a place where you spend a lot of your time. It could also be a PO Box, or the address of a friend, family member, church or support group, as long as its someone who will agree to hold your mail for you to collect.

Update your details

It's really important your address is up to date as you will receive your voting papers via post. If you're not sure, now is a great time to check. 📍 [Vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz)

CAN I ENROL ON AN UNPUBLISHED ROLL?

Not everyone feels safe enough to have their details publicly available on the electoral roll, but that doesn't mean they lose the right to vote.

If you're concerned about your personal safety, or that of your family, you can apply to go on the confidential unpublished roll.

To apply to go on the unpublished roll, visit [vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz)

MĀORI ROLL

If you're Māori, you have the choice to enrol on either the Māori roll or the general roll. If you're on the Māori roll, you will be voting in Horowhenua Māori Ward. If you're on the general roll, you'll be voting in your area's General Ward.

If you're enrolling for the first time, you can choose your roll when you sign up. If you want to change rolls, you'll need to do this by July.

NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING?

If you need help with enrolling or have accessibility needs, the Electoral Commission can help. Get help to enrol at the Electoral Commission website or contact the Deputy Electoral Officer on:

☎ 06 366 0999 or

@ election@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Information on the Māori Ward referendum

HE PĀRONGO MŌ TE PŌTITAKE ROHE MĀORI

Alongside the election, you'll vote in a referendum that decides how Māori representation will work in our community.

WHAT IS THE REFERENDUM ABOUT?

Māori wards were introduced for the 2022 local elections. Under new legislation, you now get to decide whether to:

- Keep or remove Horowhenua Māori Ward for Horowhenua District Council.
- Keep or remove Raki Māori constituencies for Horizons Regional Council.


WHO CAN VOTE?

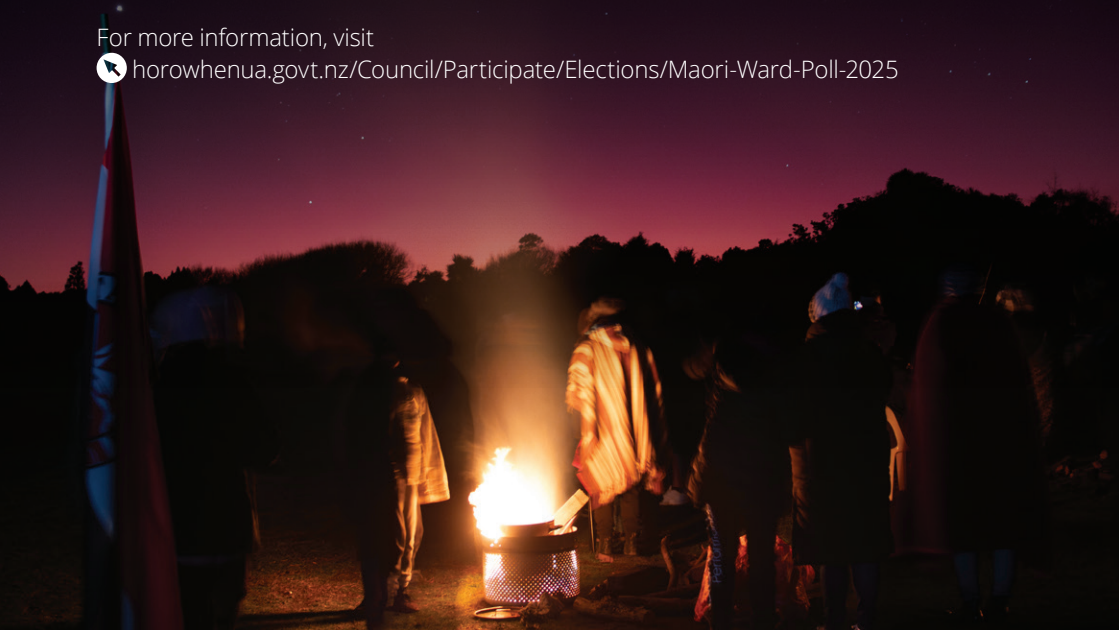
Everyone enrolled to vote can have their say in this referendum – it doesn't matter if you're on the Māori roll or the General roll.

THE RESULT MATTERS

Councils must follow the result of this referendum. The outcome will take effect for the 2028 and 2031 elections. Māori wards and constituencies will remain in place for the 2025-2027 council term.

For more information, visit

 horowhenua.govt.nz/Council/Participate/Elections/Maori-Ward-Poll-2025



How to vote

KA PĒHEA TŌ PŌTI

Voting is done by post.


If you're enrolled, check your mailbox for your voting forms between 9 and 22 September 2025.

Complete your voting forms and return them:

- to any of our specially marked orange ballot boxes – more information will be available closer to the election on our website.
- to our HDC Council Building, Te Takeretanga o Kura hau pō, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom (during opening hours).
- in the freepost envelope.

IF YOU NEED HELP FILLING IN YOUR VOTING DOCUMENT

If you have additional accessibility requirements, are unable to read or write, or are not familiar with the language on the form, you may need help to vote. You can authorise someone you trust to mark the voting document for you following your instructions. You can also come to the HDC Civic Building and get help by trained advisors. You can also vote by phone this year, the contact number is:

 **0800 922 822**


SPECIAL VOTING

Sometimes you might need to cast what's called a 'special vote'. You will need to do this if you:

- Didn't receive your voting forms in your letterbox
- Lost or damaged your voting forms
- You enrolled after 1 August 2025 or updated your details after the roll was published
- You are on the unpublished (confidential) electoral roll
- Your enrolled address is out of date, and you have been living at a new address for a month or more.

Casting a special vote is easy. Come and see the team at the HDC Civic Building and other locations posted on our website. It takes less than five minutes to issue a special vote, and you can vote on site or take it away to vote later.

If you can't come in to cast a special vote, then we can send the forms out to you.

 **Email: election@horowhenua.govt.nz**

 **Call: 06 366 0999**

FIRST PAST THE POST VOTING (FPP)

Voting for the Horowhenua District Council elections is done via the FPP method.

Electors vote by indicating their preferred candidate(s), and the candidate(s) that receives the most

votes is declared the winner regardless of the proportion of votes that candidate(s) obtained.

More information can be found on our webpage:

 **horowhenua.govt.nz/Council/Participate/Elections/Electoral-System**

Accessible information

HE PĀRONGO TOMOPAI

Enrolment information for voters in additional accessible formats.

You can find enrolment information in accessible formats on the Electoral Commission site.

Formats include New Zealand sign language, audio, large print, and e-text. Info included:

- Are you eligible to enrol and vote?
- General roll or Māori roll
- Can you go on the unpublished roll?
- Enrol from overseas?
- Ways to enrol.

Information is also available on how to find help to enrol.

You can also call Blind Low Vision NZ's Telephone Information Service (TIS) to find out more about enrolling and voting.

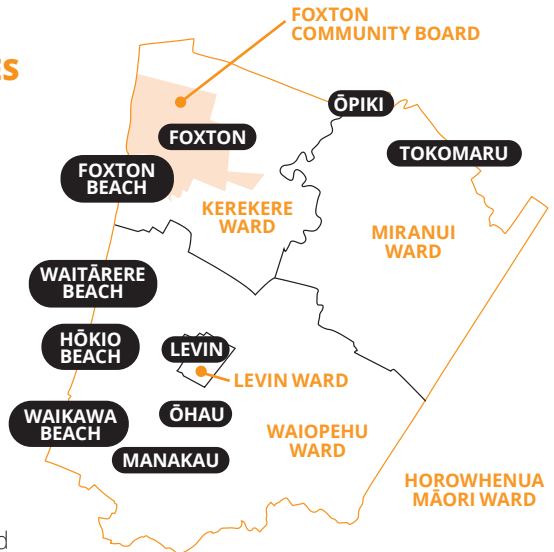
WARD MAPS AND BOUNDARIES

Horowhenua District is divided into five wards that elect a total of one mayor and 12 Councillors.

The number of Councillors for each ward is determined by the estimated resident population of each ward and the total population of the district as a whole.

The list includes:

- One Mayor, who is elected by all the district's voters
- One Councillor for the Miranui Ward
- Two Councillors for the KereKere Ward
- Five Councillors for the Levin
- Two Councillors for the Waiopēhu
- Two Councillors for the Horowhenua Māori Ward



Those who live within the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board area also get to elect five to the board.

HOW TO VOTE

Are you enrolled?

Don't know?

Check at  vote.nz

YES

NO

Learn about your candidates

Visit horowhenua.govt.nz/elections to watch their videos and read their bios

Time to vote!

Check your mailbox for your voting papers

On your voting form indicate your preferred candidate(s)

Only tick up to the number of councillors allocated for your ward

Māori Wards referendum

On your voting paper for the referendum, vote by answering the referendum question for Horowhenua Māori Ward and again for Horizons Regional Councils. Please tick next to 'Yes' or 'No'

Send your vote!


Post your voting papers or drop it off at one of the orange voting bins before midday on Saturday 11 October.

Find out where at  horowhenua.govt.nz/elections

You can still vote!

Special vote

Cast a special vote at one of our handy locations – check here for locations and times:

 horowhenua.govt.nz/elections

Learn about your candidates

On your voting form indicate your preferred candidate(s)



- @ enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz
- 🖱️ horowhenua.govt.nz
- f HorowhenuaDC
- ☎️ 06 366 0999
- ✉️ Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540
- 👤 126 Oxford St, Levin 5510