Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe 2025 Local Government Elections











Anthony Morton
Electoral Officer
elections.com

Frances Shepherd

Deputy Electoral Officer

Gore District Council

Amanda Drew

Governance & Corporate Support Manager

Gore District Council

Keith Hovell
Councillor & Deputy Mayor
Gore District Council

Robyn Rout

Deputy Electoral Officer

Southland District Council

Amy Kubrycht

General Manager, Corporate

Environment Southland





Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe 2025 Local Government Elections PART 1

What is local government all about?



A little bit about the Gore District



Nestled in the stunning Southland region, the Gore District spans approximately 1,200 square kilometers of scenic beauty and welcoming communities.

With 894 kilometers of road connecting picturesque towns and countryside, every journey here is a chance to see something new.

Home to around 12,900 friendly residents, our district is a place where community, culture, and nature come together.

The two main towns in the District are Gore and Mataura.

These are complemented by the charm of our smaller rural communities Mandeville, Waikaka, and Pukerau.





Lead the Way for the Gore District's Future



Gore District is packed with incredible facilities — from playgrounds, sports grounds, and open spaces to our heritage precinct, art gallery, museums, aquatic centre, vibrant cafés and businesses to name a few.

As an elected member, you'll play a key role in supporting and enhancing assets such as these and many more; helping to ensure our District continues, grow, enrich lives and strengthen our communities for generations to come.



Council representation



Governance is structured across five wards, ensuring representation for both urban and rural areas.

In addition to the Mayor, who elected district-wide, there are 11 councillors:

Gore Ward – 5 Councillors

Gore Rural Ward – 2 Councillors

Mataura Ward – 1 Councillor

District-Wide - 3 Councillors

Community Board

The district has one community board serving **Mataura**, the second-largest urban centre in the area.

The Mataura Community Board consists of **five** members plus the Mayor and one Councillor, working to support local needs and initiatives.



Council meetings



Where are Meetings held – You will join fellow elected members here in the Council Chambers for Council Meetings.

Monthly Meetings – Held on the third Tuesday of each month at 4:00pm. These sessions are where key decisions are made, and futures are shaped.

More Than Just a Seat at the Table – In addition to full Council meetings, there are various committees, subcommittees, working groups etc.—each offering a chance to influence real change.

Dynamic & Diverse Workload – While the Mayor's role is full-time, Councillors enjoy a varied schedule based on their committees and/or project involvement.

Be Part of the Action – Whether you're debating policy, planning, infrastructure, or advocating for community needs, every meeting is a chance to make a difference.



Mataura Community Board Meetings



What you need to know ...

When & where – Meetings are held on Monday evenings every six weeks, starting at 5:30pm at the Elderly Citizens Centre in Mataura.

Pre-Agenda Meetings – Council staff and board members come together to prepare for the upcoming meeting the week before.

Community Board Meetings – Typically run for about an hour on items specific to the Mataura community.

Open to All – The Community Board meetings are open to the public, offering a great opportunity to hear about and contribute to local issues.

Community-focused – The Board tackles local initiatives and concerns, helping shape the future of Mataura.



Meeting information continued



Agenda access – Meeting agendas are shared electronically, typically four working days before each scheduled meeting.

Preparation is important – Elected members are expected to thoroughly review all agenda items and conduct any necessary research prior to the meeting.

Time commitment – Depending on the complexity of the topics, preparation can be time-intensive and may require significant effort.

Stay updated – A current schedule of meetings is always available on the Council's website: www.goredc.govt.nz





What the Council does



Sets the District's Long-Term Direction – Works with the community to create a 10-Year Plan (also called the Long-Term Plan) and reports on progress.

Decides on Services and Activities – Chooses what services and projects the Council will deliver for the community.

Manages Local Rules and Regulations – Creates and enforces bylaws to help manage the District effectively.

Advocates for the Community – Represents local interests to central government, other council's and agencies.

Follows Regional Policy – Aligns the District Plan with the Regional Council's Regional Policy Statement.

Oversees Environmental Management – Uses the District Plan to guide land use and protect the environment.

Encourages Public Participation – Supports and promotes community involvement in Council decision-making.



What is being an Elected Member all about?



Lead for the Entire District – As an elected member, your responsibility goes beyond your ward. You're entrusted to make decisions that service the long-term interests of the whole district.

Shape the Future – Influence policies, projects, and priorities that will define our district for generations.

Lead with Purpose – Take charge in governance, strategy, and advocacy to drive meaningful change.

Champion Local Issues – Stand up for what matters most.

Collaborate & Connect – Work alongside fellow members, staff, and stakeholders to build a stronger, more inclusive community.

Grow as a Leader – Develop skills in leadership, negotiation, public speaking, and strategic thinking.

Make Tough Calls – Navigate complex decisions with integrity, transparency, and accountability.

Be a Change-Maker – Your actions and decisions can directly improve lives and shape our region's identity.

Elected members are responsible for governance—setting strategic direction, policy, and oversight—not for operational management, which is the role of council staff.





Attributes to assist being an Elected Member



Community-Driven Mindset – A genuine passion for local issues and a commitment to making a difference.

Empathy & Connection – Ability to relate to people from all walks of life and build trust across diverse communities.

Strong Communication – Clearly express ideas, listen actively, and engage in respectful dialogue.

Strategic Thinking – Analyse complex issues and contribute to long-term planning and sustainable solutions.

Collaborative Leadership – Work constructively with others, valuing different perspectives to reach shared goals.

District-Wide Vision – Think beyond individual interests to make decisions that benefit the whole region.

Problem-Solving Ability – Tackle challenges with creativity, resilience, and a focus on outcomes.

Integrity & Accountability – Uphold transparency, fairness, and responsibility in every decision.





What happens if I am elected?



Induction Sessions – Successful Elected Members will be inducted. The inductions sessions will take place after the Inaugural Meeting and will be held during the day, spread out over several days and over a few weeks.

What's Involved – You'll take part in site visits, spending time with Council managers and staff, and gain insight into the inner workings of Council operations.

Plan Ahead – These sessions will require a significant time commitment, so please ensure you are available to attend.

Full participation is essential!



Insights from the Inside!

RE LIVING

A Councillor's perspective ...

What to Expect in Your First Few Months – Get ready for a fast-paced introduction to Council life—here's what's coming your way.

Your Role Beyond Council – Explore the other organisations, boards, and community groups you may be involved with.

A Month in the Life of a Councillor – A behind-the-scenes look at the rhythm, responsibilities, and rewards of the role.

Preparing for Meetings Like a Pro – Tips and tricks: read, research, and show up ready to contribute meaningfully.

Representing Well in Public – Your behaviour matters—how to uphold trust, respect, and professionalism in the community.







Thinking of standing for Council?

Your opportunity to help shape Southland's future.



Our Region at a Glance

Population of **100,143**

An area of

34,000km²

12% of New Zealand's total area

Six of New Zealand's

largest lakes

plus major rivers including Waiau, Aparima, Ōreti, and Mataura Fourth highest GDP

per person in New Zealand

Stewart Island recognised as the fifth international

dark sky sanctuary

3,612km of coastline

the longest coast of any region in New Zealand

8.1% of New Zealand's merchandise exports

of New Zealand's primary exports

Waituna Lagoon

NZ's first Ramsar Wetland

of International Importance

12% of New Zealand's pastoral exports





What does Council do?

- Manages Southland's land, water, air and coast
- Oversees flood protection and emergency management
- Respond to our changing climate
- Plans for regional transport
- Partners with iwi and community





What's ahead for Council

Four key priorities:

- **1.** Freshwater health
- 2. Changing weather patterns
- **3.** Future planning & partnerships
- 4. Regulatory reform & advocacy





The role of a councillor

- Represent your community
- Set strategic direction and priorities for Southland
- Make informed decisions for Southland
- Work as part of a team
- Engage with the public





From our current councillors:

Reasons for Standing

- Community representation
- Environmental concerns
- Public need
- Personal motivation





Voices we need around the table

- Southland's diversity is a strength
- We welcome candidates of all ages, backgrounds and experiences
- You don't need to be an expert just committed to making a difference
- Council works best when it reflects the community it serves





What to expect if you're elected

- 2-4 meetings per month (Council, committees, workshops) held during the day
- Preparation time to read reports and agendas
- Community engagement events, emails, conversations
- Full support provided induction, training, staff advice





Ready to step up?

- Be part of Southland's future.
- More info: es.govt.nz | 0800 76 88 45
- Let's shape a thriving, sustainable region together.





Stand for Mulihiku



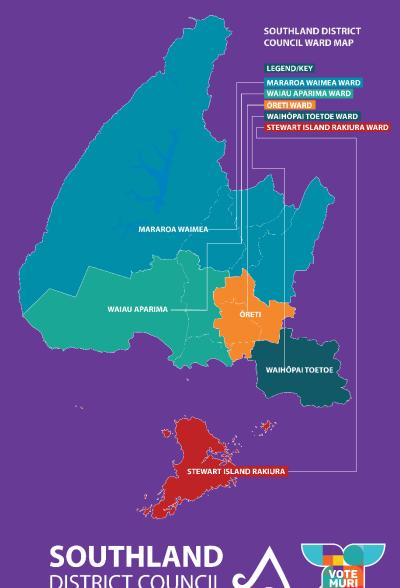
Southland District Council

Whatever you stand for, be a candidate in the 2025 Southland District Council elections. You can make a difference. Stand for Southland.



SDC – how is it made up?

- 1 mayor
- 5 wards, 12 ward councillors
- 9 community boards (each board has 6 or 7 elected members)





SDC - Being an elected member

Mayor

- Fulltime role
- Current remuneration is \$145,222 p.a.

Councillor

- Part-time role (approximately 2-3 days a week)
- Current remuneration \$40,843 p.a.

Community board member

- Part-time role (approximately 2-3 days per month more time commitment for board chair)
- Current remuneration ranges between \$2,304 \$6,000
 p.a. (board chairs are paid 2x a member)



SDC - Current issues / initatives

- Local Water Done Well
- Local government reorganisation proposal
- Roading network
- Rakiura energy
- One office for Invercargill-based staff
- Spatial plans
- Reserve management plans
- Te Anau basin development



Southland District Council is responsible for:

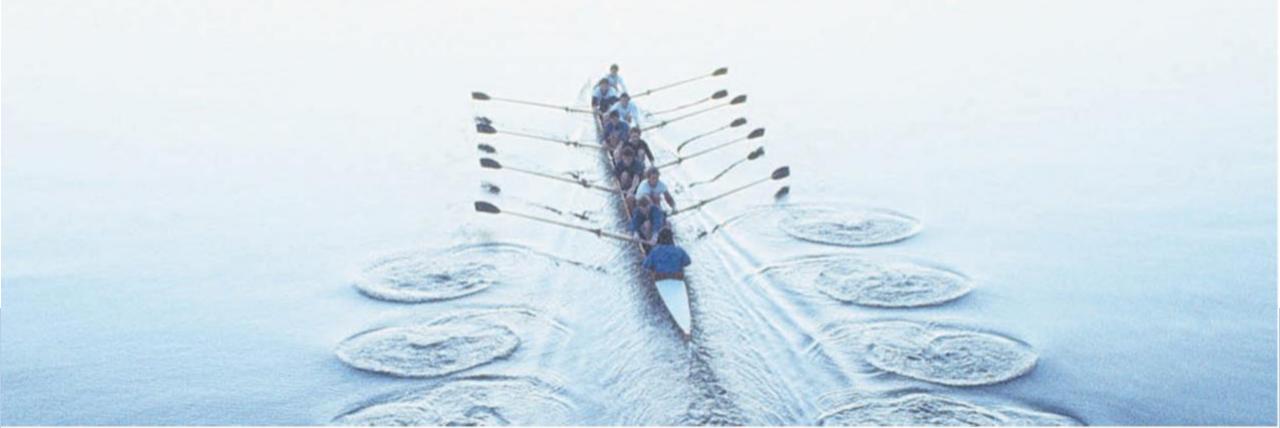
- \$2.3 billion of public assets
- 30,198km2 area 11% of New Zealand's land mass
- 5,000km of roads second only to Auckland as the largest network managed by a territorial authority
- 36 settlements
- 12,750 households
- 791.5km of water mains
- 271.7km of wastewater mains

- 12 water treatment plants
- 156 parks
- 71 public toilets
- 32 community centres and halls
- 18 sports fields
- 69 community housing units
- 22,192 wheelie bins



Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe 2025 Local Government Elections PART 2

2025 Election details



About electionz.com?

- Election services company based in Ōtautahi Christchurch.
- 10 full time staff.
- Average 200 elections in NZ each year (other than councils).
- Electoral Officer (EO) for 44 councils, 8 regional councils.
- Carrying out vote processing for 47 councils, approx 825,000 returned voting papers.
- Vote Processing centre in Ōtautahi, Christchurch.
- Anthony Morton is based in Christchurch.
- Electoral Officer for:

Tauranga, Western Bay, Matamata-Piako, Rotorua Lakes, Taupō, Waipā, Ōtorohanga, Waitomo, South Waikato, Ruapehu, Rangītikei, Manawatū, Whanganui, Horowhenua, Napier, Hastings, Central Hawkes Bay, Tararua, Carterton, Masterton, South Wairarapa, Upper Hutt, Porirua, Wellington, Nelson, Buller, Grey, Westland, Kaikōura, Hurunui, Waimakariri, Christchurch, Selwyn, Ashburton, Timaru, Mackenzie, Waimate, Waitaki, Dunedin, Gore, Queenstown, Central Otago, Southland, Invercargill.

Greater Wellington, Southland, Canterbury, Otago, Hawke's Bay, Horizons, Bay of Plenty, West Coast.









Electoral Team

electionz.com Ltd contracted by Gore District Council.

- Anthony Morton GDC Electoral Officer
 0800 666 048 or goredc@electionz.com
- Frances Shepherd GDC Deputy Electoral Officer
 (03) 209 0330 or elections@goredc.govt.nz
- Warwick Lampp Electoral Official 0800 666 048 or goredc@electionz.com









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.









Election Timetable



4 July (Friday)

11 July (Friday)

17 July (Thursday)

1 August (Friday)

27 August (Saturday)

9 – 22 September (Tuesday to Monday)

9 September – 11 October

11 October (Saturday)

11 October (Saturday)

12 October (Sunday)

16 October (Thursday)

18 October (Saturday)

29 October (Wednesday)

by 11 December (Thursday)

Nominations open

Pre-election Period starts

Candidate Briefing

Nominations close at 12 noon

Election signs can be displayed

Delivery of voting papers

Special voting period

Close of voting at 12 noon

Progress results available by 2pm

Preliminary results announced

Final results announced, Official Declaration

Removal of election signs by midnight

Inaugural Meeting of Council

Candidate expenses deadline







Nominations will be called for:

Mayor

RE LIVING

11 Councillors from:

Gore Ward 5 councillors

Gore Rural Ward 2 councillors

Mataura Ward 1 councillor

At Large (district wide) 3 councillors

Mataura Community

Board 5 members

Gore and Districts Health Inc



6 members across 3 wards
(1 ward within GDC area)

Refer candidate handbook for more details.

Environment Southland

environment SOUTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL TE Taiao Tonga

Eastern Dome Constituency

2 councillors

Mataura Licensing Trust



9 members across 7 wards (5 wards within GDC area) Refer candidate handbook for more details.











Candidate Eligibility

CANDIDATE MUST

- Be a NZ citizen and enrolled on parliamentary electoral roll.
- Be nominated by 2 electors who are enrolled for the electoral issue the candidate is standing for.
- Provide all nomination documents together.

CANDIDATE CANNOT

- Be serving a prison sentence of three or more years.
- Stand for Gore District Council and Environment Southland.
- Have interest in a contract over \$25K per year with council (or other organisations for other candidates).
- Nominate yourself.

CANDIDATE CAN STAND

- For both mayor and/or councillor and/or community board.
- If you live outside area, but must state that on nomination paper (not MLT).
- If a council employee but must resign if elected as mayor or councillor.









Nomination Process

- Open Friday 4 July and close midday Friday 1 August (4 weeks).
- Documents to submit:
 - nomination form
 - evidence of \$200 deposit
 - evidence of NZ citizenship
 - profile statement (optional)
 - photo (optional)
 - evidence of bank a/c details (for deposit refund)
- Forms available from GDC, Civic Administration Building, Mataura Service Centre/Library, MLT Head Office (MLT nom papers only), Gore Hospital (Gore and Districts Health Inc. nom papers only) and GDC website.
- GDC nominations can be lodged at GDC, Civic Administration Building or emailed to elections@goredc.govt.nz
 Nomination deposit can be paid by cash, EFTPOS or online banking.
- Candidates to be aware that contact details will be public info (available from website after nomination confirmed).









KOROMATUA MAYOR PUKA TONO | NOMINATION FORM GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL | 2025 ELECTIONS





- Important Notes:

 1. The front page of completed nomination forms are required to be available for public inspection at the Gore District Council office, Civic Administration Building, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore.

 2. Candidate name, email address and/or phone number details as provided in Section B will be made available from the council's website.
- Nominator names may also be made available from the council's website.
 In this form LEA = Local Electoral Act 2001 and LER = Local Electoral Regulations 2001

I wish to stand for election as Mayor	of the Gore District		
My principal place of residence (tick ONE circle):	is WITHIN the Gore District Council area	is NOT WITHIN the Gore District Council area	
B MĀ TE KAITONO CANDIDA	TE TO FILL OUT (after reading important info	ormation on reverse)	
I (candidate's full name),			
form and certify that I am qualified to	hat I have read and understand the Eligibility a o be a candidate under Section 25 of the LEA and ular, I am a New Zealand citizen and a New Zeal	the LER and that I am not disqualified	
Contact details (will be made availa	ble for public inspection):		
Phone No.:	Email Address:		
I am also standing for the following e	lections:		
I wish my name to be shown on the v	voting document as:		
	to be left blank if the candidate does not wish to use dent' be shown. Maximum length is 38 characters (li		
Signature:		Date:	
MĀ TE KAITAUTOKO NOMI	NATORS TO FILL OUT		
	Gore District Council hereby nominate the candid of Mayor , the election for which is to be held o		
Full name of First Nominator:			
Residential Address:			
Phone No.:			
Signature of First Nominator:			
Full name of Second Nominator:			
Residential Address:			
Phone No.:			

Nominations must be in the hands of the Electoral Officer before 12 noon on Friday 1 August 2025
All nomination documents must be submitted at the same time. For assistance, phone the helpline: 0800 666 048

CANDIDATE CONTA	CT DETAILS F	OR THE ELECTORAI	L OFFICER/OFFICIAI	i i			
nese contact details will n	ot be made pu	blic and will be used fo	or election communica	tion by the l	Electoral C	Officer/Official:	
esidential Address:							
For the following 2 fields or	nly complete if d	ifferent from details list	ed in Section B of this fo	orm):			
hone No.:		Email Address:					
IGIBILITY & CANDIDA	ACY NOTES						
Candidates for this position . New Zealand parliamentary. Both nominators must be en No person can be elected to waived if prior approval fron A candidate may stand for el A candidate may under Secti not: cause offence to a rease (Section 55 of the LEA). Where no affiliation is claim notice or the voting paper al Under Section 121 of the LE / (a) Knowing themselves to b (b) Nominates any person as (c) Not being the candidate Each nomination must be ac Evidence of NZ citizenship documenta Nominations of candidates re An employee of a local auth local authority before taking	elector, rorlled as electors a local authority if in the office of the there he regional to ethemself for the LEA by nable person; be ead, or an affiliation ongside the candidate who re in eligible for election on the candidate who required the themself of the candidate who required the themself of the election of the candidate who required at the time of the election of the elec	of Gore District Council. they are concerned or into Controller and Auditor-Ger- council or city/district council. e. e. ominated under a nam unreasonably long; include is disallowed by the Electo late's name. A candidate who to be ineligible on they know to be ineligible on paper knowing that the required deposit of \$200. the of candidate nomination ds of the Electoral Officer.	erested in contracts over \$ neral is obtained (Section 3) cil/community board in the e which the candidate is co or resemble an official rai oral Officer under Section 5 ith no affiliation may requ u who: minated for election; or e for election; or y are not qualified to vote 00 (GST inclusive) or proof n, Acceptable evidence inc	25,000 with the office of the control of the contro	at local auth ities (Membe ncil's district, wn as provid se confusior nothing will be nothing	nority. This restriction is ers' Interests) Act 1968). but not both. ed that the name will or mislead electors be shown in the public hown.	
ETURN, PAYMENT AN			npioyee of a local authoric	relected to a t	Joint Hurilly C	or local board.	
submit with this nomination lease tick appropriate circles):		Evidence of NZ citizenship	Evidence of deposit	Phot	:0	Profile statement	
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r, scan and email to:	elections@go	elections@goredc.govt.nz					
ayments can be made by 9 Bowler Avenue, Gore, if	cash or eftpos you are returni	directly at the Gore Dis	strict Council office at C or by online banking us	ivic Adminis	stration Bu	uilding, ed below;	
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LECTORAL OFFICIAL T	O FILL OUT						
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andidate roll #:							
rst nominator roll #;			Second nominator r	oll #:			
omination documents oproved:	O Pr	omination paper noto anding for other ections	Deposit/proor deposit Profile staten Deposit refur verification	nent	\simeq	ace of residence roof of NZ citizenship	
gnature of Electoral Offic	ial:				Date:		

GORE DISTRICT COUNCIL © electionz.com Limited

Candidate Profile Statements and Photos

Profiles

- May be provided (not mandatory) see page 19 of Candidate Handbook.
- Must be provided electronically with the other nomination documents as a MS Word doc not a pdf, not hand-written.
- Up to 150 words about the candidate, their policies and intentions.
- Paragraph style no bullet points, bolding, underlining, upper casing etc.
- Cannot comment on policies etc. of any other candidate.
- Should be emailed to the DEO (with photo).
- EO not required to verify or investigate any information included in profile.
- Profiles on Council website as soon as ready after close of nominations.
- Candidate contact details on council website after nomination confirmed.

Photos

- Photos in colour, within last 12 months (no hats, sunglasses, children, pets or friends).
- Photos provided as jpgs.
- Should be against a light coloured background (not a window).







Example Profile Statement

Waitaki District Council

Electing the Mayor



Warwick LAMPP
Your Switched-on Candidate

My principal place of residence is in the Waitaki District Council area. I am also standing for Corriedale Ward Councillor.

150 word candidate profile text.

Auto-populated text

Hard-coded text







Candidate Videos

- Council staff will contact candidates after nominations have closed and invite them to be filmed in a short video answering a small range of election-related questions.
- Videos taken by council staff (or their contractor).
- Videos taken on council premises.
- Up to 120 seconds long.
- Answering 4 or 5 set questions.
- Questions and length of video to be confirmed at time of invitation.
- Videos will be made available from council election page with candidate profile statements when ready.









Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe 2025 Local Government Elections PART 4



Candidate Safety

Being an Elected Member can be incredibly rewarding — but it also comes with challenges.

- Increasing levels of abuse, particularly online, and confrontations from fringe groups.
- Plan ahead to keep yourself and others safe.

Tips for Staying Safe During Your Campaign:

- Use campaign-specific social media accounts.
- Set up a separate campaign email and phone number.
- Be mindful of your surroundings know your exits and stay aware.
- Stay calm in difficult interactions de-escalate where possible and seek help if needed.
- Report any threats to Police immediately.

Note: Candidate contact details published online will **not** include physical addresses.









Campaigning

- Can commence any time:
 - Can't use council resources for campaigning (logo, branding, colours, council FB or X feed, photos, council buildings etc.)
 - No campaigning or electioneering in the Council Chambers or on Council premises.
- 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 contact details.
 - Can be address, phone number, email, PO Box, link to website.
 - Should be on the front of the sign or promotional material (not the back).
- Any content of signs are 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!







Election Expenditure Limits

Total electoral expenses, including GST, must not exceed:

Gore District Council

1	Mayoralty	\$ 14,000
•	Council At Large	\$ 14,000
•	Gore Ward	\$ 7,000
•	Gore Rural Ward	\$ 3,500
•	Mataura Ward	\$ 3,500
•	Mataura Community Board	\$ 3,500

Gore and Districts Health Inc

•	Gore Ward	\$ 14,000
•	Clutha Ward	\$ 3,500
•	Southland Ward	\$ 7,000

Mataura Licensing Trust

•	Ward 2 (Gore)	\$ 7,000
•	All other Wards	\$ 3,500

Environment Southland

• Eastern Dome Constituency \$ 14,000



If standing for more than one position, the higher limit applies, not both.

Campaign expenses are the candidate's responsibility. Council doesn't refund you.







Election Expenses

See pages 24 and 37 of handbook

- Declaration period starts 3 months before election day 11 July 2025.
- Must apportion expenses for activity outside the 3 months.
- Declaration listing summary of electoral expenses and electoral donations required within
 55 days after the official result declaration approx 11 December.
- Includes Nil declarations.
- Deposit not refunded until the return is completed (provided candidate gets more than 25% of the votes of the lowest successful candidate).
- Invoices and receipts not required with declaration but must be retained by candidate.
- EO must make expenses documents available on Council website for 7 years.







Electoral Donations

See pages 24-25 of the handbook



- No time limit on when donations are received and no set maximum of how much can be received.
- Donations with a reasonable market value of \$300 or less do not have to be declared.
- Donations of more than \$1,500 must be declared.
- Rules around "anonymous" donations can't be anonymous if you know who it has come from.
- An anonymous donation cannot be over \$1,500.
- It is an offence to circumvent \$1,500 limit, i.e., by deliberately splitting up a donation into smaller contributions.
 - 1. Donations over \$1,500 made up of contributions (e.g via a trust or fundraising) are treated as one donation and all contributors need to be disclosed.
 - 2. Crowd funding services do not meet the legislation for recording who donations are from.
- The following are not candidate donations:
 - volunteer labour.
 - goods or services provided free of charge to a candidate, or to any person on the candidate's behalf that have a reasonable market value of \$300 or less.
 - money provided by the candidate for his or her own campaign.







Election signs

See page 27 of Candidate Handbook

- Election signs can go up from Saturday 27 August (6 weeks prior to election day).
- Must comply with council hoardings policy re size and placement.
- Must have authorisation statement.
- Can't include copy of voting paper.
- Can be on private land, with owner's permission.
- One sign per candidate per site.
- NZTA rules apply for State Highways, see page 29.
- Vehicle signwriting is ok cost of running a vehicle if it is own personal transport is not an election expense.
- Complaints about size and placement made to council's Enforcement Officers not the EO or DEO.
- Signs to be removed by midnight 18 October.
- The cost of framing for a sign is not an election expense.







Example of Signs



VOTE



FOR THE
TOWN WARD

"OPEN GOVERNMENT AT ALL HOURS"

THIS ADVERTISMENT IS AUTHORISED BY JOHN SMITH OF 12 THIRD STREET WELLINGTON

























Social Media

Beware of Social Media requirements during the three-month election period:

- Council's social media channels will remain neutral. The Council will promote elections and the importance of voting but will not associate these posts with any candidates.
- The Council social media channels cannot be used for electioneering by candidates or members of the public – will be constantly monitored and strictly enforced.
- The 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.
- 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.







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 (e.g. @GoreDistrictCouncil)
- No picture tagging
- No rating or reviewing Council pages or posts
 e.g. you cannot electioneer on Council's channels, or piggyback on their audiences see pages 26

Candidates should not post photos of their completed voting paper on any social media platform







Election Offences

See page 44 – Appendix 6

- Imitation Voting Paper.
- 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 can't stand over someone telling them how to vote.
- Unauthorised advertisements.
- Illegal nomination e.g. candidate with a court order.
- Any formal complaint passed straight to the Police.







Pōtitanga Kawanatanga ā Rohe 2025 Local Government Elections PART 5

Election process and results



Electoral Rolls

Preliminary Electoral Roll

- Available for public inspection from 4 July to 5pm Friday 1 August 2025.
- At the following venues:
 - Gore District Council Civic Administration Building, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore.
 - Mataura Service Centre/Library, Bridge Street, Mataura.
 - Gore Library, Ardwick Street, Gore.
- Includes the ratepayer roll.
- Cannot be provided electronically to candidates.
- Can purchase a hard copy for \$20 per ward or \$75 per set, plus GST.

Final Electoral Roll

- Produced following the EC update.
- Is the roll used for issuing voting papers.
- Can purchase a hard copy as above.

Confirmed candidates can apply to Electoral Commission to purchase electronic file (\$455.50 fee applies). See page 12 of handbook.







Voting Process

- Postal voting only. No early voting option available.
- Voter packs lodged with NZ Post Monday 8 September.
- Deliveries from 9 September.
- Closes 12 noon on election day, 11 October 2025.
- Special voting available at the Gore District Council Office, 29 Bowler Avenue,
 Gore or can be posted out to applicants (if time allows).
- Special vote applicants can come in or contact DEO by phone or email.
- Candidates should not collect voting documents on behalf of electors.









Election Results

Preliminary count occurs from 12 noon, Saturday 11 October 2025.

Progress results: expected about 2pm – approx 90% of votes received (not special votes and votes in transit to processing centre).

Progress results:

- email to all candidates with email address.
- candidates personally rung by Council staff.
- will be available from Council's website.

Preliminary results: expected late on Sunday 12 October, after all ordinary votes have been processed.

Final results: expected by Thursday 16 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 result declaration is posted on Council's website expected to be Friday 17 October.
- Successful candidates contacted by mayor/staff.
- Council's inaugural meeting and the "swearing in" of elected members (elected candidates cannot act until this has occurred).







Resources

Candidate handbook and nomination papers

LGNZ 'Making a Stand' booklet

Manatū Wāhine | Ministry for Woman - Free to lead toolkit

Own your online - Protect your privacy online

Netsafe - Online abuse and harassment

Council's Pre-election report – available from 4 July

- 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.

Long-Term Plan

Legislation (LEA, LER)

Council's website (for election information)









Last words

- Check that nominators are correctly enrolled.
- Get your nomination documents in early.
- Campaigning stick to your own promotions.
- Campaigning if you don't have permission, don't use it.
- Authorisation statements on all campaigning material.
- Keep yourself safe.
- Election results on websites/email from Saturday 11 October.







