



# Elections 2025 Candidate Briefing

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# Welcome & introductions

## **Hamish Riach**

Chief Executive for ADC

- Introduction to Local Government
- Ashburton District Council
- Who we are & what we do
- Being an elected member

## **Anthony Morton**

Electoral Officer for [electionz.com](http://electionz.com)

- Election Overview
- Nomination Process
- Campaigning
- Election Process & Results

# Local Government Act 2022

The purpose of local government is:

- to enable democratic local decision-making and action for communities
- to promote thriving communities



# What is Local Government all about?

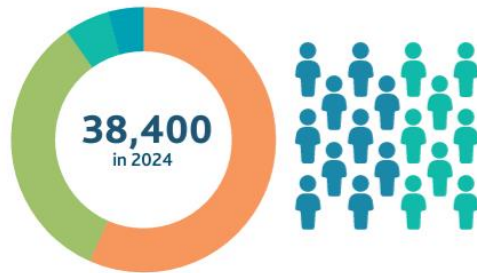
- Services and Activities
- Strategic Direction
- Community Engagement
- Advocacy
- Legislation, Regulations and Bylaws
- Environmental Management



# Our people, our district

## Population

Our district's **population** is estimated to be



Between 2018 and 2024,  
our **population** grew by

**↑ 11%**

The **median age** in our  
district is

**40.1**  
years

(nationally 38.1 years)



**51%**  
are male / tāne



**49%**  
are female / wāhine

**20.8%**  
of our residents were born overseas

**81.1%** European (includes  
New Zealander)

**6%** Pacific peoples

**1.4%** Middle Eastern / Latin  
American / African

**8.6%** Māori

**9.4%** Asian

**1.3%** Other Ethnicity

## District



## Household



### Sources:

All data taken from Stats NZ 2023 Census or Infometrics Regional Economic Profile, 2024.

# Who is ADC

- Established in 1989, amalgamating Borough Council and County Council
- Large provincial council
- Employer of over 300 people (224 FTE)
- Provides a number of activities and services ranging from small (e.g. liquor licensing) to large (e.g. Roothing)





# 1. Infrastructure

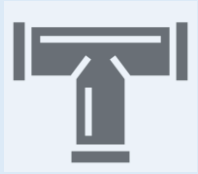
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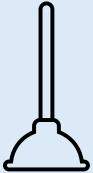
# Water Services



Provide drinking water to nearly 12,000 households & businesses



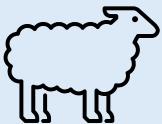
Maintain over 500km of water pipes



Maintain over 200km of wastewater pipes

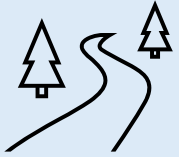


Maintain over 40km of stormwater pipes



Maintain over 1,400km network of stockwater races

# Transportation



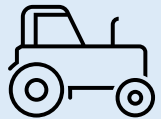
Manage over 2,600 KM of roads across the District



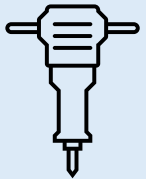
Manage 189 bridges



Manage 261km of footpaths & nearly 10km cycleways



Resealed nearly 50km of road



Repaired over 6,200 potholes

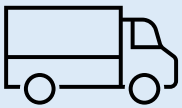
# Waste Reduction & Recovery



Collect kerbside waste and recycling from over 11,500 households



Divert 20% of household waste from landfill to recycling



Collected 10,150 tonnes at resource recovery parks and rural drop off points

## 2. Public Services

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# Community Governance & Decision-Making



Received over 2,600 submissions from the community



Gave over \$935,000 in grants & funding



Prepared 15 submissions advocating for our District



Reviewed and developed 6 policies, 2 plans & 2 strategies

# Community Services



Provide 41 public toilets throughout District



Provide over 100 elderly persons housing units

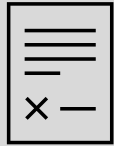


Support 20 reserve board and hall committees throughout the district

# Economic Development



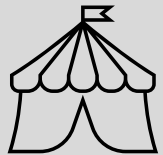
Sold 10.7 ha of rural land and 1.9 ha of commercial properties



Managed 900 leases / licenses



Deliver tourism promotion under Experience Mid Canterbury

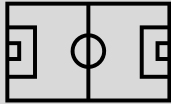


Host community events like Glow in the Park and Noodle Market

# Parks & Open Spaces



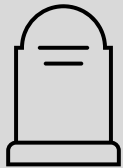
Manage over 440 ha of parks & open spaces



Maintain over 270 ha of sports fields



Provide 30 playgrounds



Manage 16 cemeteries

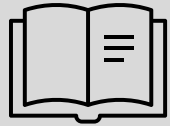
# Recreation Facilities



Provide EANC (6 indoor courts, aquatic facility and gym)



Deliver quality art and museum exhibitions at AAGM



Modern library facilities at Te Whare Whakatare

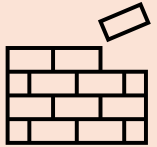


## 3. Regulatory Services

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# Regulatory



Issue building consents & code of compliance certificates



Issue resource consents, subdivision plans, LIM & PIM

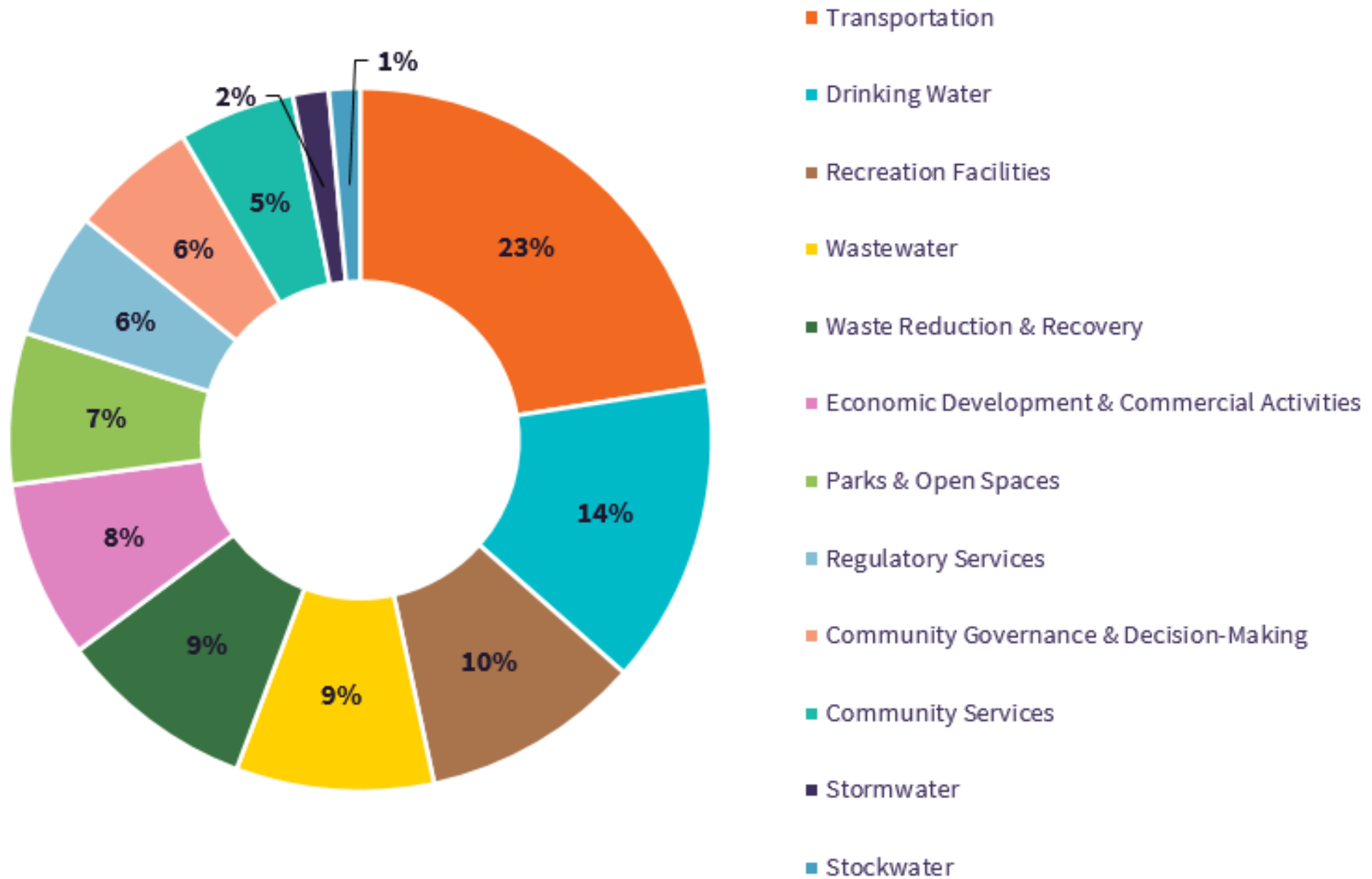


Register over 6,900 dogs and respond to animal control requests

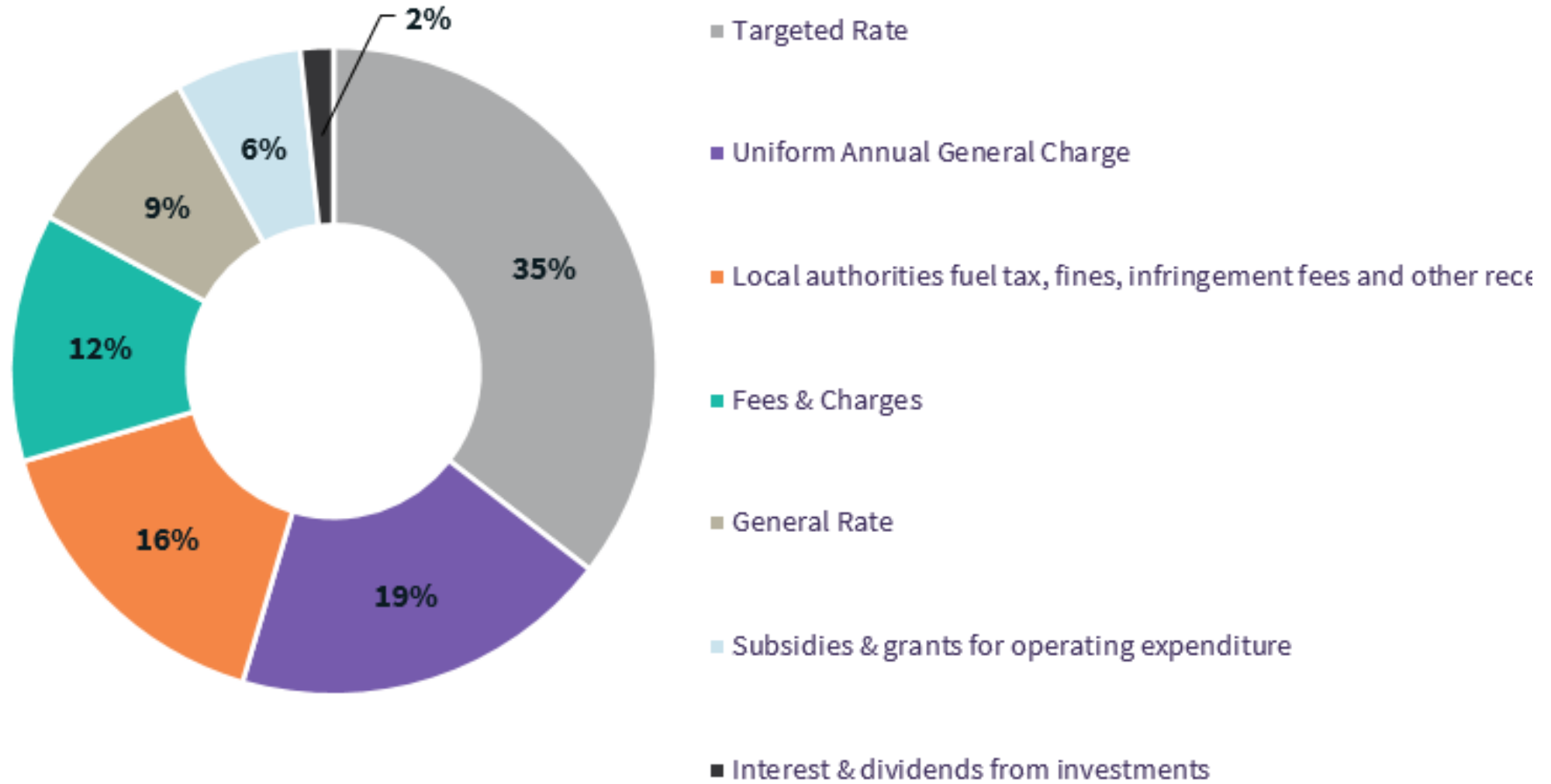


Respond and monitor noise control, public health & liquor licensing

## Total budgeted expenditure by activity in 2025/26



## Our sources of income to fund our operating expenditure for 2025/26



# Our financial position

AA+ Fitch  
Credit Rating

\$1.18B total  
assets

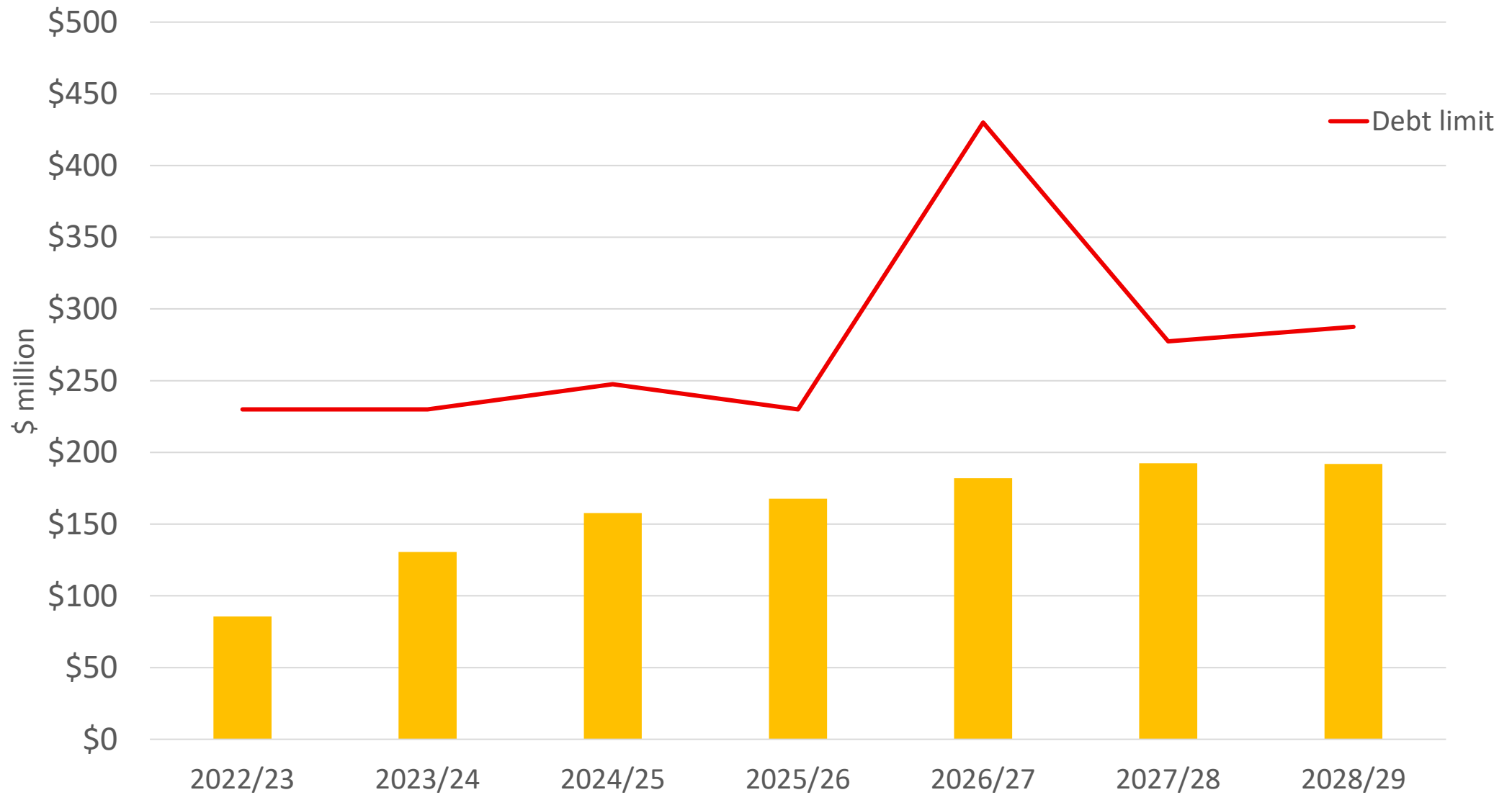
\$158M debt

\$1.01B net  
worth

OPEX spend  
\$70.2M

CAPEX spend  
\$36.3M

## Total external debt

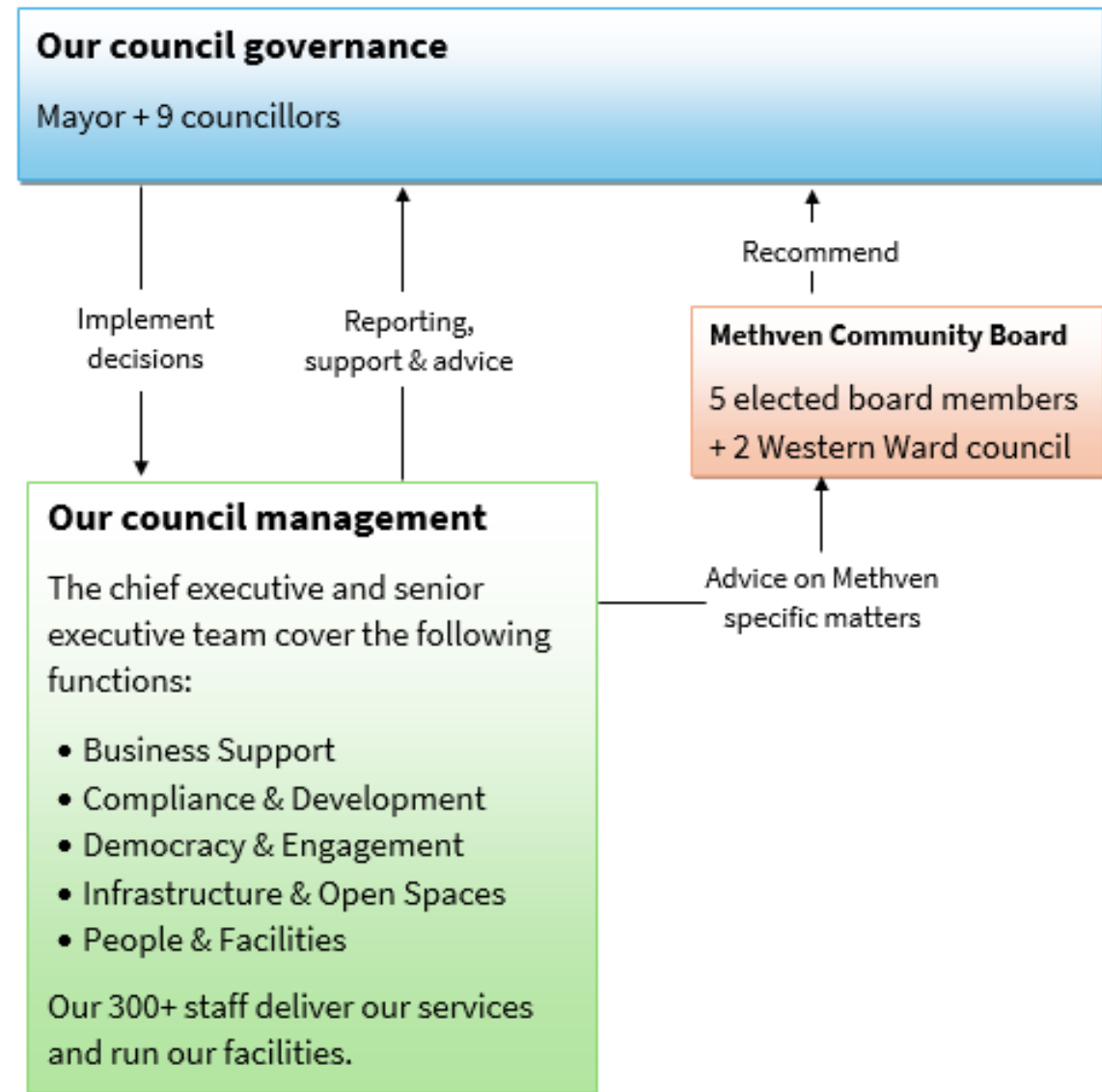


# What challenges are we facing

- Local water done well
  - SABU
  - Upgrading infrastructure
- Delivering our roading programme
- Balancing affordability versus expectations
- Improving our resilience
- Adapting to Government changes
- Improving water quality at Lake Hood



# What it means to govern ADC

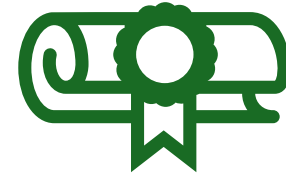


# What is being an elected member all about



## Four major roles

Representation and accountability  
Strategy and Policy making  
Financial management  
Advocacy



## Rewards

Providing service to the community/district  
A chance to learn new skills  
The ability to use your expertise for the good of the community /district

# What makes a good elected member

1. The ability to listen and absorb
2. Having an open mind to see all sides of the issue
3. Being willing to compromise and negotiate
4. The skill to take a long-term view and see the bigger picture
5. A clear vision – “know your why”
6. Being prepared to be public property
7. Some digital competency
8. Stamina – it’s a marathon not a sprint
9. Integrity to stand for what you believe in
10. A sense of humour seems to help!

# A week in the life of an Elected Member



## Mayor

Expect to have some Council work most days (including weekends and evenings)

Chairing meetings, meeting residents and responding to their concerns

Leading the Council team

Advocating on behalf of Mid Canterbury



## Councillor

Generally spends 2-3 days per week on Council business

2 days per week for meetings / workshops

1 day for meeting / workshop prep and / or attending community meetings

Eyes and ears for the district , community advocate

# What you can expect as a candidate



Candidate Video



Policy.nz



‘Meet the  
Candidate’  
sessions

**Ashburton :**  
Mayor, Ashburton  
Ward and Eastern  
Ward

**Methven :** Mayor,  
Western Ward,  
MCB

# Campaigning



Use campaign-specific  
social media accounts



Set-up a separate email  
and phone number

# What you can expect if elected



Key dates circulated



Induction process



Training

## Where to find out more



Pre-Election Report



Come along / watch Council meetings



Read agendas



LGNZ candidates guide



Talk to a current / former Councillor



Read our LTP / AP

**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, Rangitikei, 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 Ashburton District Council
- Anthony Morton – ADC Electoral Officer  
0800 666 048 or ashburtondc@electionz.com
- Phillipa Clark – ADC Deputy Electoral Officer  
(03) 307 7774 or elections@adc.govt.nz
- Warwick Lampp – Electoral Official  
0800 666 048 or ashburtondc@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



**18 June** (Wednesday) & **24 June** (Tuesday)

**4 July** (Friday)

**11 July** (Friday)

**11 July** (Friday)

**1 August** (Friday)

**9 – 22 September** (Tuesday to Monday)

**9 September – 11 October**

**11 October** (Saturday)

**11 October** (Saturday)

**12 October** (Sunday)

**12 October** (Sunday)

**16 October** (Thursday)

**29 October** (Wednesday)

by **11 December** (Thursday)

Candidate Briefings in Ashburton & Methven

Nominations open

Pre-election Period starts

Election signs can go up, 3 months prior

Nominations close at 12 noon

Delivery of voting papers

Special voting period

Close of voting at 12 noon

Progress results available by 3pm

Preliminary results announced

Removal of election signs by midnight

Final results announced, Official Declaration

Inaugural Meeting of Council

Candidate expenses deadline



**Ashburton**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

**electionz.com**  
voting made easy



# Nominations will be called for:

## Mayor

## Councillors - 9 councillors from 3 wards

Ashburton Ward	5 councillors
Eastern Ward	2 councillors
Western Ward	2 councillors

## Environment Canterbury



Mid-Canterbury/Ōpakihi

2 councillors

## Community Board members

Methven 5 members

## Community Trust trustees



Braided River 6 trustees



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2025 Local Government Elections  
**PART 3**

**The nomination process**



# Candidate Eligibility

## **CANNOT:**

- Be serving a prison sentence of three or more years
- Stand for Canterbury Regional Council and ADC
- Have interest in a contract over \$25K per year with council (or BRCT for BRCT candidates)
- Nominate yourself

## **CAN STAND:**

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

## **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

## **CAN'T WITHDRAW AFTER NOMINATIONS CLOSE**

# 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 ADC office, Te Kete Tuhinga Ashburton Library or ADC website
- Can be lodged at ADC's main office or emailed to [elections@adc.govt.nz](mailto:elections@adc.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 as nominations confirmed)



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



Important Notes:

1. The front page of completed nomination forms are required to be available for public inspection at the Ashburton District Council office, Te Whare Whakātere, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton.
2. Candidate name, email address and/or phone number details as provided in Section B will be made available from the council's website.
3. Nominator names may also be made available from the council's website.
4. In this form LEA = Local Electoral Act 2001 and LER = Local Electoral Regulations 2001

A TE ROHE PŌTI | ELECTION AREA

I wish to stand for election as Mayor of the Ashburton District.

My principal place of residence  
(tick ONE circle):

☐

is **WITHIN** the Ashburton District  
Council area

☐

is **NOT WITHIN** the Ashburton  
District Council area

B MĀ TE KAITONO | 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 LEA and the LER and that I am not disqualified under Section 58 of the LEA. In particular, I am a New Zealand citizen and a New Zealand parliamentary elector.

Contact details (will be made available for public inspection):

Phone No.:

Email Address:

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. Maximum length is 38 characters (including any spaces between words)):

Signature:

Date:

C MĀ TE KAITAUTOKO | NOMINATORS TO FILL OUT

We, the undersigned electors of the Ashburton District Council hereby nominate the candidate listed in **Section B** above with their consent, as a candidate for the office of **Mayor**, the election for which is to be held on 11 October 2025.

Full name of First Nominator:

Residential Address:

Phone No.:

Signature of First Nominator:

Full name of Second Nominator:

Residential Address:

Phone No.:

Signature of Second Nominator:

**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

D CANDIDATE CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE ELECTORAL OFFICER/OFFICIAL

These contact details will not be made public and will be used for election communication by the Electoral Officer/Official:

Residential Address:

(For the following 2 fields only complete if different from details listed in Section B of this form):

Phone No.:

Email Address:

ELIGIBILITY & CANDIDACY NOTES

- 1 Candidates for this position do not need to live within the Ashburton District Council election area, but must be a New Zealand citizen and enrolled as a New Zealand parliamentary elector.
- 2 Both nominators must be enrolled as electors of Ashburton District Council.
- 3 No person can be elected to a local authority if they are 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 1968).
- 4 A candidate may stand for either the regional council or city/district council/community board in the regional council's district, but not both.
- 5 A candidate cannot nominate themselves for office.
- 6 A candidate may under Section 56 of the LEA be nominated under a name which the candidate is commonly known as provided that the name will not: cause offence to a reasonable person; be unreasonably long; include or resemble an official rank or title; cause confusion or mislead electors (Section 56 of the 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 voting paper alongside the candidate's name. A candidate 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:  
(a) Knowing themselves to be ineligible for election, consents to being nominated for election; or  
(b) Nominates any person as a candidate whom they know to be ineligible for election; or  
(c) Not being the candidate signs any nomination paper knowing that they are not qualified to vote at the election.
- 9 Each nomination must be accompanied by the required deposit of \$200.00 (GST inclusive) or proof of an electronic deposit.
- 10 Evidence of NZ citizenship is required at the time of candidate nomination. Acceptable evidence includes a copy of a NZ passport, NZ birth certificate or NZ citizenship documentation.
- 11 Nominations of candidates must be in the hands of the Electoral Officer, Ashburton District Council, before 12 noon on Friday 1 August 2025.
- 12 An employee of a local authority may stand 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 an employee of a local authority elected to a community or local board.

RETURN, PAYMENT AND REFUND DETAILS

I submit with this nomination  
(please tick appropriate circles):

☐

Evidence of  
NZ citizenship

☐

Evidence of  
deposit

☐

Photo

☐

Profile  
statement

I understand that if I do not provide 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.

**Deliver to (do not post):** Ashburton District Council, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton

**Or, scan and email to:** elections@adc.govt.nz

Payments can be made by cash or eftpos directly at the Ashburton District Council offices at 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton, if you are returning this form by hand or by online banking using the details provided below:

Account name:	Ashburton District Council	Bank:	Westpac
Account number:	03 1592 0521970 00	Particulars/reference:	Election
Code:	(Your initials and surname)		

Refunds of Nomination Deposits

Where eligible, refunds of nomination deposits will be made by online deposit into your nominated bank account. Please provide either a bank deposit slip or verification of your bank account for the processing of your refund. Verification can be a screen shot from online banking or from the top of a bank statement, and must include the bank logo, the account name and the bank a/c number.

ELECTORAL OFFICIAL TO FILL OUT

Received at the hour of:		on the		day of		20	
Candidate roll #:							
First nominator roll #:				Second nominator roll #:			
Nomination documents approved:	<input type="radio"/> Nomination paper	<input type="radio"/> Deposit/proof of deposit	<input type="radio"/> Place of residence				
	<input type="radio"/> Photo	<input type="radio"/> Profile statement	<input type="radio"/> Proof of NZ citizenship				
	<input type="radio"/> Standing for other elections	<input type="radio"/> Deposit refund verification					
Signature of Electoral Official:						Date:	

# 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 Format – **No bullet points, no underlining, no bolding, no CAPs 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 Corridale 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

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2025 Local Government Elections  
**PART 4**

**Campaigning**



# 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 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, mobile, email, PO Box
  - Should 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!

# Election Expenditure Limits

Total electoral expenses, including GST, must not exceed:

## Ashburton District Council

• Mayor	\$ 20,000	
• Ashburton Ward	\$ 20,000	
• Eastern Ward		\$ 7,000
• Western Ward		\$ 7,000
• Methven Community Board	\$ 3,500	

## Braided Rivers Community Trust

• Members (whole area)	\$20,000
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## Canterbury Regional Council

• Mid-Canterbury/Ōpakihi	\$55,000
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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 23 and 39 of handbook

- Declaration period starts 3 months before election day - **11 July 2025**
- Must pro-rata 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

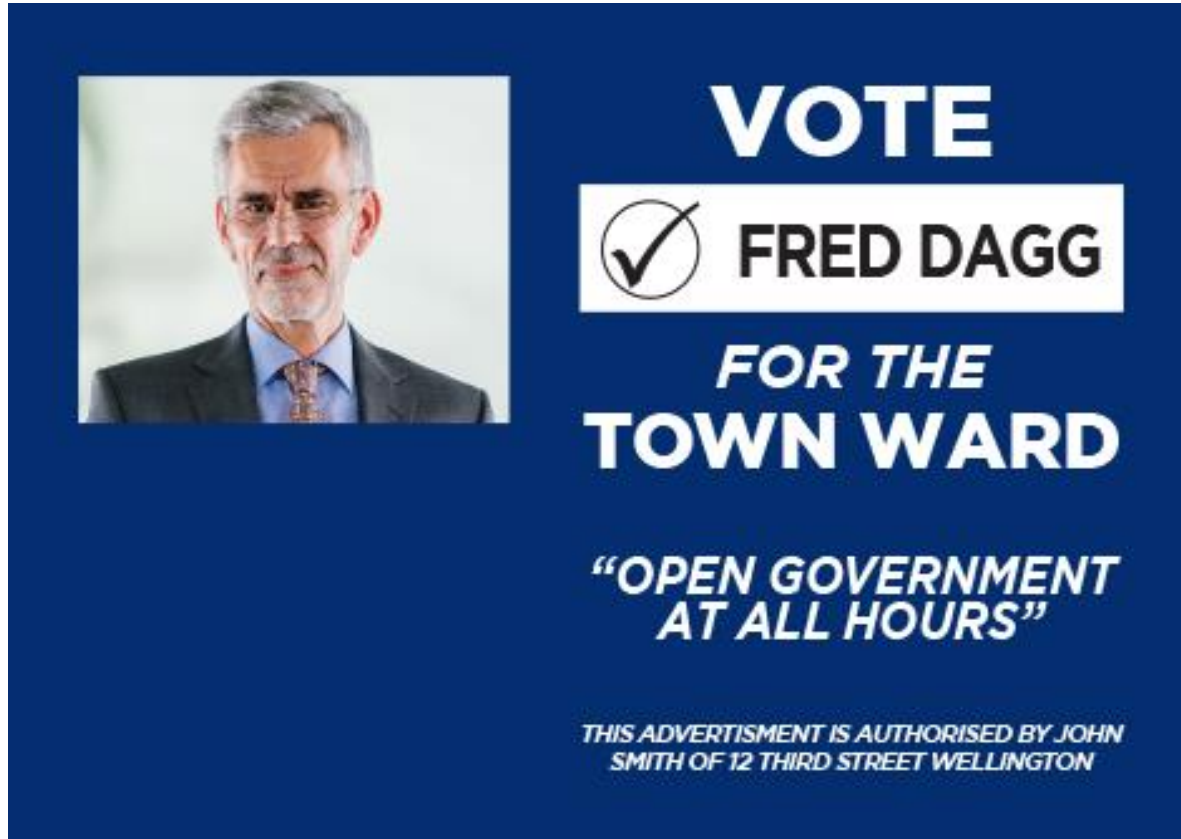
- No time limit on when donations are received and no set maximum of how much can be received
- Donations with a reasonable market value of **\$300 or less do not** have to be declared
- Donations of more than **\$1,500 must** be declared
- Rules around “anonymous” donations - **can’t be anonymous if 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 **Friday 11 July** (3 months 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 28
- 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 12 October
- **The cost of framing for a sign is not an election expense**

# Example of Signs







# Social Media

## **Beware of Social Media requirements 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
- **Council 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
- 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

# 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. @ AshburtonDistrictCouncil)
- 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 46 – 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 Ashburton District Council and district venues:
  - Te Whare Whakaterere, Ashburton District Council office, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton
  - Te Kete Tuhinga, Ashburton Library, 2 Baring Square East, Ashburton
  - Cafe Mayfield, 1992 Arundel Rakaia Gorge Rd, Mayfield
  - Methven i-Hub, 160 Main Street, Methven
  - Rakaia Mobil, SH1, Rakaia
- includes the ratepayer roll
- **cannot** be provided electronically to candidates
- can purchase a hard copy for \$30 per Ward or \$80 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 13 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 ADC Ashburton office, or can be posted out to applicants (if time allows).
- 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 2pm Saturday 11 October

Good Luck!

