

Central ward by-election 2020

Linwood-Central-Heathcote Community Board

Candidate information

This by-election is being held on Friday 16 October 2020 to cover the extraordinary vacancy for one member for the Central ward of the Linwood-Central-Heathcote Community Board.

The extraordinary vacancy has arisen from the resignation of Sally Buck.

The by-election will be conducted by postal vote using the First Past the Post voting electoral system, under the provisions of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and Local Electoral Act Regulations 2001.

The Electoral Officer for this by-election is Jo Daly. Jo can be contacted by phone on (03) 941 8581 or 027 236 9052 or by email at jo.daly@ccc.govt.nz

A full Candidate Information Booklet was produced for the 2019 local body elections. Information about governance responsibilities, remuneration and ward and subdivision maps are available in this booklet, along with detailed information for candidates, including campaigning requirements and election offences. This booklet is available online at www.ccc.govt.nz/elections or on request from the Electoral Officer.

By-election timetable

Thursday 23 July 2020	Public notice of by-election Nominations open Preliminary electoral roll open for inspection
Friday 14 August 2020	Election hoardings and temporary local election signage permitted to be put up
Thursday 20 August 2020	Nominations close at noon Preliminary electoral roll closes
As soon as practical after 20 August 2020*	Public notice of election and candidate names*
Thursday 24 September 2020	Delivery of voting document begins Progressive roll scrutiny Early processing period starts Special voting period starts
Thursday 15 October 2020	Election hoardings and temporary local election signage must be removed by midnight
Friday 16 October 2020	Election day Voting closes at noon Progress results available
Monday 19 October 2020	Preliminary results released
Wednesday 21 October 2020	Official results available
As soon as practical after 21 October 2020	Public notice of declaration of result
By Thursday 17 December 2020	Candidate return of electoral donations and expenses form due

* If only one nomination is received, an election will not be held. The public notice will declare the candidate elected unopposed.

Candidate eligibility

Full eligibility criteria for this by-election are detailed on the reverse of the nomination form and in the Candidate Information Booklet. Candidates do not need to reside within the Central ward of Christchurch, but must be a New Zealand citizen and enrolled as a parliamentary elector in New Zealand. Candidates must be nominated by two electors who are enrolled as electors of the Central ward.

Nominations

Nominations must be made on the official nomination form. The nomination form must be accompanied by a \$200 nomination deposit and proof of New Zealand citizenship, and candidates are also able to submit a candidate profile statement and/or candidate photo.

Nomination deposits

A deposit of \$200 (including GST) must accompany each nomination paper. If an election is required the deposit is refunded if the candidate polls greater than 25% of the lowest successful candidate. The deposit is also refunded if no election is required. Deposits will not be refunded in cash.

The deposit can be paid by cash, EFTPOS or online banking. If an online banking transaction or personal cheque is declined or dishonoured the nomination becomes invalid. If this happens after the close of nominations the nomination is invalid and the candidate will be withdrawn.

Online banking details are below and also on the nomination form:

Account name: Christchurch CC

Bank: BNZ

Account number: 02 0800 0044765-00

Use the following deposit information:

Reference: ELECTION FEE

Code: (Your surname)

If paying by online banking evidence of the transaction must be provided at the time the nomination documents are submitted, i.e. print out or scan a copy of the transaction receipt.

Candidate profile statement

The Local Electoral Act 2001 allows for candidate profile statements (CPS) to be provided by each candidate with the 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 the details included in the Candidate Information Booklet.

Candidate profile statements are limited to 150 words and should also be provided electronically via e-mail or on data stick/media device as a Word document.

Candidate profile statements are governed by Sections 61 and 62 of the Act. Profiles must be provided at the same time as all nomination documents.

Candidate photo

Candidates may also submit a photograph for inclusion with the candidate profile statement in the sheet or booklet that will accompany the voting papers. Photos must be recent (taken within the last 12 months) and be submitted in JPEG format either electronically via email or on data stick/media device at the same time as all nomination documents.

Note: The onus is on the candidate to ensure that all nomination documents, including the profile and photo, are submitted to the Electoral Officer/Electoral Official by noon on Thursday 20 August 2020.

Affiliation

The nomination form provides for a candidate to have a political party or group affiliation or other designation. Individual candidates are able to nominate their designation as 'independent' or leave as blank.

A candidate requiring a specific party affiliation must have authority to adopt the affiliation from the party, organisation or group concerned, confirmation of this authority should be submitted with the nomination documents.

Campaigning

Full details on the rules associated with campaigning for this by-election are listed in the Candidate Information Booklet. All candidates should refer to this booklet to familiarise themselves with those restrictions. The following is a summary of the key points to be aware of:

- Campaigning can commence anytime but must cease by the close of voting at noon on Friday 16 October 2020.
- No election material can contain any untrue statement defamatory of any candidate, 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.

Please refer to the Candidate Information Booklet: <https://ccc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/The-Council/How-the-Council-works/2019-Elections/Candidate-Info-Booklet.pdf>

Election advertising

Election advertising, using any medium including social media, must identify the person under whose authority they have been produced, as per Section 113 of the Local Electoral Act 2001.

All candidate hoardings, posters, social media, advertisements, etc. must include a sentence at the bottom saying that it is authorised by the candidate (or their agent). For example: "*Authorised by Bill Citizen, 20 Main St, Samptown*". Please note that the address listed must be a physical address, not a PO Box or rural delivery number.

Election hoardings and temporary local election signage

Guidelines for temporary local election signage are available in the Candidate Information Booklet. Temporary local election signage (which might otherwise exceed the District Plan limits) is permitted within the limits specified for a period of nine weeks before election day, and must be removed by midnight the day before election day.

For this by-election, election hoardings and temporary local election signage is authorised from Friday 14 August 2020 until midnight on Thursday 15 October 2020.

Campaigning expenditure limits

Candidates are required to keep records of all campaign expenses and donations. At the end of the election period, candidates are required to submit to the Electoral Officer a summary of donations received and expenditure made on campaigning.

For this by-election, the total election expenses must not exceed \$20,000 (inclusive of GST).

Lodgement of nomination forms

Nomination documents for this by-election can be lodged between Thursday 23 July and Thursday 20 August noon by:

- Delivery to the Electoral Officer, Christchurch City Council Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street (Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm)
- Email to jo.daly@ccc.govt.nz

All nomination documents must be submitted at the same time, being: the nomination paper, proof of New Zealand citizenship, nomination deposit (or evidence of), candidate profile statement and candidate photo.

A nomination will not be accepted if any components are missing. Once submitted and accepted, nomination documents are not able to be amended.