**Get ready for the Tauranga by-election on Saturday 18 June**

A by-election in the Tauranga general electorate will be held on Saturday 18 June. Voting begins on Saturday 4 June.

The by-election is to select a new member of Parliament to represent the Tauranga electorate.

**You need to be enrolled to vote**

Only people who are enrolled in the Tauranga general electorate can vote in this by-election.

You can enrol and vote in the Tauranga by-election if you:

are 18 years of age or older, and

have lived within the Tauranga electorate for one month or more, and

are a New Zealand citizen or a permanent resident of New Zealand, and

have lived in New Zealand for more than one year continuously at some time in your life.

You can enrol right up to and on election day, Saturday 18 June.

If you enrol by Wednesday 11 May, you will be sent everything you need to vote, including your personalised EasyVote card. Your EasyVote card will make voting faster and easier.

You can enrol after Wednesday 11 May but you won’t get an EasyVote card and you may need to fill in an extra form when you go to vote.

It’s easy to enrol, check or update your details. Go online to vote.nz to check you’re enrolled. You can enrol or update your details using your New Zealand driver licence, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity.

You can also call freephone 0800 36 76 56 and ask for an enrolment form to be sent to you.

You can also enrol, check or update your details and vote at the same time at any voting place, including on election day.

If you need help to fill in your enrolment form, you can ask someone else to help you, or you can [contact your local](http://www.elections.org.nz/voters/enrol-check-or-update-now/registrars-electors-contact-information) Registrar of Electors.

**Voting in the Tauranga by-election**

You can vote from Saturday 4 June to Friday 17 June at an advance voting place. The days and times advance voting places are open vary, so make sure to check before you go.

On election day, Saturday 18 June, voting places will be open from 9am to 7pm.

Information about where and when to vote, and who you can vote for, will be available from 4pm Tuesday 17 May at vote.nz or by calling 0800 36 76 56. It will also be included in the EasyVote pack which will be sent to all enrolled voters about two weeks before election day.

**COVID-19 safety measures**
Staff at voting places will be wearing masks. We’d encourage you to wear a mask too. We’ll have disposable masks available if you’d like one.

There’ll be hand sanitiser to use, and if you like, you can bring your own pen to mark your voting paper. If you can’t get to a voting place, you can still vote. Visit vote.nz or call 0800 36 76 56 for information on other ways to vote.

**How to vote**
If you have a hearing impairment and need assistance, tell someone who works at the voting place. There will be someone there to help you if you need it.

If you have an EasyVote card take it with you when you go to vote and give it to the person issuing your voting paper. It will help them find you on the electoral roll.

If you don’t have an EasyVote card, you will need to tell the person issuing your vote your name and address.

If you’re unable to verbally state your name you can confirm it by writing it down, gesturing or a friend, family member or support person can confirm your name for you.

In a by-election, you have one vote (that’s one tick!) for the candidate you want to be your local Member of Parliament.

This is different from a general election where you have two votes – one for a party and the other for your local candidate.

**Need help to vote?**

If you need help to read or mark your voting paper, a friend, family member or an electoral official at the voting place can help. That person can go behind the voting screen with you and can read out the words and information on the voting paper. They can also mark the voting paper for you according to your instructions. But they can’t tell you who you should vote for.

Voters who are blind, partially blind, or have another disability that means they are unable to mark the voting paper without assistance can vote by telephone dictation.

You need to register before you can vote using telephone dictation. You can register from Thursday 12 May by calling 0800 028 028.

Registration will be open weekdays 9am to 5pm and on election day until 12 noon.

Telephone dictation voting opens on Wednesday 1 June and closes at 7pm on election day, Saturday 18 June.

More information is available on our website at vote.nz or call 0800 028 028.

**Can’t get to a voting place?**

If you are in a rest home, the Electorate Manager for Tauranga will contact the manager of your rest home to arrange voting services.

 If you are in hospital, from Saturday 4 June a friend or family member can bring you your voting papers. If you can’t get to a voting place because you have COVID-19 or you are isolating, or because you have poor health or mobility, you can get help to vote.

You can find out more at vote.nz or by calling 0800 36 76 56.

**Voting from overseas**
If you are going to be overseas on election day, you can still vote in the Tauranga by-election.

If you’ll still be in New Zealand after Saturday 4 June you can vote early at any advance voting place.

If you are overseas, from Wednesday 1 June you can download your voting papers from vote.nz. You may also be able to vote at an overseas voting place, but this will depend on the COVID-19 situation in your area.

For more information on voting from overseas, visit vote.nz or call 0800 36 76 56 (from inside New Zealand) or +64 9 909 4182 (from overseas – international call rates may apply).

**More information**
For more information about enrolling and voting in the Tauranga by-election:

visit vote.nz

* call 0800 36 76 56 or
* +64 9 909 4182 (from overseas – international call rates may apply)