

FACT SHEET | WHĀRANGI MEKA

2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS
11 OCTOBER 2025



→ WHAT DOES COUNCIL DO?

The District Council meets regularly to make many decisions that impact the day-to-day lives of people in the Kawerau area. The Council governs a wide range of local services including roads, water systems, rubbish collection, libraries, parks, community centres, dog registration, community and economic development and district planning.

→ BACKGROUND

Local government triennial elections are being held by postal vote on Saturday 11 October 2025 and will be undertaken by Election Services, under contract to the Kawerau District Council.

The first past the post (FPP) electoral system will be used for both the Kawerau District Council and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council elections.

→ 2025 KEY DATES

Nominations open	Friday 4 July
Nominations close	noon, Friday 1 August
Delivery of voting packs	from Tuesday 9 September
Close of voting	noon, Saturday 11 October
Official results announced	Friday 17 October

→ WHO IS BEING ELECTED?

Elections will be required for the following positions:*

- Mayor (elected 'at large')
- Councillors (8)
 - elected 'at large' (2)
 - Kawerau General Ward (3)
 - Kawerau Māori Ward (3)
- Bay of Plenty Regional Council Members - either:
 - 2 members from the Eastern Bay of Plenty General Constituency, or
 - 1 member from the Kōhi Māori Constituency.

* Subject to determination by the Local Government Commission, expected by 10 April 2025

In addition electors will be able to vote on a poll – whether to retain or disestablish the Māori ward for the Kawerau District Council. The outcome of this poll will be binding and apply to the 2028 and 2031 triennial elections. The Bay of Plenty Regional Council is not required to hold a poll on whether to retain or disestablish their Māori constituencies.

→ HOW CAN I BE NOMINATED?

Nominations for these positions open on Friday 4 July 2025 and close at noon on Friday 1 August 2025.

For online nominations go to: www.esp.electionservices.co.nz.

Printed nomination papers and a candidate handbook will also be available during this period from:

- from the District Office, 2 Ranfurly Court, Kawerau;
- or download and print at: www.kaweraudc.govt.nz.

To be eligible to stand for election, a candidate **must** be:

- a New Zealand citizen (by birth or naturalisation ceremony); **and**
- enrolled as a Parliamentary elector (anywhere in New Zealand); **and**
- nominated by two electors whose names appear on the electoral roll within the respective area that a candidate is standing for.

A candidate information handbook is available in May 2025.

→ WHO CAN VOTE?

Those eligible to vote are all resident electors and non-resident ratepayer electors whose names appear on the electoral roll when it closes on Friday 1 August 2025. The Preliminary Electoral Roll will be available for public inspection between Friday 4 July 2025 and Friday 1 August 2025 at the District Office, 2 Ranfurly Court, Kawerau.

Resident Roll: All parliamentary electors, including those on the Māori Electoral Roll, are automatically enrolled on the Resident Roll, at the address where they live.

Any alterations to the Resident Roll (e.g. change of address details, including new postal addresses) should be made by:

- completing the appropriate form (available from the Electoral Commission or District Office);
- phoning 0800 36 76 56;
- accessing the Electoral Commission website: www.vote.nz.

Ratepayer Roll: If a person is on the parliamentary roll in one area and pays rates on a property in another area, this person may be eligible to be enrolled on the non-resident ratepayer roll. A firm, company, corporation or society paying rates on a property may nominate one of its members or officers as a ratepayer elector (provided the nominated person resides outside the area).

To check if you may be eligible or to obtain an enrolment form, go to www.ratepayer.co.nz. Ratepayer Roll enrolment forms are also available at www.kaweraudc.govt.nz.

All electors will be able to vote for the mayor and those councillors elected 'at large'. Those electors on the general electoral roll will be able to vote for the general ward councillors and those electors on the Māori electoral roll will be able to vote for the Māori ward councillors.

➔ HOW TO VOTE?

Voting packs will be posted to all those who have enrolled from Tuesday 9 September 2025.

The voting period is just over four weeks (Tuesday 9 September 2025 to noon Saturday 11 October 2025.)

Electors may post their completed voting documents back to the electoral officer using the orange prepaid envelope sent with their voting document.

A polling place for the issuing of special voting documents and for the receiving of completed voting documents will be available from Tuesday 9 September 2025 to noon Saturday 11 October 2025 at the District Office, 2 Ranfurly Court, Kawerau.

To be counted, all completed voting documents must be in the hands of the electoral officer or an electoral official by noon, Saturday 11 October 2025.

➔ RESULTS

Progress results will be known early afternoon on election day, and preliminary results will be known by Sunday, 12 October 2025. Final results will be known by Friday 17 October 2025, and all results will be accessible on Council's website: www.kaweraudc.govt.nz.

2025 KAWERAU DISTRICT COUNCIL MAP

