



HBPCT

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2024 CANDIDATE INFORMATION HANDBOOK

HAWKE'S BAY POWER CONSUMERS' TRUST
ELECTION OF TRUSTEES





Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this booklet is accurate and consistent with the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust Deed of Trust (as at September 2018). Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust takes no responsibility for any errors or omissions. It is recommended that candidates obtain a full copy of the Deed which is available online at www.hbpct.co.nz or on request from Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust.

July 2024

Contents

Overview	2
About the Trust	3
Standing for election	4
Nominations	5
Voting	8
Campaigning	10
Councils' policies on election signs	12
Consumers' Roll	16
Scrutineers	17
Results	18
Election offences	19
2020 voting document returns	23
2020 election results	24
Map	25
Letter to appoint scrutineer	

Overview

This handbook provides information which may be of interest to you as a candidate in the 2024 Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust election of trustees.

Every three years, consumers of electricity in the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust district elect five trustees to the Trust. An election to fill the five vacancies will occur by a combination of postal and online voting concluding at 5pm on Tuesday 1 October 2024.

The election will be conducted under the provisions of the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust Deed of Trust. Where electoral procedures are silent in the Deed, the procedures contained in the Local Electoral Act 2001 and Local Electoral Regulations 2001 will generally be followed.

The previous election was held on 1 October 2020. As the result of an amendment to the Deed of Trust, dated 21 June 2021, the current electoral cycle was extended by one year, meaning the next election is to be held on 1 October 2024. Following this election, the electoral cycle will revert to the normal three year term.

Key dates for a candidate

Nominations open	Monday 1 July 2024
Nominations close	5pm, Wednesday 31 July 2024
Delivery of voting packs	from Tuesday 10 September 2024
Voting period	10 September - 1 October 2024
Close of voting	5pm, Tuesday 1 October 2024
Preliminary count	from 5pm, Tuesday 1 October 2024
Public notice of election results	Thursday 10 October 2024

Contact us

Returning Officer:



Dale Ofoske, Independent Election Services Ltd

Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland 1010
PO Box 5135, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142
Phone - 0800 922 822
Email - info@electionservices.co.nz
Website - www.electionservices.co.nz

About the Trust



Background

The Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust (HBPCT) was established in 1993. The Trust is made up of five trustees who hold all the shares in Unison Networks Limited on behalf of the consumers connected to Unison's electricity network in the Hawke's Bay.

Trust Area

Unison is the fourth largest electricity lines company in New Zealand. With over 105,000 customer connections in a supply area of 11,500 square kilometres, the system length extends to 9,375 kilometres and is generally the geographical areas of Napier City Council and Hastings District Council. A map of the Trust area is found page 25 of this booklet).

Documents

The following documents are available from the Trust's website (www.hbpct.co.nz):

- (i) [Deed of Trust \(2018\)](#)
- (ii) [Chairman's Report & Financial Statements 2023](#)
- (iii) [Annual Trustees Report 2023](#)

Election of Trustees

The Trust is administered by five trustees and an election is held for all five trustees every three years. Candidates eligible for election must be connected to Unison Network Ltd and live within the Trust area. Criteria which make people ineligible for nomination to the position of trustee are outlined in the Nominations section of this handbook.

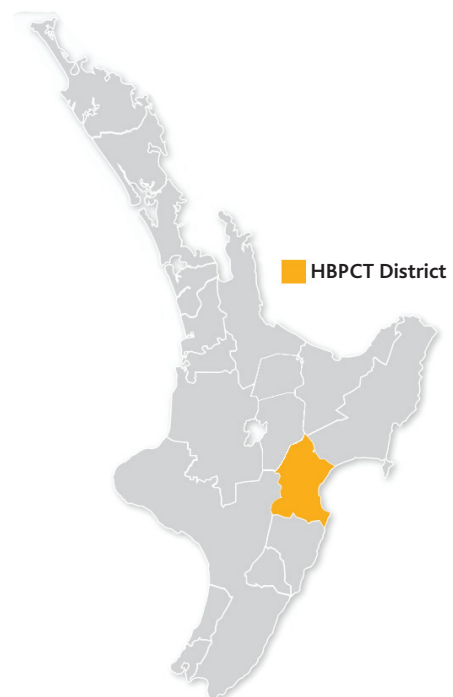
Standing for election

Candidate qualifications

1. A candidate for trustee to the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust must be a person whose name appears on the 2024 Consumers Roll having their principal place of residence within the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust district and cannot be one of the following:
 - (a) Bankrupt: a bankrupt who has not obtained a final order of discharge or whose order of discharge has been suspended for a term not yet expired, or is subject to a condition not yet fulfilled, or is subject to a condition not yet fulfilled, or to any order under section 111 of the Insolvency Act 1967;
 - (b) Conviction: a person who has been convicted of any offence punishable by a term of imprisonment of two (2) or more years unless that person has obtained a pardon or has served the sentence or otherwise suffered the sentence imposed upon that person;
 - (c) Imprisonment: a person who has been sentenced to imprisonment for any offence unless that person has obtained a pardon or has served the sentence;
 - (d) Restraining Order: a person to whom an order made under section 189 of the Companies Act 1955 applies;
 - (e) Mentally Disordered: a person who is mentally disordered within the meaning of the Mental Health Act 1969;
 - (f) Property Order: a person who is subject to a property order made under section 30 or section 31 of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1989;
 - (g) Director or Employee of Company/ Subsidiary: a person who currently holds office as a director of the Company or any subsidiary or is employed by the Company or any subsidiary;
 - (h) Member of Parliament or Member of Local Authority: a person who is a Member of Parliament, or a Member of a Local Authority;
 - (i) Not a Consumer: a person who is not a Consumer having a principal place of residence within the District;
 - (j) Seeking more than three consecutive terms: a person seeking to serve more than three (3) consecutive terms of office in contravention of Rule 3. (Rule 2.2, Deed of Trust)
2. The person nominating a candidate must also be a person whose name appears on the Consumers Roll for the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust.

To check if you're eligible:

A roll of consumers for the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust election is compiled from data supplied by Unison. This data is confidential and is not available for public viewing. However, voters will be able to ring 0800 922 822 to check if their name appears on the Consumers Roll for this election.



Nominations

Elections required

Elections will be held for five (5) trustees to the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust.

Nominations will open on Monday 1 July 2024 and close at 5pm on Wednesday 31 July 2024.

A public notice calling for nominations will appear in the following publications from Monday 1 July 2024:

- The Post
- Hastings Leader
- Hawke's Bay Today
- Napier Courier

Each nomination must be made on the appropriate official nomination paper, which is available from Monday 1 July 2024:

- by accessing online at www.hbpct.co.nz;
- by emailing info@electionservices.co.nz;
- by phoning the electoral office on 0800 922 822; or
- at the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust office (C/- Brown Webb Richardson Ltd, 111 Avenue Road East, Hastings);

Completion of nomination paper

The candidate must complete and sign the front page of the nomination paper to indicate their consent to stand as a candidate for the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust election.

Each candidate must be nominated by a consumer whose name appears on the Consumers' Roll.

Each nomination paper must be accompanied by the required deposit of \$100 (inclusive of GST).

This is refunded if the candidate polls greater than 10% of the votes cast.

Candidate Name

If a candidate is commonly known in the community by a slightly different name (eg Edward Smith is commonly known as Ted Smith) and has been known by this name for at least the last six months (to the satisfaction of the Returning Officer), the commonly known name may appear on the voting document, provided that the name will not:

- cause offence to a reasonable person
- be unreasonably long
- be or resemble an official title or rank
- cause confusion or mislead electors

Candidates are not permitted to use official titles or ranks etc as part of their name on the voting document, but these may be included as part of the 150 word candidate profile statement.

The use of degrees or qualifications is also not permitted on the voting document after a candidate's name.

Candidate Statement

Candidates may provide the Returning Officer with a candidate profile statement, in a Word document of maximum 150 words, with their nomination. This is a permissive right — it is not mandatory.

This statement should contain information about the candidate, their qualifications and skills applicable to the position for which they are standing and their policies/intentions if elected to office. A candidate profile statement cannot be used to comment on the policies, performance etc, of any other candidate.

The candidate profile statement may be in English or Māori or both (maximum 150 words in either language) or in any other language (not exceeding 150 words in total). Should all or part of a candidate profile statement be provided in a language other than English or Māori, it is required that this be provided in a high resolution electronic image file (jpeg, tif, gif, png, pdf etc).

The candidate profile statement must be true and accurate and the Returning Officer is not required to verify or investigate any information included in this statement.

Candidate Photo

Candidates may also provide a colour photo with their nomination paper. The photo:

- must be passport-sized (approximately 50mm x 40mm); and
- should have been taken within 12 months of the candidate's date of nomination.

If submitted in hard-copy, photographs should be:

- (i) a hard-copy original (not home printed or photocopied);
- (ii) in the size stated;
- (iii) not damaged by writing on the back.

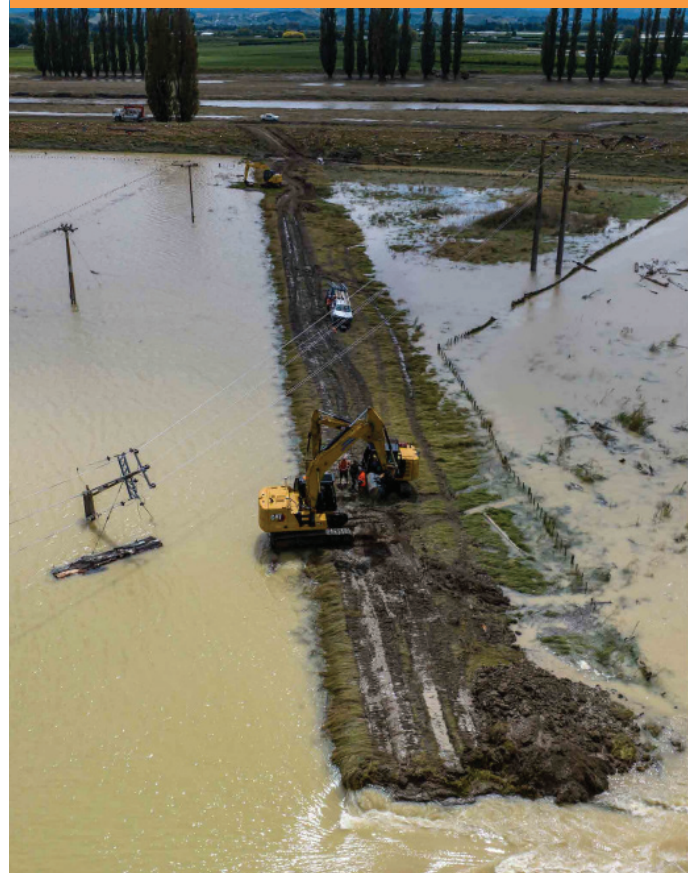
This is to ensure it is reproduced in the best quality possible.

If the nomination is submitted electronically, photographs should be emailed, together (at the same time) with all other nomination materials (nomination paper, candidate profile statement and proof of bank transfer) to: info@electionservices.co.nz

The candidate profile statement and colour photo will be included with the voting document sent to each consumer.

Please note that all information contained on the nomination paper and candidate profile statement becomes public information once lodged. This includes all candidate contact details (eg telephone, email address etc), unless specifically requested to be kept confidential.

Unison's network suffered extensive damage after Cyclone Gabrielle



Return of nomination paper

Nomination papers must be in the hands of the Returning Officer or an electoral official not later than 5pm on Wednesday 31 July 2024.

Completed nomination papers can be lodged during normal business hours at:

- The Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust Office
C/- Brown Webb Richardson Ltd
111 Avenue Road East
Hastings

or emailed to:

- info@electionservices.co.nz (provided nomination deposit is paid by bank transfer and evidence of this is included with other nomination materials)

or posted to:

- Independent Election Services Ltd
PO Box 5135
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

All nomination materials (nomination paper, candidate profile statement, photo and nomination deposit or proof of bank transfer) should be lodged together.

Bank transfers should be made to the following account: 01-0102-0437238-00.

A receipt will be issued to acknowledge that a nomination has been received. This receipt does not constitute acknowledgement that the nomination paper is in order.

Once lodged, nomination papers are checked to ensure the candidate and nominator's name appears on the Consumers' Roll.

The lodgement of nomination materials should not be left to the last minute. Should a nomination paper be lodged late on the afternoon nominations close, and be incorrectly completed or an ineligible nominator is provided, there may be insufficient time to correct

the situation and the nomination paper could be invalidated.

Please do not leave lodging your nomination to the last minute.



After the close of nominations

Once nominations have closed, a list of all candidates will be provided to the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust and media.

A public notice advising of the candidate names will be published in the following publications from Friday 9 August 2024:

- The Post
- Hastings Leader
- Hawke's Bay Today
- Napier Courier

Key message

The three-week voting period is Tuesday 10 September 2024 to 5pm, Tuesday 1 October 2024. Voting packs are posted to consumers from Tuesday 10 September 2024, with special votes available to those who have not received an ordinary vote during the voting period.

Voting period

Those eligible to vote in the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust elections are all consumers whose names appear on the Consumers' Roll within the Trust district, with delivery commencing Tuesday 10 September 2024.

Three methods of returning a vote are available to consumers for this election. These are:

- postal voting; or
- online voting; or
- hand delivered to a ballot box.

If selecting **postal voting** as the preferred method of voting:

- consumers, after receiving their voting document, should complete it, seal it in the return, replypaid envelope, and post or deliver it to the Returning Officer.
- when posting voting documents back, it is recommended that these be posted by 5pm, Tuesday 24 September 2024.

If selecting **online voting** as the preferred method of voting:

- consumers will find the website address and their unique Access Code and Password on the voting document.
- after making their internet vote, it is recommended that the consumer destroys or secures their voting document in a safe place to avoid any duplicate voting.

If selecting **hand delivered to a ballot box** as the preferred method of voting:

- completed voting documents can be lodged during normal business hours at the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust office, c/- Brown Webb Richardson, 111 Avenue Road East, Hastings.

Only one method of voting can be used per voting document. Voting by different methods for the same voting document is not permitted and may result in both votes being invalidated.

For Consumers with multiple connections, there is a maximum of three votes permitted.

To be counted, all completed votes must be in the hands of the Returning Officer by 5pm on Tuesday 1 October 2024. The preliminary result will be known early evening.

Voting documents cannot be collected by candidates or their assistants.

Special voting

Special votes are available to consumers:

- whose names do not appear on the Consumers Roll, but who qualify as consumers as at 4 June 2024;
- who do not receive a voting document previously posted to them; or
- who have spoilt or damaged a voting document previously sent to them.

Online voting is not available to those consumers who request a special vote.

Special voting documents are available from Tuesday 10 September 2024 to 5pm Tuesday 1 October 2024 at:

- Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust office, c/- Brown Webb Richardson, 111 Avenue Road East, Hastings; or

- or by emailing the electoral office at info@electionservices.co.nz; or
- by phoning the Electoral Office on 0800 922 822, for one to be posted out.

Special votes can be posted directly to consumers. The completed voting document however, must be returned by 5pm on election day (1 October 2024). Special votes require the completion of a statutory declaration. This is a legal requirement and a protection for consumers against possible duplicate voting. After voting closes, special vote declarations are checked to ensure that the consumer is eligible to vote as a consumer.

Special votes cannot be collected by candidates or their assistants for distribution to consumers.

On election day, ordinary votes can be returned and special votes issued from 9.30am to 5pm at the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust office, c/- Brown Webb Richardson, 111 Avenue Road East, Hastings.

The Blythe Memorial Fountain (1904) in Clive Square, Napier which lights up at night



Key message

Election campaigning can commence anytime and may continue up to and including election day. However there are certain constraints candidates need to be aware of.

The locations and periods of display of election signs depend on the territorial authority you are campaigning in.

Election signs are permitted on private property (with the owner's consent) at any time. All signs must be erected in a stable fashion, not being a hazard to public or traffic safety. Council policies on election signs are detailed on pages 12-15 of this handbook.

Campaigning

Election material cannot contain:

- any untrue statement defamatory of any candidate (e.g. under the Defamation Act 1992);
- an imitation voting document which has the names of the candidates with any direction or indication as to the candidate a person should vote for, or in any way contains such direction or indication likely to influence the voter;
- the Trust's logo or any part of an official Trust document.

Voting documents should not be collected from consumers by candidates or their assistants. Each consumer should post or deliver their own voting document to the Returning Officer. This also applies to rest homes and hospitals—voting documents should not be collected from elderly or infirm consumers by candidates or their assistants.

Social media

Social media can be a useful tool for candidates for campaigning purposes and electioneering.

The Trust's social media channels are Trust resources and must remain politically neutral at all times. The Trust can promote elections and the importance of voting but will not associate these posts with any candidates.

The Trust's social media accounts will not follow any candidates and may unfollow your accounts during the election process.

The Trust's social media accounts are not permitted to be used as a communications channel by anyone (candidates or members of the public) for promotion, electioneering or campaigning.

Candidates should not post on the Trust's social media channels, nor should they comment on, share or otherwise use the Trust's social media channels for electioneering. You may not rate, review, check-in or tag the the Trust's social media channels in your own posts or comments.

Election campaigning using any media, including social media must identify the person under whose authority they have been produced and contact details, as listed below.

Election Advertising:

Election advertising, using any media, must show an authorisation statement. This statement must include:

- the true name of the person under whose authority they have been produced; **and**
- a residential or business address, or
- an email address, or
- a post office box number, or
- a phone number, or
- a link to a webpage, that contains one or more of the above.

This includes election advertising on signs, in newspapers, on flyers and posters, on a vehicle and on election websites.

Relevant criteria as contained in the Local Electoral Act 2001 are:

113 Advertisements for candidates

- (1) No person may publish or cause to be published in any newspaper, periodical, notice, poster, pamphlet, handbill, billboard, or card, or broadcast or permit to be broadcast over any radio or television station, any advertisement that is used or appears to be used to promote or procure the election of a candidate at an election, unless subsection (2) or subsection (4) applies.
- (2) A person may publish or cause or permit to be published an advertisement of the kind described in subsection (1) if—
 - (a) the publication of that advertisement is authorised in writing by the candidate or the candidate's agent or, in the case of an advertisement relating to more than 1 candidate, the candidates or an agent acting for all of those candidates; and
 - (b) the advertisement contains a statement setting out the true name and contact details of the person or persons for whom or at whose direction it is published.
- (3) A candidate is not responsible for an act committed by an agent without the consent or connivance of the candidate.
- (4) A person may publish or cause or permit to be published an advertisement of the kind described in subsection (1) if—
 - (a) the publication of the advertisement is endorsed by an organisation or body representing residents or ratepayers in the community or district in which the advertisement is published; and
 - (b) the advertisement contains a statement setting out—
 - (i) the true name and contact details of the person or persons for whom or at whose direction it is published; and
 - (ii) the true name of the organisation or body that has endorsed the publication of the advertisement and the address of the place of business of that organisation or body. This section does not restrict the publication of any news or comments relating to an election in a newspaper or other periodical, or on the Internet, or in any other medium of electronic communication accessible by the public, or in a radio or television broadcast made by a broadcaster within the meaning of section 2 of the Broadcasting Act 1989.
- (5) This section does not restrict the publication of any news or comments relating to an election in a newspaper or other periodical, or on the Internet, or in any other medium of electronic communication accessible by the public, or in a radio or television broadcast made by a broadcaster within the meaning of section 2 of the Broadcasting Act 1989.
- (6) A person who wilfully contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.
- (7) In this section, contact details means 1 or more of the following:
 - (a) a residential or business address;
 - (b) an email address;
 - (c) a post office box number;
 - (d) a phone number;
 - (e) a link to a page on an Internet site, if the page contains 1 or more of the contact details specified in paragraphs (a) to (d).

Unison's first fully electric E300 traffic management truck



Council policy on election signs

The locations and periods of display of election signs depend on the territorial authority you are campaigning in.

The following council policies on election signs were applicable for the 2022 local government elections.

For further advice regarding council policy on election signs, candidates should contact the appropriate council direct.



Heretaunga Hastings District Council area Election signs policy

PLEASE NOTE: All signs etc are to display the true name and contact details of the person authorising them. (sec 113 (2)(b) Local Electoral Act 2001)

Election signs

Election signs are permitted **only on private property**.

Signs may not be erected before 1 August 2024 (ie: two months before election day).

Building consent

No application form or fee is required if signs do not exceed 3m² per site. (The larger of the standard sizes available from signwriters is 2.88m². It represents dimensions of 2.4m x 1.2m). If you wish to put up a double-sided sign, you need to ensure that the angle between the two sides is sufficiently small so that no more than 3m² is visible from any one point.

The District Plan states:

“For the purpose of calculating the area of advertising devices, the area of a sign is calculated as being the area of the sides which are used as part of the device and which are visible from any one point (direction). For

example, where a sign is multifaced, the area of a sign is calculated as the total area of those faces which will be visible from any one place.”

Duration of display

You must remove your signs no later than 5pm on Monday 30 September 2024.

What election signs can't contain

You cannot produce any sign that looks like an imitation voting paper.

Proximity of signs

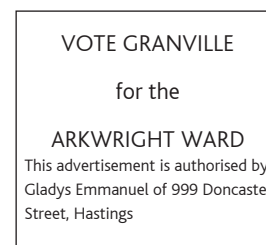
Signs are not to be erected on state highways, roads, road reserves (e.g. the berm), parks, reserves or any other public places.

Signs must be wholly on private property and must not obscure drivers' vision at any intersection or driveway. They must not be lit up or reflectorised.

What election signs must contain

NO CANDIDATE ADVERTISEMENT (this includes any sign) may be published UNLESS it clearly states that it is authorised by the candidate or the candidate's agent and gives that person's home or business address. (Refer page 10 of this handbook—also section 113 Local Electoral Act 2001.)

Eg:-



Standards and conditions

Election signs are permitted and may be erected without consent from Council. However, all signs will be subject to the following standards/conditions.

1. Maximum size

Maximum area of advertising device(s), per site:

Hastings' Osmanthus Gardens Lantern Festival in Cornwall Park lights up annually in April



3m² (a site is defined as an area of land held on a single certificate of title)

2. Location

Election signs must be located wholly on private property and not be located within road reserve, in public places or reserves. (Any sign erected on any public place will be impounded and can only be recovered on payment of a \$60 fee)

3. Siting

Signs shall be sited so as not to obscure drivers' vision at any intersection or driveway. No illuminated advertising device shall be located within 25m of a road intersection. No sign using intermittent or flashing sources of light is permitted

4. Illumination

Illuminated signs are only permitted in Commercial and Industrial zones. External illumination of signs by spotlights or floodlights shall be focused only on the device to be illuminated, and shall be directed away from Residentially Zoned sites and roads

5. Time frames

Signs may be erected up to 2 months prior to polling day, i.e. from Thursday 1 August 2024

6. Removal

Signs for Local Government and other elections shall be removed within 7 days after polling day

7. General

All signs shall comply with the New Zealand Building Code and relevant Council Bylaws. No handbills or posters etc are to be pasted onto poles, buildings or other structures

Resource consents

For election signs that do not meet one or more of the Council standards, outlined in 1 – 7 above, an application must be made for a resource consent. This will be assessed as a Restricted Discretionary Activity and will involve the following:

1. An application form (available from Council)
2. An assessment of effects on the environment of the signs (e.g. Traffic Safety)
3. Application details involving site plans, sign dimensions, drawings of the sign (a sheet outlining further requirements is available from Council)
4. Affected Persons' consents
5. Application deposit of \$800.00. This deposit is per application irrespective of the number of signs involved.

General Election Sign Guidelines on State Highways

This statement is a guideline for candidates in relation to advertising visible from a state highway.

The guideline objectives are to:

- minimise the potential for road crashes arising from drivers being distracted by indiscriminate installation of electioneering signs, and
- to ensure consistency of application of New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) policy on signs less than 3m², with minimal involvement by NZTA.

Candidates should in the first instance email: environmentalplanning@nzta.govt.nz for advice should they wish to erect a sign on, or visible from, a state highway road reserve.

Local Election signs on or within the State Highway must comply with the New Zealand Transport Agency (Signs on State Highways) Bylaw 2010.

Requirements for signs visible from a State Highway, including on private land.

1. Lettering Size

- Speed limit less than 70 km/h: at least 120 mm
- Speed limit 70 km/h or more: 160mm

2. Spacing

Spacing between lines of text: at least 50mm

3. Reflective Materials

Signs must not be made of materials likely to reflect headlights from an approaching vehicle

4. Colour/Layout

Must not be similar or the same as any traffic sign in shape and colour and unlikely to be mistaken for a traffic sign or signal

5. Moving Parts

No moving parts, flashing or revolving mechanisms to attract attention permitted

Requirements for signs on a State Highway

In addition to the Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005, the New Zealand Transport Agency (Signs on State Highways)

Bylaw 2010 (the SH Bylaw) applies to election and referendum signage on a state highway. However, it does not apply to signage visible from a state highway but located on private property, or signage located on any section of state highway where the speed limit is 70 km/h or less.

Electoral signage displayed on a state highway where the speed limit is above 70 km/hr will require approval from NZTA under the SH Bylaw. Signage in a location where the speed limit exceeds 70 km/h will be considered in more detail than those located where the speed limit is less than 70km/h.

1. Location

- A fixed sign must be located at least 5 m from the edge of the carriageway
- The bottom edge of a sign must not be more than 2.5 m above road level or ground
- Speed limit exceeds 70 km/h: Must have an unrestricted view for a minimum of 180 m
- Not be located within 100 m of an intersection or pedestrian crossing
- Must be positioned at a right angle to the State Highway

2. Size

Area: Maximum of 1 m²

Edge dimension: 2m maximum

3. Lettering Size

- Speed limit less than 70 km/h: at least 120 mm
- Speed limit 70 km/h or more: 160mm

4. Spacing

Spacing between lines of text: at least 50 mm

5. Reflective materials

No reflective materials are permitted

6. Illumination

No external or internal illumination permitted

7. Sandwich boards

Speed limit 70 km/h or less: Must be located at least 2 m from the carriageway

8. Moving parts

No moving parts, flashing or revolving mechanisms to attract attention permitted

9. Sign supports

Must be frangible and meet the NZTA requirements

regarding strength, rigidity and impact performance

All signage exceeding 3m² in area is subject to the relevant district plan and any local authority bylaw standards.

Although the content and language cannot be further restricted by the SH Bylaw, general guidance on the number of words, symbols or graphics is set out in the SH Bylaw as follows:

- Maximum of 6 words, symbols or graphics.
- Characters: Maximum of 40 characters
- Font: Acceptable (clear legible font) where the speed limit is more than 70 km/hr.

The [State Highway Control Manual](#) provides further guidance for managing electoral signs on state highways. While the State Highway Control Manual and the [Traffic Control Devices Manual 2008](#) are guidelines only, there is a legal obligation for landowners to consult with NZTA and meet the NZTA general sign requirements.



Napier City Council area Election Hoardings/Signs policy

The Napier City Council has adopted a number of restrictions on the placement of Election Signs on properties for local authority and other elections.

Refer to the Council website www.napier.govt.nz for the Council's District Plan.

The following Rules apply for all election candidates wishing to place signs on properties within the Napier City boundaries.

Election signs

Election signs are permitted **only on private property** within the Napier City boundaries.

All signage on heritage buildings requires approval from the Resource Consents team. Other buildings in Napier's Art Deco Quarter must meet the standards for the zone as set out in the Operative District Plan and in the Proposed District Plan where immediate legal effect applies.

Napier District Council Regulations

Council's regulation regarding election signage is outlined in Council's District Plan, Section 58.13 Temporary Signs.

1. Within the Napier City boundaries, Election Signs may be placed anywhere on private properties three months prior to the election. All signs must be removed on the day prior to the final day of the election.
2. No Election signs are permitted to be placed on parks or reserves, or on roads.
3. There is no limit to the size or number of Election Signs permitted.
4. No sign is to be erected or placed in such a way as to cause a public safety or traffic hazard.
5. No Election Signs are permitted to be placed on a State Highway. Refer to Council's District Plan, Section 58.19 for provisions relating to signs on or adjacent to a State Highway

For further guidance on New Zealand Transport Authority Waka Kotahi (NZTA) regulations and guidance regarding signs on State Highways, refer to page 14 of this booklet.

Consumer Roll

Eligibility

Those eligible to vote at this election are consumers of electricity whose premises are connected to the Unison Network Ltd lines network within the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust district (see map, page 25 of this booklet), as at the close of the Consumers Roll at 5pm Tuesday 4 June 2024.

For consumers with multiple connections, there is a maximum of three votes permitted.

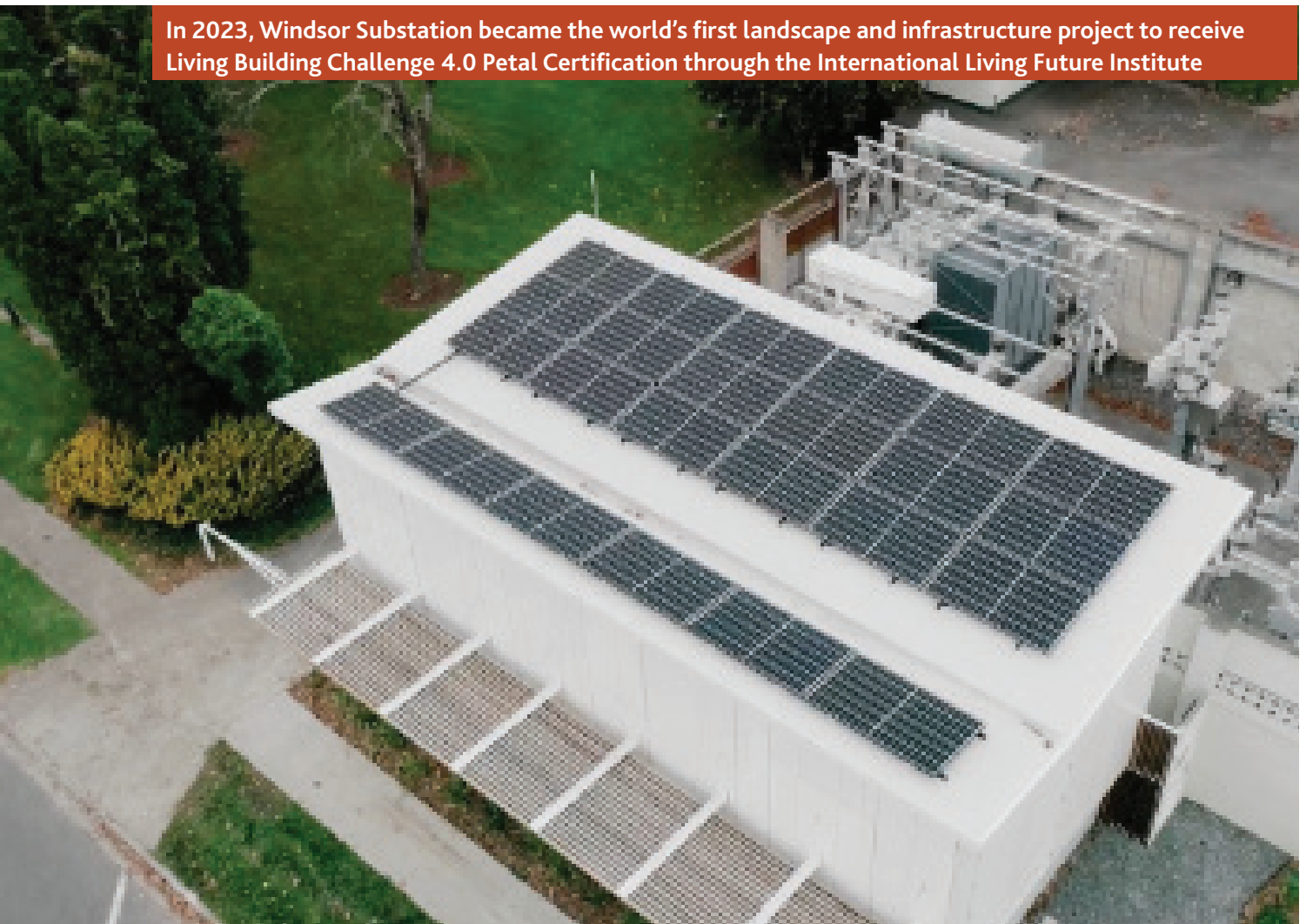
For joint account holders, only one vote per connection is permitted, with the first named person eligible to exercise the vote.

Confidential roll

A roll of consumers for the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust election is compiled from data supplied by Unison. This data is confidential and is not available for public viewing.

However, voters will be able to ring 0800 922 822 to check if their name appears on the Consumers Roll for this election.

In 2023, Windsor Substation became the world's first landscape and infrastructure project to receive Living Building Challenge 4.0 Petal Certification through the International Living Future Institute



Key Message

Candidates are able to appoint scrutineers to observe certain functions. Appointment of scrutineers must be made by 5pm Monday 30 September 2024.

Scrutiny of the roll and vote processing will take place at the Returning Office, based at Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland.

Appointment of scrutineers

Candidates may appoint scrutineers to oversee various functions of the election.

These functions are:

- the scrutiny of the roll;
- the preliminary count (after the close of voting)
- the official count

Each candidate may appoint one or more scrutineers for each of the above functions, but only one scrutineer for each candidate may be present at any one time.

A scrutineer cannot be:

- a candidate;
- a member or employee of Hawke's Bay Consumers' Power Trust for which an election is being conducted;
- under 18 years old.

Each scrutineer must be appointed by a candidate, such appointment to be in writing to the returning officer. For a person to be appointed as a scrutineer, the letter of appointment must be received by the returning officer no later than 5pm Monday 30 September 2024 (one working day before the close of voting).

A standard letter for the appointment of a scrutineer is located at the end of this handbook.

Each appointed scrutineer must report initially to the returning officer or deputy returning officer, where a declaration pledging not to disclose any information coming to their knowledge, will need to be signed and a name tag issued. When departing the premises, scrutineers are to return their name tag to the returning officer or deputy returning officer.

Any scrutineer may leave or re-enter the place where election functions are being conducted, but it is an offence (and liable for a fine) to:

- make known for what candidate any voter has voted;
- make known the state of the election, or give or pretend to give any information by which the state of the election may be known, before the close of voting.

The scrutiny of the roll will be undertaken at the electoral office (Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland), during normal office hours between Friday 14 September 2024 and to 5pm, Tuesday 1 October 2024.

The preliminary count of votes will commence once voting closes at 5pm 1 October 2024 at the electoral office.

The official count of votes will be undertaken once the preliminary count is concluded and the final result is expected to be made on Wednesday 2 October 2024. The official count will also occur at the electoral office.

The role of scrutineers is to ensure that election procedures are undertaken correctly and that the count of votes is done fairly and reasonably.

Mobile phones are prohibited within the secure area where the count will take place.

Results



Final results

The final count will take place once the preliminary count is concluded, at the offices of Election Services, Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland.

Final results will be available on Wednesday 2 October 2024.

Release of results

Where email addresses have been provided, candidates will be emailed the preliminary results once they are available on election day.

All results will also be placed on the trust's website: www.hbpct.co.nz.

Local Electoral Act 2001

121 Illegal nomination, etc

Every person commits an offence, and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000, who-

- (a) consents to being nominated as a candidate for an elective office, knowing that they is incapable under any Act of holding that office; or
- (b) signs a nomination paper purporting, to nominate as a candidate a person who is, to the knowledge of the person signing, incapable under any Act of holding that office; or
- (c) signs a nomination paper purporting to nominate another person as a candidate knowing that he or she is not qualified to vote at the election of the person named in the nomination paper as the candidate.

122 Interfering with or influencing voters

- (1) Every person commits an offence, and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000, who-
 - (a) interferes in any way with any person who is about to vote with the intention of influencing or advising that person as to how he or she should vote;
 - (b) prints, publishes, distributes, or delivers to any person (using any medium or means of communication) a document, paper, notice, or message, being or purporting to be an imitation of any voting document to be used at the election or poll that,-
 - (i) in the case of an election, includes the name of a candidate or candidates, together with any direction or indication as to the candidate or candidates for whom any person should vote;
 - (ii) in the case of a poll, includes a statement or indication as to how any person should vote;
 - (iii) in any way contains or suggests any such direction or indication or other matter likely to influence how any person votes.
 - (c) prints, publishes, or distributes any instruction on the method of marking the voting document that differs in any material way from the instructions required by this Act or any regulations made under this Act to accompany the voting document.
- (2) Despite subsection (1)(b), it is not an offence under that subsection to print, publish, distribute, or deliver a card or leaflet (not being an imitation voting document) on which is printed-
 - (a) the names of all or any of the candidates and the elective offices for which they are candidates (with or without the name of the organisations or groups to

which those candidates are affiliated, and including those who are independent); and

(b) nothing else.

(3) Nothing in this section applies to-

- (a) any official statement or announcement made or exhibited under the authority of this Act or regulations made under this Act; or
- (b) any candidate profile statement, published, displayed or distributed under the authority of this Act or regulations made under this Act.

123 Offences in respect of official documents

- (1) Every person commits an offence who-
 - (a) intentionally removes, obliterates, or alters any official mark or official writing on any voting document, or other official document used at an election or poll;
 - (b) intentionally places any mark or writing that might be mistaken for an official mark or official writing on any voting document, or other official document used at an election or poll;
 - (c) forges, counterfeits, fraudulently marks, defaces, or fraudulently destroys any voting document, or other official document used at an election or poll, or the official mark on that document;
 - (d) supplies, without authority, a voting document to any person;
 - (e) obtains or has possession of any voting document, other than one issued to that person under this Act or any regulations made under this Act for the purpose of recording his or her vote, without authority;
 - (f) intentionally destroys, opens, or otherwise interferes with any ballot box or box or parcel of voting documents without authority.
- (2) Every person who commits an offence against subsection (1) is liable on conviction -
 - (a) in the case of an electoral officer or other electoral official, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years;
 - (b) in the case of any other person, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

124 Voting offences

Every person commits an offence, and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years, who-

votes or applies to vote more than once at the same election or poll; or

- (c) without authority removes, deletes, or otherwise interferes with any voting document, or other record of a vote that has been cast.

125 Bribery

- (1) Every person commits the offence of bribery who, directly or indirectly, on that person's own or by another person,-
 - (a) gives, lends, agrees to give or lend, offers, promises, or promises to obtain any money or valuable consideration to or for any elector, or to or for any person on behalf of any elector, or to or for any other person, in order to induce any elector to vote or refrain from voting; or
 - (b) gives or obtains, agrees to give or obtain, offers, promises, or promises to obtain or to try to obtain any office or place of employment to or for any elector, or to or for any person on behalf of any elector, or to or for any other person, in order to induce the elector to vote or refrain from voting; or
 - (c) corruptly does any act referred to in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) on account of an elector having voted or refrained from voting; or
 - (d) makes any gift, loan, offer, promise, or agreement referred to in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) for, or with, any person in order to induce that person to obtain or try to obtain the election of any person or the vote of any elector; or
 - (e) upon or as a consequence of any gift, loan, offer, promise, or agreement referred to in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) obtains, or tries to obtain, the election of any person or the vote of any elector; or
 - (f) advances or pays, or causes to be paid, any money to or for the use of any other person, intending that money or any part of it will be used for bribery at any election or poll; or
 - (g) knowingly pays or causes to be paid any money to any person in discharge or repayment of any money wholly or partly used for bribery at any election or poll.
- (2) An elector commits the offence of bribery if,-
 - (a) before or during the voting period at the election or poll, they, directly or indirectly, on his or her own or by another person, receives, or agrees or contracts for, any money, gift, loan, or valuable consideration, office, place, or employment for himself or herself or for any other person for voting or agreeing, to refrain from voting;
 - (b) after the voting period at the election or poll, he or she directly or indirectly, on their own or by another person, receives any money or valuable consideration on account of any person having voted or refrained from voting or

having induced any other person to vote or refrain from voting.

- (3) Every person who commits bribery is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

126 Treating

- (1) Every person commits the offence of treating who corruptly before, during, or after an election or poll, and directly or indirectly, on that person's own or by another person, gives or provides, or pays wholly or in part the expense of giving or providing, any food, drink, entertainment, or provision to or for any person
 - (a) for the purpose of influencing, that person or any other person to vote or refrain from voting; or
 - (b) for the purpose of obtaining his or her election; or
 - (c) on account of that person or any other person having voted or refrained from voting, or being about to vote or refrain from voting.
- (2) Every holder of a license under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 commits the offence of treating who knowingly supplies any food, drink, entertainment, or provision-
 - (a) to any person, if the supply is demanded for one or more of the purposes specified in subsection (1); or
 - (b) to any person, whether an elector or not, for the purpose of obtaining the election of a candidate or affecting the result of a poll, and without receiving payment for it at the time when it is supplied.
- (3) Every elector who corruptly accepts or takes any such food, drink, entertainment, or provision also commits the offence of treating.
- (4) Despite subsections (1) to (3), the provision of light refreshments after any meeting relating to an election or poll does not constitute the offence of treating.
- (5) Every person who commits the offence of treating is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

127 Undue influence

- (1) Every person commits the offence of undue influence-
 - (a) who, directly or indirectly, on that person's own or by another person, makes use of or threatens to make use of any force, violence, or restraint against any person-
 - (i) in order to induce or compel that person to vote or refrain from voting;
 - (ii) on account of that person having voted or refrained from voting;
 - (b) who, by abduction, duress, or any fraudulent device or

means,-

- (i) impedes or prevents the free exercise of the vote of any elector;
 - (ii) compels, induces, or prevails upon any elector either to vote or to refrain from voting.
- (2) Every person who commits the offence of undue influence is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

128 Personation

- (1) Every person commits the offence of personation who, at any election or poll,-
- (a) votes in the name of some other person (whether living or dead), or of a fictitious person;
 - (b) having voted, votes again at the same election or poll;
 - (c) having returned a voting document, applies for or returns another voting document with the intention of returning an additional valid voting document or invalidating a vote already cast at the same election or poll (whether or not any voting document they returns is valid).
- (2) Every person who commits the offence of personation is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years.

129 Infringement of secrecy

- (1) Every electoral officer, deputy electoral officer, and other electoral official-
- (a) must maintain and assist in maintaining the secrecy of the voting; and
 - (b) must not communicate to any person, except for a purpose authorised by law, any information likely to compromise the secrecy of the voting.
- (2) No person, except as provided by this Act or regulations made under this Act, may-
- (a) interfere with or attempt to interfere with a voter when marking, or recording his or her vote; or
 - (b) attempt to obtain, in the building, or other place where the voter has marked or recorded his or her vote and immediately before or after that vote has been marked or recorded, any information as to any candidate for whom, or the proposal for or against which, the voter is about to vote or has voted; or
 - (c) communicate at any time to any person any information obtained in the building or other place where the voter has marked or recorded their vote and immediately before or after that vote has been marked or recorded, as to-

any candidate for whom, or the proposal for or against which the voter is about to vote or has voted; or

(ii) any number on a voting document marked or transmitted by the voter.

- (3) Every person present at the counting of votes must-
- (a) maintain and assist in maintaining the secrecy of the voting; and
 - (b) must not, except as is provided by this Act or regulations made under this Act, communicate any information obtained at that counting as to any candidate for whom, or proposal for or against which, any vote is cast by a particular voter.
- (4) No person may, directly or indirectly, induce any voter to display or provide access to his or her voting document or any copy of that document after it has been marked or transmitted, so as to make known to any person the name of any candidate for or against whom, or proposal for or against which, the voter has voted.
- (5) Every person commits an offence who contravenes or fails to comply with this section.
- (6) Every person who commits an offence against subsection (5) is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.

130 Disclosing voting or state of election or poll

- (1) Every electoral officer, deputy electoral officer, other electoral official, Justice of the Peace, or scrutineer commits an offence who-
- (a) makes known for what candidate or candidates or for which proposal any particular voter has voted for or against, except as provided by this Act or regulations made under this Act; or
 - (b) before the close of voting, makes known the state of the election or poll or gives or pretends to give any information by which the state of the election or poll may be known.
- (2) Subsection (1)(b) does not prevent an electoral officer from disclosing the total number of voting documents so far returned at an election or poll at any time during the voting period.
- (3) A person who commits an offence against subsection (1) is liable on conviction to a fine-
- (a) not exceeding \$5,000 for an electoral officer or deputy electoral officer;
 - (b) not exceeding \$2,000 for any other person.

131 Penalty for electoral officer, deputy electoral officer, and other electoral officials

Every electoral officer, deputy electoral officer, or other electoral official commits an offence, and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000, who is guilty of any intentional or reckless act of commission or omission contrary to the provisions of this Act or regulations made under this Act in respect of any election or poll, and for which no other penalty is imposed by this Act or regulations made under this Act.

General provisions

137 Property may be stated as being in electoral officer

In any proceedings for an offence in relation to any voting documents or other official documents, files, records, instruments, or devices used officially for an election or poll, the property in those documents, files, records, appliances, and instruments is to be treated as that of the electoral officer at that election or poll.

138 Duty to take action in respect of offences

- (1) Subsection (2) applies if an electoral officer—
 - (a) receives a written complaint that an offence has been committed under—
 - (i) Part 5; or
 - (ii) Part 5A; or
 - (ii) this Part; or
 - (b) believes for any other reason that an offence has been committed under either of the Parts specified in paragraph (a).

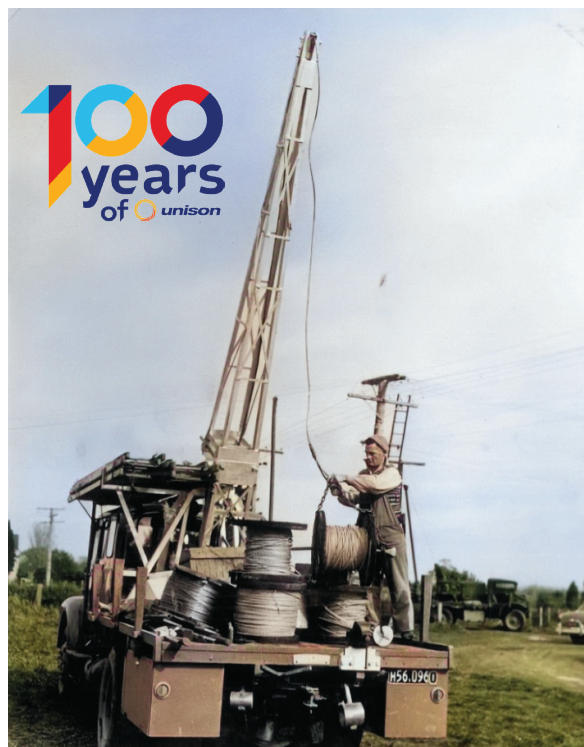
- (2) If this subsection applies, the electoral officer must—
 - (a) report the complaint or belief to the Police; and
 - (b) provide the Police with the details of any inquiries that he or she considers may be relevant.
- (3) Subsection (2) does not prevent any person from reporting an alleged offence to the Police.
- (4) Despite subsection (2), an electoral officer is not required to report the failure by a candidate to file a return under section 112A if the candidate files the return promptly after being required to do so by the electoral officer.

138AA Time limit for prosecutions

- (1) A prosecution under section 112C must be commenced within six months of the date on which the return was required to be filed.
- (2) A prosecution under section 103K or 112D must be commenced—
 - (a) within six months of the date on which the prosecutor is satisfied that there is sufficient evidence to warrant the commencement of the proceedings; but
 - (b) not later than 3 years after the offence was committed.



Unison subsidiary, UCSL line mechanics repairing damaged network



2020 voting document returns



Election of Trustees 1 October 2020

Voting document returns
Voting documents issued: 63,328

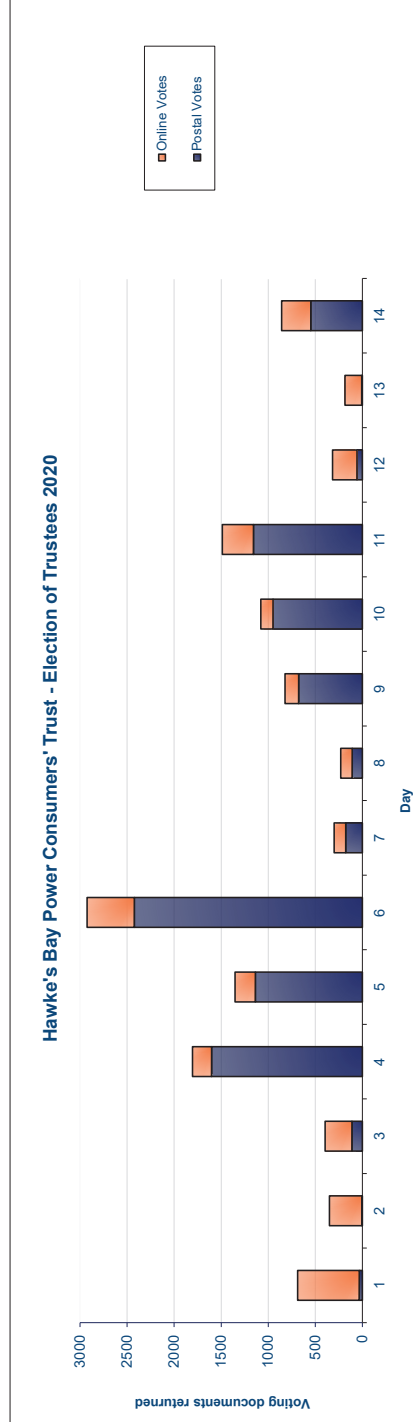
Voting Document Returns	Election Day													
	14-Sep	15-Sep	16-Sep	17-Sep	18-Sep	21-Sep	22-Sep	23-Sep	24-Sep	25-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep	1-Oct
Postal Votes	33	6	111	1602	1137	2423	177	108	677	949	1157	57	7	548
Online Votes	655	344	285	203	216	502	123	122	145	130	331	260	178	310
Daily Total	688	350	396	1805	1353	2925	300	230	822	1079	1488	317	185	858
Accum Total	688	1,038	1,434	3,239	4,592	7,517	7,817	8,047	8,869	9,948	11,436	11,753	11,938	12,796
Daily %	1.1%	0.6%	0.6%	2.9%	2.1%	4.6%	0.5%	0.4%	1.3%	1.7%	2.3%	0.5%	0.3%	1.4%
Accum %	1.1%	1.6%	2.3%	5.1%	7.3%	11.9%	12.3%	12.7%	14.0%	15.7%	18.1%	18.6%	18.9%	20.21%

2017 Voting Document Returns (Accum %)

30.8%

2014 Voting Document Returns (Accum %)

23.77%





DECLARATION OF RESULT OF ELECTION

I declare the result of the election held on Thursday 1 October 2020 for the election of five trustees to the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust to be as follows:

<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Votes received</u>
ARNOTT, Barbara	8,989
BELFORD, Tom	3,775
BROWN, Stephen	1,799
DEVONSHIRE, Mike	4,342
FARNWORTH, Jeff	4,621
FOOTE, Ken	3,953
HOLLEY, Peter	2,122
KIRTON, Diana	9,317
PEARSON, David	4,975
PEARSON, Giles	3,514
TAYLOR, Jacqueline	4,577
WESTWOOD, Kirsten	5,592

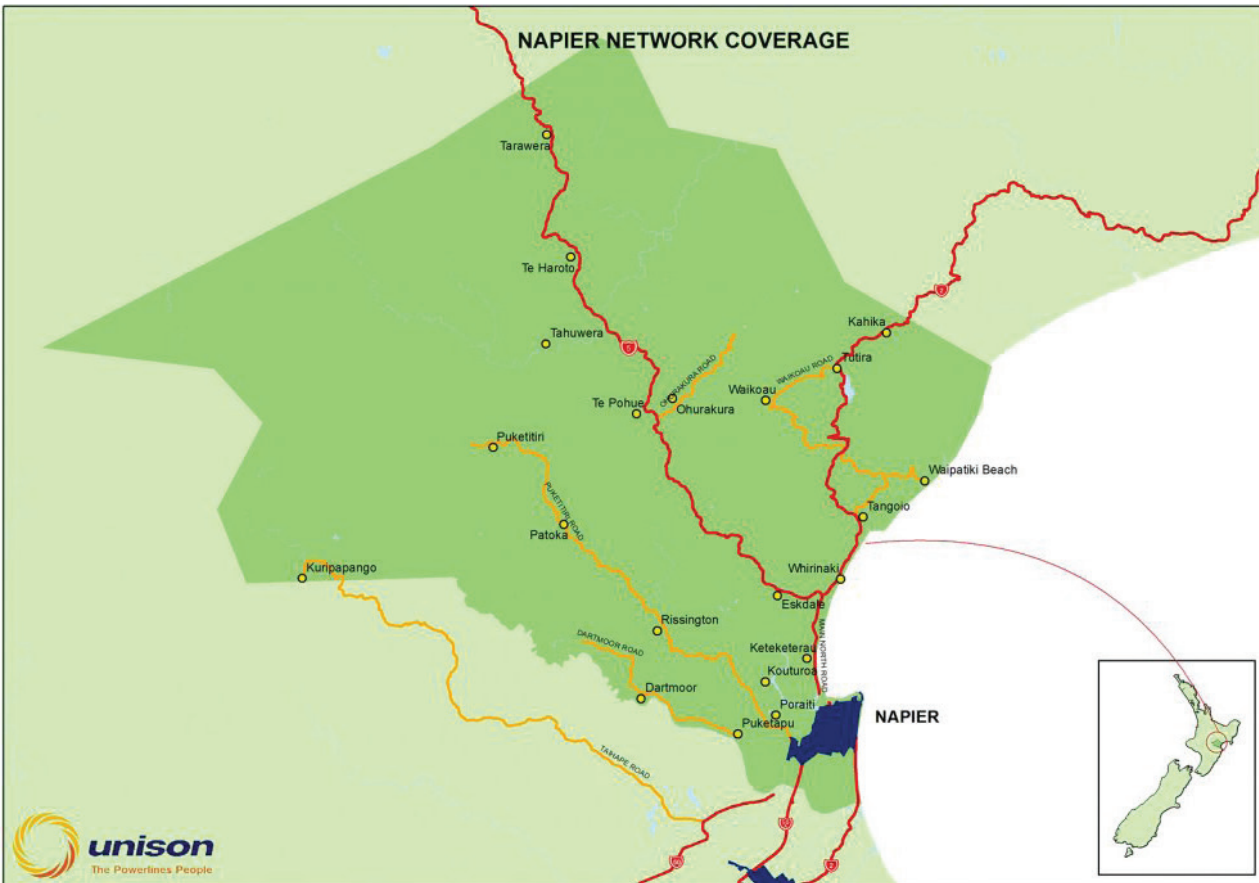
(48 informal votes, 20 blank votes)

I therefore declare Barbara ARNOTT, Jeff FARNWORTH, Diana KIRTON, David PEARSON and Kirsten WESTWOOD to be elected.

Dated at Hastings, 1 October 2020

Dale Ofoske, Returning Officer
Independent Election Services Ltd
for Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust

Enquiries please phone 0800 922 822





HBPCT

Proud owners of **unison**

Election of Trustees

1 October 2024

APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEER

The Returning Officer
Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust
C/- PO Box 5135
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

info@electionservices.co.nz

I a candidate for the office of Trustee for the

Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust for the election being held on Tuesday 1 October 2024,

hereby appoint

as my scrutineer.

.....
Signature of candidate

.....
Date

NOTE: This letter must be returned to the Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer no later than 5pm Monday 30 September 2024).





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