

**From:** [Information Management Team](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [Bruce Hodgins](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Central Ward by-election  
**Date:** Friday, 16 July 2021 4:03:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Response Letter to Official Information Request - \[REDACTED\]](#)  
[image001.png](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

We refer to your information request dated 25 June 2021.

Please find attached your response letter.

Nāku noa, nā

**Kate Ostapowicz** ([she/her](#))  
Senior Advisor, Official Information

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5040, New Zealand  
W [www.huttcity.govt.nz](http://www.huttcity.govt.nz)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 25 June 2021 9:41 AM  
**To:** Bruce Hodgins  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Central Ward by-election

Good morning Bruce,

I was surprised that there is no report to the 30 June Council meeting seeking approval for the electoral arrangements for this by-election.

There is a need for a review about the continuation of the postal voting system, particularly over its lack of security and ability to authenticate the validity of the vote being cast. When will a report be submitted to the Council?

Regards,

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

16 July 2021

██████████  
████████████████████

Bruce Hodgins  
Electoral Officer  
5706 839  
[bruce.hodgins@huttcity.govt.nz](mailto:bruce.hodgins@huttcity.govt.nz)

Dear ██████

**Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987**

We refer to your request dated 25 June 2021 regarding the Central Ward by-election.

The information you have requested is as follows:

The Electoral Officer is required to almost immediately commence the by-election process in calling for nominations as soon as advice of a vacancy has been made by the Chief Executive.

There is a period of 89 days maximum to complete the by-election. Please note that this by-election commenced with public notification of the opening of nominations on Thursday 17 June 2021 only three days after the resignation was received.

There are no decisions required of Council as the by-election is run in accordance with the electoral system and method in place for the previous triennial election. As such there is no need to report to Council for any decision.

If you have any issues with our response or wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Council's website.

Yours sincerely



Bruce Hodgins

**ELECTORAL OFFICER**