

# Elections Protocols for Elected Members

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# Key Election Dates – 2025

- 30 June – Candidates Briefing
- 4 July – Nominations Open
- 11 July – Formal pre-election period starts
- 1 August – Nominations close (noon)
- 9 September – Voting period begins
- 11 October – Voting closes (noon)
- 11 October – Preliminary Results
- 15–18 October – Final results declared



## **Protocol 1**

Clearly and transparently differentiate between activities conducted as an incumbent elected member and activities conducted while campaigning for re-election.



## **Protocol 2**

Resources owned by the Council and made available to you should only be used for Council purposes.



## **Protocol 3**

Council-run social media accounts are considered Council resources and must remain politically neutral during the election. You must comply with our social media guidelines for candidates at all times.



## **Protocol 4**

You will continue to have access to the information you need to do your job as an incumbent.

Council officers will not provide assistance with electioneering activities.



## **Protocol 5**

Council resources provided for mayoral use should not be used for any electioneering activities associated with any candidate.



## **Relevance of Protocols**

These guidelines are always applicable but are especially relevant in the three months leading up to the election.

It is your responsibility to ensure your behaviour aligns with these guidelines and the Council's Code of Conduct.





## **Protocols for staff**

- Remain politically neutral
- Participating in electoral activity
- Use of HCC resources
- Publications and communications
- Information to candidates

