



FAQ's

Triennial elections

12 OCTOBER 2019

BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD



BAY OF PLENTY
DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD
HAUORA A TOI

Contents

General Information	2
Candidates	4
Enrolment	6
Voting	7
Election Results	11
Members.....	11
Election Signs.....	12
Election Sign Complaints.....	13

Frequently Asked Questions relating to the Bay of Plenty District Health Board elections

General Information

Q1. What is a district health board?

A District health boards are Crown entities responsible for providing, or funding the provision of, publicly funded health and disability support services for the population of a specific geographic area.

Q2. How many district health boards are there in New Zealand?

A 20.

Q3. How long have we had district health boards?

A Since 1 January 2001.

Q4. What do district health boards do?

A District health boards' statutory objectives include:

- improving, promoting and protecting the health of people and communities;
- promoting the integration of health services, especially primary and secondary care services;
- seeking the optimum arrangement for the most effective and efficient delivery of health services in order to meet local, regional and national needs;
- promoting effective care or support for those in need of personal health services or disability support services;
- promoting the inclusion and participation in society and independence of people with disabilities;
- reducing health disparities by improving and aiming to eliminate disparate health outcomes for Maori and other population groups;
- exhibiting social responsibility;
- fostering community participation in health improvement, and in planning for the provision of health services and for

significant changes to the provision of services;

- upholding ethical and quality standards;
- exhibiting a sense of environmental responsibility by having regard to the environmental implications of their operations;
- being a good employer.

Q5. How many members are there on a district health board?

A Up to 11 members sit on each board – 7 of these are elected while up to 4 are appointed.

Q6. Who appoints the appointed members?

A The Minister of Health

In making appointments, the Minister looks at each board's elected membership and any gaps in skills, expertise, experience and representation that may exist. The Minister then seeks to appoint people who can fill these gaps.

Q7. How are the chairperson and the deputy chairperson decided?

A The Minister of Health appoints members to these positions, and they may be elected or appointed members.

Q8. When do current elected board members relinquish their positions?

A When the new elected members assume their roles. The new board members take up their role 58 days after election day (Monday 9 December 2019).

Q9. How soon after the election are people appointed by the Minister?

A Usually at the same time as elected members, or as soon after this as possible.

Q10. How long is the term of and elected district health board member?

A Three years. Elections are held every three years at the same time as other local government elections.

Q11. How long is the term of an appointed district health board member?

A Up to three years but they may be appointed for a shorter time. The Minister can appoint them for further terms but they can only serve a maximum of three consecutive terms (i.e. nine years).

Q12. What do district health board members do?

A They are responsible for the governance of the district health board. They must work in a financially responsible way, and in the best interests of the health of the whole population of the district health board.

Governance is the strategic oversight of the district health board, to ensure that the district health board's management implements the strategic vision developed by the board.

Board members do not manage the district health board. That is the responsibility of the chief executive, who is appointed by the board, and staff who report to the chief executive.

Q13. When is the next district health board election?

A Election day is Saturday 12 October 2019 and voting closes at midday on that day. The voting period starts on Friday 20 September 2019.

Q14. Who runs the district health board election?

The Bay of Plenty District Health Board's electoral officer has overall responsibility for the election, but the conduct of the election is undertaken by each constituent territorial authority's electoral officer.

The five constituent territorial authorities within the Bay of Plenty District Health Board area are:

- Kawerau District Council
 - Opotiki District Council
 - Tauranga City Council
 - Western Bay of Plenty District Council
 - Whakatane District Council
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Q15. What is the name of electoral officer?

A The Bay of Plenty District Health Board's electoral officer is:

Dale Ofsoske, Independent Election Services Ltd
Electoral Office: Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland
Phone: 0800 922 822
Email: dale.ofsoske@electionservices.co.nz

The electoral officer for four of the five constituent territorial authorities is also Dale Ofsoske, at the above contact details.

- Kawerau District Council (Dale Ofsoske) on 0800 922 822
 - Opotiki District Council (Dale Ofsoske) on 0800 922 822
 - Tauranga City Council (Warwick Lampp) on 021 498 517
 - Western Bay of Plenty District Council (Dale Ofsoske) on 0800 922 822
 - Whakatane District Council (Dale Ofsoske) on 0800 922 822
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Q16. Who pays for the district health board election?

A The district health board pays for its share of the election costs. Because the Bay of Plenty District Health Board election is run together with the five constituent territorial authorities and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council elections, many of the costs are shared between the parties on an agreed basis.

Q17. What type of electoral system is used?

A The STV (single transferable voting) electoral system is used for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board and the Tauranga City Council elections, and the FPP (first past the post) electoral system is used for the four remaining constituent territorial authority and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council elections. For further explanation, refer Q65.

Q18. Can the public attend district health board meetings?

A Generally, yes but there may be some publicly excluded matters discussed from time to time. The grounds for excluding the public are the same as for withholding information under the Official Information Act 1982.

Q19. Does the district health board appoint staff members?

A No. The Board appoints the chief executive who has full responsibility for staff appointments.

Q20. What elections can we vote for?

A In addition to the election of members for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board, electors will also be able to vote for members of their respective constituent territorial authority and members of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Q21. Who are elected members responsible to?

A All district health board members are accountable to the Minister of Health.

Q22. How much are district health board members paid?

A This varies according to size and an assessed complexity of the district health board.

Board members are paid an annual fee for their service on the board, and fee levels vary between district health boards (depending on the size and assessed complexity). Fees currently range from around \$22,000 per annum. The board chair and deputy chair receive a higher fee.

Board members are paid an additional fee of up to \$2,500 per annum for each statutory advisory committee of which they are a member. Members serving on certain other committees (e.g., audit, risk and finance committees) also receive an additional annual fee.

Members are covered for reasonable expenses associated with board and committee business, such as travel costs.

Candidates

Q23. Who is eligible to stand for a district health board?

A Most people qualify as candidates at an election of a district health board if they are registered as a New Zealand parliamentary elector and are a New Zealand citizen.

It is not necessary to live within the district health board area to stand as a candidate.

Some people, such as those who are undischarged bankrupts and people convicted of offences punishable by imprisonment of 2 years or more, or have been sentenced to a prison sentence, and not yet served the sentence or otherwise suffered the relevant penalty, are not eligible to sit on district health boards. (For more detail, refer clause 17 of Schedule 2 to the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000).

Q24. Do you have to be resident in the district health board area to stand for that board?

A No, you don't, but the people who nominate you must be.

Q25. How many boards can I stand for?

A Only one.

Q26. I work for a district health board. Can I stand?

A Yes, legislation allows staff members to stand for their district health board.

Q27. When do nominations open?

A Nominations open on Friday 19 July 2019 and close at 12 noon on 16 August 2019.

Q28. How much can I spend on my campaign?

A There is a campaign expenditure limit based on how many people live in the district health board area.

The expenditure limit for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board is \$60,000 (inclusive of GST).

available on the Bay of Plenty District Health Board's website (www.bopdhb.govt.nz) from 19 July 2019, with constituent territorial authorities' candidate information booklets available in June 2019.

Q29. How are candidates' possible conflicts of interest handled?

A Many people in the community who have an interest in health services are already engaged in some way in health services or organisations which may do business with district health boards.

Every person who stands as a candidate for election to a district health board is required to make a declaration as to conflicts of interest.

The conflict of interest statements is included in the material made available to electors. All conflicts of interest declared by successful candidates will be included in the district health board's interests' register (to which all members, elected and appointed, contribute) and members are obligated to keep this up to date.

Members cannot be involved in any district health board decisions where they have a conflict of interest.

A member who has failed to declare an interest may be removed from office.

Candidate campaigning can commence any time prior to the election (no time restriction), but any expenditure made, within or outside the three-month applicable period before election day, must be accounted for.

Q31. How much will it cost me to stand?

A You will need to pay a nomination deposit of \$200 GST inclusive. This deposit applies to each election you stand for.

Your nomination deposit can be paid by electronic bank transfer, EFTPOS or cash. Cheques will be accepted but not preferred (should they be dishonoured and your nomination invalidated).

If you poll more than 25% of the final quota as determined by the last iteration (for STV elections), you will receive your nomination deposit back.

Your nomination must be received by the close of nominations (12 noon on Friday 16 August 2019).

Q30. I want to be a candidate in these elections. What do I need to do?

A You must be a New Zealand citizen and your name must be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll (anywhere in New Zealand).

You will need to have two electors registered in the district health board area to nominate you. (Note the candidate does not need to reside in the area in which he/she is standing but will need to disclose that fact in his/her candidate profile statement).

The nominators must also be on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at the address they are listed on the nomination paper (which must be in the area that they are nominating the person for).

Nominations open on Friday 19 July 2019. If you would like a nomination paper sent out, please contact the electoral office closer to this date. Nomination papers will also be

Q32. What qualifications and experience do I need?

A Nothing formal. Elected members come from all walks of life and generally have a will/desire to serve the community.

Q33. Does a criminal record affect a person standing as a district health board candidate?

A Some people, such as those who are undischarged bankrupts and people convicted of offences punishable by imprisonment of two years or more, or have been sentenced to a prison sentence, and not yet served the sentence or otherwise suffered the relevant penalty, are not eligible to sit on a district health board. (For more details refer Clause 17 of Schedule 2 to the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000).

Enrolment

Q34. Where can I view the electoral roll that will be used for this election?

- A The preliminary electoral roll is compiled by each constituent territorial authority and will be available for public inspection for a one-month period from Friday 19 July 2019 to Friday 16 August 2019.

The preliminary electoral roll for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board will be available, by constituent territorial authority, at each constituent territorial authority office and library.

Q35. How do I enrol to vote in these elections?

- A Is this your main place of residence?
➤ Yes

Have you lived at your current address for more than one month?

- Yes

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at an address in the Bay of Plenty District Health Board area?

- Yes

You will automatically appear on the relevant constituent territorial authority's electoral roll that is used for these elections

Or

Is this your main place of residence?

- Yes

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at an address in the Bay of Plenty District Health Board area?

- No or Don't Know

You need to complete an enrolment form for this. You can either:

- enrol online at www.elections.org.nz
- ring 0800 36 76 56
- send your name and address to Freetext 3676
- download a form at www.elections.org.nz
- pick a form up at your local New Zealand Post agency

Is this your main place of residence?

- No

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll at an address in another region?

- Yes

If you own a property in the Bay of Plenty District Health Board area and it is not your main residence you are unable to enrol as a non-resident ratepayer elector, as non-resident ratepayer electors are not able to vote for district health board elections.

Q36. I am a student and spend my time in different places. Where should I enrol?

- A You should enrol where you spend the greater part of your time.

Q37. I am a New Zealand Māori; do I need to enrol on the Māori roll?

- A Not necessarily. If you are enrolling for the first time you can decide whether you want to go on the Parliamentary Māori Electoral Roll or the Parliamentary General Electoral Roll by signing the appropriate panel on the parliamentary elector enrolment form.

However, if you have already made that choice you will have to wait until the next Māori Option period to change, which will occur in 2024. The last Māori Option period was 3 April to 2 August 2018.

Q38. How do I know whether I am enrolled?

- A The Electoral Commission will be undertaking a roll update campaign at the beginning of July 2019 for the Parliamentary Electoral Roll which forms the basis of the electoral roll for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board election.

If you do not receive a letter in the post during early July 2019 the chances are you are not enrolled, or your details are incorrect. You will then need to complete a Parliamentary Electoral Roll enrolment form.

You can check to see if you are enrolled at: www.elections.org.nz or by phoning 0800 36 76 566.

Q39. I turn 18 on election day. Can I vote?

- A Yes, but you need to make sure you have enrolled which you can do provisionally from the age of 17 and it automatically changes when you turn 18.

You will also need to apply for a special vote during the voting period (Friday 20 September 2019 to 12 noon, Saturday 12 October 2019).

For special vote availability, see Q56.

Q40. We own a business in the Bay of Plenty District Health Board area and pay rates, but we don't live in the Bay of Plenty District Health Board area – do we get a say in the Bay of Plenty District Health Board elections?

- A No, as a non-resident you are not able to vote for the district health board election.
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Q41. I own a property in the Bay of Plenty District Health Board area but it is not my fulltime residence. How do I get on the Ratepayer Electoral Roll?

- A Contact the electoral office on 0800 922 822 – you may be eligible to enrol and vote for elections other than the district health board election.
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Voting

Q42. Is it a postal vote and will I be sent my voting documents in the mail?

- A All local authority elections will be conducted by postal vote. Voting documents will be delivered by NZ Post between Friday 20 September 2019 and Wednesday 25 September 2019.
-

Q43. I got my voting document but my partner didn't receive theirs.

- A Is it before Wednesday 25 September 2019 and I believe I am correctly registered on electoral roll?
➤ Yes

Please wait until the mail has been delivered on Wednesday 25 September 2019. If your voting document is not received, then please call the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

Is it after Wednesday 25 September 2019 and I believe I am correctly registered on the electoral roll?

- Yes

You will need to apply for a special vote. Please call the electoral office on 0800 922 822. For special vote availability, see Q56.

Is it after Wednesday 25 September 2019 and I believe I am not correctly registered on the electoral roll?

- No

You will need to complete a Parliamentary electoral roll enrolment form. These are available at any New Zealand Post agency, or you can enrol online at www.elections.org.nz or ring 0800 36 76 56 or send your name and address to Freetext 3676.

You will also need to contact the electoral office for a special vote on 0800 922 822.

Q44. I didn't get my voting document, so I called and got a special vote. Now I have two voting documents. Which one should I use?

- A Use the original one and destroy the special vote.
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Q45. I received a voting document for a member of my family (e.g. child, parent) and have Power of Attorney for that person. Can I vote for that person?

- A No – Power of Attorney does not apply to voting for that person.
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Q46. I received a voting document for a member of my family (e.g. child, parent) who does not live here. What should I do with the voting document?

- A If they are overseas, you could fast post them to the person or destroy them if that is not practicable.

If they are for an elderly parent who is incapable of voting, please destroy them by

ripping/cutting them up. You cannot vote on their behalf unless instructed by them.

Q47. I received a voting document that does not belong to me and I don't know this person or where this person has gone.

A Write GNA (Gone No Address) on the envelope and put it back in the mail.

Q48. What is that barcode that I can see through the return envelope or on the front of the voting document?

A It is a legal requirement to scan the barcode to mark the electoral roll that you have returned your vote so we can ensure that we do not receive two votes from the same person.

Q49. How do you ensure the secrecy of my vote?

A Returned envelopes containing a voting document cannot be opened until there is a JP present. The JP is required to sign off that the processes used by the electoral officer met the legal requirements.

Note that the voter's name is not shown on the voting document.

When the envelope is opened the only thing the electoral office is looking for is that the vote for each election is valid.

This means that for FPP elections we are making sure that the voter's intention is clear and the voter has not ticked or marked more than the number of candidates than there are vacancies.

For STV elections we make sure that no preference numbers are used more than once or omitted (e.g. 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5) and that there is always a number 1 marked against a candidate's name. It should be like this: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 etc. in numerical order up to as many preferences as the voter wishes to vote for.

Q50. Do I have to vote? I don't know any of these candidates.

A No, you don't have to vote, but we do encourage you to vote and exercise your democratic right.

You don't have to vote for all candidates or for all elections. But your vote is important because the people elected will be responsible for making decisions about what happens in your community for the next three years.

To help you get to know about the candidates:

- there may be candidate meetings being held if you wish to go and hear what policies the different candidates are advocating for;
 - there is a candidate profile booklet that comes with the voting document in which there is a photo and a statement from each candidate. This information will also be available on the Bay of Plenty District Health Board's website www.bopdhb.govt.nz after nominations close (expected 23 August 2019);
 - candidates may have their own website page, social media page(s), advertise in local newspapers or send out information to letterboxes in your area;
 - local media are likely to cover information about the election.
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Q51. Do I have to post my voting document back?

A You can post it but make sure you have it in the mail by Tuesday 8 October 2019 to make sure it gets back to us in time (by 12 noon Saturday 12 October 2019).

However, you can also hand deliver your voting document to a ballot box during the voting period (Friday 20 September 2019 to 12 noon Saturday 12 October 2019).

For ballot box availability see Q56.

Q52. I have lost my return envelope.

A You can use an envelope of your own and put the return address and Freepost number on it. (You will not need to put a stamp on the envelope if you write the Freepost number on the envelope and post it in New Zealand).

Freepost number 4170
The Electoral Office
PO Box 5135
Wellesley Street
Auckland 1141

Q53. I am on the Unpublished Parliamentary Roll and I want a special vote please.

A You will need to call the electoral office on 0800 922 822 and request a special vote.

Tauranga City Council, 91 Willow Street,
Tauranga

Western Bay of Plenty District Council:

- Council's Main Office, Barkes Corner, Cameron Road, Greerton, Tauranga
- Katikati Library & Service Centre, 36 Main Road, Katikati
- Omokoroa Library & Service Centre, McDonnell Street, Omokoroa
- Te Puke Library & Service Centre, Jellicoe Street, Te Puke
- Waihi Beach Library & Service Centre, Waihi Beach Road, Waihi Beach

Whakatane District Council:

- Administration Offices, Civic Centre, 14 Commerce Street, Whakatane
- Murupara Service Centre & Library, Civic Square, Murupara

or by phoning 0800 922 822.

Q54. I didn't receive my voting document; how do I obtain a special vote?

A Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for the address you want to vote for?
➤ Yes

You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q56.

Are you on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll for the address you want to vote for?

➤ No/Don't Know

If you are not enrolled or not enrolled correctly on the Parliamentary Electoral Roll, you will need to complete an enrolment form for this. You can pick one up at any New Zealand Post agency, or you can enrol online at www.elections.org.nz or ring 0800 36 76 56 or send your name and address to Freetext 3676. This form needs to be with the Registrar of Electors before close of business Friday 11 October 2019.

You will need to apply for a special vote – for special vote availability, see Q56.

Q57. I am going away and will not be here when the voting documents are posted out.

A You will need to contact the electoral office for a special vote on 0800 922 822.

Q55. I spoiled my voting documents / I have made a mistake on my documents. What can I do?

A If you can amend it so that your voting intention is clear, then do so.

If necessary, we can issue you with a special voting document (phone 0800 922 822), but this will take time and require you to complete a declaration.

Q58. Do I have to vote for all the candidates for any election? If I don't vote for all the candidates or all the elections on my voting document, will all my votes be informal?

A With STV you can vote for all or as many candidates as you wish but these must be in order of your preference and no number can be repeated or missed out. Remember for STV, you rank the candidates you want to elect from number 1 onwards.

Under FPP you can vote for as many candidates as you want to but not more than the number of positions available on the voting document. So, if you are electing two members then you can vote for up to two candidates. Remember, for FPP you tick the candidates you want to elect.

You can decide not to vote for one or more of the different elections on your voting document. This does not invalidate votes for other elections on your voting document.

Q56. Where can I have a special vote?

A Special votes can be obtained from:

Kawerau District Council, Ranfurly Court,
Kawerau

Opotiki District Council, 108 St John Street,
Opotiki

Q59. My partner's document and mine are different and there are more/less things to vote for. Why is the list of candidates different?

A Candidates for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board election are listed on the voting document in random order – this means that every voting document has a different order of candidate names for this election

For other elections on your voting document, the order may be alphabetical, pseudo-random or random.

For any other differences, you will need to call the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

Q60. I have received two voting documents.

A You will need to call the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

Q61. Do all the staff working on the election know who I voted for?

A No, your vote remains secret under the required separate roll scrutiny and vote counting procedures.

Q62. Can I help someone fill out their voting document?

A Under the Local Electoral Act 2001, you cannot interfere or influence any person as to how they can vote.

If authorised by a voter who is physically impaired, visually impaired or for whom English is a second language, a person can assist them to vote as directed by the voter.

Q63. What happens to all the voting documents after the elections?

A Each territorial authority delivers these to the respective district court who keep them for 21 days (so that the courts can access them should there be any application for a recount or petition for inquiry).

After 21 days, the courts are responsible for destroying them.

Q64. Do I get a vote for the district health board?

A Yes, if you are a resident elector. Ratepayer electors cannot vote for district health board elections. Please note that district health board elections are conducted under STV and so you will exercise your vote by ranking your preferred candidates.

Q65. What is STV and how do I vote in and STV election?

A STV is used for the Bay of Plenty District Health Board and Tauranga City Council elections only.

STV stands for single transferable voting. STV is a preferential system of voting where you can rank as few or as many candidates as you like. It is a single vote which can be transferred between candidates to ensure the vote contributes to the election or at least one candidate and is not wasted. If a popular candidate does not need all the votes he or she receives, a proportion is transferred to the voter's next preference. On the other hand, if a candidate is not popular and receives few votes, those votes are transferred to a voter's next preference.

For more information about STV, go to www.stv.govt.nz

To exercise a STV vote, start by writing the number 1 in the box next to the candidate you most want to be elected. Write the number 2 next to your second most preferred candidate and so on 3, 4, 5 etc.

You can write as many preferences or as few as you like up to however many candidates are standing for that election.

You must write the number 1 for your vote to be counted.

Do not write the same number more than once e.g. 1, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5 and do not miss a number from your preferences e.g. 1, 2, 4, 5.

Q66. What about FPP?

A FPP stands for first past the post voting system and is used for four of the five constituent territorial authority elections as well as the Bay of Plenty Regional Council election

The candidate or candidates that gets the most votes wins.

You should mark those you want to vote for with a tick in the circle. Do not vote for more than the number of candidates shown in the instructions.

Voters

- A Preliminary results will be released to the media and placed on the Bay of Plenty District Health Board's website www.bopdhb.govt.nz as soon as practicable on Sunday 13 October 2019.

Q67. Is there any information available to electors about the people who are standing?

- A Candidates are entitled to complete a 150-word (maximum) profile statement about themselves. This and the conflict of interest statement will be published in a booklet with information about all candidates and sent out with voting documents. It will also be available on the Bay of Plenty District Health Board's website.

Q68. Who is eligible to be an elector?

- A All parliamentary electors may vote for members of the Bay of Plenty District Health Board in the constituent territorial authority area in which they live.

Election Results

Q69. When will we know the results of the election?

- A Preliminary results will be announced on Sunday morning, 13 October 2019 once all votes received at constituent territorial authority offices (up until 12 noon on election day) have been delivered to the electoral office in Auckland and processed.

The official results will be announced when special votes have been checked, expected to be Thursday afternoon, 17 October 2019.

Q70. How will I find out?

Candidates

- A Will be advised by email as soon as practicable after the preliminary results are known.

Q71. What do I need to do if I want to challenge the results of the election?

- A Under legislation a candidate can challenge the declaration of results through either a judicial recount or a judicial inquiry. A candidate will have to provide reasons for the challenge and a deposit of \$750 with the application to the Tauranga District Court.

A candidate may wish to call the electoral office on 0800 922 822 to discuss this.

Members

Q72. When do elected members take up their roles?

- A Bay of Plenty District Health Board members take office 58 days after election day (Monday 9 December 2019).

Q73. How much time would I need to spend on district health board work if I was elected?

- A It does vary depending on the district health board but members should expect a commitment of around 30 days per year, which includes preparation for board and committee meetings, and community liaison. The rule of thumb is for every hour of board/committee meeting allow at least the same amount of time for preparation.

Q74. Do I need any special skills to be a board member?

- A No, not necessarily. All boards need a mix of skills, backgrounds and experience. This includes people with governance and financial experience, but also community-oriented people who are passionate about health and disability services in their area.

Q75. What are district health board advisory committees?

- A There are three required under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000. They are:
- Community and Public Health Advisory Committee
 - Disability Support Advisory Committee
 - Hospital Advisory Committee

The district health board may establish others in addition to these three committees (e.g., Audit, Risk and Finance committees).

Q76. How are the members of these committees decided?

- A The district health board appoints members to these advisory committees. In addition to board members, other members may be co-opted to these committees from outside the board.

Q77. Are there any provisions to ensure that the district health board membership is representative of the various ethnic groups in New Zealand?

- A The New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 requires the Minister to ...” endeavour to ensure that:
- a) Māori membership of the board is proportional to the number of Māori in the district health boards resident population (as estimated by Statistics New Zealand); and
 - b) In any event, there are at least 2 Māori members of the board.”

The Crown Entities Act 2004 requires the Minister to “take into account the desirability of promoting diversity in the membership of Crown entities” when making appointments.

People from all backgrounds are encouraged to stand and the STV form of voting is considered to give better representation for minority groups.

Q78. What about women district health board members?

- A There are no specific provisions around gender balance in the legislation but women are encouraged to stand – around 45% of current district health board members are women.

Election Signs

Q79. What are the requirements for election signs?

- A Election signs are referenced in the Local Electoral Act 2001 and constituent territorial authority election signs policies or bylaws – both of which must be complied with.

Local Electoral Act 2001

All election material, including signs and hoardings, must show an authorisation statement (name and physical address of the candidate or the candidate’s agent). Not to do so is an electoral offence.

Refer section 113 Local Electoral Act 2001.

For constituent territorial authority’s election sign policies or bylaws, refer to the relevant constituent territorial authority website:

Kawerau District Council:

www.kaweraudc.govt.nz

Ōpōtiki District Council:

www.odc.govt.nz

Tauranga City Council:

www.tauranga.govt.nz

Western Bay of Plenty District Council:

www.westernbay.govt.nz

Whakatāne District Council:

www.whakatane.govt.nz

Election Sign Complaints

Q80. I have a complaint about the electoral signage.

A The signs don't have the required authorisation on them:

You will need to call the electoral office on 0800 922 822.

The signs are bigger than they should be or have been pulled over or damaged:

A You will need to call the relevant constituent territorial authority.
