
MEMO

To: Board Members
From: Peter Bramley, Chief Executive
Date: 23 January 2019
Subject: **DECISION – DHB ELECTIONS 2019**

Status

This report contains:

- For decision
- Update
- Regular report
- For information

PURPOSE

To update Board members on the planning for the 2019 DHB elections.

DISCUSSION

Warwick Lamm of electionz.com was appointed in 2010 as the DHB Electoral Officer following the decision of Nelson City Council to also use him as their Electoral Officer and counting agent. He has indicated he is prepared to continue.

The options for the order of candidates on the voting paper are:

- Alphabetical by surname
- Pseudo-random where the order is drawn randomly and that order appears on all voting papers
- Random where the order is different on every voting paper.

Since 2007 the order has been pseudo-random.

Early processing is now standard practice for local government elections.

A number of electioneering principles have been adopted by the Board for DHB elections:

- Board staff must remain politically neutral at all times in dealings with all prospective candidates including existing Board Members
- Board staff should not take part in any election campaign of any candidate
- Board staff may stand as a candidate for the DHB
- Board staff may attend public meetings at which candidates are present, however they should avoid meetings arranged to support particular candidates or to help in their campaigns in any way
- Board resources shall not be used for campaigning purposes
- Board provided meetings or forums shall not be used for political purposes
- Board information should be available to all candidates on an equal basis
- Board publications or website shall not be used for campaign purposes.

NMDHB also has a policy that no electioneering material may be displayed in any Board facility.

The draft timeline outlining the process for elections is as follows:

Timeline	
Date	Action
Monday 25 June	Enrolment update packs sent to all registered electors for them to check/update details
Friday 19 July	Candidate nominations open
Friday 16 August	Candidate nominations close (at 12 noon)
Friday 20 September	Delivery of voting documents starts – start of voting period, special votes are issued and early processing of votes begins
Saturday 12 October	Election day – end of voting period (at 12 noon) and announcement of preliminary results (as soon as practicable after the close of voting)
Thursday 17 October	Official results declared (as soon as practicable after all valid votes have been counted)
Monday 4 December	Newly elected DHB Board members take office

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT THE BOARD:

- 1 CONFIRM WARWICK LAMPP OF ELECTIONZ.COM AS THE DHB ELECTORAL OFFICER**
- 2 APPROVE THE ORDER OF CANDIDATE NAMES ON THE 2019 DHB ELECTIONS VOTING PAPER BE PSEUDO RANDOM**
- 3 APPROVE THE VOTING DOCUMENTS RETURNED IN RESPECT OF THE DHB BOARD ELECTIONS ARE TO BE PROCESSED DURING THE VOTING PERIOD**
- 4 DELEGATE TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE THE POWER TO SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDINGS WITH THE THREE LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THIS DISTRICT.**