Information sheet 6: Local government elections

Before you can vote, you must enrol.

You can enrol to vote if you:

- are 18 years or older
- are an Australian citizen
- have lived at your house for more than one month.

To enrol to vote, you can enrol online at www.elections.wa.gov.au/enrol

Or you can get a form from:

- the Western Australian Electoral Commission office
- an AEC electoral office
- a post office.

Complete the form and return it in the reply paid envelope provided.

Once you have enrolled, your name will be on the electoral roll and you will be able to vote at all local government elections held in the district where you live.

You should update your enrolment every time your name or address changes.

If you own or occupy property in another location, you may also be able to vote in more than one local government election.

Contact your local government for information.

Postal elections

The Western Australian Electoral Commission conducts most local government elections by post.

That means that all electors will receive their ballot papers in the mail.

The voting package will contain instructions on how to vote.

Read the instructions carefully.

Complete your ballot paper according to the instructions.

Once you have voted, seal your ballot papers in the ballot paper envelope.

Sign the elector's certificate on the front flap of the envelope. Do not detach it. Place your voting package into the reply paid envelope.

Post your voting package to us as soon as possible.

Voting in person elections

Some local governments conduct their elections in person, not by post.

To vote in an in person election, you will need to go to your local government office on election day to vote.

If you can't make it to the polling place on election day, contact your local government for early voting options.

Become a candidate

To become a candidate, you must be enrolled for the local government district you would like to represent.

To nominate, you will need to:

- complete a nomination form
- provide any information requested
- include a photograph (optional)
- pay a deposit.

For more information, go to www.elections.wa.gov.au or call 13 63 06 or (08) 9214 0400 for interstate callers.