

18pt



Get ready for the Port Waikato by-election

Adapted in 2023 by Accessible Formats Service, Blind
Low Vision NZ, Auckland.

TN: The logo on the top of the page is Electoral
Commission Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri.

Get ready for the Port Waikato by-election

Voting in the Port Waikato by-election begins on Monday 13 November. Your last chance to vote is on election day, Saturday 25 November.

The by-election is to select a member of Parliament to represent the Port Waikato electorate.

Only those who are enrolled in the general electorate of Port Waikato can vote in the by-election.

Port Waikato electorate

The Port Waikato electorate is south of the Manukau Harbour and includes Clarks Beach, Waiuku, Pukekohe, Pōkeno and Te Kauwhata in the south.

Why is a by-election being held?

A candidate for the Port Waikato electorate passed away before election day at the 2023 General Election.

If you voted in the general election, only your party vote was counted in the general election results.

This by-election is your opportunity to vote for a person to represent you and your electorate in Parliament.

You need to be enrolled to vote

Only people who are enrolled in the Port Waikato general electorate can vote in this by-election.

You're eligible to enrol and vote in the by-election if you are 18 years or older, a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident, have lived in the Port Waikato electorate for one month or more, and you've lived in New Zealand continuously for 12 months or more at some time in your life.

You can enrol right up to, and on, election day, Saturday 25 November.

It's easy to enrol or update your details online at vote.nz using a New Zealand driver licence, New Zealand passport or RealMe verified identity. You can also enrol and vote at any voting place, including on election day.

You can also fill out an enrolment form. You can get a form online at vote.nz, by calling 0800 36 76 56, or by texting your name and address to 3676. If you need help to fill in your enrolment form, you can ask someone else to help you, or contact us if you have any questions.

If you live in the Port Waikato area and you are on the Māori electoral roll for Hauraki-Waikato, you are not able to change rolls to the Port Waikato general roll to vote in the by-election.

If you are Māori and enrolling for the first time, you get to choose whether you want to be on the Māori roll or the general roll.

If you choose the Māori roll, you will be in the Hauraki-Waikato electorate and won't be able to vote in this by-election. If you choose the general roll, you will be in the Port Waikato electorate and can vote in this by-election.

Voting in the Port Waikato by-election

Voting in the Port Waikato by-election begins on Monday 13 November. The last day to vote is on election day, Saturday 25 November.

You can vote from Monday 13 November to Friday 24 November at any advance voting place. The days and times advance voting places are open vary so check [vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz) before you go.

On election day, Saturday 25 November, voting places will be open from 9am to 7pm. You can enrol on election day itself, but you will also need to cast a special vote which takes longer.

You will get an EasyVote pack in the mail if you were enrolled for the 2023 General Election on Saturday 14 October, including if you enrolled on election day. This pack will include your personalised EasyVote card. Your EasyVote card will make voting faster and easier.

Information about where and when to vote, and who you can vote for is available in your EasyVote pack, at [vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz) or by calling 0800 36 76 56.

How to vote

At the voting place, election workers will show you what to do and where to go.

If you have an EasyVote card, take it with you when you go to vote and give it to the person issuing your voting paper. It will help them find you on the electoral roll.

If you do not have an EasyVote card, you will need to tell the person issuing your vote your name and address.

If you are unable to verbally state your name you can confirm it by writing it down, gesturing, or a friend, family member or support person can confirm your name for you.

If you have a hearing impairment and need assistance, tell someone who works at the voting place. There will be someone there to assist you if you need it.

In a by-election, you have one vote for the candidate you want to be your local member of Parliament.

The candidate with the most votes in your electorate becomes your electorate MP.

On your voting paper, place a tick by the name of the candidate you would most like to represent your local area.

This is different from a general election where you have two votes—one for a party and the other for your local candidate.

Once you have made your choice, place your voting paper in the ballot box. And that is it, you have voted!

Need help to vote?

If you need help to read or mark your voting paper, a friend, family member or an electoral official at the voting place can help. That person can go behind the voting screen with you and can read out the words and information on the voting paper. They can also mark the voting paper for you according to your instructions. But they can't tell you who you should vote for.

Vote by telephone dictation at the Port Waikato by-election

Anyone who is eligible to be enrolled to vote in the Port Waikato general electorate and is blind, partially blind or has another physical disability that prevents them from marking their voting paper without assistance is eligible to vote by telephone dictation at the Port Waikato by-election.

Telephone dictation voting in the Port Waikato by-election starts on Wednesday 8 November and ends at 7pm on election day, Saturday 25 November.

Register to vote by telephone dictation

If you're eligible and would like to vote by telephone dictation, then you need to register before you vote.

You can register to vote by telephone dictation from Tuesday 17 October by calling 0800 028 028 from within New Zealand or +64 4 471 2000 from overseas (international calling rates may apply).

When you call you will need to select option 1 to register. You can call to register from Monday to Saturday from 9am until 5pm (NZ time).

You must be registered for telephone dictation voting by noon, Saturday 25 November (NZ time). If you haven't registered by this time, you won't be able to vote by telephone dictation. However, you can still vote at any voting place in the Port Waikato electorate until 7pm on election day, Saturday 25 November.

When you register, you will be asked to choose a secret question and answer which only you know. You can choose from one of three secret questions:

- The name of your first primary school
- The name of your first pet
- The name of the street where you grew up.

You will be given a personal registration number once you have registered. Your registration number can be sent to you by email, text message, given to you over the phone, or someone can call you back. Make sure you're ready to record your personal registration number if you want to receive it over the phone.

Your registration number and secret question are used to confirm that you're already registered when you call back to vote without giving your name to the electoral official. Please don't tell anyone your secret question or the answer to it until you call back to vote.

You'll need to know your registration number and the answer to your secret question when you call back to vote.

How to vote by telephone dictation

If you're registered to vote by telephone dictation, you can vote from Wednesday 8 November by calling 0800 028 028 from within New Zealand or +64 4 471 2000 from overseas (international calling rates may apply).

You can call Monday to Saturday from 9am to 5pm (NZ time) and on election day, Saturday 25 November 9am to 7pm (NZ time). Your last chance to vote is on election day, Saturday 25 November from 9am to 7pm (NZ time).

When you call you will need to select option 2 to vote.

You will be asked by an electoral official to provide your registration number. Do not give them your name—they won't know your identity and your vote is secret. They will ask you to answer the secret question you selected when registering.

The electoral official will read out the names of each candidate standing in the Port Waikato by-election. They will mark your voting paper according to your instructions.

A second electoral official will confirm with you that the voting paper has been marked according to your instructions.

Can't get to a voting place?

If you can't get to a voting place, for example, because of illness, age or disability, you can get help to vote.

You can authorise someone to pick up your voting papers from a voting place for you. They can return your voting papers to any voting place before 7pm on election day, Saturday 25 November.

If you are in a care home, the Electorate Manager will contact the manager of your care home to arrange voting services.

If you cannot get to a voting place because you are in hospital, a friend or family member can bring you your voting papers from Monday 13 November.

Find out more at vote.nz or call 0800 36 76 56 to talk over your options.

Voting from overseas

You can vote from overseas in the Port Waikato by-election from Wednesday 8 November to 7pm, Saturday 25 November (NZ time).

You are eligible to vote from overseas if you are enrolled in the Port Waikato electorate and a New Zealand citizen who has been in New Zealand within the last 6 years or are a New Zealand permanent resident who has been in New Zealand within the last 4 years.

If you're voting from overseas, you must be enrolled by midnight, Friday 24 November (NZ time).

If you'll be in New Zealand when advance voting opens, it is easier to vote before you go overseas.

The easiest and quickest way to vote from overseas is to download, complete and upload your voting papers at [vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz)

You may also be able to vote in person at an overseas voting place in London or Sydney, or ask them for postal voting papers to be sent to you.

More information

For more information about enrolling and voting in the Port Waikato by-election:

- visit [vote.nz](https://www.vote.nz)
- call 0800 36 76 56 or +64 9 909 4182 (from overseas—international call rates may apply)

End of Get ready for the Port Waikato by-election