

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

Local government elections

Enrolling to vote



All Tasmanian citizens over the age of 18 are required to **enrol and vote** in Tasmanian and national elections.



You can enrol at aec.gov.au – enrolment is managed by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) for all Tasmanian and national elections.*



If you are 18 or turning 18 before **Tuesday 27 October** and you haven't already enrolled to vote, you need to enrol before 6pm on **Thursday 10 September**.



If you are 16 or 17 (and won't be turning 18 before this election), you can **enrol now**, and when you turn 18 you'll be ready to go for the next election.

* Some people have other enrolment options for local government elections. Visit tec.tas.gov.au/lg-enrolment to learn more.

2026 Local government elections



There are **29** local government areas in Tasmania and each is represented by a council, often referred to as 'local councils'.

Tasmania's local councils will go to election in **October 2026**, with electors voting for their mayor, deputy mayor and councillors. Elected members serve four-year terms.

The role of local government

Local councils are responsible for making decisions about their local area and providing services for the **community**. Some examples are:



Rubbish and
recycling



Council rates



Sports grounds and
community parks



Dog registration
and exercise areas

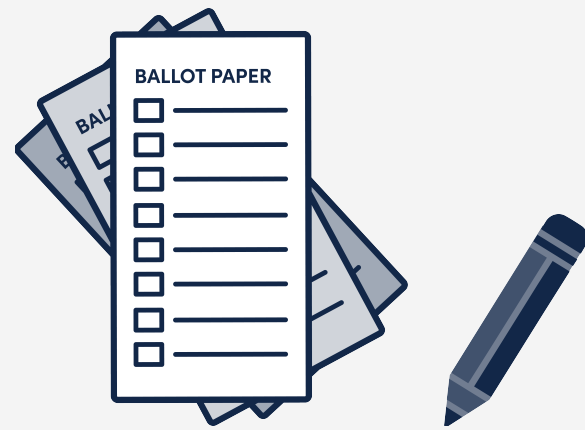
Key dates for this election

- 7 September – candidate nominations open
- 10 September – enrolment closes
- 21 September – candidate nominations close
- 22 September – nominations are announced
- 5–8 October – ballot packs are delivered by post
- 2pm 27 October – close of poll – completed ballot packs received after this time will not be counted
- 28 October – counting commences

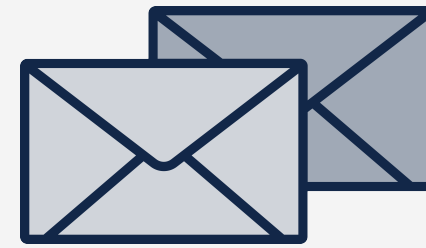


Voting in local government elections

Local government elections take place **by post***. Your ballot papers will be sent to you and you can return them in the mail.



When you open your postal ballot pack, you will find up to **three** ballot papers to vote for mayor, deputy mayor and councillors



Two envelopes to return your ballot papers (one goes inside the other)



And a booklet with voting instructions and information about the **candidates**

*If you have a print disability, you are eligible to vote using the Telephone Assisted Voting service.

Helpful things to know

- Your ballot papers will tell you how many boxes you **must** number for your vote to count.
- Candidate names may appear in a **different order** on different ballot papers. This is intentional, so no candidate gets an advantage from always appearing first.
- You may see the same candidate on more than one ballot paper in your postal pack. This is because candidates for **mayor** and **deputy mayor** must also be elected as councillors.
- If you don't post your completed ballot pack early enough, it may arrive **too late** to be counted. If you're running out of time, you can return it to your **local council office** instead.

Find out more about these elections

Learn more
about how
enrolment works



Learn about
voting supports

Find your council
area and current
representatives

Read about how the
votes are counted

www.tec.tas.gov.au