

Council Election 2024 Candidate Information Request Register

Enquiry	Information provided	Date information provided
information on population demographics (age etc) of people that live in the greater Shepparton area	Information in regards to population demographics of Greater Shepparton can be found in the Council Annual Report 2022-2023 on page 12.	28/05/2024
Cut off date for nominations for the Council Election.	In regards to your query about cut-off dates for candidate nominations, we wish to advise there are some Local Government reforms before Parliament which may impact the opening and closing of nominations for the upcoming Council Election. We anticipate that we should have this advice in the coming weeks and will update our website accordingly. Please check back to our Stand for Council page on the Council website and the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) website from time to time as this information will be provided here once it is in hand.	28/05/2024
Will preferential voting apply in the Council election?	Confirming that I have received advice from the VEC and preferential voting will still apply to the upcoming election for Greater Shepparton.	11/06/2024
Confirming timeframe for initial Councillor training period is 4 months?	That is correct. The Local Government Amendment (Governance and Integrity) Bill 2024 received Royal Assent yesterday (Tuesday 25 June), which reduced the time period to complete mandatory training (from 6 months to 4 months).	26/06/2024
It does look as though Fridays are mostly free during the Councillor Induction Program, is this likely to be the case?	We are trying to limit the induction program to a maximum of 4 days per week, but this won't always be possible. I can confirm that there will be a mandatory training delivered on Friday 15 November 2024. Where possible, we will try to record the mandatory sessions in case Councillor/s are unable to attend, but it will be more beneficial to attend on the day to enable question time etc.	26/06/2024
Is there a way of seeing who has nominated for particular wards before nominating to run there yourself?	Throughout the nomination period (9 September – 17 September), the Victorian Electoral Commission will record and publish updates to their website and display within the Electoral Office twice daily to advise the nominations received for each ward.	26/06/2024
Where is the best place to stay up to date regarding deadlines and other training that needs to be done prior to, or as part of the nominating process?	The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) is the best point of contact. The website will continually be updated, however Council will also share any key information released by the VEC on our candidate web page and social media, etc. There is only one module of mandatory candidate training that would need to be completed prior to lodging a nomination. All other mandatory training discussed in our information session relates to elected Councillors.	26/06/2024

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Campaign signage - when and where signs can be placed as part of campaigns?	<p>We are currently updating a guideline document in relation to Electoral Signage which will be uploaded to the candidates web page following the 23 July Council Meeting (subject to adoption).</p> <p>In short – Council does not permit electoral signage to be placed on Council land / reserves / roads / property. This includes street furniture such as bus shelters, light poles, etc. They may be placed on private property with the consent of the property owner, and must meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sign with an advertisement area not exceeding 5 square metres publicising a local educational, cultural, political, religious, social or recreational event not held for commercial purposes. • Only one sign per candidate may be displayed on the land, it must not be an animated or internally-illuminated sign. • The electoral sign must not be displayed longer than 3 months or more than 14 days after the election (9 November 2024), whichever is sooner. • A sign publicising a local political event may include information about a candidate for an election. 	26/06/2024
Can election signage be displayed outside of the ward the candidate is standing for?	Yes, electoral material can be displayed in any ward, as long as it meets the requirements of the electoral signage guidelines.	27/06/2024
Requested verification of Midland Ward boundaries.	Midland Ward Map showing boundary and extents, with boundary road names, provided.	2/07/2024
Community Satisfaction Survey Results	<p>I have provided below the links to the Council webpage and 'Know Your Council' page which incorporates performance indicators, some of which are identified through the community satisfaction surveys.</p> <p>https://greaterShepparton.com.au/council/know-your-council https://www.vic.gov.au/know-your-council</p> <p>Please note the above results will be reflective of the 2022/23 survey. The final survey for 2023/24 was only recently completed and results have not yet been processed. Once received by Council, a media release summarising the results will be prepared and made available on Councils website. Media releases from previous financial years are also accessible on Councils website. They can be easily accessed using search criteria 'community satisfaction', include the applicable year.</p>	10/07/2024

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<p>Regulations regarding donations / funding for campaigns? For example, who can donate or how much?</p>	<p>In relation to campaign donations – there are some legislative requirements that apply (refer Section 306 of the Local Government Act for full details), however nothing that limits who can make the donation or how much.</p> <p>The key points to be aware of, are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates must submit a campaign donation return to the CEO within 40 days of election day (Election Campaign Donation Return Form, Candidate Kit Page 15) • The return must disclose the name of donor, gifts received within the donation period and the amount / value, where it is equal to or exceeds the gift disclosure threshold (\$500) <p>Note – any campaign donations of \$500 or more (disclosable gift) will constitute a conflict of interest between that Councillor (if elected) and the individual / business who provided the campaign donation.</p> <p>The Act goes into a bit more detail but they are hopefully the key points of interest. This topic will likely be covered at the information session being hosted by the Victorian Electoral Commission on 5 September (6.30pm at Election Office, 132 Welsford Street Shepparton).</p>	<p>15/07/2024</p>
<p><i>Updated 16/7/24</i></p>		