

# 2024 COUNCIL ELECTIONS

## Voters FAQs

### When is Election Day?

26 October 2024.

Please note that as this is a postal election, there is no voting on Election Day.

### Do I have to vote?

You **must** vote in a general election if you are on the State roll. Voting is compulsory for all voters who are enrolled to vote as at 4pm on 7 August 2024.

### When do I have to Vote?

Greater Shepparton Elections are conducted via postal vote.

Ballot packs will be mailed out between 7 and 10 October, 2024

**Note:** ballot packs are randomly dispatched. Not everyone from the household will receive their ballot pack on the same day. Please wait 1 week before requesting a replacement ballot pack.

If you own more than one property in a council area, you are only entitled to one vote.

Completed ballot packs must be lodged by 6.00pm, Friday 25 October, 2024.

### Election Office (VEC)

The Election office is located at 132 Welsford Street, Shepparton and will be open to the public from 9 September to 25 October 2024.

The hours of operation are listed below:

Weekdays, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Please note on Thursday 24 October and Friday 25 October the office will be open 9.00am to 8.00pm

### Do I need to live in the area?

To vote in a Local Government Election you need to be either a resident, ratepayer or corporation representative within the municipality.

### How do I vote?

Local council elections are held by post. Ballot packs will be mailed to all voters for return prior to the voting deadline. You may also hand deliver your vote to the Election Office.

### What happens if I don't Vote?

Failure to vote will attract a penalty unless you are entitled to an exemption under the *Local Government Act 2020*. The non-voter enforcement program will be managed by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC).

### What is the last date for posting a vote?

Ballot packs must be lodged with Australia Post by 6.00pm, 25 October 2024. Voters are advised to check the mail collection times in their area to ensure that their ballot is lodged on time.

### When will results be declared?

It is anticipated that the declaration will occur on (or prior to) 15 November 2024.

### What is the electoral structure for Greater Shepparton?

This election, Greater Shepparton will be moving to a single member ward structure. This means that the Greater Shepparton Municipality will be divided into geographical areas known as 'wards'.

### **How many wards are there going to be?**

There will be nine wards in total.

### **How many Councillors will be elected?**

Nine Councillors will be elected in total, with one Councillor representing each ward of Greater Shepparton City Council.

### **Who can I contact for more information?**

The VEC website will feature comprehensive information about the Local Government Elections generally, as well as specific information about each local council's election.

Content will be updated at each phase of the election cycle including information about enrolment, nominating for election, early and postal voting, redirection of ballot packs (postal), replacement of ballot packs (postal), details of how and when to vote, the close of voting and election results.

### **Key websites are listed below:**

**[www.mav.asn.au/stand-for-council-2024](http://www.mav.asn.au/stand-for-council-2024)**  
(Municipal Association of Victoria)

**[www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)**  
(Victorian Electoral Commission)

**[www.vlga.org.au](http://www.vlga.org.au)**  
(Victorian Local Government Association)

**[www.greatershepparton.com.au](http://www.greatershepparton.com.au)**  
(Greater Shepparton City Council)

**[www.mav.asn.au](http://www.mav.asn.au)**  
(Municipal Association of Victoria)