

5 July 2024

RAI 05 05

Karl Pearce
fyi-request-27156-06897bc4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Karl,

OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AROUND LANDLORD VOTING

I refer to your official information request dated 6 June for information around Landlord Voting.

The information you have requested is as follows:

- 1. During just the last election 2022 how many votes were recorded in Horizon's Regional Council Elections that LIVED outside of the city boundaries/wards? (Not Special Votes).**

I wish to advise that we do not hold the above information on our records, voting information is held by each territorial council, not the regional council. However please do see a link to the Department of Internal Affairs website that has the Local Authority Elections Statistics 2022 which you may find useful
https://www.dia.govt.nz/diawebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Services-Local-Elections-Local-Authority-Election-Statistics-2022

The full data set, including the graphs and 2022 local elections statistics, can be downloaded as an Excel file by clicking the following link: [Local Authority Election Statistics 2022](#) (Excel, 346 kb)

A Ratepayer Elector means that they are registered on the Ratepayer Electoral Roll. A Ratepayer Elector means that they own or part own property within the Horizons Boundary and are registered on the rating valuation roll as a ratepayer but the property is not the owners' fulltime residence, or, they have been nominated to be enrolled as a ratepayer. E.g. own a property within the region but it is not my fulltime place of residence or we own a business in the area and pay rates, but we don't live in the area.

- 2. Are those rental properties that are in trusts, whether family trusts or business trusts included in the ability to vote in Horizon's RC elections if they live outside of the city.**

Rental properties that are in trusts (family or business trust) can nominate one person to be on the Ratepayer Elector roll and vote, providing all the criteria to be on the Ratepayer Elector roll is met. This person must live outside the Council area where the property is located, and in this case outside the Horizons Region.

2. a) If yes to (2), Are those who are considered beneficiaries and or trustees also able to vote in Horizon's RC local body elections if they live outside of the PNCC ward/s or electorate.

Similar to the response to question 2 above. Only those nominated to be on the Ratepayer Elector roll for a particular property within the Horizons voting boundary can vote. This person must live outside the Horizons Region area where the property is located.

I wish to advise that rental properties that are in trusts (family or business trust) can nominate one person to be on the Ratepayer Elector rolls and vote and this person can live outside the Horizons boundary area.

3. Does the above also apply to Business sites i.e. shops or stores, factories buildings etc.

Yes the same criteria does apply for business sites. One person is nominated to be on the Ratepayer Elector roll and vote, providing all the criteria to be on the Ratepayer Elector roll is met. This person must live outside the Horizons Region

The Horizons Regional Council is made up of 8 constituencies as follows:

- Horowhenua
- Manawatu-Rangitikei
- Palmerston North
- Ruapehu
- Tararua
- Whanganui
- Raki Maori
- Tonga Maori

4. Does Horizon's RC have specific "rural" wards?

The Horizons Regional Council does not have any specific rural wards. The Horizons Regional Council boundaries for elections is made up of 8 constituencies as noted in 3 above.

5. And finally please tell me the act/s of parliament and/or local council act/s that allows for landlords who reside outside city ward boundaries to vote in wards/electorates they don't reside in but own a property.

Please refer to Section 24 Ratepayer electors under Part 2 Local elections and polls of the Local electrical Act 2001.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact us by return email.

Yours sincerely



Craig Grant
GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE & GOVERNANCE