



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
Electoral Commission

MEDIA RELEASE

8 September 2023

Local government candidates announced

More than 1,000 people will stand for election next month in Western Australia's local government elections.

The Western Australian Electoral Commission announced the [confirmed line-up of 1,090 candidates](#) following the close of nominations at 4pm on Thursday 7 September.

Electoral Commissioner Robert Kennedy encouraged community members to have their say.

"Voting in your local government election is your opportunity to have a say on who represents you on council.

"This year, voting will change from a first-past-the-post system to optional preferential voting, where candidates are numbered in the order of your preference. In larger councils, electors will vote directly for their mayor or Shire president."

[Learn more about the 2023 local government elections.](#)

2023 Local Government Elections: Fast facts

- WA Electoral Commission is conducting elections for 124 of the 139 local governments in Western Australia.
- There are 1,090 candidates for 564 vacancies
- 60.2% of candidates are male, 39.54% are female, 0.18% are non-binary and 0.09% are unspecified.
- There were 18 unfilled vacancies across WA. As such, 13 local governments will go to extraordinary elections as they did not receive sufficient candidates to fill their available vacancies.
- The City of Gosnells has the largest number of candidates in any one local government – 22 candidates vying for 6 vacancies
- In regional areas Port Hedland (18), Donnybrook-Balingup (17) and Greater Geraldton (16) also attracted large numbers of candidates

Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 8 September 2023

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