

2017 Local Government elections

Local Government elections will be held in October 2017. They will be run by the WA Electoral Commission as a postal vote.

There will be six vacancies -- for the Mayor, two Councillors each in West and Central Wards and one in East Ward.

These roles are currently represented by Mayor Howlett and Councillors Allen and Sweetman (West), Councillors Eva and Houwen (Central) and Councillor Smith (East).

Wards and boundaries

Recently, the City asked residents groups and the community to give feedback about changing our wards and boundaries.

This was to comply with State policy which requires all local governments to have the same number of electors in each ward, give or take 10 percent. Due to growth in some suburbs, Council had to change the boundaries to comply.

Based on the community feedback, the most popular option was Option 1.

What next?

On 9 February, Council decided to recommend Option 1 to the Local Government Advisory Board. The new boundaries and wards should be in place for the October 2017 local government elections.

Option 1: Three wards, nine Councillors plus the Mayor, new boundaries.

This option clearly divides the City into East, Central and West Wards.

- West Ward covers Hamilton Hill and Spearwood, plus Coogee and Munster (west of Rockingham Road). The new residential areas of Spearwood, Munster, Coogee and North Coogee are included, plus the Henderson industrial strip on the southern coastal areas of the City.
- Central Ward covers Coolbellup South Lake, Bibra Lake, Yangebup and North Lake in the north to the newer suburbs such as Beeliar and Cockburn Central to the industrial/ rural areas of Wattleup and Munster (east of Rockingham Road) in the south. The Bibra Lake industrial area is quite central in the ward.
- East Ward includes Banjup's semi-rural and new residential areas of Treeby, Aubin Grove, Hammond Park, Success and Atwell plus Jandakot (including Jandakot Airport) and the associated commercial areas. It includes Cockburn Central South and Cockburn Gateways Shopping Centre

Who can nominate to run for council in a local government election?

Anyone aged 18 or older, and is on the local government's electoral roll, can nominate for council.

You cannot run for Council if you are:

- a member of parliament or another council
- a financial insolvent
- currently serving a prison sentence
- convicted of a serious local government offence in the previous five years
- convicted of an offence for which the indictable penalty was imprisonment of more than five years or
- found personally liable for misapplying local government funds or property in the previous five years.

Can a person nominating for council in a local government nominate only in a ward where they live, or own or occupy property?

He or she can run for council in any ward of that local government's district.