

## Have your say at October Council Elections

Exmouth's local government elections will be held on 21 October 2017 and Commissioner Ian Fletcher has called on all local residents to get involved and ensure Exmouth has strong leadership into the future.

Mr Fletcher encouraged members of the community to consider nominating for one of the six Council vacancies, and exercise their rights to vote.

He said the community had been through a difficult time following the Corruption and Crime Commission investigation and suspension and resignation of Council.

The Shire had worked incredibly hard to rebuild over the last eight months and now it was time for the community to play its part and elect a new Council to lead the community.

"Exmouth has a very bright future and this is the time for anyone who is passionate about the future of the town to make a substantive contribution to the community by nominating for Council," he said.

"For those who do not want to be Councillors, make sure you have a say on who will lead Exmouth into the future.

"That means making sure you are enrolled to vote and using that vote to elect a leadership that will deliver good governance into the future.

"It is time to move forward, it is time to be a part of the solution, it is time to act."

Mr Fletcher said the Shire would be hosting workshops on 29 August to explain the roles and responsibilities of Councillors for anyone seeking more information. Elected Councillors would also be required to undergo training to ensure they understood the Local Government Act and were properly equipped to carry out the role of Councillor.

More information on local government elections is provided in the *Frequently Asked Questions* section overleaf.

## Counting down to 50 Year Celebrations

With only eight weeks to go until the 50 Year celebrations, the countdown is on. The preliminary outline of events for the weekend include:

### **Friday 15 September—Opening of the Ningaloo Centre**

The Ningaloo Centre will come alive with displays for the whole family. Take the opportunity to explore the interpretive displays, view the YARN reef or visit the memory room to seek out familiar places and faces.

In the evening, the Ningaloo Centre will light up with a projection art display encompassing storytelling, animations and synchronised pyrotechnics. (*weather permitting*).

### **Saturday 16 September—50 Year Birthday Party**

**Softball match—Oz vs USA:** Come along and enjoy an American-style hotdog while you cheer on your team in the Australia vs USA softball match.

**Float parade:** Witness the colours and sounds of this spectacular float parade, lead by Paula Hart and the children of Exmouth District High School.

**Party in the Park:** Federation Park will come alive with the flavours of Exmouth, markets, live music and entertainment for everyone.

**Military Ball:** Dance the night away with the sounds of the big brass band at the Military Ball. *This is a ticketed event with limited numbers. Tickets due to go on sale in August.*

### **Sunday 17 September—Family Beach Day**

Join us on Town Beach for a morning of fun and games and watch the Flotilla parade pass by.

In the evening, bring the family down to the Yacht Club to move to the smooth Motown sound of The Merindas.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### When will the next local government election be held?

Local government ordinary elections are held every two years in October. The next ordinary local government election will be held on 21 October 2017.

### Who is eligible to vote in local government elections?

People who own *or* occupy property within a local government district, are eligible to vote.

Enrolment is compulsory for all Western Australians who:

- Are aged 18 years and over;
- Are Australian Citizens; and
- Have lived at their current address for at least one month

You can check your enrolment details by contacting the Western Australian Electoral Commission on 08 9214 0400 or online at [www.elections.wa.gov.au](http://www.elections.wa.gov.au).

### How do I register to be on the local government electoral roll?

All residents who are enrolled on the State Electoral Roll are automatically enrolled on the corresponding local government roll.

People who own *or* occupy property within the local government district can contact their local government to be included on the roll as an owner/occupier. To register for enrolment on the Shire of Exmouth roll contact the Shire on 9949 3000. Rolls close on 1 September 2017.

### Who is eligible to nominate as a candidate in the local government election?

Under the *Local Government Act 1995* to be eligible to nominate as a candidate you must be a residential owner *or* occupier in the district and be over 18 years of age.

### Newsletter delivery information

This newsletter is distributed to all PO Boxes in Exmouth, and is available for pick up at the shire offices and the Public Library. This newsletter can also be emailed electronically. To register for electronic delivery send an email to [cdo@exmouth.wa.gov.au](mailto:cdo@exmouth.wa.gov.au)

### Will there be an information session for prospective Councillor candidates?

Yes. A Councillor information session will be held on 29 August 2017.

### How do I nominate as a candidate for the local government election?

To nominate as a candidate a valid nomination must consist of:

- A completed nomination form
- A candidate profile (150 words maximum)
- An \$80 deposit
- A photograph (optional)

Nomination applications must be lodged with the Returning Officer by 4 pm on 14 September 2017.

Anyone seeking more information on running as a candidate can contact the Executive Secretary at the Shire on 9949 3000.

### Handy links:

The following web links contain details and fact sheets about local government elections, enrolment information and information for prospective Councillor candidates.

- [www.dlgc.wa.gov.au/AdviceSupport/Pages/Local-government-elections.aspx](http://www.dlgc.wa.gov.au/AdviceSupport/Pages/Local-government-elections.aspx)
- [www.elections.wa.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/local-government-candidates](http://www.elections.wa.gov.au/candidates-and-parties/local-government-candidates)
- [www.elections.wa.gov.au/enrol](http://www.elections.wa.gov.au/enrol)



### Key dates for your calendar:

**September 1, 2017**—Close of rolls at 5pm. Make sure you are enrolled to vote before this date.

**September 7, 2017**—Nominations open. This is the first day for candidates to lodge completed nomination papers to the Returning Officer.

**September 14, 2017**—Nominations close at 4pm.

**October 17, 2017**—Last day for absentee votes and close of postal vote applications for voting in-person elections.

**October 20, 2017**—Close of early voting for in-person elections.

**October 21, 2017**—Election Day—Close of poll 6pm.

