



# 2017 NT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

[ntec.nt.gov.au](http://ntec.nt.gov.au)

# NEWSLETTER

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## 1. Candidate eligibility requirements

Nominations for the 2017 NT Council elections open on Friday 14 July. The following information is for anyone considering nominating for a council position.

### To nominate for the 2017 NT Council elections you must be:

- an Australian citizen
- 18 years of age or older
- enrolled as an elector within the council area you wish to nominate for.

### You *cannot* nominate for the 2017 NT Council elections if you:

- hold a judicial position (Justice of the Peace excepted)
- are bankrupt or in an arrangement with creditors under the Commonwealth *Bankruptcy Act 1966*
- have been sentenced to a term of imprisonment (that has not expired) of one year or more
- are a current employee of the council for which you intend to nominate
- still owe the council rates or a surcharge and have failed to discharge the debt within six months of the debt becoming due and payable
- are certified mentally unfit to carry out the functions of a member.

## I AM A COUNCIL EMPLOYEE

### Resignation to contest election.

Section 110 of the [Local Government Act](#) specifies the following where a staff member wants to run for council.

- **A council staff member needs to resign in order to stand as a candidate for election to the council.** The council member provides the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) a written notice at the time of resignation stating that the staff member claims the benefit of Section 110 of the *Local Government Act*, and the resignation takes effect not more than 28 days before the close of nominations for the relevant election.
- **If the staff member is not elected, and applies to the CEO to be reinstated within seven days** after the result of the election is known, the former staff member must be reinstated to the staff member's former position or an equivalent position. A staff member reinstated under this section is to be treated as having been on unpaid leave between the date of resignation and the date of reinstatement.

**What happens if I am on a Regional Council Local Authority?** You can nominate if you are a member of a local authority.

**What type of local authority member am I?** There are two types of local authority members; appointed and ex-officio. You can still nominate if you are appointed or ex-officio. However, you need to be aware of the following information.

**Ex-officio members** are those who are members because of their status as a council member for the relevant ward. An ex-officio member of a local authority ceases to hold that membership if he or she is no longer the principal member or a member for the ward in which the local authority is located.

## DARWIN OFFICE

Level 3, TCG Centre, 80 Mitchell St  
GPO Box 2419, Darwin NT 0801

## ALICE SPRINGS OFFICE

MyVote Central  
Yeperenye Centre, Hartley St  
PO Box 2304, Alice Springs NT 0871

**PHONE:** 1800 MYVOTE

**WEBSITE:** [ntec.nt.gov.au](http://ntec.nt.gov.au)

**EMAIL:** [ntec@nt.gov.au](mailto:ntec@nt.gov.au)

 [Facebook.com/NTElectoralCommission](https://www.facebook.com/NTElectoralCommission)

 [@NTElecComm](https://twitter.com/NTElecComm)

A local authority **member appointed** by a council, ceases to hold that membership:

- when his or her term of appointment expires (there is no standard term, it is a matter for council)
  - when the appointment is revoked by council or upon his or her written resignation
- or
- if he or she was appointed indefinitely, when the appointment is revoked by council or upon his or her written resignation.

Anyone still unclear about their eligibility to stand as a candidate in the 2017 NT Council elections, are encouraged to seek their own legal advice.

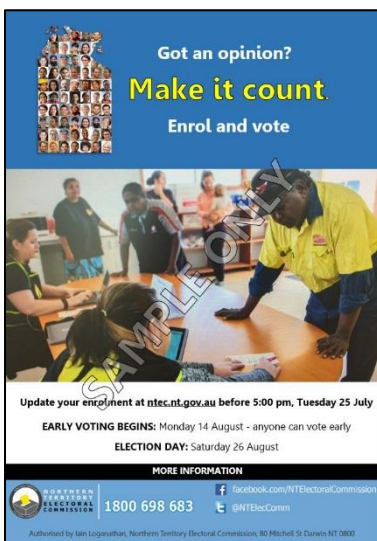
## 2. Useful information for candidates

Anyone interested in nominating as a candidate at the 2017 NT Council elections will find useful information at [ntec.nt.gov.au](http://ntec.nt.gov.au). Items include:

- [Local Government Act](#)
- [Local Government \(Electoral Regulations\)](#)
- [Candidate Handbook](#)
- [Requirements for campaigning](#)
- Information for [candidates](#)

**General questions about nominating:** Contact Wayne Harlock at [wayne.harlock@nt.gov.au](mailto:wayne.harlock@nt.gov.au) or (08) 8999 7613.

## 3. Election communications' materials



Got an opinion?  
**Make it count.**  
Enrol and vote

Update your enrolment at [ntec.nt.gov.au](http://ntec.nt.gov.au) before 5:00 pm, Tuesday 25 July  
EARLY VOTING BEGINS: Monday 14 August - anyone can vote early  
ELECTION DAY: Saturday 26 August

MORE INFORMATION  
1800 698 683 | [facebook.com/NTElectoralCommission](https://www.facebook.com/NTElectoralCommission)  
@NTElectComm

Authorised by Ian Logothetis, Northern Territory Electoral Commission, 80 Mitchell St Darwin NT 0800

The NT Electoral Commission (NTEC) is working with local government communications' staff to share important election information.

A selection of generic information materials are being prepared and will be provided to local governments via email for printing as needed. Councils can request the NTEC to print flyers and posters (A4, A3, A1) if they wish.

A concept poster (example shown) is provided for your feedback and further details will be available in the next newsletter.

In the meantime, follow the NTEC on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to keep up-to-date with all election information. In addition, the [30 second enrol to vote ad](#) can be found on the NTEC [YouTube](#) page.

A number of councils are taking the opportunity to play the enrol to vote ad in high traffic areas to encourage enrolment prior to the electoral roll closing on Tuesday, 25 July 2017.

## 4. It's show time 2017

The NTEC is part of the NT show circuit and will be at the Freds Pass show to promote enrolment for the upcoming local government elections. This will provide people the ability to enrol or update their details. Anyone can enrol to vote or check their enrolment details online at [ntec.nt.gov.au](http://ntec.nt.gov.au). It only takes a few minutes.

The NTEC will also be encouraging Territorians to ensure they are correctly enrolled for the 2017 NT Council elections at the Alice Springs, Darwin, Katherine and Tennant Creek shows.



Freds Pass show 2016



## 5. Information sessions for potential candidates

NTEC, in collaboration with LGANT and Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will be conducting information sessions for those interested in running for the 2017 NT Council elections. These sessions will cover the nomination process and election rules and procedures.

Information sessions have been confirmed for the following councils. Contact the relevant council for more information or email [wayne.harlock@nt.gov.au](mailto:wayne.harlock@nt.gov.au).

COUNCIL	DAY   DATE	TIME
Litchfield Council	Thu, 11 May 2017	5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
City of Palmerston	Tue, 16 May 2017	4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Katherine Town Council	Tue, 23 May 2017	4:30 pm to 6:00 pm
East Arnhem Regional Council	Mon, 29 May 2017	10:00 am 2:00 pm
Tiwi Island Regional Council	Wed, 31 May 2017	9:00 am to 11:30 am
Coomalie Council	Tue, 20 Jun 2017	4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Alice Springs Town Council	Sat, 24 Jun 2017	10:00 am to 12:00 noon
Barkly Regional Council	Mon, 26 Jun 2017	5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
City of Darwin	Wed, 12 Jul 2017	6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

## 6. Election timetable

Date	Time	
Friday 14 July		Gazettal of date by Minister Nominations open
Tuesday 25 July	5:00 pm	Close of electoral roll
Thursday 3 August	12:00 noon	Close of nominations
Friday 4 August	12:00 noon	Declaration of nominations, draw for position on ballot papers
Monday 7 August		Postal vote mail-out commences
Monday 14 August	8:00 am	Early voting commences
	9:00 am	Mobile voting commences
Tuesday 22 August	6:00 pm	Overseas postal voting despatches cease
Thursday 24 August	6:00 pm	All postal voting despatches cease
Friday 25 August	6:00 pm	Early voting ceases
<b>Saturday 26 August</b>		<b>Election day</b>
	8:00 am	Election day voting commences
	6:00 pm	Election day voting ceases
		Mobile voting ceases
		Primary counts of ordinary, postal, mobile and early votes commence
Monday 28 August	9:00 am	Declaration vote verification checks, commence recheck of all counts
Thursday 31 August	9:00 am	Primary counts of accepted declaration votes, further postal counts
Friday 1 September	12:00 noon	Deadline for receipt of postal votes
		Final counts of postal votes commence
		Distribution of preferences
Monday 4 September	10:00 am	Declaration of the election result