



**BULLER**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

# Connect

Keeping you up-to-date with news from your Buller District Council

New Zealand pigeon | kererū - *Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*  
Credit: Department of Conservation

Connect 134 July 2025

# RUN

BACK YOURSELF. RUN FOR COUNCIL.



## Do you want to represent your community?

Nominations for candidates in the 2025 local elections open on Friday 4 July and close on Friday 1 August. Nomination forms are available at Council service centres.

## Roles to elect

Elections are currently held for:

- One Mayor
- Two Councillors to represent Inangahua Ward
- Two Councillors to represent Seddon Ward
- Six Councillors to represent Westport Ward
- Four community members to represent Inangahua Community Board (ICB)

## Are you eligible to stand?

To be eligible to stand for election, a candidate must be:

- A New Zealand citizen *and*
- On the electoral roll (18 years or older) *and*
- Nominated by two people whose names appear on the electoral roll of the area that a candidate is standing for. You don't need to live in the area that you are standing for.

## Nominators

- Nominators for candidates for Buller District Council or for Inangahua Community Board can be residents or ratepayers who are on the Electoral Roll in that ward.



## Enrol by 1 August to vote!

You're probably already enrolled (yay, go you). If you're signed up for national elections, you're automatically good to go for local council ones too. Boom. Democracy unlocked.

But if you've moved, changed your name, or turned 18 recently – check your enrolment is up to date. It takes less time than reheating leftovers.

Need to enrol? Do it by 1 August to get your voting papers in the post.

If you enrol after that, you can still vote, but you'll need to cast a special vote – contact your local electoral officer to find out how to make a special vote.

**Check your details or enrol now at [vote.nz](https://vote.nz) or call 0800 36 76 56.**

## Key dates for 2025 local elections:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Friday 4 July            | Nominations open. Electoral roll opens for inspection.   |
| Friday 1 August          | Nominations close at 12 noon. Electoral roll closes.   |
| By 6 August              | Public notice of candidate names and special voting places.  |
| 9 - 22 September         | Delivery of voting documents (will occur between these dates).   |
| 9 September - 11 October | Voting and special voting period. Early processing period.   |
| Saturday 11 October      | Election Day (voting closes at 12 noon) Progress / preliminary results will be announced as soon as practicable. |
| 11 - 16 October          | Official count and processing of special votes.  |
| 16 - 19 October          | Declaration of final result and public notice of results.  |

## Westport's alcohol exclusion zones - know your boundaries

**Buller District Council's current Banning of Alcohol Bylaw (2018) prohibits the possession and consumption of alcohol in some public areas of Westport, including the central business district and Victoria Square, as detailed on map.**

This is a total alcohol ban, and it applies 24 hours a day, seven days a week, all year round. There are no exceptions to this, unless a special licence has been granted.

Any person found consuming, possessing, or bringing alcohol into public spaces of the alcohol ban area is committing an offence and therefore subject to a fine of \$250.



There will be an increased monitoring and enforcement presence at upcoming events to ensure adherence to this bylaw.

Buller District Council bylaws are regularly reviewed, and open to public consultation.

Want to connect with your Council face-to-face?

Looking for advice and guidance on Council processes?

[Click here to learn more](#)

## Community Outreach days

Come along to our Community Outreach days held throughout the Buller District. These bimonthly drop-in sessions will provide an opportunity to meet Council staff from different departments and seek advice on using our services.

Councillors from the various wards across Buller will also be invited to each event, providing insight into the district's governance, and considering the perspectives of individual communities.

☑ **Wednesday 20 August**

**Maruia** - Maruia Hall  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Ikamatua** - Ikamatua Hall  
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

## Community Grant Fund



# One round only for FY 2025/26



Applications open  
**14 July - 11 August 2025**



Total funds available  
**\$80,000**

[Click here to learn more](#)

## Free fridge and freezer disposal now available in Reefton

From 16 July 2025, Buller District Council (BDC), Electro Services Ltd, and Smart Environmental Ltd are extending their free refrigerator and freezer disposal programme to the Reefton Transfer Station.

Previously only available at the Westport Transfer Station, the initiative now enables all Buller residents to safely dispose of their old fridges and freezers at either location during opening hours.

The programme addresses the environmental risk posed by refrigerant gases found in fridges and freezers. Electro Services Ltd safely removes these gases prior to recycling, preventing harm to people, animals, and the environment.

Since its launch four years ago, the initiative has degassed and safely disposed of around 30 units per month, with even more processed during flood recovery efforts in 2021 and 2022. Degassing costs are split between BDC and Electro Services Ltd, with Council's share funded by the Ministry for the Environment's Waste Levy.

Once degassed, the fridges and freezers are recycled as scrap metal, and the captured gases are sent overseas for reprocessing. Note that other whiteware items, such as washing machines, incur an \$11.20 disposal fee.

The programme supports BDC's broader goal of building a circular economy through sustainable waste management and public participation in responsible disposal initiatives.

## Meetings July - August 2025

The full meeting calendar can be found at  
[bullerdc.govt.nz/your-council/meetings/](https://bullerdc.govt.nz/your-council/meetings/)

Please check the calendar for any updates and additional meetings.

### Creative Communities Subcommittee Meeting

- 28 July 2025, starting 2:30 pm  
Clocktower Chambers

### Ordinary Council Meeting

- 30 July, starting 3:30 pm  
Clocktower Chambers

### Public Excluded Workshop – Dredge update

- 6 August, starting 2:00 pm  
Clocktower Chambers

### Risk and Audit Committee Meeting

- 13 August, starting 3:30 pm  
Clocktower Chambers

### Ordinary Council Meeting

- 27 August, starting 3:30 pm  
Clocktower Chambers

All Council meetings will be livestreamed to Council's YouTube channel:



### Buller District Council

There may be elements of the meeting that are public excluded. The meeting agenda will explain why the public is excluded under LGOIMA 1987.

A public forum session is available at the beginning of Ordinary Council meetings. If you want to address Council during the public forum session or have any questions about these meetings please contact:

Governance Assistant, phone **0800 807 239** or email **governance.assistant@bdc.govt.nz**

## Water supplies

Council would like to remind consumers to flush their taps by letting about a mugful of water run through in the morning, prior to use.

This applies to all supplies including rainwater. Visit Council's website 'water - plumbosolvency' for details. There are different levels of water treatment in Buller.

**A permanent boil water notice applies for Little Wanganui Subdivision, Mōkihinui, Ngakawau/Hector, South Granity and Waimangaroa.**



**BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ANIMAL CONTROL**



### Email

info@bdc.govt.nz with the subject line 'Dog registration'



### Call

Call the Animal Management team on 03 788 9647



### Talk to us

Drop in to the BDC Customer Services desk in Westport or Reefton.

20% discount for SuperGold Card holders. Card must be presented at the time of payment.

**SuperGold**  
Te kōri kōura



**bullerdc.govt.nz**

## Reminder - Dog registration is due 31 July 2025

### All dogs in Buller need to be registered

If you own and have registered your dog, you should have received your dog registration form at the end of June.

Once you have received your form, you can call into Council offices in Westport or Reefton to pay and pick up your red tag.

### Prices this year are:

**Desexed - \$69.50 | Entire - \$89.50**

If you use your dog principally for herding or droving stock your dog is eligible for our working dog rate.

**Desexed - \$52.50 | Entire - \$67.50**

Dogs that support a person with a disability or medical condition may not be subject to registration fees, at the discretion of the Compliance Manager.

If your dog is not registered with us you will not have received a form. Dogs can be registered at Council Offices during normal office hours: Westport 8.30 am - 4.30 pm and Reefton 9.00 am to 4.30 pm Monday to Friday. If your details, or your dog's details have changed, don't forget to update them when you pay your dog registration fee.

For more information go to:

[bullerdc.govt.nz/dogs-and-animal-control/dog-registration](https://bullerdc.govt.nz/dogs-and-animal-control/dog-registration)

**Westport office**  
6-8 Brougham Street, PO Box 21,  
Westport 7866, New Zealand  
**Freephone** 0800 807 239  
**Phone** 03 788 9111

**Reefton Visitor & Service Centre**  
67-69 Broadway, PO Box 75,  
Reefton 7851, New Zealand  
**Phone** 03 732 8821  
**Phone** 03 732 8391

**24 hr Noise & Animal Control Services**  
**Phone** 03 788 9115  
After hours Operations emergencies  
**Phone** 03 788 9119 Westport,  
or 03 732 8821 Reefton