

Becoming a Councillor

Councillors - ordinary people with an extraordinary passion for their community

On Saturday, 4 September 2021, Greater Hume Council will conduct councillor elections to elect nine councillors to serve for a three year term.

A constitutional referendum will also be held for electors to consider whether the Council area should continue to be divided into wards.

Why stand?

If you care about what happens in your community, want to improve services, make the roads safer or support local businesses, consider becoming a councillor.

By standing for council, you'll have opportunities to:

- help your community
- improve infrastructure
- improve planning and amenities
- build engaged communities.

Being a councillor provides an opportunity to represent your community's views on vital decisions that affect people's daily lives. It is also an opportunity to develop new skills and work with a diverse range of people.

Councillors serve their communities by listening to people in the local area and then representing those views on council.

What's it take?

To stand for council, you'll need:

- passion, commitment and time
- an interest in your community
- an interest in local government
- to be prepared to learn and be accountable
- being able to talk to people in your community and take account of different views when making decisions
- time management and organisational skills
- problem solving skills
- teamwork skills.

You need to be able to commit time to reading council business papers, attending meetings and representing council at some events. The time you need for this will vary across the year, but it may be 5 to 10 hours each week.

What you will need to know

If you're thinking about standing for council, you need to know about:

- responsibilities of councillors
- conduct and behaviour
- where to get help.

Candidate information sessions

Potential candidates for Greater Hume Council are invited to attend the information sessions at Albury.

In Person - 10 June 2021 at 6pm, Albury City administration building, 553 Kiewa Street Albury

Online - 13 July 2021 at 6.30pm (registered participants will be provided with a Zoom link)

To register:

<https://www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au/forms/candidate-information-sessions>



**STAND FOR
GREATER HUME
COUNCIL**



What support will you receive?

Once elected, you will receive council-based training and other support to help you understand and be successful in the role.

Greater Hume Council meets expenses and provide tools to help councillors carry out their role. Council also provides support to help councillors who have young family members, a disability or other special needs.

To recognise what councillors do for their community, they receive an annual fee from the council (paid monthly). The annual fee paid to a councillor is \$12,400 per annum. The fee is counted as income for tax purposes.

How do you stand for election?

To be eligible to stand for election you must:

- be at least 18 years of age and an Australian citizen
- live or own property in Greater Hume Council area
- be on the electoral roll
- not be disqualified from standing from office, e.g. if you have committed certain offences.

A proposal nominating you as a candidate then needs to be submitted by:

- at least two eligible people enrolled for the same ward or area you are being nominated for, or
- a registered officer of a registered political party.

You must complete some forms and officially lodge them between Monday, 26 July 2021 and 12 noon on 4 August 2021.



Information for Candidates

Candidates and groups must register with the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) before accepting political donations or incurring expenditure for an election.

All candidates and groups must appoint an official agent at the time of registration and notify the NSWEC of the agent's appointment.

Registering for an election is a separate process from being nominated as a candidate for an election.

The Electoral Commission NSW provides advice about becoming a candidate and registering to vote in the election.

<https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/Political-participants/Candidates-and-groups/Candidate-nominations-for-local-elections/Six-steps-to-being-a-candidate>

Plus you might want to have a talk to a past councillor of Greater Hume Council

If you are thinking of standing as a candidate, you might like to have a confidential talk to a retired councillor of Greater Hume Council.

The following councillors have agreed to support potential candidates who might have questions prior to deciding to stand.

Speak to -

Former Councillor Denise Knight

M: 0411 282 320

Former Councillor Bill McDonald, OAM

M: 0428 690 553

Save the date

2021 NSW Local Government elections

**Saturday
4 September**

Voting is compulsory

elections.nsw.gov.au/lge21
1300 135 736



Greater Hume Council