

Notice of Expenditure Caps and Number of Electors
2026 CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR BY-ELECTION
SATURDAY 16 MAY 2026



The Central Highlands Regional Council councillor by-election will be held on Saturday, 16 May 2026.

In accordance with sections 123R and 123S of the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011* (LGEA), this notice advises that the electoral expenditure caps and number of electors for the by-election are:

Election participant	Electoral expenditure cap	Number of electors (1 April 2026)
Individual councillor candidate	\$17,760	
Group of candidates	\$17,760	
Endorsed councillor candidate and registered political party	\$17,760	18,140
Registered third party	\$17,760	
Unregistered third party	\$6,000	

The expenditure cap for an individual councillor candidate (i.e. a candidate who is not endorsed by a registered political party, or part of a registered local government group) is calculated based on the number of electors within the local government area as of 1 April 2026.

The capped expenditure period for the Central Highlands Regional Council by-election begins on 14 April 2026 and continues through to 6pm on election day, 16 May 2026.

Groups of candidates are also subject to caps. The group's cap is the sum total of the caps for each individual candidate in the group, up to the maximum number of vacancies in the local government area. As there is only one vacancy in this by-election, the expenditure cap for a group is the same as the cap for an individual councillor candidate. If the membership of a group changes during the capped expenditure period, then the expenditure cap for the new and/or former group members must be recalculated, in accordance with sections 123J and 123K of the LGEA.

Caps apply to registered political parties and their endorsed candidates collectively. The cap is the sum total of the caps for each individual candidate endorsed by the party, up to the maximum number of vacancies in the local government area. As there is only one vacancy in this by-election, the shared expenditure cap for a registered political party and its endorsed candidates is the same as the cap for an individual councillor candidate. Registered political parties do not receive any additional expenditure cap allowance. If a registered political party changes the number of candidates it has endorsed in a local government area, then the expenditure cap for the new and/or former endorsed candidates must be recalculated, in accordance with sections 123G and 123H of the LGEA.

Caps also apply to registered third parties. The cap for registered third parties is the same cap that applies to an individual councillor candidate. A third party which is not registered must not exceed \$6,000 in electoral expenditure across Queensland.

The relevant factors used to calculate the expenditure caps under the LGEA are adjusted according to CPI after each quadrennial election. The notice of adjusted relevant factors is published on the ECQ's website. For further information about expenditure caps, including details about how the expenditure caps are calculated, refer to the fact sheets available on the ECQ's website.

This notice is issued under sections 123R and 123S of the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*, on Tuesday, 14 April 2026.

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