

Engagement kit for First Nations organisations

2024 council elections



My *local* park
My *local* vote

LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ELECTIONS
16 March 2024

 Electoral
Commission
QUEENSLAND

ecq.qld.gov.au

Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner of Queensland, Brisbane.

Dear supporter



Queenslanders will head to the polls on 16 March 2024 to **vote local** – and have a say about the things that matter to them in their local communities.

Around 3.7 million Queenslanders will be eligible to vote in the elections, including in Queensland's 17 Indigenous council areas. Voters will choose the mayor and councillors who will represent them for the next four years.

While voting is compulsory, it's also a right and responsibility in our democracy, and this engagement kit is aimed at making it easy for people in your community to vote in the elections.

Can you help us?

We'd appreciate your support in sharing the [resources](#) in this kit with your community.

In this kit, you'll find:

- a sample article for community newsletters
- social media posts to share on your accounts
- links to videos that can be shared
- posters for your community noticeboards
- frequently asked questions.

Over the next two months you'll also see our **vote local** advertising campaign which will run across a broad range of traditional and digital channels, including on NITV and Aboriginal Health Television screens and across Queensland's First Nations community radio network.

Please like and follow our social media accounts to stay up-to-date with the latest information about the 2024 elections.

If you have any enquiries, please email us at communication@ecq.qld.gov.au. You can also contact ECQ's First Nations Engagement Officer Quentin Barba on 0436 396 222.

Thank you for your support,

ECQ Communication
Electoral Commission of Queensland



Sample article

Whichway?

Get ready to vote on 16 March 2024

It will be time to vote soon in the 2024 council elections for your community. When you vote at the elections, you'll be voting for your local decision-makers.

This means the mayors and councillors that you want to represent you, in your community.

Make sure you're ready to vote on 16 March 2024 so your voice will be heard.

Remember, voting is compulsory.

Voting locally

You'll need to vote in your local area, so if you know you will be away during the elections you can apply for a postal vote by 4 March on the [ECQ website](#).

Enrolling to vote

Are your enrolment details up to date? If you're not on the electoral roll, you can't have your say. Visit [aec.gov.au](#) to enrol to vote or update your details.

Make voting quicker

All Queensland voters will receive a Voter Information Card in the mail before the elections. That's the big maroon card that you might have received previously before an election.

Bring this card with you when you go to vote to get in and out of the polling booth quicker.

More information

The ECQ website is the best place to find information. Visit us to learn about ways to vote, how voting systems and counting works, voting times and places and more at the [ecq.qld.gov.au](#).



Voter Information Card

Look for this card in the mail and bring it with you when you vote!

The front of the Voter Information Card features the Electoral Commission Queensland logo on the left. In the center, it reads "2024 local government elections Saturday, 16 March". On the right, there is a "POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA" stamp. The card also includes a return address and a barcode.

It's time to vote! Bring this card with you.

The back of the card provides contact information for the Electoral Commission Queensland, including the website ecq.qld.gov.au, phone number 1300 881 665, and social media handles for X (@ECQInfo), Facebook (@electoralcommissionqld), and Instagram (@electoralcommissionqld). It also features a barcode with the number Q12345678 and the text "Remember, voting is COMPULSORY".

This informational page provides details for voters in the Northern Peninsula Area Regional Division 5. It includes the Electoral Commission Queensland logo and a location pin icon. The text states: "Your local government area is Northern Peninsula Area Regional Division 5. Your information is current as of 5 February 2024." It lists two ways to vote in person: "Early voting is from Monday, 4 March to Friday, 15 March 2024" and "Election day voting is on Saturday, 16 March 2024." Each option includes a QR code and a link to ecq.qld.gov.au/earlyvoting or ecq.qld.gov.au/electiondayvoting. There are two images: one showing a person at a voting station with the text "Bring and show You must vote in your local council area" and another showing a hand holding a ballot with the text "Scan and vote". A note at the bottom says "Contact us for other voting options. See front for contact details." with a right-pointing arrow.



Help spread the word

You can share these [resources](#) with your community.

Social media

Social media post	Social media tile*
<p>Queensland's council elections are being held on Saturday 16 March.</p> <p>Your local vote matters.</p> <p>Learn more about the elections, early voting times and where you can vote local at the ECQ website.</p>	
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Your local vote matters.

Learn more about the elections, early voting times and where you can vote local at the [ECQ website](#).



Social media post

Make voting quick and easy at the council elections on 16 March.

If you're enrolled to vote, look out for this big maroon card in the post. Take it with you when you go to vote to help you get in and out of the booth quickly.

Visit the [ECQ website](#) for voting times and locations.

Social media tile*



* Downloadable social media tiles can be found [here](#).

Videos

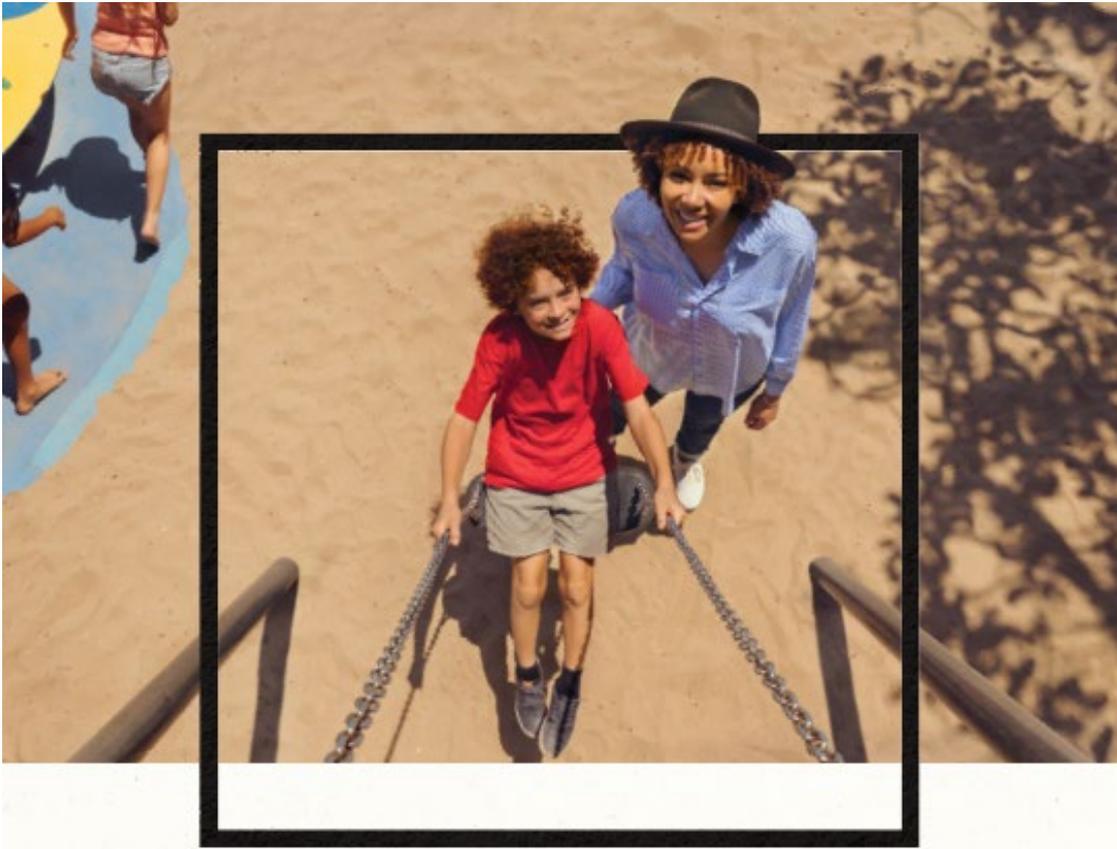
You can [download videos](#) and embed them in newsletters or staff emails. We have 3 videos:

1. Ways to vote
2. Applying for a postal vote
3. Counting the vote



Posters

[Download](#) a copy for your community noticeboards. A4 and A3 sizes are available.



My *local* park
My *local* vote

Make sure you're enrolled and your details are up to date by visiting the ECQ website.

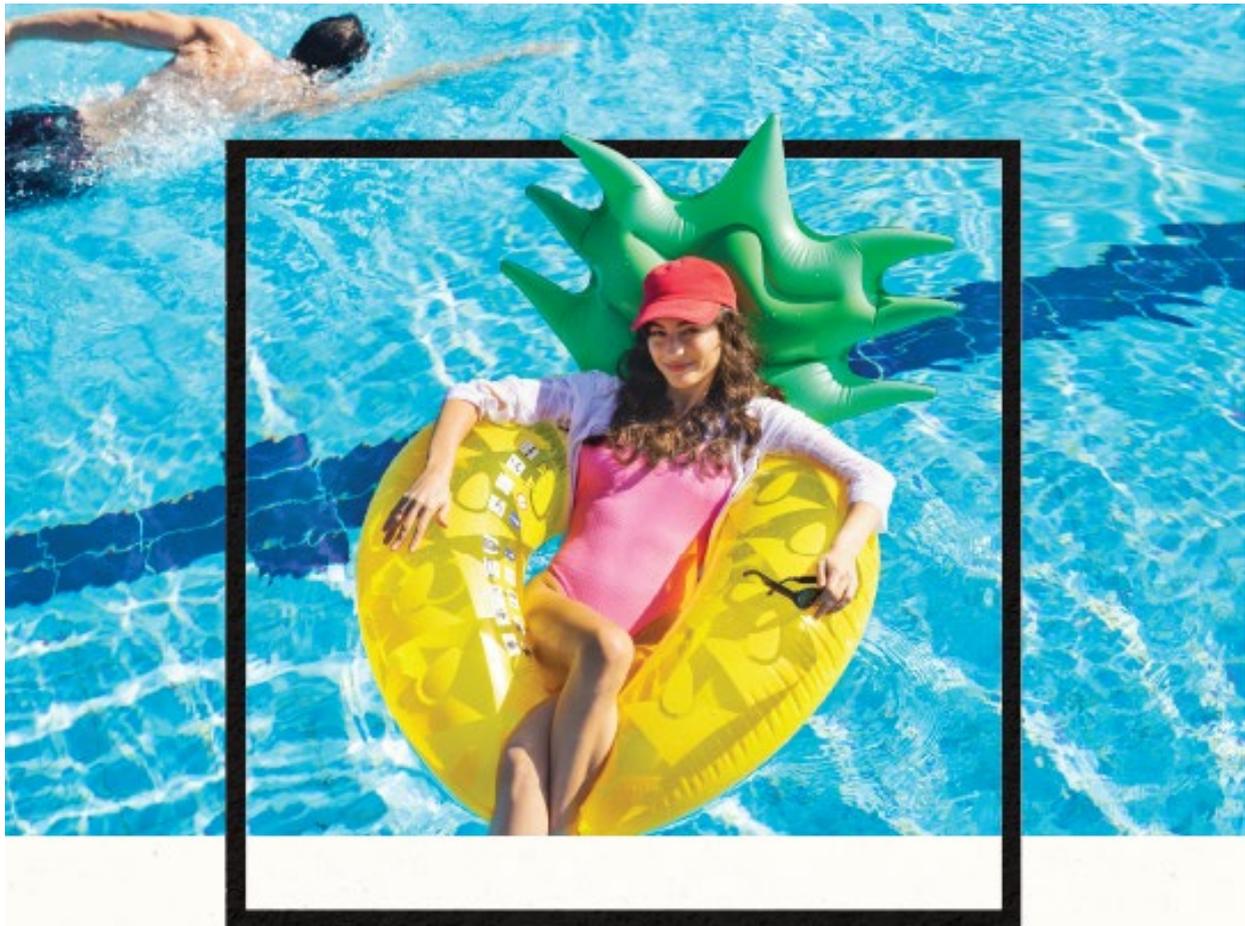
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS
16 March 2024

 **Electoral Commission**
QUEENSLAND

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My local pool

My local vote

Make sure you're enrolled and your details are up to date by visiting the ECQ website.

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My local services

My local vote

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Frequently asked questions

Is voting compulsory?

Voting is compulsory for all Australian citizens aged 18 years or older. If you do not vote, you may receive a fine. On 16 March 2024, it will be compulsory for all enrolled Queenslanders to vote for the mayor and councillors they want to represent them for the next four years.

Are you enrolled to vote?

Visit aec.gov.au to enrol to vote or to check your details are up to date.

Have you changed address?

If you've changed address since the last election, you'll need to update your details on the electoral roll to ensure you are voting in the correct council area. Update your details at aec.gov.au.

What is local government?

Local government is also known as your local council.

Why do I need to vote in council elections?

When you vote for the mayor and councillors who will represent you in your community, you're having a say about the decision-makers who will shape the local community where you live.

Council services include cultural and sporting facilities, town planning, local roads, waste management, land and coast care programs, pet registration and more.

Why is voting important?

Governments make decisions about services, laws and protections that impact on every part of our lives. By voting, you are part of this decision-making and making a choice about how your community is run.

If you don't vote, you are relying on someone else to choose your representatives for you. The best way to make sure you are involved in decisions about your community, is to vote.

How to vote in the council elections

Vote on election day, 16 March 2024.

Bring your maroon Voter Information Card with you for quicker voting. You can vote from 8am to 6pm on election day in your community.

- **Vote before election day** – you can vote before election day – check the [ECQ website](#) for early voting times in your community.
- **Vote by post** – if you will be away on election day you can apply on the [ECQ website](#) for a postal vote. Applications open on Monday 29 January 2024 and close at 7pm on Monday 4 March 2024. You can complete your vote straight away but remember to read the instructions carefully first. Return your postal vote as soon as you can. The ECQ must receive it by 5pm on Tuesday 26 March 2024. Visit the ECQ website to watch a [video about postal voting](#).



- **Voting by telephone** – telephone voting is available for people who cannot attend a polling booth because they are away or need assistance to vote. Check the [ECQ website](#) to see if you are eligible before registering. Registration for eligible people is from 9am on Monday 4 March until noon on Saturday 16 March 2024. You can vote from 4 March to 6pm on election day, Saturday 16 March.

What is a Voter Information Card?

A Voter Information Card is sent to your enrolled address before an election in Queensland. An electronic version is also sent to you if you have added your email address to the electoral roll.

Your card is personalised to you and includes your council area and a barcode that election staff can scan at a polling place to help you get in and out quicker.

How do I know which council area I am enrolled in?

Your council area is on your Voter Information Card or you can find out at the [ECQ website](#). You must vote in your local council area.

Is there help for people with accessibility needs?

Check the [My Polling Booth webpage](#) for the accessibility access at polling booths in your local area. If you have mobility issues you can also vote from your car. Call the phone number of the booth supervisor, which can be found on a sign out the front of the voting centre, and an election official will help.

I need help to fill out my ballot paper.

If you need help when voting, another person can assist you in the polling booth. This person may act as an interpreter, read, and explain the ballot paper instructions, complete the ballot paper according to your instructions and place the ballot paper in the ballot box.

I heard something about the election that doesn't sound right.

The ECQ is Queensland's team of electoral experts, so if you hear or see something you're not sure about, visiting our [Election Facts webpage](#) will help ensure you have the facts about elections.



If you're sharing information, always check that it is a trustworthy source.

