

Engagement Kit for culturally and linguistically diverse communities

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 and 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 participate and to find information in other languages when they go to vote.

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 translated versions on streaming, free to air television and community radio.

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.

Thank you for your support,

ECQ Communication
Electoral Commission of Queensland



Sample article

Get ready to vote local 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 Saturday, 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.

Help in other languages

Every polling place in Queensland will have voting information in 25 languages.

Ask a staff member for the [Multilingual Guide](#) when you arrive to vote. If the language you need is not available in the Guide, a telephone translation and interpreting service is available through Language Loop. Election staff can assist you with these contact details.

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 [ecq.qld.gov.au](#).



Voter Information Card

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



Electoral Commission
QUEENSLAND

If undelivered please return to:
GPO BOX 1393 BRISBANE QLD 4001

2024 local government elections
Saturday, 16 March

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

Bring this card for quicker voting.



S000000000
WILLIAM CITIZEN
PO BOX 12345
NANANGO QLD 4615

FR

For more information:

ecq.qld.gov.au

1300 881 665

@ECQInfo

@electoralcommissionqld

@electoralcommissionqld



Q12345678

Remember, voting is
COMPULSORY



Electoral Commission
QUEENSLAND

Your local government area is

Northern Peninsula Area Regional Division 5

Your information is current as of 5 February 2024.

Ways to vote in person...

Early voting is from Monday,
4 March to Friday, 15 March 2024.

Scan the QR code to find an early voting
centre or visit ecq.qld.gov.au/earlyvoting



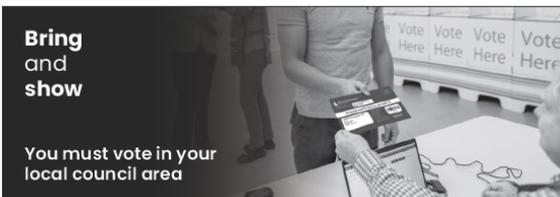
Election day voting is on Saturday,
16 March 2024.

Scan the QR code to find a polling booth or
visit ecq.qld.gov.au/electiondayvoting



**Bring
and
show**

You must vote in your
local council area



**Scan
and
vote**



Contact us for other voting options. See front for contact details.



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>	 <p>A woman wearing a red cap and sunglasses is floating on a large yellow inflatable ring shaped like a watermelon slice in a blue swimming pool. The text 'My local pool' is overlaid in white, and 'My local vote' is in the bottom right corner.</p>
<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>	 <p>A man in a light-colored shirt is standing on a paved path next to a red trash bin. The text 'My local services' is overlaid in white, and 'My local vote' is in the bottom right corner.</p>
<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>	 <p>A woman in a blue shirt and a child in a red shirt are climbing a rope ladder at a park. The text 'My local park' is overlaid in white, and 'My local vote' is in the bottom right corner.</p>



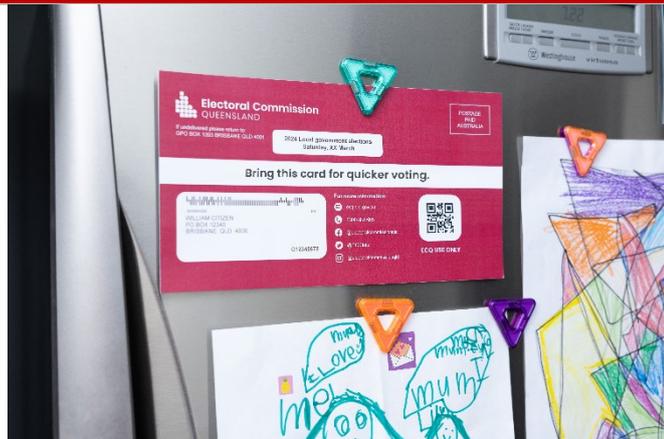
Social media post

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 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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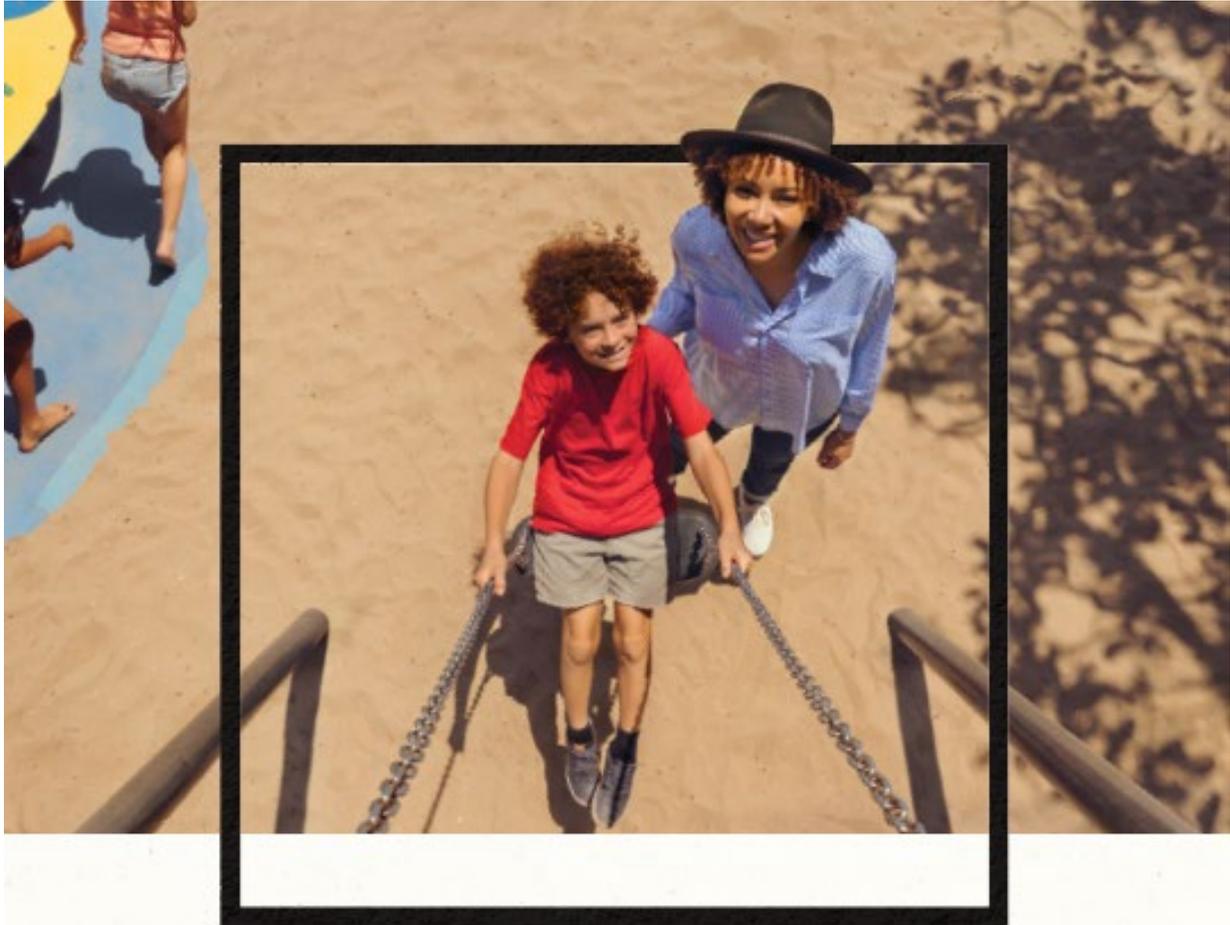


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My local park *My local vote*

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Frequently asked questions

VOTING

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.

Where can I get information about voting in other languages?

The ECQ has produced a [Multilingual Guide to Voting](#) in 25 languages. When you arrive to vote, ask a staff member to see this Guide. If the language you need is not available in the Guide, a telephone translation and interpreting service is available through Language Loop. Election staff can assist you with these contact details.

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 local government area.
- **Vote before election day** – you can vote before election day. Check the [ECQ website](#) for early voting times in your local government area.



- **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 2024.

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.

