

# Engagement kit – disability sector

## ***2024 local government elections***



*My local park*  
*My local vote*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
ELECTIONS  
16 March 2024



Electoral  
Commission  
QUEENSLAND

[ecq.qld.gov.au](http://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 we want to help ensure voting is quick and easy for everyone.

### ***Can you help us?***

We'd appreciate your support in sharing the [resources](#) in this kit with your networks within the disability sector.

In this kit, you'll find:

- a sample newsletter article
- social media posts to share on your accounts
- links to videos to share
- posters for your lunchroom/staff notice board/community notice boards
- frequently asked questions and resources.

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.

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

Sharing our messages with your networks is another great way you can assist us and help ensure people have the information they need to participate.

If you have any enquiries, please email us at [communication@ecq.qld.gov.au](mailto: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

When Queenslanders **vote local** at the 2024 council elections, they'll be voting for the decision-makers who will shape their local communities.

Voting in a local government election is about more than just wheelie bins and footpaths. It's about choosing the mayors and councillors that you want to represent you, in your local community.

Now's the time to make sure you're ready to vote on 16 March 2024 and ensure 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 vote at an early voting centre in your local council area or apply for a postal vote by 4 March on the [ECQ website](#).

#### Enrolling to vote

Now is also the time to make sure your enrolment details are 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 and easier!

Because accessibility is a key priority for the ECQ, there are multiple options available to help people with disability to participate in the elections. You can check the accessibility of a polling booth or early voting centre on the [ECQ website](#), and whether a location has full or assisted access before you come to vote.

- **Postal voting** – apply for a postal vote at the ECQ website or phone 1300 881 665. You can watch a video on postal voting and how it works on this [page](#).
- **Telephone voting** – is available for eligible electors, including people needing assistance to vote because of an impairment, or who cannot physically vote at a polling centre, or because of an insufficient literacy level. To protect the integrity, secrecy and security of your vote, there a number of steps to follow, so remember to allow sufficient time for this process. Register by calling 1300 912 782 from 9am on Monday 4 March until noon on Saturday 16 March 2024 and vote from 9am on Monday 4 March until 6pm on polling day, Saturday 16 March 2024.



- **Vote in person** – each polling place also has support services to assist people with disability to vote:
  - **Request another person (official or anyone else) to join you if you need help voting** to 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.
  - **If you are unable to access a polling place or leave your vehicle** a polling official can bring your ballot papers to your vehicle so you can vote and place your vote in a ballot box without leaving the vehicle.
  - **Bring your Voter Information Card** – all Queenslanders on the electoral roll (except full postal council areas and electors who are special postal voters) will receive a Voter Information Card in the mail before the elections. That’s the big maroon card that you may recall receiving before previous state and local elections. Bringing this card with you when you come to vote will help you to get in and out of the polling booth quicker.

### **Election Facts**

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.

The ECQ website is also your definitive source of information for all things local elections. Visit us to learn about ways to vote, how voting systems and counting works, and the information you need to participate at [ecq.qld.gov.au](http://ecq.qld.gov.au).





LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS  
16 March 2024



# Voting services for people with disability

fact sheet

## 2024 local government elections

The 2024 local government elections period is from Monday, 4 March to Saturday, 16 March 2024. The ECQ is committed to ensuring a range of accessibility measures are in place and that all Queensland electors will have equitable access to voting services for the local government elections. That's why we take steps to ensuring voting is accessible for every Queenslanders at every polling place.

### Voting in the local government elections



#### Postal voting

Postal vote applications will open on Monday, 29 January 2024 and close at 7pm on Monday, 4 March 2024.

Postal votes will be sent to electors in following the close of candidate nominations and the ballot paper order draw.



#### Telephone voting

Telephone voting will be available as a limited service for eligible electors only. Eligibility criteria includes:

- you need assistance to vote because of an impairment
- you need assistance to vote because of an insufficient literacy level
- you cannot physically vote at a polling centre because of an impairment
- you are registered as a special poster voter
- your registered address is more than 20km from a polling place.



#### Voting in person

You can check the accessibility of polling booths on the ECQ website before you come to vote. Accessible polling booths will be listed as full access or assisted access.

#### Support services when voting in person

Each polling place has support services to assist electors with voting.

- **You can request another person join you if they need help voting.** This person can be an election official or anyone else, and can 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.
- **If after arriving at a polling place, you are unable to access the polling place,** an election official can bring ballot papers to the vehicle so you can vote and place your vote in a ballot box without leaving your vehicle.

For more information about support with voting call us on 1300 888 665 or visit the ECQ website.

 [ecq.qld.gov.au](https://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 FR

WILLIAM CITIZEN  
PO BOX 12345  
NANANGO QLD 4615

**For more information:**

-  [ecq.qld.gov.au](http://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](http://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](http://ecq.qld.gov.au/electiondayvoting)

**Bring and show**



You must vote in your local council area

**Scan and vote**



Bring this card for quicker roll mark-off

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><b>Queensland's council elections are being held on Saturday 16 March.</b></p> <p>Your local vote matters.</p> <p>Learn more about the elections, early voting times and where you can vote local at the <a href="#">ECQ website</a>.</p>	 <p>A square social media tile with a black border. The background is a photograph of a woman in a pink swimsuit and red cap floating on a large yellow inflatable ring in a swimming pool. The text 'My local pool' is written in white across the middle, and 'My local vote' is written in white at the bottom.</p>
<p><b>Queensland's council elections are being held on Saturday 16 March.</b></p> <p>Your local vote matters.</p> <p>Learn more about the elections, early voting times and where you can vote local at the <a href="#">ECQ website</a>.</p>	 <p>A square social media tile with a black border. The background is a photograph of a man in a khaki shirt standing next to a red bin and a lawnmower on a lawn. The text 'My local services' is written in white across the middle, and 'My local vote' is written in white at the bottom.</p>



Social media post	Social media tile*
<p><b>Queensland’s council elections are being held on Saturday 16 March.</b></p> <p>Your local vote matters.</p> <p>Learn more about the elections, early voting times and where you can vote local at the <a href="#">ECQ website</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Make voting quick and easy at the council elections on 16 March.</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Visit the <a href="#">ECQ website</a> for voting times and locations.</p>	

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

## Videos

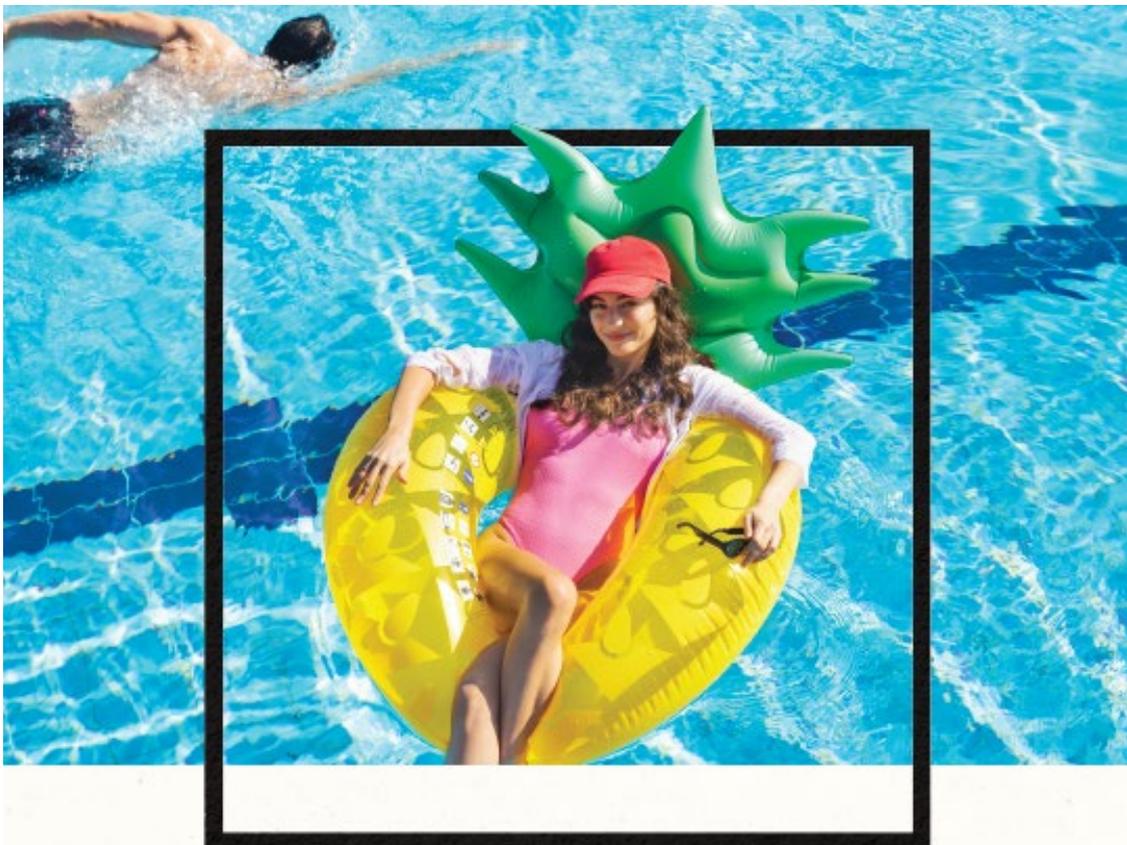
You can [download videos](#) and embed them in newsletters or staff emails. We have 3 videos:

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.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**  
**16 March 2024**

 **Electoral Commission**  
QUEENSLAND

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# *My local services*

# *My local vote*

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

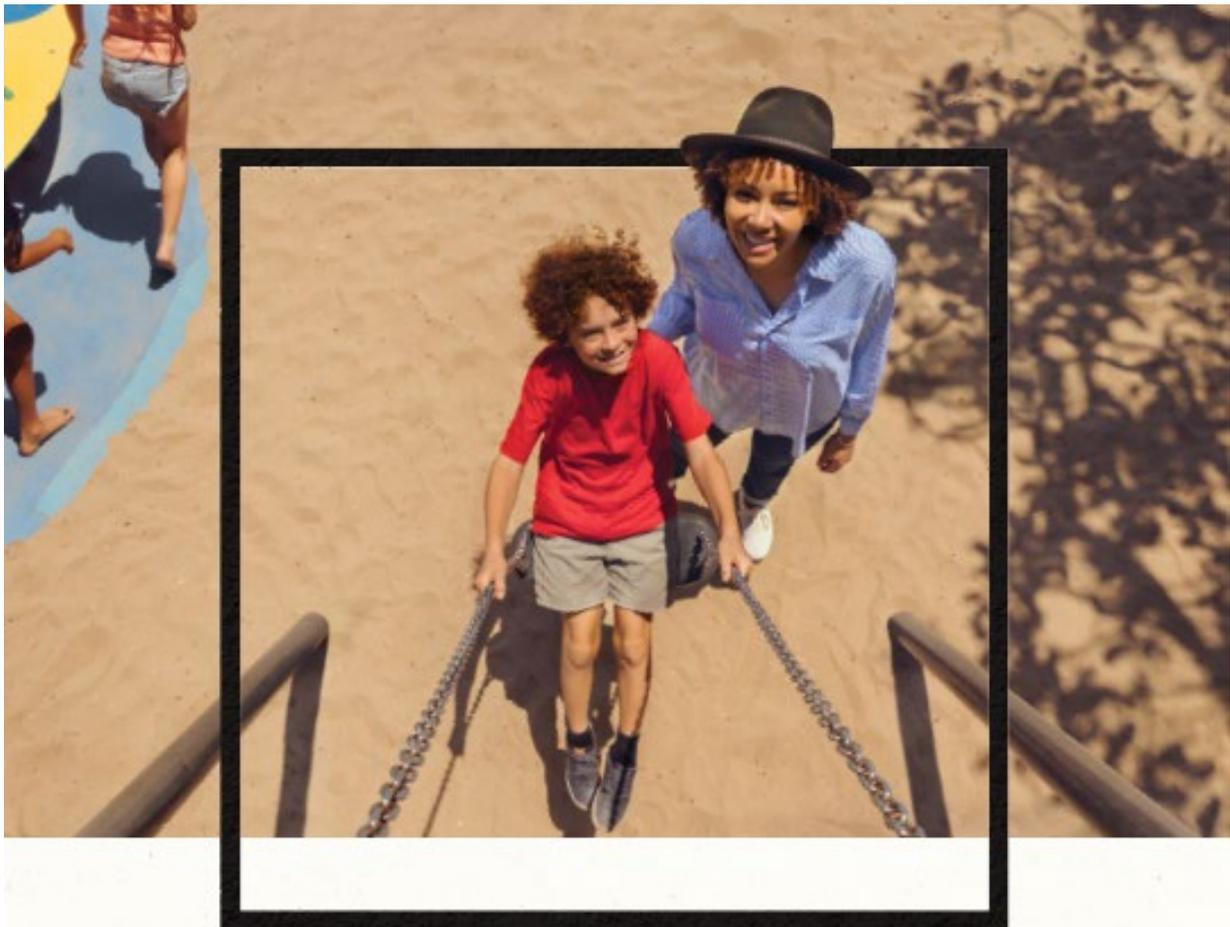
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS**  
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*My local park*

*My local vote*

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS  
**16 March 2024**



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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](https://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](https://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** – you must vote in your local government area, and you can find your local polling place [here](#). Bring your maroon Voter Information Card with you for quicker voting. You can vote from 8am to 6pm on election day.
- **Vote before election day** – you can vote before election day at an early voting centre in your local area. Bring your maroon Voter Information Card with you, for quicker voting. Visit the [ECQ website](#) to find an early voting centre and to check opening dates and times, which might be different in some regions.



- **Vote by post** – anyone can apply to postal vote. The most direct way to apply is via the [ECQ website](#) when applications open on Monday 29 January 2024 and before they close at 7pm on Monday 4 March 2024. When you receive your voting materials, you can complete your vote straight away but remember to read the instructions carefully first to ensure your vote can be included in the count. 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. Eligible electors include people needing assistance to vote because of an impairment, or who cannot physically vote at a polling centre, or because of an insufficient literacy level. Check the [ECQ website](#) for more information. 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, 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.

### Is there help for people who do not speak English or have limited English?

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.



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.

