

The Local Electoral Act 2001 permits a local authority to introduce Maaori representation (one or more Maaori wards in addition to general wards) for electoral purposes.

The Waikato District Council has resolved to hold a poll of electors on whether or not to introduce Maaori representation and a poll is to be held, by postal vote, on **Wednesday 4 April 2012**.

The poll will be conducted under the provisions of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 and the result of the poll will be binding on the Waikato District Council for at least the next two triennial elections (2013 and 2016).

Those eligible to vote at the poll are all resident electors and non-resident ratepayer electors whose names appear on the Electoral Roll for the Waikato District Council. The Preliminary Electoral Roll is available for public inspection from **Tuesday 17 January 2012** to **Tuesday 14 February 2012** at the following locations:

- **Waikato District Council Head Office**, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia;
- **Huntly Office and Library**, 142 Main Street, Huntly;
- **Raglan Office and Library**, 7 Bow Street, Raglan;
- **Tuakau Office**, 2 Dominion Rd, Tuakau;
- **Te Kauwhata Library**, 1 Main Road, Te Kauwhata
- **Tuakau Library**, 72 George Street, Tuakau.

Voting packs, which will include a voting document, an information sheet on Maaori representation and a pre-paid return envelope, will be posted to all eligible electors from **Tuesday 13 March 2012**.

The three week voting period will be **Tuesday 13 March 2012** to **noon Wednesday 4 April 2012**. Electors are encouraged to post their completed voting document back to the electoral officer. A polling place for the issuing and receiving of special voting documents and for the receiving of ordinary voting documents will be available during the voting period from each of the above Waikato District Council offices.

To be counted, all completed voting documents must be in the hands of the electoral officer or an electoral official, by **noon Wednesday 4 April 2012**.

Preliminary results will be known as soon as they are available on the afternoon, **Wednesday 4 April 2012** and will be accessible on Council's website (www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz).

For further information regarding this poll, please contact the electoral office:

Phone: **0800 922 822** *Fax:* (09) 307 7443 *Email:* info@electionservices.org.nz

Write to: The Electoral Officer
Waikato District Council
Private Bag 544
Ngaruawahia 3742