



COUNCIL ELECTIONS AND CANDIDATE INFORMATION SESSION

Council elections will be held across the State on 21 October 2023 and for the first time the Shire of Goomalling will be holding a postal election. This is where you will be sent a ballot paper through the mail and will need to send it back the same way. This year, Council will have four vacancies being decided at the election and should there be more than four candidates, the election will go ahead. The WA Electoral Commission (WAEC) will manage the election on Councils behalf as the State Government has mandated Optional Preferential Voting as the method of election.

For instance, if there are 5 candidates, you will now be able to vote for 1 candidate only, or list your preferences from 1 up to 4 if you so desire with a reduced vote value for each candidate following number 1 (based on a quota system). This creates a very complex counting method and this is why the Council has opted for the WAEC to conduct the election and count.

The Shire of Goomalling will be holding a candidate information session for anyone considering nominating for the upcoming Council election. The session will be held on Tuesday 29th August at the Shire office at 7.00pm. At this session I will explain a little on how the election progresses, what you can and can't do as a candidate, how the Council operates and I will answer any questions you may have about the operations of the Council or the election.

If you would like further information or would prefer to meet on a one on one basis I will be happy to meet with any prospective candidates to discuss any of the above.

Recently the WA Local Government Association ran a webinar for prospective candidates and it has presentations by the WAEC and the Department for Local Government as well as discussing the roles and responsibilities. There is also a Q & A session included in the presentation. I am happy to provide a link to the recording of this webinar if anyone would like to view it. If you would like to book a spot for the information session, please send us an email at eaceo@goomalling.wa.gov.au or contact Tahnee on 9629 – 1101.

PETER BENTLEY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER