Easy English

Vote in the 2024 Melbourne City Council election





Victorian Electoral Commission

You can get this information in different ways



Other languages

Read page 26 to 27.



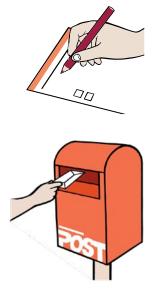
Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre helped the Victorian Electoral Commission write the first Easy English version of this book.

Authorised by S. Bluemmel, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

What is in this book?

About this book	What this book is about	4
Our democracy	What is voting? Australia's government	5 6
Your local council	Victorian local councils What councillors do	7 8
About voting	Enrol to vote Who else can enrol to vote? Do I have to vote?	9 10 11
Council elections	When is my local council election? How do I vote?	13 13
Voting in postal elections	My ballot pack How do I fill in my ballot papers?	14 16
Candidates	Who do I vote for? How do I become a candidate?	19 20
Meanings	Check the meanings of words	22
More information	Contact us How do I get this information in other languages?	25 26

About this book



This book is about

- Melbourne City Council elections
- how to vote
- voting
- how to become a candidate.

There are other books for people who vote in





Exy Septem Vote ready expose in prison other council elections

or

for people who are out of home

or

for people in prison.

Contact the VEC for more information. Read page 25 for how to contact us.

Our democracy



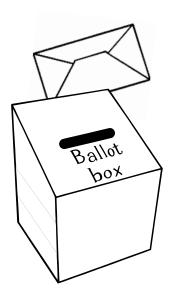
What is voting?

An election is when you make a choice about who is in charge.

To make a choice you need to **vote**.

All votes are equal.

Voting is your human right.



Voting is secret

You do **not** have to show anyone your vote.

Our democracy

Australia's government

Australia has 3 types of government

- Federal government
- State government
- local council.

W

Your vote helps to decide who is in charge.

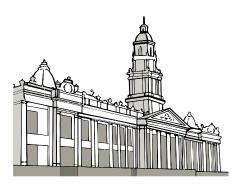
Every **Australian citizen** aged 18 years or older must enrol and vote.

You **must vote** at every Federal, State and local council election.

If you do **not** vote you may have to pay a fine.



Your local council



Victorian local councils

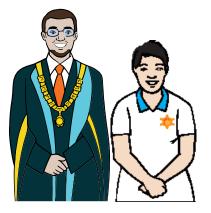
Victoria has 79 local councils. For the Melbourne City Council election, you will get 2 ballot papers.



You will be choosing 9 people.

These people are called **councillors**.

There will be one ballot paper for the councillors.



Melbourne City Council has a Leadership Team.

This team is the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor. They are the leaders of the council.

There will one ballot paper for the Leadership Team.



Your local council

What councillors do

Your councillors and the Leadership Team make decisions about



- community services
- TIRACLARAY
- libraries
- roads and footpaths
- rubbish and recycling
- public buildings and halls
- building and construction
- dog and cat registration.



About voting



Enrol to vote

To vote in the Melbourne City Council election you must be enrolled. Every Australian citizen aged 18 years of age and over must enrol to vote.

You can only vote once in the Melbourne City Council election.

You can enrol online at vec.vic.gov.au

If you want a paper enrolment form, phone the VEC on 131 832.

1 it

Since the last election have you

- changed your address?
- changed your name?

You must tell the VEC.



About voting

Who else can enrol to vote?

Special enrolment rules apply in the City of Melbourne.



O Town

They apply to

 people who run companies in the City of Melbourne, for example, company directors and company secretaries





• people who live in the City of Melbourne and are **not** Australian citizens.

You may already be enrolled if you own or occupy property in Melbourne City Council and pay rates.

Call the Melbourne City Council election hotline on 1300 735 427 for more information about enrolment.

About voting



Do I have to vote?

Yes.

If you are enrolled you **must** vote in the Melbourne City Council elections.

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You will be sent 2 different ballot papers and you need to vote on both.

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one for the Leadership Team

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and

• one for the councillors.

If you get a ballot pack but **do not** vote, you may be sent a letter.

You will be asked why you did **not** vote.

You may have to pay a fine.



Council elections

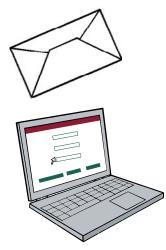
How do I know about Melbourne City Council elections?

You will hear about the Melbourne City Council elections

- on the VEC website vec.vic.gov.au
- in city newspapers
- on social media
- on radio
- by getting a ballot pack in the mail.
- if you are on the State roll and have asked for VoterAlert reminders.







Council elections

When are the Melbourne City Council
elections?

Melbourne City Council elections are held in October every 4 years. Ballot packs are mailed out in October.

Contact the VEC if you **do not** get your ballot pack by Tuesday 15 October.

Read page 25 for how to contact us.



OCTOBER 2024

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How do I vote?

You will get a ballot pack in the mail. Read pages 14 to 18 for more information on how to vote.

Voting in postal elections



Your ballot pack

You will get a **ballot pack** in the mail.

Your ballot pack has



instructions about how to vote

• a ballot paper for the Leadership Team

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a ballot paper for the councillors.



Voting in postal elections

Candidate	This ballot pack contains 2 ballot paperc one for councilios and one for the leadership team (Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor), follow the test success on each ballot paper to complete your work.
information	Before working, you can use the information in this bookliet to learn more about each candidate and their voting preferences.
Melbourne City Council elections 2024	Remember, any voting preferences given by candidates are just a suggestion. You can fill in your ballot in order of your preference.
	This booklet is divided into 2 sections for each ballot pape Candidates are listed in the order they appear on the ballot paper.

 a booklet with words and photos from the candidates

and

@ ===

 information showing which candidates get your votes if you vote 1 above the line on the large ballot paper



a ballot paper envelope to sign

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Local post has collector tenan way. Onch the collection time on par porthese to calle our your with the first on time.		Reply Paid 93842 MELBOURNE VC 3000



 a bigger reply paid envelope for the return of your ballot paper envelope.

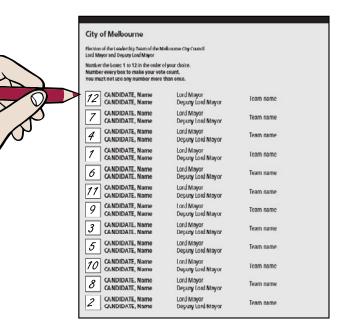
Contact the VEC if you **do not** get your ballot pack by Tuesday 15 October. Read page 25 for how to contact us.

How do I fill in my ballot paper?

This is an example of a Leadership Team ballot paper.

You must put a number in each box on the ballot paper.

- write 1 in the box next to the team who you want to win.
- write 2 in the box next to your second choice
- keep numbering until every box has a number
- use numbers only.



Voting in postal elections

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This is an example of a councillor ballot paper.

You can put a 1 in the box above the line

for the councillor group you want to win.

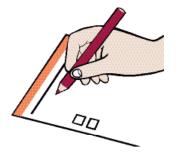
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OR		

Number **ALL** the boxes below the line in order of your choice.

Start from the number 1.

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Voting in postal elections



How to vote

- Fill in both your ballot papers.
- Put your finished ballot papers in the ballot paper envelope.

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• Complete your details and your date-of-birth. Then sign and date the ballot paper envelope.

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Post your completed ballot pack before 6 per on Friday 25 October		Election Manager Melbourne Gity Council
Local part has collection tenes very Check the collection time on part part backs enter your rate taxe the end on tene.		Reply Paid 93842 MELBOURNE VC 3000

Put your ballot paper envelope in the bigger addressed reply-paid envelope. You do **not** need a stamp.



- Put it in the post as soon as you can.
- Your votes must be in the mail or hand delivered by 6 pm on Friday 25 October.

Candidates



Who do I vote for?

People who want to be on the Melbourne City Council are called **candidates**.

You need to pick the people and team who you think will do the best job.

You need to choose councillors. You also need to choose the Leadership Team.

The Leadership Team is the 2 people who will be Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor.

Candidates

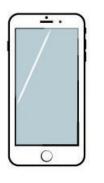


How do I get more information about the candidates?

Each candidate writes to voters about their ideas.

 You will get candidate statements in your ballot pack

or



You can phone the candidate and talk to them

This information will help you make a choice.

Contact details for candidates are on the VEC website.



Candidates





How do I become a candidate?

- you must be an Australian citizen
- you must be on the roll for this election.

You must fill out a form. Ask the VEC for the form that says you want to be a councillor or part of the Leadership Team.

You must pay \$250. You get this money back if you win or get enough votes.

Provide your completed form and payment to the **Election Manager** for your council.

Some people cannot be a candidate.

Ask the Victorian Electoral Commission for more information.

Read page 25 for how to contact us.



Meanings











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Check the meanings of words

Australian citizen — a person who was born in Australia

or

who was born overseas but now lives in Australia. This person has made a special promise to follow all the laws of Australia. This person has become an Australian citizen.

Ballot paper envelope — an envelope where you put your filled-in ballot papers. It has a special flap on it. You sign your name and write the date on this flap.

Ballot pack — a set of papers, envelopes and instructions to use for postal voting.

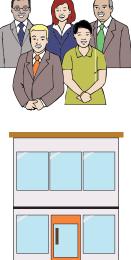
Ballot paper — a sheet of paper you write your vote on.

Candidate — a person who wants to be a councillor or on the Leadership Team.

Candidate statements — information about each candidate in your ballot pack.



Meanings



Councillors — a group of people chosen by the people enrolled to vote in the City of Melbourne.

Company — A place, like an office, shop or factory, where people work.

Company director — is a leader from a group of workers who makes decisions about the business.



Company secretary — A company secretary is a senior position in a company, normally with management responsibility.

Democracy — a country where people have the right to vote for who is in charge.

Deputy Lord Mayor — the deputy leader of the council.



Election — making a decision by voting or choosing someone.



Meanings

Election Manager — the person in charge of your local council election.

Enrol — put your name on a list to vote.

Leadership Team — the team who will be Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor.

Local council — your local area and the people who make decisions about it.

Lord Mayor — the leader of the council.

Postal vote — voting at home and sending your vote in the mail. All local council elections use postal voting. Use the ballot pack you get in the mail.

Vote or voting — to make your choice on your ballot papers.

VoterAlert — free SMS or email service for voting reminders if you are on the State roll.





24

More information





Contact us

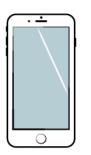
You can get more information from the Victorian Electoral Commission.

Website	vec.vic.gov.au
Email	info@vec.vic.gov.au

Postal address

Victorian Electoral Commission,

Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000







Phone

131 832

+ 61 3 8620 1100 (from outside Victoria)

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, and/or have speech impairment phone National Relay Service 133 677 and ask for 03 8620 1100.

For speech-to-speech relay phone 1300 555 727 and ask for 03 8620 1100.



How do I get this information in another language?

عربي (Modern Standard Arabic) للحصول على مساعدة الترجمة الفورية، اتصل بالرقم 0100 9209 03.

> **ڵۿۏۮٞؾ**ڒ (Assyrian Neo-Aramaic) ڡٞۮ_اۑۮػڐۿۮ ڊ؋ڹڎۿۮ ڊ؋ۮڸڰڡٚؾۯ، ڣ؊ؾڌ؋_٢، 03 9209 016

မြန်မာ (Burmese) စကားပြန် အကူအညီအတွက် ဖုန်း 03 9209 0161 ကိုခေါ်ဆိုပါ။

廣東話 (Cantonese) 如需口譯員協助,請致電 03 9209 0101。

Hrvatski (Croatian) Za pomoć tumača, nazovite 03 9209 0102.

دری (Dari) برای گرفتن کمک از ترجمان شفاهی، با شماره 0193 009 03 به تماس شوید.

Thuɔŋjäŋ (Dinka) Tënë görë yï kuɔny raan agamlöŋ/athook, ke yuɔ̈p 03 9209 0119.

Ελληνικά (Greek) Για βοήθεια από διερμηνέα, καλέστε στο 03 9209 0103 .

> **آزرگی** (Hazaragi) بلده کمک ترجمان، به شماره 0162 03 و300 زنگ بزنید.

Italiano (Italian)

Per richiedere l'assistenza di un interprete, chiamare il numero 03 9209 0104.

How do I get this information in another language?

ខ្មែ រ (Khmer) សម្រាប់ជំនួយអ្នកបកប្រែផ្ទាល់មាត់ សូមហៅទូរសព្ទលេខ 03 9209 0192 .

한국어 (Korean) 통역사 지원을 받으시려면03 9209 0194 로 전화하십시오.

Македонски (Macedonian) За помош за преведувач, јавете се на 03 9209 0105.

普通话 (Mandarin) 如需口译协助,请致电 03 9209 0106。

नेपाली (Nepali) दोभाषे सहायताको लागि, 03 9209 0163 मा फोन गर्नुहोस्।

فارسی (Persian – Farsi) برای دریافت کمک از مترجم شفاهی، با شماره 0195 03 03 تماس بگیرید.

ไทย (Thai) หากต้องการความช่วยเหลือจากล่าม โทร 03 9209 0164 .

Türkçe (Turkish) Sözlü tercüman yardımı için 03 9209 0110 numaralı telefonu arayın.

> **اردو** (Urdu) مترجم ک*ی* مدد کے لیے، 0165 9209 03 پر کال کریں۔

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

Muốn có thông dịch viên giúp, hãy gọi 03 9209 0111 .

All other languages

To speak to us in any other language, phone (03) 9209 0112.

Other Easy English guides available from the VEC:

- Vote in 2024 local council elections
- Enrolling and voting for people out of home
- Vote ready Enrolling and voting for people in prison

Address all enquiries to the Victorian Electoral Commission, Level 11, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

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