

Council Elections 2020



Banyule
CITY COUNCIL

Prospective Candidate Information





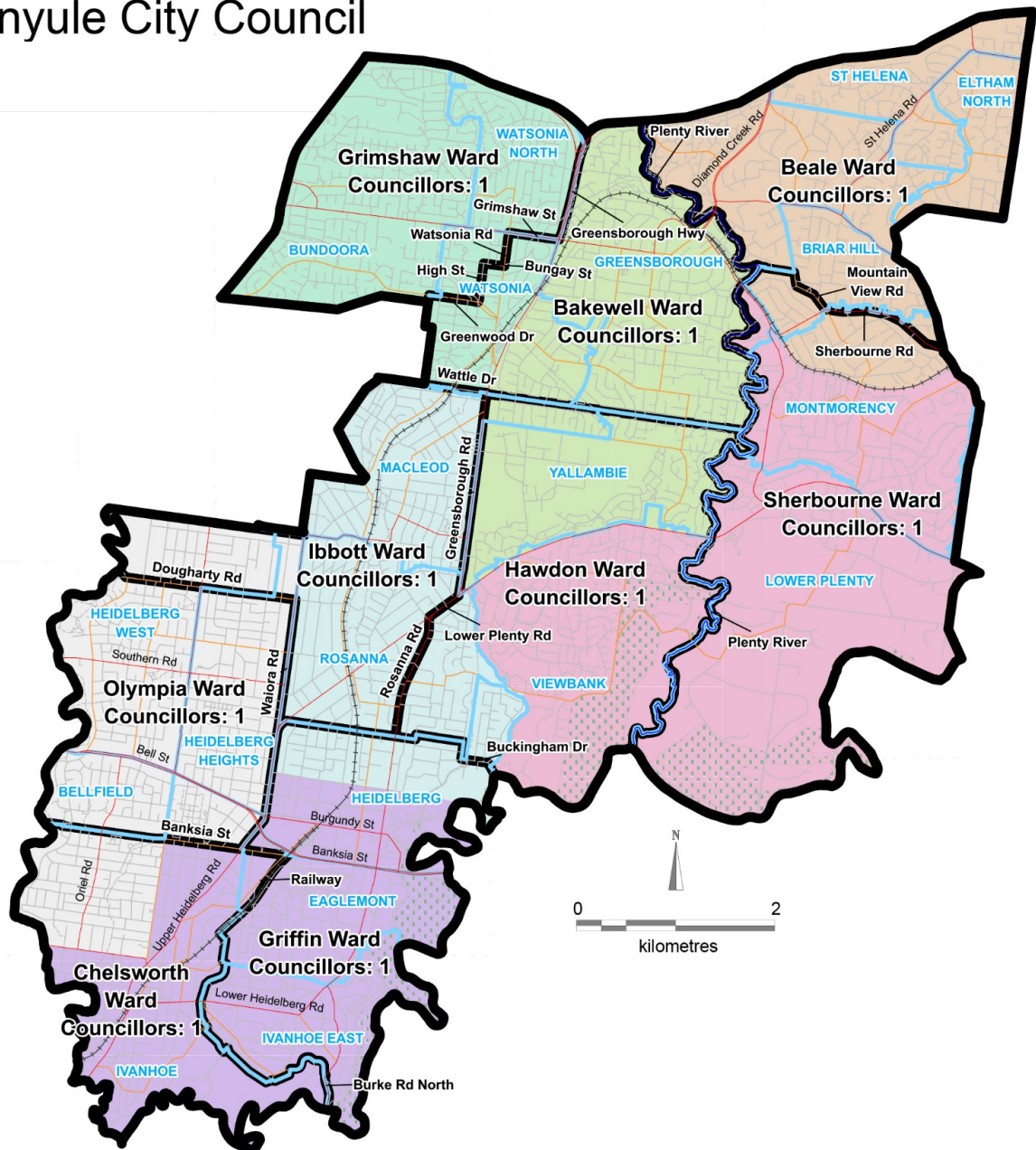
About Banyule

Banyule is a municipality covering approximately 63 square kilometres and approximately 52,000+ properties and over 99,000 voters. At the October 2020 election Banyule will consist of 9 wards with one councillor elected as representative for each ward. This is known as single-member wards. As a Councillor you will be representing an average of 11,000 voters and will work with other elected members of Council to make important decisions about the well-being of the whole community.

Ward	Current Voters
Bakewell	11,447
Beale	11,111
Chelsworth	10,539
Griffin	10,631
Grimshaw	11,395
Hawdon	11,481
Ibbott	10,386
Olympia	11,150
Sherbourne	11,018
Total	99,158

Ward information

Banyule City Council



Election 2020

Council elections will be held on Saturday 24 October 2020. Councillors are elected for a four year term.

Banyule's structure

At the October 2020 election Banyule will consist of 9 wards with one councillor elected as representative for each ward. The system of voting used is full preferential.

Postal voting

The Minister for Local Government has set postal voting as the uniform method of voting for all Victorian Councils in the 2020 election.

Compulsory voting

Voting is compulsory for those who reside in the municipality and whose name is on the voters' roll. Fines will be imposed for not voting.

Thinking of running as a candidate?

Here is some information to help with this exciting decision.

(A person is not a candidate until they officially nominate and their nomination has been validated by the VEC and therefore should not refer to oneself as a candidate until such time).

Councillor responsibilities

As a Councillor you will make important decisions on behalf of the community. Did you know as a Councillor you will be responsible for:

- Providing leadership and good governance to the community
- Developing and maintaining community infrastructure like roads, drains, footpaths, building, recreation facilities and parks and gardens
- Managing budgets
- Planning for the future growth and development of the whole municipality
- Contributing to policy and programs that impact the community
- Provide a diverse range of property, economic, human, recreational & cultural services
- Reinforcing state & local laws relating to environmental protection, public health, traffic and parking and animal management.

What to expect

- Every day can be different, as a Councillor you will perform a diverse range of tasks.
- Council meetings are held every 3 weeks on a Monday with Councillor Briefing sessions held every other Monday.
- Banyule has multiple Advisory Committees which Councillors can elect to be part of.
- The part-time role of a Councillor is often undertaken while juggling family, community and paid work responsibilities. It is up to each individual Councillor to determine how much time is spent on Council matters.

What support is available?

Comprehensive induction of all Councillors is undertaken at the begin of each term and continued training opportunities are offered and conducted throughout your entire term as a Councillor.

At the beginning of an elected term all Councillors are offered equipment to undertake their new roles. This includes a personal computer device and mobile phone.

Financial allowances available to Councillors include:

- Travel allowance for Council related meetings and;
- Childcare

Banyule Council is considered a category 3 Council and the current top of the range allowances available are:

- Councillor \$31,444 and
- Mayoral Allowances \$100,434

Campaigning

Each candidate has to decide what initiatives and strategies they will use to persuade voters to support them. This could include:

- Door knocking
- Advertising
- Social Media
- Letterboxing
- Radio

There are some limitations in the Local Government Act to what types of material can be published and authorised.

Candidates may be approached from time to time while campaigning, by residents with service requests or complaints. Candidates must not seek to act as an intermediary between the resident and Council in these matters. Council will not liaise with candidates in relation to resolving the service issue or complaint of a third party, they will only deal directly with the affected party.

Candidates should direct residents to Council's enquiries@banyule.vic.gov.au

How to get started?

There are a number of things you can do to help inform your approach and prepare for this exciting varied role:

- View a Council meeting
- Read Council's Election Period Policy
- Talk to a current or former Councillor
- Go to Council information sessions before the elections – refer Council's website for upcoming sessions.
- Research current issues
- What is important to you? Identify issues you are interested in, talk to like-minded people in your community
- Identify compatible candidates or Councillors in other councils and talk to them.
- If you are interested in representing a political party, contact them to organise assistance and training
- Find people who are willing to support your campaign (family, friends, neighbours, committee members)
- Note all relevant dates, when nominations open and close etc
- Determine which ward you want to run in and meet with as many people in your ward as possible to understand their needs.

Candidate training and information sessions

Refer to Council's website for up to date training and information sessions.

Under the Local Government Act 2020 all candidates must undertake mandatory training prior to nominating. Information regarding mandatory training will be provided on Council's website.

Useful websites

Victorian Electoral Commission: www.vec.vic.gov.au

Australian Electoral Commission: www.aec.gov.au

Victorian Local Governance Association: www.vlga.org.au/

Know Your Council: knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au/

How do I find out more?

If you want to know more about being a candidate or Councillor please contact Gina Burden, Manager Governance and Communication on 9490 4222.

How to become a Candidate?

To become a candidate you must be an Australian citizen and enrolled as a voter for the council you wish to stand.

1. Complete the nomination form from the VEC and pay the prescribed fee of \$250
2. Lodge the completed form and fee in person between Monday 17 September 2020 and midday 22 September 2020, Nomination Day.

Contact the VEC for exceptions and further advice and details of eligibility.