

INSTRUCTIONS FOR

special

VOTING

E7

1996

If you have this brochure,
please check that you also have:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Declaration Form | to establish your qualification to vote |
| Ballot Paper | for election of members of Parliament |
| Voting Paper | if a poll is being held on any other issue
(not at a by-election) |
| Voting Envelope | for returning the declaration, ballot paper
(and any other voting papers issued to you)
to a polling official |

NOTE: (i) At a general election you will also receive party lists which contain the names of party candidates in the order the party wishes to see these candidates elected to Parliament.

(ii) When voting at a general election, those normally living in certain Auckland or Wellington suburbs will also receive an additional voting paper for a Local Restoration Poll option (not at a by-election).

(iii) For a stand alone Citizens Initiated Referendum Poll you will only receive a voting paper. Therefore any reference to a ballot paper in these instructions should be ignored.



A Tear off the perforated page on the right and give it to the person who is witnessing your declaration

Before you begin to fill in the declaration or cast your vote, carefully read the declaration, the ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to you) and this brochure. Once you have done this, follow the instructions below to complete your declaration and cast your vote.

B Complete the declaration

To ensure that your special vote counts, you **must correctly complete Panels A, B and C** on the declaration. Carefully follow the instructions below and on the declaration.

B1 Complete Panel A of the declaration.

Write your surname here _____

Write your first names here _____

Write your occupation here _____

Write your contact telephone number here _____

Write your date of birth here _____ (this is optional)

If you used to be known by another name, write it here (this is optional) _____

Write the address of where you reside now _____

If **you** have resided here less than one month, please write the address of the last place where you resided continuously for at least one month _____

This section will have been completed by a polling official. It will show the electorate in which you reside (or if you have not resided there continuously for one month, it will show the last electorate in which you resided continuously for at least one month). If you think the electorate written here is not your correct electorate, please return the papers to the place of issue to obtain replacement paper.

Panel A Details of Elector and Electorate

My surname or family name is: _____

My full given or first names are: _____

My occupation is: _____

My contact telephone number is: _____

My date of birth is: _____ (You do not have to show your date of birth but you will help with the checking of your enrolment if you do so)

If your name has changed since you enrolled, please complete the following statement:
My former name was: _____

(You do not have to show your former name but you will help with the checking of your enrolment if you do so)

My present residential address is:

Flat/House No. _____

Street/Road _____

Town, city or locality _____

I have resided at this address for: One month or more ☒ Tick one Less than one month ☐

If less than one month show below the last address at which you resided continuously for at least one month

Flat/House No. _____

Street/Road _____

Town, city or locality _____

I am qualified to vote in the electorate of _____

This must be the electorate in which you resided continuously for at least one month.

INITIALS _____

SAMPLE

B2 Complete Panel B of the declaration.

Place a tick in the appropriate circle(s) to indicate why you are eligible for a special Vote.

B3 Complete Panel C of the declaration.

In the presence of a witness, sign your name and write today's date here

Your witness must sign this space

Your witness must be one of the following:

- a solicitor, Justice of the Peace, or other person authorised to take a statutory declaration; or
- a person approved for the purpose by the Returning Officer; or
- a relative; or
- a member of your household; or
- a registered New Zealand elector.

Panel C Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief both the details given in Panel A and the ground(s) marked with a tick in Panel B are true.

Signature of elector

Date

I certify that the elector named above signed the Declaration in my presence.

Signature Of Witness

Is the Witness the Issuing Officer?

Yes • Give your Official Mark in Panel

No • Go to Panel F and complete Details of Witness

SAMPLE

B4 Get your witness to complete the Details of Witness panel on the declaration.

This is Panel E on form E83 and Panel F on form E8

Checklist for voter

- ☐ I have completed Panel A
- ☐ I have completed Panel B
- ☐ I have signed and dated Panel C
- ☐ My witness has signed Panel C
- ☐ My witness has completed the Details of Witness panel

> If all these boxes have been ticked, then fold the declaration in half and put it in the compartment of the voting envelope marked **Declaration** and seal that compartment.

Refer to the back page for voting information.

A Instructions for witness

A witness must be one of the following:

- a solicitor, Justice of the Peace, or other person authorised to take a statutory declaration; or
- a person approved for the purpose by the Returning Officer; or
- a relative; or
- a member of the voter's household; or
- a registered New Zealand elector.

B Completing the declaration

B1 Assist the voter if they need help in completing Panel A of the declaration.

B2 Assist the voter if they need help in completing Panel B of the declaration.

B3 Witness the voter's completion of Panel C of the declaration by signing your name in the space provided.

B4 Complete the Details of Witness panel on the declaration. This is Panel E on form E83 and Panel F on form E81.

Write your surname here

Write your first names here

Write your present residential address here

Tick one of these circles to indicate in what capacity you have witnessed the declaration

Panel F Details of Witness If witness is NOT the Issuing Officer

My surname is:

My full given or first names are:

My residential address is:

Flat/House
No.

Street/Road
Town/city
or locality

Qualification of witness

Solicitor

Justice of the Peace

Other person authorised to
take a statutory declaration

Person approved for the purpose
by the Returning Officer

✓ Tick one

Relative of the voter

Member of the household of the voter

Registered New Zealand elector

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Other

Checklist for witness

- I have checked that the voter has completed Panels A and B and signed Panel C
- I have signed Panel C
- I have completed the Details of Witness panel

C Assisting with voting

You should make sure that the voter understands the instructions for completing the ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to them). You ***must not attempt to see how the voter votes.***

Assistance: If the voter is blind or partially blind, unable to read or write, has severe difficulty in reading and writing, or has difficulty with the English language, you may assist the voter either (a) by marking the ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to them) if requested in accordance with the voter's instructions; or (b) by helping the voter to mark them. ***'This does not apply to a witness who has been appointed by a candidate.'***

Checklist for witness

- ☐ The voter has placed their ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to them) in the compartment of the voting envelope marked **Ballot and/or Voting Papers** and has sealed that compartment.
- ☐ The voter knows that their voting envelope must reach a polling officer before 7 pm on polling day.

C Cast your vote

C1 *Cast your vote by marking the ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to you). Follow any instructions printed on the papers.*

Assistance: If you are blind or partially blind, unable to read or write, have severe difficulty in reading and writing, or have difficulty with the English language, your witness can assist you either (a) by marking the ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to you) in accordance with your instructions; or (b) by helping you to mark them. **This does not apply to a witness who has been appointed by a candidate.**

C2 *Fold your completed ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to you). Insert the paper or papers into the compartment of the voting envelope marked **Ballot and/or Voting Paper** and seal that compartment.*

C3 *Forward your sealed voting envelope to a polling official without delay by:*
(a) handing it to a polling officer at any polling place; or
(b) delivering it or posting it to any Returning Officer.

Your voting envelope must be in the hands of a polling official by 7 pm on polling day. Any voting envelope received after that time will not be counted. ***Your voting envelope may be handed to a polling officer at any polling booth.***

Think carefully about how you are going to return your sealed voting envelope to ensure that it arrives on time. If you are posting the envelope, make sure it has a postage stamp on it.

Checklist for voter

- ☐ I have marked my ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to me) as instructed
- ☐ I have placed my ballot paper (and any other voting papers issued to me) in the compartment of the voting envelope marked **Ballot and/or Voting Papers**
- ☐ I have sealed the compartment of the voting envelope marked **Ballot and/or Voting Papers**
- ☐ I will make sure that my voting envelope reaches a polling official before 7 pm on polling day

MMP EXPLAINED IN TWO TICKS

**You have two votes,
one for a party
and one for a person**

Your Party Vote is for the party you prefer.
Your Electorate Vote is for the person
you would like to be the MP for your local
electorate.



Your Party Vote

**The Party Votes decide the total
number of seats each party gets in
Parliament.**

Here's how...

We each vote for our preferred party with
our **Party Vote**.

Each party's share of all the **Party Votes**
decides its overall share of all the 120 seats in
Parliament. (See the last box for how a party's
share of seats is made up of its electorate seats
and list seats.)

The more seats a party has, the more
influence it is likely to have in deciding what
laws are passed and how the country is run.

How a party's share of seats is decided

Each party gets seats in Parliament based on its share
of all the **Party Votes**.

For example, if a party gets 40% of all the **Party Votes**,
it gets 40% of all the seats in Parliament: 40% of 120 seats
= 48 seats.

If another party gets 10%
of all the **Party Votes**, it gets
10% of all the seats in
Parliament, i.e. 12 seats.

And so on.



But...

A party must get at least 5% of all the **Party Votes**
or win an electorate seat to get a share of the seats in
Parliament.

This is called the threshold.

A party that doesn't get over the threshold won't
have any seats in Parliament.



Your Electorate Vote

**The Electorate Votes decide who will be the MP for
your electorate.**

The person who gets the most **Electorate Votes** in each
electorate is elected the MP for that seat.

There are 60 General electorates and 5 Maori electorates.
So, the **Electorate Votes** will decide 65 of the 120 seats
in Parliament.

The other 55 seats in Parliament will be filled by MPs
elected from the party lists.

The Party List MPs

Remember, the total number of seats for each party is decided by its share of
all the **Party Votes** - provided it gets over the threshold.

A party's seats are filled by list MPs, electorate MPs, or a combination of both.

If a party has some electorate MPs but not enough to reach its
rightful total of seats, it tops up to its total with MPs from its party list.

If a party hasn't won any electorate seats, all its MPs will be
list MPs.

And a party will not have any list MPs if it has enough
electorate MPs to fill its rightful share of seats.



IF YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MMP

Internet <http://www.govt.nz/elections>

MMP: IT TAKES JUST TWO TICKS



Electoral Commission
Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri