

How to return your completed voting paper



Post your voting document no later than **Friday, 9 October 2026**, or **drop** your completed voting paper into any of the Buller District Council branded ballot bins before voting closes. The bin locations are listed below.

VOTING CLOSSES AT 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2026

- Buller District Council**
6-8 Brougham Street, Westport
- New World Westport**
244 Palmerston Street, Westport
- FreshChoice Westport**
18 Fonblanque Street, Westport

» Candidate Profiles

2026 By-election of one councillor for the **Westport Ward**

DUNLOP Andrew

My principal residence is within the Westport Ward area.

Voting for Andrew Dunlop, a 58-year-old Westport resident who has used common sense and practical ability through my life.

I believe a council that lives within its ratepayers' needs, listens to its communities. I believe a strong representative is required to ensure ratepayers are represented fairly at the council table.

No photo supplied

HAMILL Pauline

My principal residence is NOT within the Westport Ward area.

Who is Pauline Hamill?

If you're looking for someone who always agrees with everyone, I'm probably not your candidate.

I'm outspoken, I ask questions, and I fact-check before forming an opinion. I believe council decisions should be based on evidence, facts and sound judgement.

Council processes are complicated. I've been committed to explaining them in plain language. Whether it was my support for the Messenger arrangement or any other issue, you'll know where I stand and you'll know why.

When I was videoed driving on the footpath, I owned it. I accepted responsibility because that's who I am.

Powerhouse Road is split down the centre line. One side is Westport Ward, the other Northern Buller. I'm 300 metres on the wrong side, but Westport has always been my community.

On your behalf, I'll ask questions, check the facts and never expect you to just simply take my word for it.



HILL Jack

My principal residence is within the Westport Ward area.

Buller faces significant challenges: economic uncertainty, rising living costs, pressure on ratepayers, and the need for stronger, more united leadership. I believe our district can do better.

As a Buller District Council insider working in the governance space, I understand how Council operates, the legislative framework we work within, and where meaningful improvements can be made. I will advocate for a Council that is efficient, transparent, fair, and focused on delivering results for our communities.

I firmly believe Buller's high rates are a symptom of a much broader issue. Lasting affordability won't come from cost-cutting alone, but from growing our economy. By attracting investment, strengthening partnerships, and supporting sustainable industries, we can create jobs, improve financial resilience, and reduce long-term pressure on ratepayers.

Buller has enormous potential. With innovation, sound planning, and collaborative leadership, we can build a stronger future together.

For a true future for Buller. Vote Jack Hill.



McCORMACK Paul

My principal residence is within the Westport Ward area.

I've lived in Charleston for eight years.

I'm committed to living in Buller as a retired member of the community. Like other Buller citizens, I want to see Buller survive and thrive, and the community to regain confidence in the Council.

I first worked on the Coast in 1976 as a junior doctor at Grey Hospital. My life experience has been in health as a doctor, a senior manager and chair and then as a ministerial advisor.

I was Chairman of the West Coast DHB in 2009-2014. I was instrumental in getting the hospital built in Greymouth.

Through my life, I've found that in almost every sector, "it's all about people" I'd like to serve this community as one of your Councillors.

The Council faces a confronting future with political demands and unreasonable constraints.

My priorities are

Transparency and Accountability

Prioritising activities

Building the Confidence of the Community

Financial prudence



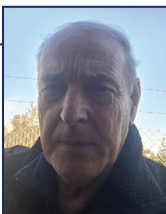
PALMER Glen

My principal residence is within the Westport Ward area.

I own and operate a local engineering company that has a long history of local engineering, construction and services. It is now also providing engineering supplies to the coast with travel to Haast and Wanaka on a regular basis.

My education was finishing high school in Christchurch (1968) and then completing NZCE (Mechanical) in 1971 while working full-time.

I returned to Westport in 1981 and over time took over the family business along with my brother Leigh. I am in a position to provide a wide range of skills which could compliment the present councillors experience and would support a more united focus on the best direction for our future. Given that there are more jobs and projects than there is money available, I can see the importance of having good cost benefit analysis for the right decisions that our future depends on.

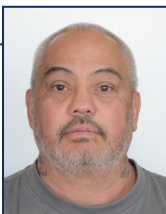


WARD Douglas

My principal residence is within the Westport Ward area.

I live in Westport. I was born in Kaiapoi but am Buller now through and through. I worked at Talleys and currently work in the mining industry. My kids go to St Canice's and Buller High School. They play rugby basketball and volleyball. Westport is our home.

To be honest I just want to know the answers. I've got the same questions as everyone and I want to ask the questions you have and let you know the answers that are given. No sugar coating. Thanks for giving me a chance.



Disclaimer: This candidate profile sheet has been compiled under the Local Electoral Act 2001. The Act provides that an electoral officer is not required to verify or investigate any information included in candidate profile statements and is not responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in such statements.