**Survey Questions – Offline**

You can share your views on the Independent Electoral Review by completing this survey.   
The questions in the survey are the same as those in our [Consultation Document](https://electoralreview.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-document/) and online at: <https://consultations.justice.govt.nz/policy/independent-electoral-review/>.

Visit the review website at <https://electoralreview.govt.nz/>.

**Introduction**

The Independent Electoral Review covers almost everything to do with how elections work. There are four areas that we are asking you to consider and provide your thoughts on, each of which covers several key topics:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Picture of Parliament to represent the voting system** | **The voting system**  This area includes representation in Parliament, the length of the parliamentary term, how election dates are set, and the process for filling vacancies. |
| **Picture of people to represent voters** | **Voters**  This area includes voter eligibility and enrolment, how people can vote, what happens in emergencies and disruption, and how the vote is counted. |
| **Picture of people talking to represent parties and candidates** | **Parties and candidates**  This area includes eligibility for candidates and political parties, how they are funded and regulated, and rules for election campaigns and advertisements. |
| **Picture of cogs to represent electoral administration** | **Electoral administration**  This area includes running elections, administering electoral rolls, and setting electorate boundaries, as well as enforcement, dispute resolution, disinformation, misinformation, and foreign interference. |

**How to fill out this survey**

This survey is divided into the below topics, to make it easier to navigate. You can choose whether to comment on a single topic, a few topics, or the whole review. You do not need to read all the Consultation Document nor answer all the questions to contribute.

If you would like to make a general comment, we invite you to do so under 'General.'

There is also space under 'Any other comments' for comments not captured by the topics or questions we've provided.

Send your submission to us via email ([secretariat@electoralreview.govt.nz](mailto:secretariat@electoralreview.govt.nz)) or via post:

Independent Electoral Review

Free Post 113

PO Box 180

Wellington 6140

The closing date for all submissions is **14 November 2022**. Submissions received after this time may not be able to be considered. If this closing date might affect or prevent your (or your organisation’s) participation, please let us know.

**What happens to your feedback?**

Once we've heard everyone's views on our current electoral laws, we will develop proposals for the future of our electoral system.

In 2023, we'll invite feedback on our draft recommendations. We will consider this feedback before providing our final report to the Minister of Justice at the end of the year.

**Privacy and Official Information**

* The panel intends to release the submissions that it receives. This survey includes a question on whether you are comfortable with your name and comments being released.
* Your submission could also be subject to a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Official Information Act). We will take your views into account when responding to requests under the Official Information Act.
* The Privacy Act 2020 governs how the Independent Electoral Review collects, holds, uses, and shares personal information about you and the information you provide. You have the right to access and to correct this personal information.

**About you**

What is your name?

What is your organisation? (If relevant)

What is your email address?

**Permission to publish submission**

Submissions will be published after engagement has ended. If you would like your submission to be anonymised, please let us know. If you do not want some or all of your submission to be published, please identify which content and let us know why.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Please select only one item* | |
|  | Publish response |
|  | Publish response anonymously (this will remove all personal identifiers) |
|  | Do not publish response |
|  | Other (please specify) |

**Demographic information**

The questions below are optional. This information is being collected for statistical purposes, so we can know who this survey has reached. It will not be published in a way that identifies individuals and we will not give this information to other government agencies.

Gender

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Please select only one item* | |
|  | Man |
|  | Woman |
|  | Another gender |
|  | Prefer not to say |

Age

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Please select only one item* | |
|  | * Under 18 |
|  | * 18 to 35 |
|  | * 36 to 50 |
|  | * 51 to 65 |
|  | * Over 65 |
|  | * Prefer not to say |

Ethnicity

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Please select all that apply* | | | |
|  | New Zealand European / Pākehā |  | * Tongan |
|  | Māori |  | * Niuean |
|  | Samoan |  | Chinese |
|  | Cook Island Maori |  | Indian |
|  | Prefer not to say | | |
|  | * Other (please specify) e.g., Dutch, Japanese, Tokelauan | | |

Do you identify with any of the below groups?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *Please select all that apply* | |
|  | Rainbow community |
|  | Disabled community |
|  | Living in a rural area |
|  | Living overseas |
|  | Other (please specify) |

**General**

If you’d like to make a general comment, please do so below.

What would you most like us to know as we consider changes to electoral law?

**Part I: The Voting System**

Please refer to pages 13 – 17 in the Consultation Document for more information:

<https://electoralreview.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-document.html>

**Representation in parliament**

1.1 What do you think the party vote threshold should be?

1.2 What are your views on the one electorate seat threshold?

1.3 What are your views on the overhang seats?

1.4 Do you think the ratio of electorate to list seats should be fixed?

**The parliamentary term and election timing**

1.5 What should the term of parliament be?

1.6 How should the election date be set?

**Vacancies in parliament**

1.7 What changes, if any, should be made to the current rules around vacancies in parliament?

**Part II: Voters**

Please refer to pages 18 – 28 in the Consultation Document for more information:

<https://electoralreview.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-document.html>

**Enrolling to vote**

2.1 What do you think the voting age should be?

2.2 What changes, if any, should be made to voter eligibility rules?

2.3 What changes, if any, should be made to improve the enrolment process?

2.4 What changes, if any, are needed to the Māori Electoral Option?

**Voting in elections**

2.5 Do the current ways of voting, including special voting, meet voter needs? If not, what changes should be made?

2.6 What changes, if any, should be made to make voting more accessible?

2.7 Are the safeguards protecting the integrity of the voting process strong enough? If not, what changes should be made?

**Emergencies and disruption**

2.8 What changes, if any, are needed to deal with emergencies and disruptions?

2.9 In what situations should an election be postponed or voting adjourned?

2.10 Who should have the power to decide to postpone an election or adjourn voting?

**Counting the vote and releasing results**

2.11 How could vote counting processes be improved?

2.12 Are the safeguards for the integrity of the vote count adequate? If not, what changes should be made?

**Part III: Parties and Candidates**

Please refer to pages 29 – 35 in the Consultation Document for more information:

<https://electoralreview.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-document.html>

**Standing for election**

3.1 What changes, if any, are needed to the system for a party to become and remain registered?

3.2 What changes, if any, are needed to candidate eligibility rules?

3.3 What changes, if any, are needed to the requirements parties must follow when selecting their party lists?

3.4 What changes, if any, should be made to improve the candidate nomination process?

**Financing of parties and candidates**

3.5 How should parties and candidates be funded?

3.6 What changes, if any, should be made to political financing rules?

**Election advertising and campaigning**

3.7 What changes, if any, should be made to election advertising and political campaigning rules?

3.8 What restrictions, if any, should apply to election advertising and campaign spending? Who should the restrictions apply to?

**Part IV: Electoral Administration**

Please refer to pages 36 – 44 in the Consultation Document for more information:

<https://electoralreview.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-document.html>

**Roles and functions of the Electoral Commission**

4.1 What are your views on the roles and functions of the Electoral Commission?

**Maintaining and accessing electoral rolls**

4.2 What are your views on how electoral rolls, including the unpublished electoral rolls, are maintained and accessed?

**Boundary reviews and the Representation Commission**

4.3 What changes, if any, are needed to the Representation Commission and the way electorate boundaries are set and named?

**Enforcement and dispute resolution**

4.4 What changes, if any, should be made to the current offences, penalties, and mechanisms for enforcement?

4.5 What changes, if any, should be made to the ways disputes over electoral rules or election outcomes are settled?

**Disinformation, misinformation, and foreign interference**

4.6 What, if anything, should be done to reduce the risk of disinformation and misinformation influencing New Zealand's elections?

4.7 What, if anything, should be done to reduce the risk of foreign interference influencing New Zealand's elections?

**Any other comments**

In this survey, we’ve asked you to consider topics within four areas of our electoral system. You may have comments on these topics that the questions did not cover, or comments on topics that we did not cover.

Please let us know any further thoughts you have in the spaces below.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about 'Part I: The Voting System'?

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about 'Part II: Voters'?

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about 'Part III: Parties and Candidates'?

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about 'Part IV: Electoral Administration'?