

2. SHIRLEY WARD COUNCILLOR BY-ELECTION

Ingrid Stonhill was declared elected as a result of the by-election held on 18 March 2000 to fill the extraordinary vacancy in the office of Councillor representing the Shirley Ward.

The results of the by-election are set out below:

Ingrid Stonhill (Labour for Christchurch 2021)	2,515
Graham Berry (Independent)	2,120
Kirsty Gillespie (Advance Christchurch - Independent)	1,323
Penny Hargreaves (Green Party of Aotearoa NZ)	488
Bill Greenwood (I Care About Shirley, and Will Make its Voice Heard!)	253
David East (Independent)	231
Blair Anderson (Aotearoa Legalise Cannabis Party)	179
Paul Telfer	122
Informal	158

ELECTORAL ROLLS

1. Residential Electors

As at Tuesday 29 February (when the roll came into force), the number of residential electors enrolled in each ward was:

Burwood Ward	-	20,052
Fendalton Ward	-	19,187
Ferrymead Ward	-	19,748
Hagley Ward	-	16,503
Heathcote Ward	-	19,507
Papanui Ward	-	19,847
Pegasus Ward	-	16,288
Riccarton Ward	-	19,284
Shirley Ward	-	17,301
Spreydon Ward	-	17,788
Waimairi Ward	-	18,331
Wigram Ward	-	18,633

		222,469
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This represented a reduction of 1,182 in the number of electors on the roll for the 1998 elections.

2. Ratepayer Electors

Two hundred and sixty nine persons were enrolled as ratepayer electors for the poll and by-election (ratepayer electors being persons owning property in the city, but residing elsewhere, or persons appointed as “nominal occupiers” to vote on behalf of corporate bodies). Of the 269 persons enrolled as ratepayer electors, 172 electors (or 63.9%) voted at the poll and by-election.

INFORMAL VOTES/UNEXERCISED VOTES

A vote is deemed to be informal if:

1. the voter's intention is not clear.
2. the issue has been left completely blank.

In all cases, votes were allowed where the voter's intention was clear, notwithstanding that they may have marked the voting paper in a different way to that prescribed.

PROCESSING OF VOTING PAPERS ON RECEIPT

I would like to thank the Council for again allowing me to take advantage of the legislation permitting the processing of voting papers on receipt as from and including the second Wednesday of the polling period. This resulted in significant financial savings, and also ensured that the preliminary count was completed well before 7pm on polling day.

SPECIAL VOTERS

Special voting papers were issued to 127 persons. Of these, 69 voting papers were completed and returned prior to the close of the poll with 42 voting papers being subsequently allowed and included in the official count.

VOTING STATISTICS

	1989	1992	1995	1998	2000
Voters	121,680	105,982	107,450	116,511	94,297
Electors on Rolls	200,915	208,533	215,621	223,832	222,738
Percentage Voted	60.6%	50.8%	49.8%	52.05%	42.34%

Again, the percentage of electors returning voting papers varied between wards, with a low of 32% being recorded in the Hagley Ward, compared with a high of 47% in the Waimairi Ward.

COSTS

As charges are still coming to hand, it will be some time yet before the final cost of the poll and by-election is known. However, because of the savings achieved through the processing of voting papers on receipt, the final cost is expected to be well below the estimate of \$312,850.

COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

The two Justices of the Peace who were appointed to observe the processing on receipt of the returned voting papers have both signed certificates confirming that they were satisfied that the relevant sections of the legislation were complied with in full.