

10. COMMUNITY BOARD CONSIDERATION OF THE RECENT ELECTION PROCESS

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary, DDI 941 6502
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At its last Board meeting, the report from the Electoral Officer on the October 2004 elections was received.

Some issues relating to the election process were discussed, and it was **agreed** to place this issue on today's order paper in view of the knowledge that a Select Committee of Government is looking into the wider issues surrounding this year's Local Government/Health Board elections.

Members also considered various aspects of the recent elections and these included:

- The preliminary FPP results should have been released earlier on election day.
- A three week voting period was too long, and should be shortened to two weeks.
- The introduction of STV had created voter confusion, and led to a large number of informal and blank votes across all election issues
- Consideration should be given to using postal voting in conjunction with polling booths.
- There was a need to completely separate the District Health Board elections from the local government elections.
- If STV is to be retained, a better awareness and education programme should be undertaken.

The Council's Electoral Officer, Max Robertson, will be in attendance at today's meeting.

Recommendation: That the Board prepare a submission on the outcomes of the recent Triennial Elections, and that this be forwarded to the Council's Electoral Officer for consideration in the Council's forthcoming review.

Deputy Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the Officer's recommendation be adopted.