



Local Government Reform

Voting in the October 2023 Local Government Elections

The State Government is putting into action the most significant reforms to the local government sector in 25 years. The reforms will increase the transparency, accountability and efficiency of local government in WA.

One of the key reforms is the change from 'first past the post' system of voting to optional preferential voting (OPV).

This change will be introduced for the October 2023 local government elections which will now be in line with state and federal elections.

OPV will strengthen democracy by giving ratepayers a greater choice of candidates.

You can find more information about the reforms to the local government sector on the DLGSC website at www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/lg-act-reform or use this QR code.



How to vote under the optional preferential voting system

It is really easy and it is all about choices – your choices. Just imagine there are three candidates. You can:

1 Vote for just one candidate

Just put a number 1 next to the name of that candidate.

- SMITH, John
- 1 DOE, Jane
- CITIZEN, Neville

2 Vote for some

Just put a 1 next to the name of the candidate you like best and a 2 next to your second choice.

- SMITH, John
- 1 DOE, Jane
- 2 CITIZEN, Neville

3 Vote for all

Put a 1 in the box for the candidate you like best and then a 2 for your second choice and a 3 for your third choice. If there are more candidates you just keep numbering if you want.

- 3 SMITH, John
- 1 DOE, Jane
- 2 CITIZEN, Neville