

09 April 2024

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### SUMMARY

- Three Exmouth residents are running for one open Council position
- Vote in person on 12 April or drop off your ballot paper at the Shire Offices
- Taking part in the electoral process allows electors to have a say in shaping the future of the Exmouth community

### EXTRAORDINARY ELECTION TO TAKE PLACE IN EXMOUTH ON 12 APRIL 2024

In Western Australia, Councillors are elected for four-year terms, with elections held every two years for half of the council. When a vacancy occurs within a term, the Shire must hold an extraordinary election to fill the seat.

With one empty council seat, the 1,880 Exmouth residents enrolled to vote will have the opportunity to choose their next representative on 12 April 2024. During last year's ordinary local government elections, 11 of 17 shires in the Gascoyne region held elections where candidates ran unopposed or without enough nominations to fill the gaps. In this extraordinary election, Mike Bewsher, Mark Lucas, and James Penfold will compete for one 3.5-year term, which expires on 16 October 2027.

While voting in local elections is not compulsory, all eligible voters are encouraged to show up and speak for those who can't.

### COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO THE SHIRE – SHIRE PRESIDENT MATT NIIKKULA

"I am proud of these three outstanding Exmouth residents for stepping up and offering to serve our community. The role of a Councillor is an important one, and I commend these men for being willing to devote their time and energy to making Exmouth even better."

"Your voice matters, and taking part in the electoral process allows you to have a say in shaping the future of our community. I encourage all eligible Exmouth voters to vote in person on 12 April or by Australia Post prior to voting day."

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