Non-resident property owners have been removed from the Local Government voters roll and all must re-enrol by 8 August if they are to vote in this year's Council elections.

This includes businesses, tenants and non-resident owners of residential property.

Under the State Parliament's Local Government Elections Act, the non-resident voter's roll is purged every four years from 1 January in an election year. Residents who are on the State House of Assembly voters roll for the correct address do not have to re-enrol.

People who wanted to vote for their Council Members must enrol by 5.00 pm, Friday 8 August.

Enrolment forms can be obtained from the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose or downloaded from the Council website.

It is your right to vote and although voting for the Council is voluntary, all eligible people are encouraged to enrol and cast their postal vote this year to have a say in how their community is run.

Councils played a vital role in many issues which impact locally on business including:
- planning & development,
- parking and traffic management,
- public events, and
- upgrades to public spaces and mainstreets.

Councils are the only sphere of government for which businesses can obtain a vote, but you need to enrol to exercise that right.

Teenagers who are 17 can also provisionally enrol by 8 August and if they turn 18 on or prior to the close of voting on 7 November will also be able to vote.


Call For Written Submissions Regarding Draft Annual Business Plan and Annual Budget for Financial Year Ending 30 June 2015; and Draft Review of Council’s Basis of Rating.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, Notice is hereby given that The District Council of Mount Remarkable has prepared its Draft Annual Business Plan and Annual Budget for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2015 as well as a Review of Council’s Basis of Rating, for public discussion. A copy of the documents are available for viewing at the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street Melrose and on Council’s website www.mtr.sa.gov.au.

Written submissions are invited by interested persons and should be directed to Wayne Hart, Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Mount Remarkable, PO Box 94, Melrose SA 5483; email to postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au.

A submission template is available at Council’s website www.mtr.sa.gov.au.

Submissions are to be received by 5.00pm on Thursday 3 July 2014.

Interested persons are also invited to attend public meetings on these documents to be held at 7.30pm on:
- Thursday 3 July 2014 at the Melrose Institute, Stuart Street, Melrose.
- Monday 7 July 2014 at the Port Germein Institute, 9 Cottage Road, Port Germein.
Councils are part of the democratic framework of Australia. The community elects their Council Members every four years. The next general Council elections will conclude in November, 2014.

During 2013, Council, in accordance with the requirements of section 12(4) of the Local Government Act 1999, reviewed its composition and elector representation arrangements.

As of the periodic elections to be held 7 November 2014 this Council will continue to comprise of seven (7) Ward Councillors, with the principal member being a Chairperson (Mayor) to be chosen by and from amongst the Elected Members.

The Council area will be divided into two Wards to be named Telowie Ward - represented by 3 Ward Councillors and Willochra Ward - represented by 4 Ward Councillors (see maps on pages 2 and 3 of this Newsletter).

**Key Dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roll close</td>
<td>Friday 8 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominations open</td>
<td>Tuesday 2 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominations close</td>
<td>12 noon Tuesday 16 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draw for position of candidate names on the ballot paper</td>
<td>4 pm Tuesday 16 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail out of voting material to electors</td>
<td>Monday 20 - Friday 24 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day for postal issue/reissue of voting material</td>
<td>5 pm Wednesday 5 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day for personal issue/reissue of voting material</td>
<td>5 pm Friday 7 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close of voting</td>
<td>5 pm Friday 7 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrutiny and Count</td>
<td>9 am Saturday 8 November</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Telowie Ward**
(To be represented by 3 Councillors)
WHO MAY BECOME A COUNCIL MEMBER?

A person must be on the Council voters roll to be eligible to stand as a candidate in Local Government elections. Anyone can stand for election as a Council Member if they are:

- An Australian citizen; or have been a member of a Council between 5 May 1997 and 1 January 2000; and are
- An elector for the area; or the nominee for a body corporate or a group which has its name on the voters roll for the area.

You are ineligible if you are a Parliamentarian; undischarged bankrupt; disqualified from holding office by a court order; an employee of the Council for which you are considering nominating; candidate for office as a Council Member in another Council area; or have been sentenced to imprisonment and are, or could become, liable to serve the sentence or the remainder of the sentence.

The Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 sets out the rules for nomination and standing as a candidate. Some of the requirements and procedures are as follows:

- Candidates must nominate by 12 noon, Tuesday 16 September 2014.
- Nomination packs are available from the Council Office or the Electoral Commission of SA or Deputy Returning Officer.
- Nomination involves completing and lodging the correct nomination form with an Electoral Officer appointed for the Council, including an accurate candidate profile of no more than 150 words, plus contact details, and an optional photograph.
- A copy of the voters roll is available to candidates at the Council Office.
- All campaign material must be accurate, and include the name and address of the person authorising the publication and the name of the printer.

Further information for prospective candidates will be provided in upcoming Newsletters or can be obtained from the Electoral Commission of SA.

Willochra Ward
(To be represented by 4 Ward Councillors)
Council Contact Details

Council Office: Tel: (08) 8666 2014
1300 726 252
Fax: (08) 8666 2169
Email: postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au

Postal Address: PO Box 94
Melrose SA 5483
Street Address: 3 Stuart Street, Melrose

COUNCIL INFORMATION

COUNCIL SNIPPETS - June Ordinary Meeting of Council Held Tuesday 10 June 2014

Meeting snippets are written following each Council meeting and may not reflect follow-up decisions etc. Please refer to the Council Minutes & Agenda Reports available on the Council website for full details.

Pre Warning Signs - Germein Gorge Road
Following a request from Council, the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure have installed pre warning signs on Augusta Highway prior to the Crystal Brook and Horrocks Pass turn-offs, notifying of the temporary closure of Germein Gorge Road.

Wilmington Rodeo - Dry Zone
Council will support the implementation of a ‘dry area’ for the whole of the township of Wilmington in conjunction with the Wilmington Rodeo event on an ongoing annual basis in the interest of public safety, and authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make such applications.

NRM Bushfire Grant
Council has been successful in securing a grant to assist with revegetation of burnt areas both on Council and private land. In conjunction with Trees for Life and Greening Australia, Council will organise and implement the project.

NEW COMPUTER SOFTWARE SYSTEM FOR COUNCIL

From 1 July 2014 Council will commence using the SynergySoft software for record keeping and all financial reporting.

The major change that the public will notice will be the new-look documents including rates notices, invoices, credit notes, dog notices and remittance slips.

Whilst the change in software has significant long term benefits for Council, there will be some minor adjustments that ratepayers and the community need to be aware of when making electronic payments.

Rates Payments
For rates, each property will have a unique assessment number and new reference number for making payments electronically ie:
✓ BPAY,
✓ Bizgate,
✓ Council website.

Invoice Payments (see sample above)
General invoices will also be available for payments through these systems, with a unique reference number allocated for each debtor account (see highlighted reference number on sample invoice).

It is extremely important that the specific reference number provided is used whenever making a payment. In cases where there are multiple properties or accounts, each payment must be processed separately.

Council will no longer manually process these electronic payments, therefore it is the ratepayer’s responsibility to ensure that the payment references used are correct - payments will be allocated automatically within the new system.

Council will also continue to offer a variety of other payment methods for all accounts, including:
✓ cheque,
✓ money order, and
✓ EFTPOS.

BANGOR BUSHFIRE REVEGETATION PROJECT

An initiative of the District Council of Mount Remarkable, Trees for Life and Greening Australia, with funding assistance from the Northern & Yorke Natural Resources Management Board.

Landowners who have been affected by the January 2014 fires and volunteers interested in assisting in ‘planting bees’ are asked to contact Ian Lett at Trees for Life on 8406 0514; Email ianl@treesforlife.org.au.

They can offer:
- Consultation on appropriate species for your land
- Free trees and shrubs
- Free tree guards
- Matching landowners and volunteers

Interested?
- Register with Trees for Life
- Join the Trees for Life Planting Group on Facebook