Bay of Plenty Regional Council “Meet the Candidates” Community Group Events Fund

During an election of candidates for the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, community groups may wish to host a “Meet the Candidates” event.

Meet the Candidate events are free public meetings that provides a genuine opportunity to hear and ask questions of any candidate in the Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Toi Moana election, prior to election day.

Where a community organisation wishes to organise a “Meet the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Candidates” meeting, Regional Council may contribute to some of the actual and reasonable costs of holding the event, up to a maximum of $300 (inc GST) per event, provided an application has been received by the community group and the contribution approved prior to the event.

Applications to the Meet the Candidate Community Group Event Fund must be submitted to the Regional Council and advise received from the Regional Council including the allocated amount of the contribution approved prior to the event.

Events receiving a contribution from the Regional Council must be advertised and open to all members of the public.

When hosting a candidates’ meeting, it is the responsibility of person/group that is conducting the meeting to provide an unbiased forum that will be informative for the voters, fair to each candidate and pleasant for everyone. All candidates should be treated alike.

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**Bay of Plenty Regional Council “Meet the Candidates” Community Group Events Fund Application**

Please complete this form to apply for a financial contribution to hosting a Meet the Candidate Event for Bay of Plenty Regional Council Elections.

Please note, your event will be publicly notified on the Regional Council website.

**Organisation Details**

Organisation type: Charitable Trust

Marae

Community Group

Chamber of Commerce

Other………………………………………………………….………

Organisation address: ………………………………………………………………………………...

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**Event Organiser**

Your name / role: ………………………………………………………………………………………

Your contact details: Email: ………………………………………………………………...

Phone: ………………………………………………………………..

**Event Details**

Relevant Regional Council constituencies: …………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Date (Tentative is fine): ………………………………………………………………………..

Venue: …………………………………………………………………………………………………..

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

Are candidates from other Council’s also speaking at the event? YES / NO

Which Council…………………………………………………………………………………………..

Which ward/constituency……………………………………………………………………………...

How many candidates in total will be invited to the event?

Regional Council ……………………

Other Council ……………………….

What proportion of time will be allocated to the Regional Council Candidates at your event?

Please provide a brief budget for your event:

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What is the funding to be used towards? ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………

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Do you require voter enrolment information packs for this event? YES / NO

Please attach a copy of your advertising.

Please provide a bank deposit slip for your organisation.

Email your application to: [Elections2022@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:Elections2022@boprc.govt.nz)

Funding Criteria

Each application will be assessed against the following criteria:

* The organisation must proactively support the purpose of the Local Government Act 2022 *to* *provide democratic and effective local government that recognises the diversity of New Zealand communities.*
* Organisations must be local to the BOP Region
* All BOPRC candidates must be offered the opportunity to participate in the event regardless of whether they are General or Māori ward nominees
* The application must be submitted prior to the event occurring
* BOPRC will only contribute towards reimbursement of actual and reasonable costs such as:
  + Cost of venue hire
  + Equipment hire
  + Tea/coffee facilities
  + Advertising
* The contribution is not an up front payment and will only be paid after the event on receipt of an invoice with associated supporting invoices attached as evidence.
* Applications are open until Monday 26 September

Please ensure your event:

* Is available to all members of the public
* Discloses any affiliated candidates
* Has free admission
* Ensures each candidate has the same speaking time