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## Want to be a councillor?

### Three things you should consider

Deputy Mayor Bruce Gordon's first farm in Opotiki isn't the only thing he inherited from his grandparents. Community involvement has also been a family tradition: his grandfather was a county councillor, and so too was Bruce's father-in-law Dave Dudding.

The Dudding family was prominent in the development of Ngatea, where Bruce has lived with his wife Lesley since 1962. Dave was a longtime member of the New Zealand Soil Council and the Hauraki West Drainage Board, and Dudding Reserve was named in recognition of his services to land drainage in the area.

At age 75 Bruce says he will never retire from work, but he will hang up his Council hat in October after 18 years of service, making him Hauraki District's longest serving current councillor after the Mayor.

When he first stood for election in 1998, his family was grown and he had time to give back.

"Dave had died, there wouldn't have been room for two of us on Council, and our children could run the family business," he says.

Bruce's six terms in office have spanned the development of two Council residential subdivisions in Ngatea, and the new industrial hub at Kerepehi. He's also seen the Hauraki Rail Trail get up and running, its Kaiarau to Kopu extension leave the station, and the development of Ngatea's Hugh Hayward Domain and Pioneer Park. He says Hauraki District Council has a strong team culture and being appointed Deputy Mayor is one of the highlights of his Council service.

"The Mayor has led a good team, and we have an excellent chief executive and relationships between councillors and staff. We don't have the barriers that some local authorities do."

Bruce describes councillors as a "conduit to getting things done" and says one of the key challenges of the role, aside from financial constraints, is effective community engagement and communication.

"You have to put the time in (to communicating). People do appreciate it when you make the time to go to community events and meetings. It opens the way for good old-fashioned face to face communication or for residents to just ring and have a chat," he says.

He is very appreciative of his wife Lesley's support during his time in Council and says there are three prime considerations for anyone thinking of standing: the ability to manage the workload, family support and commitments, and personal well being and health.



*"It's all about life balance at the end of the day."*

*Councillor Bruce Gordon*

## What's it like to be a councillor?

### Lots of highlights with some challenges

Twelve years ago, after a brush with cancer, Julie Bubb was determined to make a difference in the world. She had always admired women councillors like Gill Munro, and during her school years in Australia, loved debating.

"By 2004 our three children had left home, so the timing seemed right to stand as a Council candidate," she says.

Julie was elected then thrown in the deep end, becoming Paeroa Ward chairperson from the get-go.

Four terms later with retirement on her agenda after the October elections, Julie says her role has been full of highlights, with its share of challenges too.

Seeing Paeroa win NZ Community of the Year in 2012 was a thrill, and she's now excited to see the new Paeroa Library getting off the ground.

"It took a lot of hard debating to get two new libraries in this district. I can't believe how many new members have joined the Waihi Library since its new building opened in 2014, and I'm really looking forward to the same thing happening here," she says.

Interested in tourism, Julie has represented the Council on the Destination Coromandel board, the Positive Paeroa committee, and the Hauraki Rail Trail trust. A keen cyclist, she's been enthusiastic about the Rail Trail from day one and believes its establishment has been the District's biggest overall achievement over the past 12 years, both for tourism and local enjoyment.

A practical "doer" rather than a policy person, Julie has sometimes felt bogged down or frustrated by necessary but time-consuming Council processes. Being public property has its moments too. A resident once phoned her at 3am to complain about noisy workmen, and she says even in the supermarket or at social occasions, a Councillor is often still 'on duty'.

After 33 years of living and farming in Paeroa with her husband John, Julie is passionate about the District and will miss her Council role. She says it's been a privilege to represent the community, but she is looking forward to having more time for interests that have taken a back seat, such as flying the microlight that's tucked away on the farm.

Recently she became president of New Zealand Women in Aviation, and will continue her community involvement as a JP and marriage celebrant.



*"It was such a thrill to see the huge lift in community pride and opportunities for promotion following the award (Paeroa - NZ Community of the Year 2012)."*

*Councillor Julie Bubb*

## Situations Vacant



### Information Officer

Due to an internal promotion we have an opportunity for you to join a small team within our Corporate Services Group in the role of Information Officer.

The main purpose for this role is to administer the organisation's Information Management systems including access, storage, protection and disposal of records. All of Council's documents are stored and processed electronically by the Information Services team. Quality and accuracy, teamwork and time management are some of the key attributes for success in this role.

You will also need to be highly computer literate and able to interact positively with people from all walks of life. Experience and knowledge in information management – records and archives would be an advantage as is experience with office procedures and document management systems.

We can offer you a workplace where:

- Respect, commitment, communication and positive attitude form the cornerstones of our values
- Work-life balance is part of the culture
- Ongoing learning and development opportunities are encouraged
- Your efforts benefit the whole community

For further details or to apply electronically please visit our website [www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/jobs](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/jobs), or contact:

Sue Greenville on 07 862 5024, or Julie Sweeney on 07 862 5023

Applications close 11 August 2016

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Local Alcohol Policy

The Hauraki District Council Provisional Local Alcohol Policy was adopted on 1 July 2016 when it was approved by the Alcohol and Regulatory Licensing Authority and has therefore ceased to be provisional. In accordance with section 90(1)(b) and 90(2)(b) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 all elements of the Local Alcohol Policy 2016, but excluding those elements relating to maximum trading hours, will come into force on Monday, 8 August 2016. In accordance with sections 90(1)(b) and 90(2)(a) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 all elements relating to maximum trading hours in the Local Alcohol Policy 2016 will come into force on Monday, 7 November 2016.

You can view the Policy on the Council's website [www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz) or a copy can be obtained from the Council offices and libraries or by contacting the Council on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District).

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Stand for Council 2016

## Nominations close 12 August 2016

Nomination forms available on our website or from our offices  
[www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/our-council/elections/](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/our-council/elections/)

## Top ten personal qualities

### that make an outstanding elected representative

according to Local Government 101 columnist Elizabeth Hughes

1. A superhuman ability to listen and absorb.
2. The ability to stand back and see all sides of an issue.
3. The ability to compromise and negotiate.
4. The ability to take a long-term view.
5. A vision that is clear and the ability to articulate it in many ways.
6. The willingness to be public property.
7. Good health and resources.
8. Stamina.
9. Integrity.
10. Strong and honest friendships that are separate to your political ambition.