

Information for Southern District Health Board 2010 Election Candidates

To help familiarise candidates with the requirements they need to fulfil, the election process and the Southern District Health Board (DHB), both the DHB and Ministry of Health have compiled information which they recommend candidates read.

The Handbook

The Ministry of Health has produced a handbook for people considering standing for a District Health Board (DHB): [2010 District Health Board Elections: Information for Candidates](#).

The handbook includes essential information on:

- DHB Boards (ie what they are and how they work - their make-up, role, duties, time commitment, etc)
- Standing for a DHB Board (election deposits, candidate profile statements, conflict of interest statements, campaign expenditure, etc)
- Eligibility criteria for becoming an elected Board member, including a checklist for candidates.

The handbook also includes introductory information on STV (Single Transferable Vote), which is the voting system used to elect DHB Board members.

The Southern DHB area is divided into two constituencies (Otago and Southland – see map over) and voting is constituency-wide. Up to four other Board members are appointed by the Minister of Health.

The handbook is included in the information pack available for all candidates from their local Council Electoral Officers, who are running the election process for the Southern DHB. It can also be downloaded from www.moh.govt.nz/electionsdhb.

The Southern District Health Board

The following is Southern DHB-specific information, to supplement the handbook.

DHBs were established on 1 January 2001 under the NZ Public Health and Disability Act 2000. The Southern DHB was formed on 1 May 2010 as the result of the merger of the Southland and Otago DHBs.

The Southern DHB is responsible for planning, funding and providing government-funded hospital and primary health services for the people of Southland and Otago.

The publicly-funded health and disability sector aims to improve the health of New Zealanders and reduce the disparities in health status between population groups (*New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000*).

Structure

District Health Boards work within a national structure that sets the overall strategic direction for DHBs. The Ministry of Health provides policy advice to the Minister of Health, monitors health services and advises the Minister on national priorities for health funding. National strategic documents, such as *The New Zealand Health Strategy* and the *The New Zealand Disability Strategy*, give DHBs a framework to plan within. Using the national framework as a guide, DHBs develop Five Year Strategic Plans and Annual Plans (which detail the activities each DHB will undertake within their budgets to improve health outcomes for their communities). Each DHB's Annual Plan becomes the agreement they have with the Minister of Health and is used as a basis for monitoring the success of the DHB.

As required by the *New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000*, the Southern DHB has three advisory committees to assist the Board with its planning and decision-making. These are: the Community and Public Health Advisory Committee (CPHAC), the Disability Support Advisory Committee (DSAC) and the Hospital Advisory Committee (HAC). The Board has also established an Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, an Iwi Governance Committee, and an Appointments and Remuneration Advisory Committee.

Profile

The Southern DHB district is the largest region in New Zealand. As shown on the map below, the Southern DHB covers the lower South Island (south of the Waitaki River) and serves a population of over 300,000 residing in Invercargill City, Gore District, Queenstown-Lakes District, rural Southland (encompassing Fiordland, Stewart Island and the Catlins), Dunedin City, Central Otago, Maniototo, Clutha District and Waitaki District.



The Southern DHB receives population based funding from the Government. This means that funding is allocated on the basis of the following:

- The number of people living in the district
- The population's historic utilisation of health services
- The ethnicity and socio-economic status as measured by the New Zealand Deprivation Score (2006 Census), their rurality and an adjuster for "unmet need".

Southern DHB's population was 286,209 in 2006 (7.1% of the national population), and by ethnicity 7.6% of people identified as Maori; 1.5% Pacific People, 3.0% Asian, 73.8% European and 14.1% Other Ethnicities¹. Data from the 2006 Census showed the following population distribution:

- Invercargill City – 17.6%
- Gore District – 4.2%
- Southland rural – 9.9%
- Queenstown Lakes District – 8.0%
- Central Otago District – 5.8%
- Clutha District – 5.9%
- Waitaki District – 7.1%
- Dunedin City – 41.5%

The Southern DHB both provides and contracts primary, community and hospital health services worth \$800 million.

It is responsible for planning, promoting, undertaking service contracting, monitoring and evaluation of service delivery.

Southern DHB employs around 4,500 staff (3,554 full-time equivalents) and has three operating arms with specific tasks, responsibilities and accountabilities. These arms are:

- Governance
- Planning and Funding
- Provider Arm (for the provision of services)

Southern DHB contracts with one Primary Health Organisation (PHO) that has General Practitioners and other health professions under its umbrella. The DHB also contracts with a large number of other non-government organisations (NGOs) who provide services, eg pharmacies, aged residential care providers and mental health service providers.

The DHB operates the following hospitals:

- Dunedin Hospital
- Lakes District Hospital (Queenstown/Frankton)
- Southland Base Hospital (Invercargill)
- Wakari Hospital (Dunedin)

and has funding contracts with the following hospitals:

- Balclutha (Clutha Health First)
- Dunstan (Central Otago Health Services) at Clyde
- Gore (Gore Health Limited)

¹ People may identify with more than one ethnic group; therefore totals may be greater than the total population.

- Oamaru (Waitaki Health Services)
- Ranfurly (Maniototo Health Services)

The DHB and NGOs provide community and domiciliary services, including:

- Allied health services (occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech language therapy, child development service, orthotics)
- Patient Nurse Educators (Cardiac, Diabetes, Respiratory, Smokefree Support, Dietitians, Breast Care)
- District nursing services
- School dental services
- Well Child services (vision/hearing technicians, public health nurses)
- Social work
- Meals on wheels
- Pacific Island nurse specialists
- Maori Health services
- Community mental health services.

See our District Annual Plan (DAP) for further information about the Southern DHB.

Remuneration

Board members are paid an annual fee for their service on the Board. The Minister of Health has set the following fees for the Southern DHB:

Board	Chair	\$50,000
	Deputy Chair	\$36,000
	Member	\$23,000
Statutory Advisory Committees	Chair	\$3,125 ^{pr}
	Member	\$2,500 ^{pr}

Notes:

pr – pro-rata payments are made if less than ten meetings are attended in a year.

Statutory Advisory Committees – these are the Community and Public Health Advisory Committee, the Hospital Advisory Committee and the Disability Support Advisory Committee. In addition the Minister of Health has given approval for fees to be paid to members serving on audit, risk and finance committees.

Board Members may be required to attend other informal committees, meetings, workshops, training events, public consultation meetings or functions as part of their duties. This is allowed for in the fee that members receive for sitting on the DHB Board and no extra payments are permitted to be made for these.

Board members may claim reimbursement of actual and reasonable travel and accommodation expenses for attendance at Board and committee meetings.

Order of Names on the Voting Document

Candidate names for the Southern DHB will be listed in random order on the voting document, ie the names on virtually every voting paper will be in a different order.

Preliminary Results

Preliminary election results will be posted on the Dunedin City Council's website www.dunedin.govt.nz/elections as soon as possible after the close of voting on Saturday, 9 October 2010. All candidates who provide an email address will be emailed a copy of the results as soon as they are available.

Further Information

- Visit www.southerndhb.govt.nz for a full range of information on the Southern DHB, including Board and Advisory Committee meeting information, and planning and funding information.
- Visit the Ministry of Health's website www.moh.govt.nz.
- Contact the DHB Board Secretary – email jeanette.kloosterman@southerndhb.govt.nz or phone 03 470 9707.
- Contact the DHB Electoral Officer – email pjordan@dcc.govt.nz or phone 03 477 4000.