



ELECTION SIGNS POLICY 2025		ACTIVITY GROUP:	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Policy Type:	Council		
Approved by:	Council		
Department:	Regulatory / Compliance		
Date Approved:	26 June 2025	Next Review Date:	June 2028
Relevant Legislation:	Local Electoral Act 2001 Electoral Act 1993 Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005 NZ Transport Agency (Signs on State Highways) Bylaw 2010		
Clutha District Council Documents referenced:	Clutha District Council District Plan		

PURPOSE

To set out guidelines relating to signage for electioneering purposes, so that it is not detrimental to motorist safety, and complies with legislative and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency requirements.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all parties engaged in erecting signage for electioneering purposes, either general or local body elections. This policy has been prepared in consultation with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.

POLICY

1. Signage Requirements

- 1.1. Signs displayed throughout the district for electioneering purposes should be erected in accordance with the following requirements:
 - a. Are not erected earlier than 2 months before polling day.
 - b. All electioneering signs must be removed by midnight on the night prior to polling.
 - c. All electioneering signs must not exceed 3m² in area or 2.5 metres in height.
 - d. All electioneering signs must have space between any lines of not less than 50mm.
 - e. All electioneering signs are not made of or have affixed to it, any reflective material.
 - f. All electioneering signs must not resemble in shape or colour, and cannot be mistaken for a traffic sign.
 - g. All electioneering signs must not have any moving parts.
- 1.2. Signage for electioneering purposes is classified as a 'permitted activity' under District Plan Section 3.12.4, "RULE SIGN.2 PERMITTED ACTIVITY", item (vi).

- 1.3. Election signs must meet minimum requirements for lettering sizes in accordance with “RULE SIGN.1 MESSAGE CLARITY” in Section 3.12.4. of the District Plan (as outlined in **Table 1** below).

Table 1 Minimum lettering sizes lettering height (mm)*

Speed limit Km/h	Main Message	Property Name	Secondary Message
50	150	100	75
70	200	150	100
80	250	175	125
100	300	200	150

*Extract from District Plan Section 3.12.4, “RULE SIGN.1 MESSAGE CLARITY”

2. Approved sites

- 2.1. Sites approved as being suitable for the erection of election signs without landowner consent are listed in **Table 2**.
- 2.2. Election signs erected on private land require consent of the landowner.
- 2.3. Election signs may not be located on Council road reserve.

Table 2 Approved sites for election signs

Town	Location	State Highway
Balclutha	Tower Reserve, North Balclutha	SH1
	Rosebank Reserve, Corner Clyde and James Streets	SH1
Clinton	Clinton Playground on the Main Road (SH1), from corner of Main Road and Anzac Street to the toilets (See marked area on Appendix A)	SH1
Lawrence	Lions Picnic Reserve, Beaumont Road	SH8
	Lions Picnic Reserve, Harrington Place	SH8
Tapanui	Dorset Street/Station Road intersection Reserve	SH90
Milton	Taylor Park	SH1
	Moore Park	n/a

3. Safety requirements

- 3.1. Electioneering signage must meet the following safety requirements:
- Structures and signs must structurally safe and not constitute a traffic hazard.
 - All signs must be maintained to the same standard as when they were first erected.
 - All signs must be constructed of suitably durable materials.
- 3.2. The Clutha District Council Chief Executive may authorise the removal of signs in circumstances where they are considered to be unsafe.

4. Signs on State Highway

- 4.1. The provisions of the NZ Transport Agency (Signs on State Highways) Bylaw 2010 apply to election signs and approvals of them must be handled in accordance with that bylaw.

5. Version Control

Version History			
Date	Action	Name	Version
3 June 2016	Authorised	Council	1
27 June 2019	Updated and authorised	Council	2
23 June 2022	Updated and authorised	Council	3
26 June 2025	Updated and authorised	Council	4

APPENDIX A

Approved Site for Election Signs in Clinton

The approved area is marked in red:

