

# NZKGI Local election candidates survey 2022

## Response 1

### Introduction

Q1. General information:

**Name:** Adele

**Contact email:** adeleaudreyterill@gmail.com

Q2. What Council are you standing for?

Tasman District Council

Q3. What position/s are you standing for on the above council?

Councillor

### Questions

Q4. What drives you to run as a candidate in the local body elections? What do you hope to achieve? And how will you support the kiwifruit industry?

I'm driven mainly by my conviction that we can do much better in Tasman at stewarding the amazing resources we have, and my frustration at overregulation and government overreach into the lives of local business, primary producers and industry. I'd like to be a part of a council that pushes back against 'one size fits all' rules that hinder rather than help the industry.

Q5. What is your view on the growth of kiwifruit in your region, in respect to urbanisation, protection of productive land and environmental pressures?

I am opposed to urbanisation taking over productive land.

Q6. Given the decision to include the value of the SunGold licence in the rateable value of a property and therefore significantly increasing rates for many kiwifruit growers. Do you agree with this decision? How do you propose to ensure that rates are equitably calculated and applied?

I am unfamiliar with this decision so can't really comment on it.. however it seems unfair that someone's accomplishment or industriousness should see them penalized.

Q7. Being able to provide seasonal accommodation to house workers is essential when attracting staff to the regions. There is an increasing need for seasonal worker accommodation. How do you propose to support industry to provide seasonal accommodation?

Each grower is going to have specific needs in this area I imagine so it would be a matter of consultation about what is needed in each context.

Q8. Access to water for kiwifruit growers is becoming more critical. How would you promote balanced discussions with stakeholders regarding water supply and policy that reflects the significant value of the kiwifruit industry in your region?

*No Response*

Q9. Climate change is continuing to have an impact and steps to adapt to the changing environment are needed. What are your proposed policies to respond to climate change, and how will you support the industry to adapt?

I am personally unconvinced by the climate change narrative we are currently hearing, especially whether or not any changes we are seeing are anthropomorphic or not. I would support farmers doing their best with the conditions they are placed in, helping them to adapt they way they see fit as they are the ones that know their land and their fruit best.

# Response 2

## Introduction

Q1. General information:

**Name:** Dan Robinson  
**Contact email:** dan@dan4tdc.nz

Q2. What Council are you standing for?

Tasman District Council

Q3. What position/s are you standing for on the above council?

Moutere/Waimea Ward Councillor

## Questions

Q4. What drives you to run as a candidate in the local body elections? What do you hope to achieve? And how will you support the kiwifruit industry?

I have had it as a goal for some time to run. My main motivation is altruism. I hope to contribute meaningfully to the strategic direction of the district and (if possible) improve organisational culture. I am not sure how I will support the kiwifruit industry.

Q5. What is your view on the growth of kiwifruit in your region, in respect to urbanisation, protection of productive land and environmental pressures?

I would say the growth prospects for kiwifruit in Tasman are somewhat limited. The headwinds in the areas of urbanisation and productive land protection seem to be counter to industry growth.

Q6. Given the decision to include the value of the SunGold licence in the rateable value of a property and therefore significantly increasing rates for many kiwifruit growers. Do you agree with this decision? How do you propose to ensure that rates are equitably calculated and applied?

I am not sure I agree or disagree with the decision. The court decision seems to be the first of its kind in this country and has merits on both sides. With respect to rates in Tasman, I would be reluctant to immediately follow Gisborne's lead given the other economic challenges still present.

Q7. Being able to provide seasonal accommodation to house workers is essential when attracting staff to the regions. There is an increasing need for seasonal worker accommodation. How do you propose to support industry to provide seasonal accommodation?

I would look at the regulations first and try and make headway there. This would be useful to the region in general, not just to kiwifruit growers

Q8. Access to water for kiwifruit growers is becoming more critical. How would you promote balanced discussions with stakeholders regarding water supply and policy that reflects the significant value of the kiwifruit industry in your region?

Balanced discussions are something you have as a matter of principle. I would not seek to advantage or penalise kiwifruit.

Q9. Climate change is continuing to have an impact and steps to adapt to the changing environment are needed. What are your proposed policies to respond to climate change, and how will you support the industry to adapt?

I don't think council should be in the kiwifruit business. The climate will change. Place like Bay of Plenty may see decline, places like Tasman may see increase. I am not in favour of HiCane usage as the answer to temperature increases.

# Response 3

## Introduction

Q1. General information:

**Name:** Ian Palmer  
**Contact email:** ianpal@ts.co.nz

Q2. What Council are you standing for?

Tasman District Council

Q3. What position/s are you standing for on the above council?

Motueka Ward councillor

## Questions

Q4. What drives you to run as a candidate in the local body elections? What do you hope to achieve? And how will you support the kiwifruit industry?

Having sold my orchards I have the time and energy to give back to the community. I have a background in representative governance, having been chair of Apples and Pears NZ for nearly 8 years and extensive involvement on School Boards of Trustees. Having been in horticulture all my life and previously been a kiwifruit grower I have a good understanding of the issues that face primary production

Q5. What is your view on the growth of kiwifruit in your region, in respect to urbanisation, protection of productive land and environmental pressures?

Productive land is sacrosanct. Only 5% of Tasman District is deemed productive land, we cannot lose any more to urbanisation. The right to farm is the backbone of our region and growers and farmers need a clear voice of support around the table.

Q6. Given the decision to include the value of the SunGold licence in the rateable value of a property and therefore significantly increasing rates for many kiwifruit growers. Do you agree with this decision? How do you propose to ensure that rates are equitably calculated and applied?

Absolutely not. I liken it to a lease situation, the lessee makes improvements and then the lessor takes the gain. Growers who have invested in SunGold licences belong to them, not the land. It is that simple. Our district uses capital value to determine rates, but variety licences are not owned by the land, but by the entity and can be transferable and therefore cannot be used in rating calculations. Anything else is theft.

Q7. Being able to provide seasonal accommodation to house workers is essential when attracting staff to the regions. There is an increasing need for seasonal worker accommodation. How do you propose to support industry to provide seasonal accommodation?

I declare that I am a current Registered Seasonal Employer, who has provided all the accommodation for my staff.

Council rules vary in different districts, but investment by growers in purpose built accommodation is the correct way forward.

Making sure building and planning rules can facilitate this is critical to the investment required.

Q8. Access to water for kiwifruit growers is becoming more critical. How would you promote balanced discussions with stakeholders regarding water supply and policy that reflects the significant value of the kiwifruit industry in your region?

Water for production is just as critical as it is for drinking supplies.

Councils cannot diminish the productive value and potential of land by restricting water for farming.

In also manage a local water scheme that provides water to more than 400 people and 90 hectares of productive land, so I have a good understanding of the issues around water.

Q9. Climate change is continuing to have an impact and steps to adapt to the changing environment are needed. What are your proposed policies to respond to climate change, and how will you support the industry to adapt?

Primary Industries will need to adapt as the full effects of climate change take hold. It is likely to result in some crops not being viable in some areas. In reality, commercial interests will resolve over time the change in crop profile.

Councils role is to make sure that this can take place with minimal interference.

# Response 4

## Introduction

Q1. General information:

**Name:** Tim Tyler

**Contact email:** ttfordc@gmail.com

Q2. What Council are you standing for?

Tasman District Council

Q3. What position/s are you standing for on the above council?

Councillor, Richmond Ward

## Questions

Q4. What drives you to run as a candidate in the local body elections? What do you hope to achieve? And how will you support the kiwifruit industry?

I am running to help make our local council more open and responsive to ratepayers. I hope to help achieve lower rate rises than the inflation rate, and to support the development of new markets by welcoming prospective customers if they visit. I'm a great fan of the SunGold variety and am excited about the prospects of the new red one. I grew up on an early small scale organic avocado and persimmon orchard in Northland so am a strong supporter of the horticulture sector as a whole.

Q5. What is your view on the growth of kiwifruit in your region, in respect to urbanisation, protection of productive land and environmental pressures?

I welcome the growth of the industry and am keen to limit urbanisation where possible. The recent national statement on productive land should help protect highly productive soils.

Q6. Given the decision to include the value of the SunGold licence in the rateable value of a property and therefore significantly increasing rates for many kiwifruit growers. Do you agree with this decision? How do you propose to ensure that rates are equitably calculated and applied?

Given the unlicensed proliferation of SunGold overseas I think the decision is punitive on growers who have invested heavily.

Q7. Being able to provide seasonal accommodation to house workers is essential when attracting staff to the regions. There is an increasing need for seasonal worker accommodation. How do you propose to support industry to provide seasonal accommodation?

I think there is an argument for a dedicated support function within Council to ensure that acceptable housing is provided for New Zealand and RSE staff. And to provide a safeguard that the duty of care aspects are looked after in partnership with growers.

Q8. Access to water for kiwifruit growers is becoming more critical. How would you promote balanced discussions with stakeholders regarding water supply and policy that reflects the significant value of the kiwifruit industry in your region?

We currently have the contentious WCD in construction in Tasman - despite the investment cost, this piece of infrastructure should help to secure supply for several generations.

Q9. Climate change is continuing to have an impact and steps to adapt to the changing environment are needed. What are your proposed policies to respond to climate change, and how will you support the industry to adapt?

Support further research into strains that are hardier and more tolerant of extreme conditions.



# Response 5

## Introduction

Q1. General information:

**Name:** Kelvin Woodley  
**Contact email:** woodleys@slingshot.co.nz

Q2. What Council are you standing for?

Tasman District Council

Q3. What position/s are you standing for on the above council?

Councillor

## Questions

Q4. What drives you to run as a candidate in the local body elections? What do you hope to achieve? And how will you support the kiwifruit industry?

I believe that over a succession of years true democratic processes have been lost both at local and at central government levels.  
I hope to use my voice to advocate for a stronger adherence to 'governance for the people by the people.'

Q5. What is your view on the growth of kiwifruit in your region, in respect to urbanisation, protection of productive land and environmental pressures?

I believe that fertile, productive land should be protected from urbanisation. Period.  
Orchards in the Nelson area seem to be relatively stable - if you over look the berry farms recently turned into housing and Moutere orchards lost to lifestyle blocks.  
It is a problem we should all be concerned about.

Q6. Given the decision to include the value of the SunGold licence in the rateable value of a property and therefore significantly increasing rates for many kiwifruit growers. Do you agree with this decision? How do you propose to ensure that rates are equitably calculated and applied?

I am unaware of this situation.  
Doesn't seem rational to me.

Q7. Being able to provide seasonal accommodation to house workers is essential when attracting staff to the regions. There is an increasing need for seasonal worker accommodation. How do you propose to support industry to provide seasonal accommodation?

Housing generally is an issue in the Nelson region. I believe that people are good at finding solutions to such problems and that Council should support those solutions with limited interference.

Q8. Access to water for kiwifruit growers is becoming more critical. How would you promote balanced discussions with stakeholders regarding water supply and policy that reflects the significant value of the kiwifruit industry in your region?

It seems to me that all farming practices should be established in places that best suit the crop needs. It seems to me that some farms are located unwisely. Beyond that wisdom needs to be used in terms of providing water storage and use of ground water. The supply isn't limitless, unfortunately.

Q9. Climate change is continuing to have an impact and steps to adapt to the changing environment are needed. What are your proposed policies to respond to climate change, and how will you support the industry to adapt?

NZ is geologically a young country. The world's climate has always changed and will continue to do so. As a young country our hills (especially in the South Island) are making their way steadily towards the sea. River margins and sensible use of hill areas (eg forestry practices) simply need to be wisely managed to avoid calamity during severe weather. These things are everyone's business. We all have a role to play.

# Response 6

## Introduction

Q1. General information:

**Name:** Richard Brown  
**Contact email:** richard@richard-brown.co.nz

Q2. What Council are you standing for?

Tasman District Council

Q3. What position/s are you standing for on the above council?

Motueka Ward Councillor

## Questions

Q4. What drives you to run as a candidate in the local body elections? What do you hope to achieve? And how will you support the kiwifruit industry?

My wife and I have lived in Motueka for forty years, raising three children and enjoying the lifestyle our beautiful region provides.

My working life has evolved from seasonal work as a young person to senior management in a large global firm. This experience has led me into my own business as a leadership coach. I have the privilege of working with businesses to improve culture and performance. This experience sets me up well for serving you as a Councillor.

Our community is rich in potential but faces many challenges. I believe Council has an important role to play in enabling business and community aspirations. I wish to bring my business and management experience to contribute to a Council that stands behind our community, not in its way.

My promise is to listen to, serve and advocate strongly for Motueka. It's time for a new approach.

I was involved in the Nelson kiwifruit industry for 28 years including managing Wakatu Inc. and Ngati Rarua Atiawa Iwi Trusts orchards and post-harvest operations, president of the Nelson Kiwifruit Assn. and board member Mainland Kiwi Growers Entity.

So I understand the local kiwifruit industry and will listen to and advocate for the growers.

Q5. What is your view on the growth of kiwifruit in your region, in respect to urbanisation, protection of productive land and environmental pressures?

There is significant pressure for urban sprawl to the west of Motueka and it is crucial that this productive horticulture land is protected to sustain and enable the future growth of kiwifruit orchards. I will advocate for housing development zoning to be in less productive areas.

Q6. Given the decision to include the value of the SunGold licence in the rateable value of a property and therefore significantly increasing rates for many kiwifruit growers. Do you agree with this decision? How do you propose to ensure that rates are equitably calculated and applied?

I disagree with this decision and will advocate for equitable calculation of all productive land rates. Kiwifruit returns contribute significantly to Motueka by providing opportunities for local businesses and generating employment. The council should be enabling the industry, not penalising it.

Q7. Being able to provide seasonal accommodation to house workers is essential when attracting staff to the regions. There is an increasing need for seasonal worker accommodation. How do you propose to support industry to provide seasonal accommodation?

I will work to ensure the consent process for seasonal accommodation is user-friendly, timely, and practical.

Q8. Access to water for kiwifruit growers is becoming more critical. How would you promote balanced discussions with stakeholders regarding water supply and policy that reflects the significant value of the kiwifruit industry in your region?

Motueka is blessed with a replenishing aquifer. I will advocate for the ever-improving soil moisture technology used by growers that ensures efficient irrigation water use.

Q9. Climate change is continuing to have an impact and steps to adapt to the changing environment are needed. What are your proposed policies to respond to climate change, and how will you support the industry to adapt?

The biggest impact climate change has had to date is river and surface flooding. The council must re-introduce the regular removal of built-up shingle banks from the Motueka River to ensure flood water is channeled directly out to sea. On-going maintenance of flood protection banks is also crucial. In the longer term the council must work with growers to support moving orchards from low-lying areas affected by rising sea levels to more suitable land.