

Jordan Walker

Q1. Contact Details

Name	Jordan Walker
What Council are you standing for?	Gisborne
What position(s) are you standing for on the above Council?	General Ward Councillor

Q2. What drives you to run as a candidate in the local body elections? What do you hope to achieve?

Sustainability for our region, with successive pathways for rangatahi of the East Coast into diversified industries that they can co-create. Particularly interested in implementing pathways for young people onto the Council. I'm also interested in growing the arts industry on the Coast (as an alternative option for career pathway for rangatahi). I care about supporting industries across the motu to grow and move into sustainable practices. I'm a big believer in reinstating the railway network, and would advocate, network and lobby for that to go through with support from diversified investors.

Q3. How will you support the kiwifruit industry?

Providing them with the access to resources that they need, while holding very strong relationships with local iwi and hapu, too.
Reinstating the railway line could open up larger opportunity for the industry to grow too.

Q4. What will you do to support the development of seasonal worker housing, especially in rural areas?

Support a papakainga model for these areas, while holding strong relationships with local iwi and hapu.

Q5. How will you ensure kiwifruit growers have reliable access to water, and how will you balance competing demands?

I would assess by considering water usage x environmental impact x return across industries requiring water - of course with support of the operational team within the GDC, and through my own environmental networks. I'm not a Chemist or a Horticulturalist, but I am a social scientist, and I've worked in agricultural industries here in Te Tairāwhiti and in Australia. I know that the Wine industry uses more water than the Kiwifruit industry.

Q6. What is your stance on protecting productive horticultural land from urban sprawl and subdivision?

We should be building upwards, or looking to papakainga models, where appropriate. I know a lot of farming land owners who are interested in sectioning off parts of their farm and letting people live there on tiny houses - or who lease their land for National Festivals.

Q7. How will you improve rural road infrastructure to support the movement of produce?

By reinstating the railway line - you might not put your items on there, but at least it being active would remove more transport trucks off of the road, reducing the impact on the frail material we have currently to make the roads.

Q8. What policies will you support to help growers adapt to climate change impacts?

Jobs for Nature - keeping our rangatahi here, getting them into sustainable practices