## Updates to [*Requirements for a trial of online voting in local elections: A framework to guide Local Government*](http://www.dia.govt.nz/vwluResources/Online-voting-requirementsPDF/%24file/Online-voting-requirements-2015-05-12.pdf)*[[1]](#footnote-1)*

| Reqt | Revised wording  | Description  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1.9** | All electors in an election for which online voting is being used must be provided with an opportunity to ~~sign up to receive confirmation that~~ **find out if** an online vote has been received and recorded under their name, and must be notified of this opportunity. This opportunity must be provided separately from the casting of a vote online, and provided regardless of whether and how an elector chooses to vote. **Online voters must be provided with an opportunity to opt in to receive an email notification that an online vote has been received and recorded under their name. To facilitate this, there must be an ability to supply an email address after casting an online vote.** | Removal of requirement for automated solutions for elector notification.This change further mitigates risk associated with a trial by reducing the number of complex actions that systems are required to perform, which will reduce the risk of systems being breached or compromised. |
| **2.43** | The~~online voting system~~ **relevant electoral officer** must ~~allow~~ **enable** the voter to individually verify that his/her vote was recorded as intended **at any time between the commencement of voting and the deadline for filing a petition for inquiry into the conduct of the relevant election. Verification must be in person and subject to the electoral officer’s satisfaction as to the voter’s identity. The electoral officer must keep a record of all individuals who verify their vote, whether their vote is recorded as it should be, and any election that is affected in the event that there is a discrepancy.** | Removal of requirement for automated solutions for vote verification.This change further mitigates risk associated with a trial by:* reducing the number of complex actions that systems are required to perform, which will reduce the risk of systems being breached or compromised; and
* better protecting the secrecy of the vote by ensuring that verification of votes is occurring in a supervised context, which will reduce the risk of voting preferences being inadvertently divulged to third parties.
 |
| **1.11** | *A valid voter ID and access code, enabling an elector to authenticate him or herself online, must be transmitted to electors* ***independently of each other in separate transactions.*** *~~by way of at least two separate transactions~~* | Clarifies interpretation. |
| **1.7.2** | *The period in which an electronic vote can be cast must be the same as the time allowed for receipt of postal votes, subject to requirement ~~2.12~~* ***2.13.*** | Fixes cross-referencing error. |
| **1.27** | *The design of the online voting system must guarantee that votes submitted online are, and will remain, anonymous. ~~and that it is not possible to reconstruct a link between the content of the vote and the voter~~.* | Clarifies intent. Legislation requires that a vote is able to be removed if, after processing special votes, it is found an elector voted twice. Reqt 2.52 preserves this requirement in the online context, and means a link must be retained. |
| **2.25**  | *The online voting system must be accessible only to persons who are eligible to vote. The online voting system must require ~~anonymous~~ authentication of the elector and must ensure that the elector is enabled to vote in all elections for which the elector is qualified and no other election.* | Clarifies intent. The term ‘anonymous authentication’ can mean access without a password restriction. This meaning was not intended. |
| **2.29** | *The online voting system must maintain the availability and integrity of the votes. It must also maintain the confidentiality of the votes and keep them sealed until the counting process,* ***except as required to give effect to requirement 2.43****. If stored or communicated outside controlled environments, the votes must be encrypted.* | Clarifies intent. Reqt 2.29 currently reads as an absolute requirement to keep votes sealed until the counting process. However Reqt 2.43 requires that voters are able to individually verify their vote is recorded as they intended. Giving effect to Reqt 2.43 may require unsealing of the vote. |
| **2.26****2.39** | *After the end of the voting period, no voter must be allowed to gain access to the voting platform.* *~~After the end of the voting period, no voter must be allowed to gain access to the online voting system.~~* | Clarifies intent and removes duplication. |
| **2.31** | *The online voting system must maintain the privacy of individual voters, protecting the secrecy of the vote* ***and maintaining, until the close of voting, the confidentiality of the names of persons from whom voting documents have been received.*** *~~Confidentiality of voters’ registers stored in or communicated by the online voting system must be maintained.~~* | Clarifies intent, and maintains consistency with New Zealand local electoral legislation terminology. |
| **2.75** | *Sufficient means must be provided to ensure that the ~~devices that are~~* ***system*** *used by the voters to cast the vote can be protected against influence that could modify the vote.* | Clarifies intent. This wording should refer to ‘systems’ rather than devices. Protection of devices would require voters to download additional software, which is not intended, and specifically prohibited by Reqt 1.2. |
| **2.62 2.65 2.81** | Re-numbering of requirements is proposed. | Fixes numbering error. |

1. The Government’s [*Requirements for a trial of online voting in local elections: A framework to guide Local Government*](http://www.dia.govt.nz/vwluResources/Online-voting-requirementsPDF/%24file/Online-voting-requirements-2015-05-12.pdf)**were originally published on 12 May 2015*.* An updated version was published on 16 November 2015. This document summarises the changes that can be found in the November edition.** [↑](#footnote-ref-1)